

## Table of Contents

Preface	VII
Abbreviations	X
<b>I. General and theoretical:</b>	
Manfred Görlach: Variation and linguistic change	1
Josef Wallmannsberger: The 'creole hypothesis' in the history of English	19
Otto Hietsch: "English is a strange language": Some fallacies held by the learned and the lewd	37
Udo Fries: The use of computers in English linguistics	45
<b>II. Old English:</b>	
Wolfgang Meid: Englisch und sein britischer Hintergrund	63
Karl Hubmayer and Wilfried Wieden: Could destressing cause "voicing"? A discussion of the lenition of fricatives in Old and Middle English.	83
Alfred Bammesberger: Old English <i>ceir</i>	95
Reinhard Gleißner: <i>Leiden Riddle 3a: [Ni] uaat, [Ni] uat, or [N]aat?</i>	99
Dieter Kastovsky: Morphophonemic alternations and the history of English: Examples from Old English	112
Herbert Schendl: Semantic verb classes and the use of diagnostics in Old English	124
<b>III. Middle English:</b>	
Bernhard Diensberg: Anglo-French loanwords and Middle English lengthening in open syllables	140
Nikolaus Ritt: The processes amounting to MEOSL and its exceptions	153

<b>Manfred Markus:</b> Middle English and Early Modern English letters as the basis of a linguistic corpus	167
<b>Hans Sauer:</b> Compounds and compounding in Early Middle English: Problems, patterns, productivity	186
<b>Christian Mair:</b> The transition from the impersonal to the personal use of the verb <i>like</i> in late Middle English and Early Modern English - some previously neglected determinants of variation	210
<b>IV. Modern English:</b>	
<b>Ernst Burgschmidt:</b> Gender in Modern English - sub-systems and variation	219
<b>Alwin Fill:</b> Purism and word formation: word substitution in 16th and 19th century English	231