

The Volume 4 *Biolinguistics* Editorial

Kleanthes K. Grohmann & Cedric Boeckx

The fourth volume of *Biolinguistics* signals a new road along several dimensions. First and foremost, of course, the fact that we have been able to compile these four volumes, with a total of nearly one thousand pages (a single-issue volume 1 of 150 pages and three-issue volumes 2 and 3 of 364 and 420 pages, respectively, which each had a double-issue, the latter in the form of a special issue), is a feat in and of itself. It means that we as editors have survived, that the journal is on a very good start indeed, and that, more generally, *Biolinguistics* generates enough interest in the relevant communities to sustain publication—all of which would not have been possible without the support of you, the readers, the reviewers, the members that serve on the various boards, and of course, the respective authors. So, first of all, many thanks to the entire supporting *Biolinguistics* community.

Second, as editors we can detect a slight move in the submissions from core theoretical issues in linguistics to wider cognitive and biological issues in language, that is, the kind of interdisciplinarity we aimed for originally and would like to continue strengthening. For this purpose, we decided to rotate and reshuffle our main supporting means—the Advisory Board, the Editorial Board, and the (student) Task Team—in order to reflect the increasingly new demands and thereby making ties with communities of researchers outside (theoretical) linguistics investigating the nature and structure of language.

We would thus like to use this opportunity to thank all outgoing board members for the services they have provided over the past four years, which include the dreaded but vital chore of reviewing manuscript submissions, help with the acquisition of new submissions, and general support and advertising of the journal among their respective circles as well as pointing out specific issues and suggestions to us, the editors. These colleagues are listed here in alphabetical order:

Joseph Aoun
Hagit Borer
Željko Bošković
Michael Brody
Gennaro Chierchia
Elan B. Dresher
Mark Hale
C.-T. James Huang
Manfred Krifka

Howard Lasnik
Jason Merchant
Jairo Nunes
E. Phoevos Panagiotidis
Anna Roussou
Joachim Sabel
George Tsoulas
Jochen Zeller



At the same time, we would like to welcome the new members on the *Biolinguistics* boards. This goes for all colleagues who now serve on the Advisory Board, some of whom have already served a term on the Editorial Board:

Stephen R. Anderson	James Hurford
Anna Maria Di Sciullo	Lyle Jenkins
W. Tecumseh Fitch	Massimo Piattelli-Palmarini
Naoki Fukui	

The same warm welcome goes to the new members of the Editorial Board:

Sharon Armon-Lotem	Guillermo Lorenzo
Antonio Benítez-Burraco	Carme Picallo
Robert C. Berwick	Friedemann Pulvermüller
Ina Bornkessel-Schlesewsky	Charles Reiss
Albert Costa	Bridget Samuels
Simon E. Fisher	Tobias Scheer
Naama Friedmann	Alessandro Treves
Koji Fujita	Robert Truswell
Itziar Laka	

In addition, *Biolinguistics* is supported by a Task Team consisting of under- and postgraduate students. We thank Jeffrey K. Parrott, Bridget Samuels, and Adam Szczegieliński for having served on the Task Team who, in the meantime, received their doctorate as well as the other members who served us on the Task Team at some time or other over the past four years: Michael Beys, Marina Iakovou, Clemens Mayr, and Philip Rausch. The reshuffled Task Team has now been assigned more specific tasks, including setting up, maintaining, and feeding the official *Biolinguistics* web log. We thus welcome Evelina Leivada and Natalia Pavlou, who support the operating editor for much needed editorial assistance, such as pre-formatting accepted manuscripts for publication, and we extend Task Team tasks to Txuss Martín and Hiroki Narita with support from Terje Lohndal and Dennis Ott (under Bridget Samuels' supervision), who are now responsible for managing the *Biolinguistics* blog.

This blog is another innovation that comes with volume 4. In early 2010, it was set up for spreading information, announcing relevant events, and—in the near future, we hope—discussing biolinguistic matters. For example, we envision much of the backs and forths concerning material published in *Biolinguistics* (articles, reviews, forum pieces) to take place there. The URL for the *Biolinguistics* blog is <http://biolingblog.blogspot.com>.

We would also like to inform the larger biolinguistics community of the formation of a new Special Interest Group (SIG) on biolinguistics. SIGs are part of a new network mechanism recently initiated by the Linguistic Society of America (LSA) with the aim of sharing and exchanging information on a given topic, such as biolinguistics, among the SIG members (who also need to be members of the LSA). The LSA has not yet set up individual web pages for the SIGs, but this link has some information: <http://www.lsadc.org/info/lsa-sig-in-formation.cfm>.

The Biolinguistics SIG is coordinated by *Biolinguistics* co-editor Kleanthes Grohmann and Editorial Board member Bridget Samuels. The inaugural meeting took place at the last LSA Annual Meeting in Baltimore, and we're currently preparing a proposal to hold a Biolinguistics SIG Symposium at the next LSA Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh (6–9 January 2011), which non-members may also participate in. Additional information can be found at the new *Biolinguistics* blog: <http://biolingblog.blogspot.com/2010/02/lsa-special-interest-group-on.html>.

Lastly, some more exciting news: *Biolinguistics* just made another step towards true open access: After 3 years, we decided to get rid of the registration process for readers. We knew it was an unpopular feature of the journal (and subscribers encountered a number of technical difficulties as well), but this was the only way we had to track the interest in a new journal dedicated to an emerging field. With almost 2,500 subscribers (over 1,000 of whom have joined around the time of publication of the first *Biolinguistics* issue), the number of readers surpassed our expectations by far, and we now feel it is time to eliminate the registration step and make the journal fully Open-Access. From this issue on, there will be no more requirement for subscription (anyone stumbling across the journal webpage can read all materials collected here)—but registration is still required for authors; please read the Submissions section of the About menu item carefully where you also find a link to the current *Biolinguistics* stylesheet.

In this connection, we would like to point out that the new and revised stylesheet for *Biolinguistics* is accessible for everyone. It can be downloaded via http://www.biolinguistics.eu/index.php/biolinguistics/manager/files/BIOLINGUISTICS_stylesheet.doc. Please bear in mind that all formatting and editing is done by ourselves (and since we don't have any professional training, it might appear somewhat idiosyncratic at times), so we are kindly asking everyone to please help us out by following the stylesheet to the best of your capabilities when submitting manuscripts; certainly manuscripts accepted for publication should follow the guidelines very closely.

Comments and feedback are, as always, appreciated. We hope that the new *Biolinguistics* blog will facilitate this kind of interaction more easily in the future, and we are looking forward to exchanges of ideas, suggestions, and more at this interface.

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