Meeting of the Committee of Editors of Linguistics Journals
January 6, 2013, Boston

Present: Joe Salmons, Stan Dubinsky, Kai von Fintel, Dieter Stein, Greg Carlson, Brian Joseph, Ellen Kaisse, Tucker Childs, Eric Baković, Megan Crowhurst, Matthew Juge, Robert Murray, Keren Rice

1.      Overview of the Open Access symposium: Eric
Eric Baković organized a very successful symposium on Open Access and the Future of Academic Publishing – the overview and abstracts are at the end of these minutes. The slides from the talks will be posted; all presentations were audio-recorded, and will be shared subject to permission. Cascadilla Press, through Michael Bernstein, is interested in publishing written papers, both on-line open access and print. Since Eric had other people that he invited to be part of the panel, it was suggested that he might invite them to contribute to the book. Two names that were mentioned are Peter Suber and possibly a legal person (Paul Newman perhaps).

There was some discussion about whether it would be good to include papers from other perspective – publishers, 'have-not' universities, although there was also a sense that this might create too much work.

Greg agreed to work with Eric on this. It was discussed if there might be a way of having the volume edited by the Committee, and what this would mean.

2.      Tenure, promotion, and OA
It was suggested that it might be useful to have a document available on tenure, promotion, and Open Access that could be disseminate to department chairs. This would fit with the larger mentoring/professional goals of the LSA.
*Kai offered to write something about this and circulate it.*

3.      Symposium next year?
There have been four or five symposia over the years. There was a suggestion that we wait a few years before organizing another symposium; however, if someone feels that it would be good to have a symposium next year, proposals will be due sometime in the spring.

4.      Other possible activities
Brian reported that the push to increase awareness of the Journal Editor e-mail discussion group housed at OSU was highly successful; all editors of journals listed on LINGUIST were contacted and invited to join the group, and this effort yielded approximately 50 new members (with the total now being 230 members).  Brian will look into possibly migrating the list to the LSA website.

There was some discussion of putting together material that is helpful for people submitting to journals to know. Both Sally Thomason and Brian Joseph wrote

columns in *Language* that provide advice, and Brian is bringing them together to be made available on the committee website.

Kai von Fintel, Colin Philips, and Alan Yu presented at a panel for students on getting published. It was extremely well attended, and it became clear that there was a real need for such a panel. There was a suggestion to talk to COSIAC (student committee) about whether there should be something similar next year.

5.      What does it mean for committee to be LSA committee?
The description of the committee from the LSA website is part of these minutes. Joe added Google analytics to the website to track usage and there is steady interest in the site, with typically around 100 visits per month from around the world. There is still some work to be done: need to give terms, decide on how 'core' members are determined, decide on how the steering committee is to be chosen, etc. Since the meeting, Brian has volunteered to spearhead work on a proposal that could be distributed and agreed upon.

Open Access and the Future of Academic Publishing
Presented Jointly with the Modern Language Association

Organizers: Greg Carlson (University of Rochester)
Eric Baković (University of California, San Diego)
Sponsor: LSA Committee of Editors of Linguistics Journals (CELxJ)
Participants: Eric Baković (University of California, San Diego)
Ellen Duranceau (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
Kai von Fintel (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
Kathleen Fitzpatrick (Modern Language Association)
Alyson Reed (Linguistic Society of America)
Stuart Shieber (Harvard University)
Lindsay Whaley (Dartmouth College)
Vika Zafrin (Boston University)

The opening paragraph of the Budapest Open Access Initiative, which makes a case for Open Access in terms of the public good, reads:
An old tradition and a new technology have converged to make possible an unprecedented public good. The old tradition is the willingness of scientists and scholars to publish the fruits of their research in scholarly journals without payment, for the sake of inquiry and knowledge. The new technology is the internet. The public good they make possible is the world-wide electronic distribution of the peer-reviewed journal literature and completely free and unrestricted access to it by all scientists, scholars, teachers, students, and other curious minds. Removing access barriers to this literature will accelerate research, enrich education, share the learning of the rich with the poor and the poor with the rich, make this literature as useful as it can be, and lay the foundation for uniting humanity in a common intellectual conversation and quest for knowledge.
(http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read)

The panelists in this session will explore issues in the future of publishing academic work from the standpoint of Open Access (OA), that is, free and unrestricted access by all to the results of academic research. A variety of perspectives are offered by the panel: editors of successful OA journals in Linguistics (von Fintel, Whaley), university librarians whose efforts are focused on OA (Duranceau, Zafrin), institutional directors of scholarly communication ( Fitzpatrick, Shieber), the Executive Director of the LSA (Reed), and a co-organizer of the session (Baković). Panel presentations will be followed by panel and open audience discussion. OA is one of the current options for academic publishing, but the question of how to support and sustain it remains largely unsettled, and what its effects might be on publishing and on how research is conducted in the future remains equally unclear. As the LSA and the MLA are both engaged and engaging with OA, this session aims to serve to both educate and explore the nature of OA in order to generate informed discussion and, as a result, more effective organizational decision making.

The current efforts by the LSA Executive Committee to move towards an increased presence in the world of electronic publishing, the "new technology" that enables OA, makes this session particularly timely and valuable to the LSA membership. Our panelists present various facets of a complicated but exceedingly important issue that touches all of us as professionals and as members of a broader academic community.

Abstracts:
Eric Baković  (University of California, San Diego/founding co-editor of *Language: Phonological Analysis*)
Generalizing openness: more suggestions for the future of scholarly publishing
 Our professional academic labor is called for at many and diverse stages in the process of scholarly publication: research, writing, peer review, revision, and editorial work. The promise of open access is to make the fruits of this labor free for all to access. But publication itself is not free, and viable business models for supporting and sustaining open access ventures are thus vital. These models must of course take into account irreducible and tangible business costs; I suggest that they must also take creative risks and take into account some of the more intangible costs of our academic labor.

Ellen Duranceau  (MIT Libraries program manager for scholarly publishing and licensing)
Open access at MIT: implementation and impact
 Provides an overview of the implementation of the MIT Faculty Open Access Policy, including how it works legally and logistically and what the success and impact has been to date. Summarizes the ways libraries support open access on campus, including implementing open access policies, offering open access publishing funds, negotiating contracts with journal publishers to enable author rights, hosting open access journals, and helping to build open textbooks.

Kai von Fintel  (Massachusetts Institute of Technology/founding co-editor of

Semantics & Pragmatics )
Taking an open access start-up journal to the next level
S&P, an eLanguage open access journal, has become firmly established as one of the top venues in semantics and pragmatics. I will discuss measures of its success, the challenges it faces now, and our plans for the future. I will also discuss why we think that open access journals have an important role to play in the transition to a new model of scholarly communication.

Kathleen Fitzpatrick  (Modern Language Association Director of Scholarly Communications)
Open access publishing and scholarly societies
 Scholarly societies have traditionally supported themselves through membership dues, and the publications of societies have been considered member benefits; a scholar who joins the association receives a subscription. Most societies have further supplemented those member dues with income from institutional subscriptions to society journals. In recent years, as the financial situation faced by many societies has darkened (as have such situations across the academy), they've faced difficult choices about how to maintain their publications, and how to maintain the revenue that has been used to support other vital association activities. Today, however, those choices are being challenged by the increasing drive among many scholars to open access to publications. How can an organization based around the notion of creating value specifically for its members respond to increasing pressures to make its work publicly accessible? This talk will explore experiments currently being conducted by a few societies, as well as further experiments that should be conducted, in seeking new business models for scholarly societies, and new relationships within those societies to the work of scholarly communication.

Alyson Reed  (Executive Director, Linguistic Society of America)
Exploring business models for open access at the LSA
In recent years, the LSA has experimented with open access publishing under the auspices of eLanguage, while continuing to publish its flagship journal, Language , under a paid subscription model. Over the past year, the LSA has sought to develop a viable business model for sustaining its open access publishing activities, while expanding access to Language  for those who are not members or paid subscribers. Ms. Reed will discuss the various options explored by the " business models working group," which was appointed by the LSA Executive Committee to formulate recommendations in this critical area of the LSA's operations.

Stuart Shieber  (Harvard University/Director of Harvard Office for Scholarly Communication)
Why open access is better for scholarly societies
I will argue that a scholarly ecosystem where open-access journals predominate over toll-access journals is better for scholarly societies than a continuation of the status quo in which the converse holds.

Lindsay Whaley (Dartmouth College/founding co-editor of Linguistic Discovery)
Sustaining open access journals
Linguistic Discovery, an open access journal for research on lesser-studied and endangered languages, is celebrating its tenth year. I will briefly describe the history of the journal and then outline several of the challenges to sustaining e-journals such as Linguistic Discovery. These include editorial succession, editorial and technical support with limited revenue streams, and engaging scholars from around the world.

Vika Zafrin (Boston University, Institutional Repository Librarian)
Getting an institutional repository off the ground
Hundreds of large and small decisions go into populating an institutional repository with materials. In an institution with 4500 faculty, where do you start? Ultimately, all available options lead to —or at least through —permissions. I will talk about open access as it relates to the operation of BU's institutional repository and other library activities. I will touch on our conversations with publishers, author and librarian education around open access issues, university community response to our Open Access Week activities, and the role of academic libraries in OA advocacy.

**Committee of Editors of Linguistics Journals (CELxJ)**

**Background**
The Committee of Editors of Linguistics Journals (CELxJ) began informally in 2003. The group has held yearly committee meetings since then at the LSA's annual meeting. It has organized several symposia and developed a unified style sheet for linguistics journals. The primary goal is to increase communication among journal editors, reviewers, authors, and readers in linguistics.
**Charge**
The committee is to facilitate communications among journal editors, and to deliberate questions and issues of common concern. The committee also serves as a consulting body for LSA decision-making regarding publication practices.
**Responsibilities**
The committee convenes a meeting annually at the LSA Meeting to discuss issues of interest to editors and linguists generally with respect to publication in journals. The committee publicizes to the general LSA membership any issues of concern regarding journal publication in our field through organized symposia and other appropriate mechanisms.
**Membership**
This committee, consisting of at least ten members, is open to all editors of linguistics journals, including book review editors and associate editors. It is chaired by the editor of an LSA journal, and is overseen by a four-person steering committee selected by the membership.
**Committee Members**
  • Greg Carlson, University of Rochester, Chair (*Language*)

- Eric Bakovic, University of California, San Diego (*Language: Phonological Analysis*)
- David Beaver, University of Texas at Austin (*Semantics and Pragmatics*)
- Tucker Childs, Portland State University (*Studies in African Linguistics*)
- Jennifer Cole, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (*Laboratory Phonology*)
- Stan Dubinsky, University of South Carolina (*International Journal of Language Studies*)
- Kleanthes Grohmann, University of Cyprus (*Biolinguistics*)
- Barbara Johnstone, Carnegie Mellon University (*Language in Society*)
- Brian Joseph, The Ohio State University (*Journal of Greek Linguistics*)
- Ellen Kaisse, University of Washington (*Phonology*)
- Keren Rice, University of Toronto (*International Journal of American Linguistics*)
- Joe Salmons, University of Wisconsin (*Diachronica: International journal for historical linguistics,* LINGUIST)
- Bridget Samuels, California Institute of Technology (*Biolinguistics*)

Executive Committee Liaison: Ellen Kaisse