



## Letter from the President

As those of you who were present at the ALT Business Meeting in Austin know, Keren Rice needed to step down from the position of President of ALT near the end of 2022. We are all grateful for her service to the Association during her time as President. The Executive Committee asked me, as the immediate past President of the Association, to take on the role of interim President until a new President can be elected, and I was happy to be able to serve ALT in this capacity. At the moment, I am working with the Executive Committee on forming a Nominating Committee to deal with various positions that need to be filled in the Association in addition to the position of President. I am grateful that Martin Haspelmath has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee as one of its senior members in accordance with the ALT Statutes. Please look out for updates on this work that will be posted on the LingTyp mailing list in the coming months.

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Last December, I had the great pleasure of attending the ALT meeting in Austin. It was the first major in-person conference that I had attended since early 2022, and it was wonderful for me to reconnect in person with so many close colleagues, to meet new scholars (especially junior ones), and to hear many interesting talks on typological and descriptive issues. The presence of work on sign languages at the meeting was much greater than at any other ALT meeting that I have attended, and I hope that this trend continues moving forward so that work on typology can accurately reflect the diversity of both sign and spoken languages. While I was not able to attend any of the Teach-Ins that preceded the meeting, everything that I heard about them was positive, and hopefully we can see opportunities like this continue to be offered in conjunction with the meeting to take advantage of the fact that the Meeting assembles so many top scholars in typology in one place every two years. A special thanks must go to the organizers of the meeting and, in particular, Pattie Epps, who put in tremendous time to make the event a great success.

As we move further into 2023, planning continues for the next Biennial Meeting to be hosted at Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai, and you can learn more about that event in this newsletter. In preparation for that meeting, information about the award competitions for the current two-year cycle will be published as



it becomes available later this year. As is the case every two years, nominations for the Greenberg Award that recognizes and honors the best piece of typological research embodied in a doctoral dissertation or equivalent in the award period will be accepted. In addition, ALT will also be accepting nominations for the Pāṇini award, which was established to encourage and honour achievements in the field of documenting the world's linguistic diversity through the writing of reference grammars. The Pāṇini award specifically targets grammars passed as doctoral dissertations, and it alternates with the the Von der Gabelentz Award that targets published grammars.

I look forward to continuing to working with the ALT Executive Committee as we continue the work of the Association and prepare for the 2024 Biennial Meeting.

**Jeff Good**, interim President

## 1 ALT Conferences

### 1.1 ALT XIV

#### *Pattie Epps reporting*

The 14th International Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology took place on 15-17 December 2022, at the University of Texas at Austin, USA. As the first reconvening of ALT since the beginning of the pandemic (i.e. since ALT 13 in Pavia, Italy, in 2019), the conference was held in-person, with an additional hybrid component. We received 238 abstracts submitted, with 177 accepted for either talks or posters. Following withdrawals and last-minute cancellations, the final total was 138 presentations, 2 plenary talks, and 16 posters.

The conference featured five parallel presentation sessions, in-person and virtual poster sessions, and six workshops addressing topics ranging from differential argument marking to corpus studies in typology. A series of teach-ins, held on the day preceding the conference, featured typological perspectives on signed languages, Amazonian languages, Mesoamerican languages, and quantitative methods. All in all, we feel that the conference was a great success, and it was wonderful to be able to come together in person again after a long hiatus. Further information is available on the conference website, <https://sites.google.com/view/alt2022/>.



## 1.2 ALT XV

### *Randy Lapolla on behalf of the ALT XV Organizing Committee*

We would like to welcome everyone to come to Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai for ALT XV in 2024! Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai is one of the two campuses of Beijing Normal University, one of the top universities in China for Linguistics. It is located just across the bridge from Hong Kong in Zhuhai City, Guangdong Province, China, a scenic spot in the Pearl River Delta area. Zhuhai is just a bus, ferry, or cab ride from Hong Kong, Macau, Shenzhen, or Guangzhou, and if you come through one of those places you can do some sightseeing there as well. If you come over from inside China there is Zhuhai Jinwan Airport, and a high-speed rail station just across from the University. The 825 acre campus is new and very modern, and also known for its natural beauty, as it is surrounded by mountains and dotted with lakes and ponds and forested areas, and with various streams running through it, so the campus is like a huge garden. We plan to hold the conference **November 8-10, 2024**, when the weather is the nicest here, with cool sunny days. If people want to organize workshops or teach-ins before or after we can accommodate that as well. We will send out a call.

The accommodations and conference venues (and child care) will all be on campus, with electric shuttle buses for moving around campus (though I usually walk, as it is such a pleasure to walk around this campus). Just outside campus there are public buses and there is extremely easy access to inexpensive services similar to Uber and taxis for those who wish to organise their own sightseeing, but we will also organise sightseeing and cultural activities. If there are those who would like to participate but cannot make it to Zhuhai, we can arrange online presentations, i.e. the conference can be hybrid. We will do our best to make sure the conference is a big success and everyone has a fruitful and enjoyable time here!

### **Important dates**

- Call for workshops announced: Sept 18, 2023
- Deadline for workshop proposals: Nov 20, 2023
- Workshop acceptance notification: Dec 18, 2023
- General call for papers announced: Dec 20, 2023
- General abstract deadline: March 15, 2024
- Abstract acceptance notification: May 20, 2024
- Registration opens: May 21, 2024
- Early bird registration deadline: Sept 1, 2024
- Registration deadline: November 4, 2024
- ALT XV November 8-10



## 2 The Journal *Linguistic Typology*

Please click on the links below to view the contents of the most recent issues:

- Volume 26 Issue 3.
- Volume 26 Issue 2: *Special issue on areal typology of lexico-semantics*. Issue Editors: Maria Koptjevskaja-Tamm, Antoinette Schapper and Felix Ameka.

## 3 ALT Finances

*Dmitry Idiatov reports* on the financial assets of the organization as of December 31, 2022

**MEMBERS:** 213

**BUGDET:**

2022 begin balance	24.117,42€
<b>Action done</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Banking costs	-95€
Legal help	-100€
ALT 2022 (fellowships, prizes. . .)	-4571,97€
2022 end balance	19.350,45 €

After the dissociation between membership and LT subscription on January 1, 2022, the number of members was reset to zero. That is, in 2022 ALT acquired 213 new members whose membership contribution now goes to the association in full instead of approximately 15% before. However, the 2022 budget presented in the table does not yet take this significantly improved financial situation into account because the last ALT conference took place in December 2022 and the transfer of membership fees for 2022 to the ALT bank account will take place in 2023.