



## Letter from the President

It is with some trepidation that I accepted the presidency of ALT. It is true that I had known the inner workings of ALT during quite some time, from the beginning, in the capacity of secretary-treasurer, but that period came to an end in the Fall of 2007. I am grateful to the nominating committee and the membership for their confidence. In the last few years ALT has changed somewhat, particularly with respect to its membership structure. I admit to have missed the finer details of the separation of membership and subscription to the journal. I understand now that the changes benefited the financing of ALT and, as a result, its ability to fund typology and that they made the membership system more manageable and reduced the financial burden on people interested in typology. But it appears that I ended up in limbo – with a paper copy of the journal, a subscription to LINGTYP, but without a membership card. In the run up to the election, however, I hastened to pay my 30 Euro. I then found out that I was not the only typologist hanging in limbo, that the membership list is largely the list of the conference attendees. In 2024 the Executive Committee will give the limbo problem some thought.

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My first duty is a most pleasant one, viz. that of honoring past, present and future officers. For the Nominating Committee I am grateful to Martin Haspelmath (chair) and Nina Dobrushina for past work, to Peter Arkadiev and Katharina Haude for staying, Katharina in the role of chair, and to Françoise Rose and I Wayan Arka for joining. I am obliged to Adam Ross Tallman and to František Kratochvíl for setting up the Greenberg jury and the Pāṇini jury, respectively. The Executive Committee is taking leave, and gratefully so, of Mark Dingemans and Rachel Nordlinger, welcoming Shelece Easterday and Andrey Shluinsky, who will join Hillary Chappell, Kristine Hildebrandt, Nikolaus Himmelmann and Iker Salaberri (as well as ALT's president, secretary, treasurer and editor). A special thanks is also due to Jeff Good, whose double presidency smoothed my entry into the job, and no less to Maria Koptjevskaja-Tamm, for elevating our most permanent imprint on the field, our journal, to higher standards and higher accessibility. And then we recognize the invaluable work of Daniel Ross, Dmitry Idiatov and Ljuba Veselinova.



There are, of course, challenges ahead. The most important one concerns our 15th International Conference, to take place at the Zhuhai campus of Beijing National University, 8-10 November 2024. Preparations are in full swing, there is an excellent web page, workshop proposals have come in, a program committee has been constituted, with Ailan FU (chair), Sonia Cristofaro, Eitan Grossman, Randy LaPolla, Yue QIU and Jean-Christophe Verstraete, and there will soon soon be a call for papers for the general session. The calls for submissions to the Greenberg and Pāṇini awards are included in this newsletter. Our gratitude goes to Randy LaPolla for the initiative to host the conference in Zhuhai. And the gratitude and hopes also go to YOU, and particularly, the younger YOUs. *Sine vobis non.*

**Johan van der Auwera**, President



## 1 ALTXV Conference

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

ALTXV is scheduled for 8-10 Nov 2024, to be held in Zhuhai, China, a scenic spot just across the bridge from Hong Kong (see the campus pictures on the website: <https://sites.google.com/view/alt2024/home>).

The call for workshop proposals was announced 18 Sept (also on website), with the deadline for workshop proposal submissions set as 20 Nov 2023, but we can be flexible. The workshop acceptance notifications will go out Dec 18, 2023.

The general call for papers is set to go out on Dec 20, 2023, with the general abstract deadline being March 15, 2024, and with abstract acceptance notifications going out May 20, 2024.

Registration opens May 21, 2024, with the final registration deadline being November 4, 2024.

We are planning to have the whole conference in hybrid format, and have set different fees for online-only participation: \$48 for students and \$80 for others.

In person attendance is only \$300, which covers the conference fee, housing, all food (three meals a day plus break snacks), and specially arranged transportation within campus.

See the website for information about getting to Zhuhai (<https://sites.google.com/view/alt2024/practicalities/>)

In the current geo-political climate, many of us are reticent to travel to China, but then you would not be able to interact with the Chinese scholars. They have to a certain extent been cut off from the rest of the world, however, they are very eager to connect with scholars outside China. There is an extremely lively linguistics scene, with many thousands of linguists, such that if you give a talk here online, you may have 4,000 people in the audience. The young ones in particular are enthusiastic and hard-working, they read whatever they can get their hands on in English or Chinese, and do a lot of translating of English works into Chinese to be able to spread ideas they think are worth knowing. Linguistic typology is very popular in China, and the young scholars would get great encouragement from meeting and hearing presentations by some of their idols!

From the perspective of ALT, the conference in Zhuhai contributes to affirming linguistic typology in a country where there is a strong potential for the growth of the discipline. From a scholarly and also purely humanitarian point of view, we contribute to reducing an imposed isolation.



## 2 Call for ALT's 2024 12th Joseph Greenberg Award

The 12th Joseph Greenberg Award recognizes an outstanding piece of typological research in doctoral dissertation or equivalent in an award period. It is named after Joseph Greenberg (1915-2001) to remember his fundamental contributions to typology and his encouragement of young researchers. The award was formerly known as the "ALT Junior Award" (1998-2006).

Theses are eligible for the award are those that have been accepted by a university (i.e., passed, defended, or accepted, not just submitted) between 1st of January 2022 to 31st of December 2023. The award will consist of payment of travel, per diem expenses and the registration fee to attend ALT XV. to be held in Zhuhai, China. The award recipient will also be given the opportunity to present a symposium at the 15th International Conference of ALT providing a synopsis of their dissertation

To be eligible for the award those submitting their dissertations must be members of the Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT) at the time of submission or registered by the time of the conference.

### *Submission instructions*

Please send your manuscript by email in pdf format, with all non-standard fonts in Unicode, embedded in the pdf file. The email should be addressed to the Chair of the Jury, Adam J.R. Tallman and also to the ALT Conference Secretary Ljuba Veselinova to create a backup copy of your submission.

### **Addresses to use:**

Adam J.R. Tallman at [adamjtallman@gmail.com](mailto:adamjtallman@gmail.com)

Ljuba Veselinova [ljuba@ling.su.se](mailto:ljuba@ling.su.se)

### **Deadline 29th of February, 2024**

If there are any technical issues, the candidate is asked to discuss the problem with the Chair. A jury, consisting of about ten members suitable for evaluating the work submitted will be appointed by the Chair.

Past Award Winners are presented here:

<https://linguistic-typology.org/greenberg-award>



### 3 Call for ALT's 2024 5th Pāṇini Award

Submissions are invited for the 5th Pāṇini Award, for a grammar defended as a doctoral dissertation and PhD thesis for which the evaluation procedures in force have been successfully concluded (such as a thesis defense, viva, written examination, according to the country and university) between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2023. The award will be presented at the 15th International Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology, to be held at the Beijing Normal University in Zhuhai, China in November 8-10, 2024.

The Pāṇini Award was established to encourage and honour achievements in the field of documenting the world's linguistic diversity through the writing of reference grammars. To be eligible, a grammar must provide a systematic, accessible, comprehensive, original, insightful, and typologically well-informed account of the workings of the language being described, generously exemplified with natural data. Though the normal expectation is that it would deal with a hitherto little-described language, outstanding grammars of better-known languages or dialects thereof may also be considered if they achieve major breakthroughs in a comprehensive understanding of the language.

The Pāṇini Award is one of the two grammar Awards bestowed by the Association for Linguistic Typology. While the Pāṇini Award targets grammars passed as doctoral dissertations, the Von der Gabelentz Award targets published grammars.

Past Pāṇini Award and Von der Gabelentz Award Winners are presented here:

- [Pāṇini Award Recipients](#)
- [Georg von der Gabelentz Award Recipients](#)

The Pāṇini Award comes with a payment of travel, per diem expenses and registration fee to attend the ALT XV Conference, to be held in Zhuhai, China in November, 2024, and the opportunity to present a synopsis or element of the prize-winning work as a plenary lecture at that meeting.

#### **Jury**

Entries will be judged by a jury of a dozen or more distinguished linguists, including members who have themselves written major reference grammars, typologists, and other categories of grammar users. The chair for the 2024 award is František Kratochvíl (Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic).



### Submission instructions

Please send your manuscript by email in pdf format, with all non-standard fonts in Unicode, embedded in the pdf file. The email should be addressed to the Chair of the Pāṇini Award, František Kratochvíl and to the ALT Conference Secretary Ljuba Veselinova to create a backup copy of the submission. Should any technical issues arise, the candidate is asked to discuss them with the Chair.

### Timeline for submissions to both Awards

First Call:	end of November 2023 (pertinent lists)
Second Call:	end of December 2023 (idem)
Third Call:	end of January 2024 (idem)
Submission Deadline:	<b>29 February 2024 (AoE)</b>
Winners announcement:	August 2024 (Lingtyp)
Greenberg Award Report presented:	November 2024 (ALT XV Conference, Zhuhai)
Pāṇini Award Report presented:	November 2024 (ALT XV Conference, Zhuhai)
Winners keynote presentations:	November 2024 (ALT XV Conference, Zhuhai)

### Chair of the 2024 Pāṇini Award

František Kratochvíl  
Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic  
frantisek.kratochvil@upol.cz

### ALT Secretary

Ljuba Veselinova  
Stockholm University, Sweden  
ljuba@ling.su.se



## 4 The Journal *Linguistic Typology*

*Maria (Masha) Koptjevskaja-Tamm, Editor-in-Chief, reports*

### 4.1 *Changes in the composition of the Editorial Board*

Following on the results of the recent elections for the Editorial Board of Linguistic Typology, three of the current Associate Editors will be replaced by new ones starting from 1st January 2024. The Associate Editors to rotate off are Maria Polinsky, Mark Van de Velde and Marianne Mithun. We would like to thank them for the many years of wonderful service to the journal – and to the ALT community! – for their hard work, clever advice, solidarity and support on all levels.

The ALT Nominating Committee, consisting of Martin Haspelmath (Chair), Peter Arkadiev, Nina Dobrushina and Katharina Haude, worked jointly with the Editorial Board to propose new Associate Editors and after careful consideration made recommendations that were approved by the ALT community. The current members of the Editorial Board have agreed that we need fresh expertise in formal theories and in African languages, as well as more expertise in the indigenous languages of North America and in historical linguistics, including quantitative approaches to historical processes and the areal distribution of linguistic phenomena. We are therefore delighted to welcome Jean-Pierre König, Tatiana Nikitina and Hannah Haynie as regular Associate Editors within the Editorial Board.

**Jean-Pierre Koenig** has roots in more formalist traditions, but has worked on different languages, including a long collaborative work on the morphology, syntax and semantics of Oneida and should be able to provide a well-needed bridge between formal theories and linguistic diversity. He has a widely cited article published in *Linguistic Typology* (**A cross-linguistic study of expletive negation**) and has shown himself to be a deep and constructive reviewer for manuscripts submitted to LT.

**Tatiana Nikitina** did a fantastic job as the first Review Editor ever at Linguistic Typology (2018–2021). She has a wide range of research interests and expertise, including African linguistics, and has published several widely cited articles with *Linguistic Typology*, for instance **her 2019 article on reported speech forms**.

**Hannah Haynie** works on linguistic diversity, language prehistory and language change, with a special interest in the languages of North America and the linguistic diversity of the California area. She has an interdisciplinary background and integrates linguistic analysis with methodological approaches inspired by work in geography, ecology and evolutionary biology to investigate these questions. Hannah has collaborated with several of the current members of the Editorial Board



in joint projects and publications.

The current Editorial Board has also decided to give Marianne Mithun the special status of Honorary Editor, given her unique and long-lasting service on the board of the journal. This means that she will have a consulting role in the discussions and decisions related to the journal, occasionally acting as Responsible Editor for some of the incoming manuscripts.

#### *4.2 Transition to Open Access by Subscription*

De Gruyter has approved transition of *Linguistic Typology* to Open Access by subscription (S2O) starting from 2024. The Open Access articles published under the S2O model will be completely freely available, under a CC-BY 4.0 license. All open access articles at De Gruyter are published under Creative Commons licenses with the author retaining copyright. The move to S2O does not entail any alterations to the setup of the journal (operationally or for subscribers). The sole change is that it will enable open access publishing for all authors.

*Linguistic Typology* will be the second linguistics journal at De Gruyter to flip to the S2O model. Their first linguistics test case was *Linguistics*, which has worked out quite well: since flipping, the journal has usage coming from 100+ more countries in open access than in closed access. Comparing OA article output in 2022/2021 and closed access article output in 2021, we can see almost **seven times** more usage for OA than for closed access articles. We can therefore anticipate significantly improved distribution of journal content and thus increased visibility to the linguistics community globally, and it will be interesting to look into readership and submissions coming from minority backgrounds.

There is plenty of **information about [Subscribe to Open](#)**. De Gruyter has information on their website which explains how it works and the benefits of the model, and there is also an **FAQ**. Interested readers can also access **more information about [CC-BY licensing](#)**.

#### *4.3 Other matters*

We have received figures on the 2022 Impact Factor and the categories of linguistic journals. *Linguistic Typology* has achieved IF 2 and is placed in Q2, the second highest category. Last time we saw these figures (2020 IF), it was 1.65.

In other words, *Linguistic Typology* is doing extremely well! Among the De Gruyter journals it is only surpassed by *Multilingua*, while all the others fall much below this. Most of the comparable linguistic journals at other publishers are again





ranked lower, with the exception of *Language*, which is ranked slightly higher (IF 2.1).

Finally, I would also add that those of us who are involved in the day-to-day running of the journal (primarily our Assistant Editor Angela Terrill and myself) are very pleased with our interaction with De Gruyter. We have always found immediate support in connection with the thousands of details that can and occasionally do go wrong, and we are very grateful for the professionalism and flexibility that we meet in the process.

#### *4.4 The most recent issues*

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

- [Volume 27 Issue 3.](#)
- [Volume 27 Issue 2: \*Special issue on Phonological Typology.\* Issue Editors: Steven Moran, Shelece Easterday and Eitan Grossman.](#)