

Editor's Note

This issue of *Laboratory Phonology* opens the inaugural volume of the new journal, whose mission and title carry forward the tradition of scholarship that has developed over the past two decades through the Laboratory Phonology conferences and the ten edited volumes of selected papers from those conferences. Research in Laboratory Phonology studies spoken and signed language using laboratory or experimental methods to investigate the organization of phonological systems and their grammatical expression. Laboratory Phonology is grounded in the empirical observation of a wide range of data related to speech and signed language, which reflect the physical, cognitive and neural processing of speech and sign, the patterning of phonological form, phonetic variation that results from aspects of the linguistic context or from factors related to the communication or social context, and the evolution of phonological form over long and short timescales. Laboratory Phonology research engages formal, symbolic models of phonology as a grammatical system and also quantitative or computational models of phonological systems.

As a field of research Laboratory Phonology is inherently multi-disciplinary, with insights and methodologies drawn from diverse disciplines including linguistics, psychology, speech and hearing science, communication science, computer science, and electrical and computer engineering. The mission of this journal is to promote the scientific study of phonology from all of these disciplinary perspectives, advancing knowledge through research that is informed by data from a rich variety of languages.

In its new journal format, *Laboratory Phonology* will continue to publish selected papers from the biennial Laboratory Phonology conferences, which will appear in alternate years as special issues. Submissions on any laboratory phonology topic are invited for the regular (non-conference) issues that will be published between the conference special issues. In addition to the conference special issues and regular issues of the journal, thematic issues on topics of special interest are also planned on an intermittent basis.

On behalf of the editorial team of *Laboratory Phonology*, I thank our publishers at Mouton for their continuing support of Laboratory Phonology and the founding members of the Association of Laboratory Phonology for their

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work in launching this journal. We also appreciate the work of Guest Editors Paul Warren and Jen Hay in preparing this collection of excellent papers that invite the reader to think broadly and deeply about phonology. It is my hope that this inaugural issue will stimulate new ideas for research leading to exciting papers that will appear in future issues of *Laboratory Phonology*.

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