Editorial

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We are just about to complete Volume 5 of *Linguistics Vanguard*, so we'll need two hands to count our volumes from next year onwards! As usual, we would like to take the opportunity to update you, our readers, on this past year's activities and provide you with a brief look ahead.

First, a big heartfelt thanks to all of our Area Editors for soliciting new articles, (co)editing special issues, and carrying out the editorial tasks that are so essential to the success of the journal. We welcome Susanne Flach, Gregoria Zellou and Laurel Mackenzie on the team. Given the scope and ambitions of *Linguistics Vanguard*, the work of the Area Editors goes well beyond what is associated with a traditional editorial board, and it would be impossible for the journal to function without their insights and efforts.

In 2019, we published about a dozen articles in our general issue and about thirty articles in our three special collections, "Implicitness and Experimental Methods in Language Variation Research" (edited by Laura Rosseel and Stefan Grondelaers), "Language and Aging Research" (edited by Annette Gerstenberg and Camilla Lindholm) and "Natural Language Conditionals and Conditional Reasoning" (edited by Mingya Liu). At the moment, another dozen individual articles and several other special collections are in the pipeline or in production. These will be published in the course of 2020.

As you can see, *Linguistics Vanguard* has become an important venue for (guest) editors of special collections. The fact that *Linguistics Vanguard* is a quick, flexible, high-quality publication channel makes it an excellent option as an outlet for scholars who want to disseminate concise papers on a topic of emerging interest in a timely manner. The special collection on natural language conditionals and conditional reasoning is also one of our first attempts at hosting an "open special collection". In contrast to traditional special issues or dedicated edited volumes, open special collections are not finalized upon publication but can keep growing for a certain amount of time, e.g. through additional submitted or invited papers. These, once accepted, become part of the special collection by appropriate tagging. We hope that this concept adds some dynamicity and interactivity to traditional publication formats. Needless to say, we invite potential guest editors of special collections to get in touch with us or the relevant Area Editors to discuss options and details.

In close cooperation with our publisher we also decided that a number of articles every year will be made available for free, without a paywall. Keep your eyes open for these goodies!

Please remember: *Linguistics Vanguard* has its own Twitter Channel (@lingvanguard) with currently more than 1300 followers. Our frequent tweets include calls for papers, publication announcements, some travel news from our editors (i.e. where to meet them), and much more. We are also currently exploring the possibilities of including other platforms such as Sina Weibo to reach an even wider audience around the globe.

As always, it is our duty, pleasure, and honor to thank all of our authors for their contributions that are the heart and soul of the journal. Dozens of reviewers spent many hours helping us reach the right decisions and providing authors with valuable input. We also thank all of the team at De Gruyter for their continued support, especially David Sleeman, our new journal manager. A special thanks go to our editorial assistant Marie-Christine Benen, without whom none of this would be happening, and to our eagle-eyed copy-editor, Angela Terrill from Punctilious Editing Sweden.

As *Linguistics Vanguard* is rapidly developing and expanding, we realize how much work it can be to publish about 50 papers every year – that's one per week on average. But it's also so much fun! And so we look forward to another exciting year, bringing innovative, high-quality research to you in 2020!