Vol 5 (2012)
Main Articles

Presuppositions, provisos, and probability
   Daniel Lassiter
   PDF

The meaning of plural definites: A decision-theoretic approach
   Sophia A. Malamud
   PDF

Counterfactual attitudes and multi-centered worlds
   Dilip Ninan
   PDF

Information Structure: Towards an integrated formal theory of pragmatics
   Craig Roberts
   PDF

Information Structure: Afterword
   Craig Roberts
   PDF

Contrastive topics decomposed
   Michael Wagner
   PDF

Squibs, Remarks, and Replies

Two types of class B numeral modifiers: A reply to Nouwen 2010
   Bernhard Schwarz, Brian Buccola, Michael Hamilton
   PDF

Vol 4 (2011)
Main Articles

Quantity implications, exhaustive interpretation, and rational
Taking an open access start-up journal to the next level

Kai von Fintel

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

“Open Access and the Future of Academic Publishing” Symposium at the LSA Annual Meeting
Boston, January 3, 2013
The plan

• The story so far
• Challenges
• What’s next
The story so far

• The internet disruption
• Blogs, preprint archives
• The role of peer-reviewed journals
• Open access electronic journals
• 2007: S&P
Facts & Stats

- Founding co-editors: David Beaver & Kai von Fintel
- Decision to associate with the LSA eLanguage initiative
- Supported financially by MIT and UT
- Now hosted at Public Knowledge Project (SFU)
- Using open source publication software (OJS, LaTeX)
• 8 associate editors
  • Josh Dever, University of Texas
  • Paul Elbourne, Queen Mary, University of London
  • Michael Franke, ILLC, Universiteit van Amsterdam
  • Anthony S Gillies, Rutgers University
  • Magdalena Kaufmann, University of Connecticut, United States
  • Louise McNally, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain
  • Rick Nouwen, Utrecht Institute for Linguistics OTS, Netherlands
  • Katrin Schulz, ILLC, Universiteit van Amsterdam
• 200+ members of the editorial board
• 12 big cheeses on the advisory board
- 350-500 pages per year so far
- About 10 articles per year so far
- Acceptance rate < 20%
- Time to first decision < 60 days
• Citation impact at least equal to Big 3
• Poised for explosion
  • 12 articles accepted for 2013 already
  • 16 articles under review
Kudos

"S&P has quickly established itself as one of the leading journals in semantics/pragmatics, thanks to three key properties:

1. It has high standards, which are shown by the thoroughness of the peer review process, and high rejection rates.
2. It has very quick turnaround times.
3. Publication is open access."

“S&P is having a wonderful effect on the field by strengthening the ‘fast’ culture.”
“It’s a blessing for our whole field to have this journal around.”
Challenges

- Cyclicity of peak submissions
- Artisan sensibilities (a.k.a. quality standards)
- Culture of procrastination
- Change from startup intensity to sustainable and scalable structures and processes
- Uptake from indexing and rating agents
Phases

- Phase 1: startup phase (founders, burning souls)
- Phase 2: sustainable & scalable structures and processes
- Phase 3: founders leave; turn over to new editors
Plans

- expect to publish at least 20-30 articles per year
- additional associate editors
- additional materials:
  - underground classics;
  - state of the art on “hot” topics;
  - S&P monographs?
- push for shorter articles (issue for linguistics in general?)
- continuing to build a reputation
What does it take?

- Money
- Leadership
- Disciplinary support
Announcement!

- As of today, S&P leaves the eLanguage incubator and becomes a full-fledged LSA journal
• The LSA will join MIT and UT in supporting the journal financially
• S&P will stand alongside Language (and its offshoots) as a separate, independent LSA journal
• No change in day-to-day operations:
  • Same URL (http://semprag.org), same hosting, same stylesheet
  • Continued immediate open access, no author charges
  • LSA membership not required for authors
• The journal will be overseen by the LSA Executive Committee
• S&P Editors will maintain operational responsibility for the journal
• Big decisions (editorial succession, business model) will be made cooperatively:
  • LSA EC
  • Editors
  • Advisory Board
S&P is ready for the next level!