

Editors' note

In our first editorial note, published in *ELL* 1.1 in 1997, we said:

There has until now been no one journal which covers the range that *ELL* is intended to cover, a 'natural class' of research interests which deserves to be treated in one place, and at the highest level. *English Language and Linguistics* exists to promote knowledge and inquiry in the interlocking fields of its title. We hope that *ELL* will prove so useful that authors will come to regard it as their first choice for submission, while readers turn to it readily because they know it is bound to contain work of value and interest.

This hope seems to us to have been largely fulfilled during the first ten years of the existence of the journal, which we celebrated at the Directions in English Language Studies conference in Manchester last year. *ELL* now has ISI recognition, and discussions have taken place at recent conferences about making it the official journal of the proposed International Society for the Linguistics of English (ISLE). Subscriptions stand at a healthy level, and the number of good papers submitted to the journal has grown in a very encouraging fashion over the ten years of its publication.

As a result, agreement has been reached between Cambridge University Press and the editors to move from two issues per year to three – in March, July, and November – starting with volume 11 in 2007. The July issue will normally be a special, thematic issue assembled by a guest editor, a practice we had already been encouraging as an occasional feature of the journal. The first few special issues under the new arrangement have already been commissioned: on syntactic variation in English, edited by David Adger and Graeme Trousdale (*ELL* 11.2, 2007); on English intensifiers and grammaticalization, edited by Belén Méndez Naya (*ELL* 12.2, 2008); and on re-evaluating the Celtic hypothesis, edited by Markku Filppula and Juhani Klemola (*ELL* 13.2, 2009). We would be interested in proposals for future special issues, which should be directed in the first instance to David Denison and Richard Hogg in Manchester.

Meanwhile we remain as ever on the lookout for the best research in English linguistics for the March and November issues, and article submissions should be sent to the editors as follows:

David Denison: papers on historical syntax and morphology
Richard Hogg: papers on historical and present-day phonetics and phonology
Bas Aarts: papers on present-day English syntax and morphology, and papers not obviously falling under any of the areas listed

Addresses are given in the Instructions to Contributors, found on the inside back cover and also on the Cambridge University Press website. Please consult with the relevant editor as to whether electronic submissions are acceptable. North American contributors may, if they prefer, continue to submit articles to our North American Associate Editor, Douglas Biber, for onward transmission.

Another change in view concerns the Instructions for Contributors. In addition to encouraging contributors to send a submission directly to the editor most likely to be responsible for it, we are aiming to reduce – though probably not eliminate altogether – the number of paper copies needing to be mailed. Both measures will save time and postage. We also hope in due course to harmonize our style sheet with a number of other linguistics journals. Please check the guidelines current at the time of submission.

The journal has been published since 1997, and the original Editorial Board was appointed at that time. As a matter of principle we are starting on a programme of staged refreshment of Board membership, trying to ensure that we retain balance of interests and geographical representation while maintaining some continuity of membership. In due course readers will see some changes to the list on the inside front cover. We are extremely grateful to all members of the Board for their support and advice up till now. We are also grateful to everyone at Cambridge University Press for their support and help over the years, especially Patrick McCartan, Kay McKechnie, Sue Perkins, and Philip Riley.

Bas Aarts

David Denison

Richard Hogg