

Catalan Journal of Linguistics: The First Twenty Years



Twenty years ago, in the Editorial that introduced the first volume of the *Catalan Journal of Linguistics*, the editors stated that

[t]he main purpose of CJL is to publish quality research papers developing theories on the structure of particular languages within the perspective of a general theory of the human language. We aim at actively contributing to academic debates within the international linguistics community and act as a forum for the exchange of ideas on this area of the study of language. Volumes will often be special issues on topics that are particularly relevant within linguistics nowadays. They will be coordinated by a specialist in the area with the goal of publishing a well-balanced corpus of research which will offer not only a varied picture of the selected issue, but also new data and proposals regarding it. This journal adds to the few journals on theoretical linguistics published in the Romance area and therefore should come as an agreeable novelty to scholars interested in this field. The subject of inquiry will quite naturally focus on Catalan and Romance, but is open to any other language.

Two decades later, the *Catalan Journal of Linguistics* has published twenty regular volumes, plus two special issues, on synchronic and diachronic syntax, phonology, morphology, acquisition, prosody, synchronic and diachronic semantics, and synchronic and diachronic pragmatics. The volumes have dealt with Catalan, Spanish and other Romance languages, but they also include research papers on many other languages, such as Albanian, Arabic, Choctaw, Diyari, Dutch, English, German, Greek, Hungarian, Japanese, Latin, Navajo, Norwegian, Russian, or Swedish. Furthermore, in this period, the *Catalan Journal of Linguistics* has hosted articles by major-league linguists in their fields, like Karin Ajmer, Artemis Alexiadou, Adriana Belletti, Ignacio Bosque, Noam Chomsky, Donka Farkas, Javier Gutiérrez-Rexach, Norbert Hornstein, José-Ignacio Hualde, Richard Kayne, Michael Kenstowicz, Adam Ledgeway, Rita Manzini, John J. McCarthy, Louise McNally, Andrew Nevins, Elisabeth Closs Traugott, Juan Uriagereka, Elly van Gelderen or Marc van Oostendorp.

On hindsight, this all-star cast is an outstanding achievement for a young university journal, but, while authors and their papers play the leading roles, they can only stand out with the invaluable contribution of backstage workers. Undoubtedly, our generous anonymous reviewers have been crucial in maintaining the blind double peer-review system as a hallmark of quality of the journal; the members of the Scientific Board (Josep Maria Brucart, Maria Teresa Espinal, Anna Gavarró, Maria Lluïsa Hernanz, Sabine Iatridou, Michael Kenstowicz, Joan Mascaró, Gemma Rigau Oliver, Henriette de Swart, and Rafaella Zanuttini) have provided advice, contacts, and a helpful hand when needed; and, last but not least, the former and

present members of the Editorial Board have worked tirelessly for keeping the journal running, both at the organizational and editorial level, with the help of technicians and fellows of the Centre de Lingüística Teòrica.

All of them have contributed to bolster the *Catalan Journal of Linguistics* to a prominent place among linguistic journals in Spain, as its position in journal indexes and rankings demonstrates. This is an achievement to be proud of, but also a reminder that we must keep on working on a daily basis to improve our standards of quality in the following years.

We are beginning the next twenty years in the history of our journal with the confidence of our background, with a renewed and stronger collaboration with the Institut Interuniversitari de Filologia Valenciana, and with the excitement of our next two volumes, already in progress. With the continued support from our readers, colleagues, and sponsors, we are convinced that the best years of the *Catalan Journal of Linguistics* are yet to come.

Xavier Villalba
Editor-in-chief of *Catalan Journal of Linguistics*