

Introduction: JSL Silver Anniversary Issue

This issue of *Journal of Slavic Linguistics* celebrates its Silver Anniversary. Yes, though you may not have noticed (time flies when you are having fun), *JSL* has now been appearing uninterrupted for 25 years. When it gets down to it, for an academic journal the cliché is truth—*survival is success*. And for a new journal to have survived for the past 25 years is no small feat. The time of *JSL's* existence since volume 1, issue 1, in 1993 has spanned many changes, including that from a fairly pre-digital age to our hyper-digital one (here I would point out that early on one article by a respected Slavist was submitted in handwritten form), as well as the transition from the academic (and Slavistic) structures of the Cold-War era to a new age, and numerous changes in the field of linguistics (such as the ascendance of usage-based and socio-logical approaches to language and quantitative methods alongside formal approaches). These changes, in one way or another, are reflected in the pages of *JSL*.

JSL was established by George Fowler and Steven Franks at Indiana University in 1992 to fill a gap—there was no journal dedicated to Slavic linguistics as a whole in North America. Since its inception, *JSL* has assumed a prominent position in the international Slavic linguistics community, and in 2006 became the flagship publication of the Slavic Linguistics Society.

Beyond the changes in the world at large mentioned above, the inevitable impermanency of organization also complicates the continuity of any journal, and in this regard *JSL* has shown the necessary flexibility, responding to the need for personnel changes along the way. The editorial team of George Fowler and Steven Franks was changed in 1994; George Fowler became Editor-in-Chief with a team of three associate editors, and then in 1997 Steven Franks took over and has remained Editor-in-Chief to date. The first three volumes of *JSL* were published by the Indiana University Linguistics Club, then it was published independently until being adopted by Slavica Publishers starting with volume 5, issue 2. It would take too much space to acknowledge all those who have otherwise assisted and aided in the publication of *JSL*; however, we should gratefully acknowledge Rosemarie Connolly's service as Managing Editor over the past ten years. Anyone who has been

involved with *JSL* over this time can attest to her sterling professionalism as a production editor.

Over the past 25 years, *JSL* has provided a diversified venue for the field of Slavic linguistics, publishing not only full-length articles but also shorter remarks and replies on all manner of areas of synchronic and diachronic Slavic linguistics, as well as bibliographies of subfields, "Reflections" pieces on aspects of the field, a reprint or two of classic studies (e.g., Kjetil Rå Hauge's "The Word Order of Predicate Clitics in Bulgarian"), and occasionally, an obituary. *JSL* has also encouraged editors to compile issues on special topics and has published thematic issues on Polish syntax, verbal aspect, semantics, clitics, American Russian, phonology, sociolinguistics, and agreement, as well as a Festschrift issue for Leonard H. Babby. In short, the publishing record of *JSL* represents an essential service to the field of Slavic linguistics, and its position as the flagship publication of the Slavic Linguistics Society is well deserved.

To mark and celebrate *JSL*'s Silver Anniversary, we have assembled an impressive collection of papers, each of which surveys the state of some sub-field or of particular theoretical approach to Slavic linguistics. Divjak, Sharoff, and Erjavec discuss the rise and nature of Slavic corpus and computational linguistics; Franks presents the major areas of Slavic generative syntax; Fried explores the connections between Slavic data and construction grammar; Gor discusses aspects of Slavic second-language acquisition; Greenberg, Borowski, Schallert, and Woolhiser present an overview of recent work in (East, West, and South) Slavic dialectology; Ionin and Radeva-Bork discuss recent research on Slavic first-language acquisition; Janda and Dickey outline recent work in Slavic cognitive linguistics; Kavitskaya describes recent developments in Slavic phonology; Langston presents an overview of recent Slavic sociolinguistics; Nessel identifies and discusses recent trends in Slavic historical linguistics; Sekerina reviews recent research in Slavic psycholinguistics; Sims gives an overview of new approaches to Slavic morphology.

A compilation of this sort must necessarily be eclectic: the surveys will most always reflect some bias in focus on the part of the author, and the style and organization will differ as well. However, we are confident that these surveys, both individually and collectively, will provide a useful window into the state of Slavic linguistics in 2017 for scholars present and future. I would like to thank the authors for their painstaking work on these articles and my co-editors Laura A. Janda, Keith Langston, and Catherine Rudin along with the anonymous reviewers and Technical Editor Phillip Weirich for their care and diligence, without which this issue could have never come into being.

Да дълго поживетъ Журналъ словенскааго азыковѣдениѣ!

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