Language Science Press – Prospectus

Support a new way of Open Access publishing in Linguistics

Supported by Knowledge Unlatched

Institutions can contribute to the advancement of Open Access in Linguistics through institutional support for a period of three years. This support enables Language Science Press to publish approximately 30 peer-reviewed titles each year.

1. Introduction to Language Science Press

Language Science Press believes that book publishing should be fully under the control of scholars and that most of the traditional tasks of profit-oriented publishers can be done better and more efficiently by scholars.

Led by the renowned linguistic scholars Stefan Müller (Humboldt-Universität Berlin) and Martin Haspelmath (Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History), Language Science Press publishes high quality, peer-reviewed Open Access books in linguistics. By leveraging existing institutional infrastructures and creating efficient processes, Language Science Press titles come at a significantly lower price as compared to traditional publishers. At the same time, these titles are made freely accessible to readers worldwide to broaden the impact of the works.

"Very pleased to learn about this fine initiative, a most valuable way to bring to the general public the results of scholarly work. It's a cliché, but true, that we all stand on the shoulders of giants, and rely on the cultural wealth provided to everyone by past generations. It is only proper that the public should gain access to whatever contemporary scholarship can contribute, and the ideas outlined here seem to be a very promising way to realize this ideal."

Professor Noam Chomsky, MIT

As of the end of 2015, 225 works have been proposed to Language Science Press. In 2016, Language Science Press published 15 books; another 25 should be published in 2017. So far all titles combined have received more than 100,000 downloads, where most readers come from are Germany, the United States of America, China, France, and the United Kingdom.

Book production is supported by an active editorial community and a high-profile Advisory Board (Appendix A). The selected works include authors from institutions such as Yale University, UCLA, University of Sydney or University of Zürich (see Appendix B for the title list).

Photo by David Blank

"Sharing data and methods is one of the pillars of scholarly inquiry. The knowledge created by scholars belongs to everyone, and open access publications are a major pathway to realizing that ideal. Language Science Press, together with Knowledge Unlatched, provides an excellent way for us to make our findings available to the global public."

Professor Steven Pinker, Harvard University

Based on this successful start, Language Science Press now seeks to grow its operations and aims to publish 30 high-quality, peer-reviewed Open Access titles in linguistics per year. Initially supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) during the startup phase, Language Science Press will now collaborate with Knowledge Unlatched to secure the necessary funding for a period of three years.

This exemplary Open Access initiative wants to remain non-profit and now counts on libraries working together for the benefit of the whole community to support the publishing activities of Language Science Press.

2. How Language Science Press works

Language Science Press provides the following services to support the publication of approximately 30 titles per year.

Editorial Quality Control

Language Science Press is organised in series. There are currently 19 series ranging from *Studies in Laboratory Phonology* to *Contemporary African Linguistics*, comprising 244 editorial board members from 43 countries. The series editors organise peer review (2+ reviews per book) and report to the press directors. The press directors are assisted by a

high profile Advisory Board which vets new series, taking into account leadership and visibility of the proposers as well as the viability of the proposed quality assurance concepts.

Assurance of quality of content is complemented by formal quality assurance (spelling, language, typography) based on the community as well. Among all published books, 109 linguists from all over the world have already participated in this process, among which are key figures in the field. Reviews of Language Science Press books in journals attest the high quality of the editorial process.

> *"Open Access is vital for researchers from all over the world, especially those from less wealthy countries, to be able to access the latest findings in international research and participate actively to such research; we need to try and cancel inequality in science, and Language Science Press shows that this can be done at an exceptional level of editorial quality. Go for it! Join us in this wonderful scientific enterprise!"*
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> **Professor Roberta D'Alessandro, Utrecht University**

Typesetting

Language Science Press prides itself on its high typographic standards. It uses its own LaTeX class for typesetting developed in cooperation with a professional designer and typographer. Workflows for conversion and integration of MS Word and LibreOffice documents exist.

> *"Flipping though a book from Language Science Press makes me remember the days when typesetting was actually important for scientific publishers. Very few other scientific publishers care about typesetting at this level of detail anymore."*
>
> **Dr. Lea Schäfer, Philipps-Universität Marburg**

Publication Formats and Copyrights

All Language Science Press books and chapters are available as PDF from http://langsci-press.org/. PDFs are also deposited at OAPEN, Zenodo, and university libraries in Berlin.

The LaTeX source code for all books is available on GitHub. Print copies are available as softcover and hardcover worldwide via print-on-demand at affordable prices. All books are licenced under CC-BY assuring maximum ease of redistribution and reuse and avoiding the hassle and cost of DRM.

Discoverability, Cataloguing and MARC records

Books are hosted on OAPEN's website, benefitting from great discoverability and instantly available MARC(XML) records. ISBNs are provided by the Freie Universität library; DOIs are provided by Zenodo. Manuscripts, final drafts and published manuscripts are publically available on PaperHive for collaborative reading.

3. Pricing & Benefits

Through Knowledge Unlatched, Language Science Press seeks to raise enough financial support from libraries, institutions and individuals for a period of three years.

The target amount is €115.000 / $122,000 / £98,900 per year to support the publication of 30 peer-reviewed Open Access titles. Language Science Press doesn't charge a Book Processing Charge (BPC), however for sake of comparison it would imply a BPC of €3.833 / $4,062 / £3,296, which is significantly lower than other publishers in the field.

With this support, Language Science Press can make these 30 titles freely available to readers all around the world. We offer the following ways to support Language Science Press as a library or institution for a period of three years:

- 100 slots available **libraries & institutions** at €1.000 / $1,060 / £860 per annum for three years
- 150 slots available **individuals** at €100 / $106 / £86 per annum for three years

4. Why support Language Science Press?

Support a new way of publishing: Language Science Press is a new, innovative way of publishing. You can be part of this transition to support scholars reclaiming the reins of publishing. Your researchers can submit and publish without any BPC charge as Open Access.

50% lower price per title than traditional multi-user licences: For libraries and institutions there are 100 tickets available, priced at €1,000 ($1,060 / £860) per annum. This translates to €33.33 for an online version of a title (DRM-free). This represents a discount of around 50% discount compared to traditional multi-user licence deals.

Support a high-quality press: Among all Open Access initiatives to support, Language Science Press is unique due to their network of reputable scholars who are already publishing with them.

"Language Science Press is setting a standard for freely accessible articles and books that are carefully reviewed."

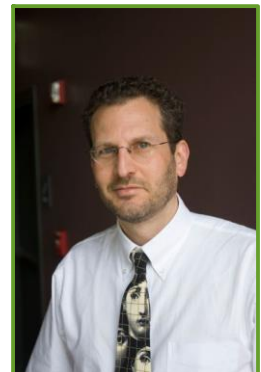*Professor Adele E. Goldberg, Princeton University*

5. Pledge your support

Binding pledges will be accepted as of 23 March 2017. Libraries and institutions should register a free and non-binding account on the Knowledge Unlatched portal to pledge their support: http://app.knowledgeunlatched.org

In case of any questions, please contact support@knowledgeunlatched.org or use the live chat window in the portal.

"Open access to the scholarly literature is crucial for getting research into the hands of both scholars and the general public. In the language-related fields where my own research sits, Language Science Press has been a pioneer in their monograph publishing program, resulting in making dozens of titles from leading researchers available at no cost to authors and readers the world over. Their cooperation with Knowledge Unlatched sustains their operations and ensures that further books can be published. I fully support Language Science Press, and urge the library community to do so as well."

Professor Stuart Shieber, Harvard University

Appendix A: Advisory Board

The Advisory Board looks at series proposals and gives recommendations as to whether a series should be accepted or not, possibly requiring amendments to the proposal. It will also be involved in any general strategic decisions.

The Advisory Board consists of:

- Artemis Alexiadou (Universität Stuttgart)
- Jim Blevins (University of Cambridge)
- Balthasar Bickel (Universität Zürich)
- Geert Booij (Leiden University)
- Miriam Butt (University of Konstanz)
- Ewa Dąbrowska (Northumbria University, Newcastle)
- Arnulf Deppermann (Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim)
- Nomi Erteschik-Shir (Ben Gurion University of the Negev)
- Martine Grice (University of Cologne)
- Mutsumi Imai (Keio University at Shonan-Fujisawa)
- Laura Kallmeyer (University of Düsseldorf)
- Manfred Krifka (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin and Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft, ZAS)
- Mary Esther Kropp Dakubu (University of Ghana)
- Aditi Lahiri (University of Oxford)
- Stephen Levinson (Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen)
- Anke Lüdeling (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
- Detmar Meurers (Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen)
- Sam Mchombo (University of California, Berkeley)
- Rachel Nordlinger (University of Melbourne)
- Jairo Nunes (University São Paulo)
- Steven Pinker (Harvard University)
- Friedemann Pulvermüller (Freie Universität Berlin)
- Stuart Shieber (Harvard University)
- Dieter Stein (Universität Düsseldorf)

- A grammar of Palula, Henrik Liljegren
- A grammar of Papuan Malay, Angela Kluge
- A grammar of Pite Saami, Joshua Wilbur
- A grammar of Mauwake, Liisa Berghäll
- A grammar of Rapa Nui, Paulus Kieviet
- A grammar of Yakkha, Diana Schackow
- A typology of marked-S languages, Corinna Handschuh
- Adjective attribution, Michael Rießler
- Advances in the study of Siouan languages and linguistics, Catherine Rudin, Bryan James Gordon (eds.)
- Annotation, exploitation and evaluation of parallel corpora: TC3 I, Silvia Hansen-Schirra, Stella Neumann, Oliver Čulo (eds.)
- Die Sprachwissenschaft: Ihre Aufgaben, Methoden und bisherigen Ergebnisse, Georg von der Gabelentz ; James McElvenny, Manfred Ringmacher (eds.)
- Diversity in African languages: Selected papers from the 46th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Doris L. Payne, Sara Pacchiarotti, Mokaya Bosire (eds.)
- Einführung in die grammatische Beschreibung des Deutschen: Zweite, überarbeitete Auflage, Roland Schäfer
- Eyetracking and Applied Linguistics, Silvia Hansen-Schirra, Sambor Grucza (eds.)
- Grammaticalization in the North: Noun phrase morphosyntax in Scandinavian vernaculars, Östen Dahl
- Grammatical theory: From transformational grammar to constraint-based approaches, Stefan Müller
- How mobile robots can self-organise a vocabulary, Paul Vogt
- Linguistic variation, identity construction and cognition, Katie K. Drager
- Language strategies for the domain of colour, Joris Bleys
- Natural causes of language: Frames, biases, and cultural transmission, N.J. Enfield
- New directions in corpus-based translation studies, Claudio Fantinuoli, Federico Zanettin (eds.)
- Prosodic detail in Neapolitan Italian, Francesco Cangemi
- Roots of language, Derek Bickerton
- Sprachliche Imitation: Jiddisch in der deutschsprachigen Literatur (18.-20. Jahrhundert), Lea Schäfer
- Syntax und Valenz: Zur Modellierung kohärenter und elliptischer Strukturen mit Baumadjunktionsgrammatiken, Timm Lichte
- The Alor-Pantar languages: History and typology, Marian Klamer (ed.)
- The empirical base of linguistics: Grammaticality judgments and linguistic methodology, Carson T. Schütze
- The evolution of grounded spatial language, Michael Spranger
- The evolution of case grammar, Remi van Trijp
- The future of dialects: Selected papers from Methods in Dialectology XV, Marie-Hélène Côté, Remco Knooihuizen, John Nerbonne (eds.)
- The Ik language: Dictionary and grammar sketch, Terrill Schrock
- The Talking Heads experiment: Origins of words and meanings, Luc L. Steels
- Thoughts on grammaticalization, Christian Lehmann