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Editorial: Same mission, new standards

I am honored to assume the role of the Editor-in-Chief of Psychology of Language and Communication (PLC). A new editor for a journal is like a small new beginning. PLC will continue its good tradition which started in 1997. Many things will remain the same, but some things will change. Always for good.

Mission and Open Access

Publishing high quality science in the areas of language and communication remains the mission of PLC. Making science accessible for all also has been and continues to be an important part of our vision. Both submitting manuscripts and accessing full-text articles is free of charge. While many publishers are now making their journals fully open access, shifting the costs to the readers might result in charges up to € 9.500 per article. Thus, our mission of free open access is even more timely than ever. How do we manage PLC for free? Any open access journal has costs, but while the publication costs in most journals have to be borne by the authors themselves (or their institutions), PLC is generously supported by the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Warsaw.

We are leading the field in terms of easy access to science, not only by providing immediate open access to manuscripts under the Creative Commons licen-

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se. Also importantly, the authors who publish with us retain all copyrights to their work, and the rights are not transferred to the publisher.

As the new editor-in-chief with PLC's partly new editorial board, we have also used our new beginning as a natural occasion for reflecting on the journal's scope. We will continue to publish articles on different aspects of psychological studies on language and communication processes in both children and adults. As is already our tradition, we will dedicate our journal space to the topics of language production and comprehension, the cognitive and social bases of speech, the development and disorders of linguistic and communicative competences, or the nature and strategies of various types of discourse. We wish to also extend our mission to, among others, studies of language and the brain, corpus studies, social media communication, psychological text analysis, and social perception of spoken and written language.

Going forward, we will also more actively encourage special issues on relevant topics. Possible themes include both novel areas, approaches, and directions in the psychology of language and communication as well as overviews and critical reflections on established topics.

Editorial Standards and New Author Guidelines

As the editorial team, we have revised our Author Guidelines. They reflect the best publishing practices and editorial standards

We now welcome not only original empirical studies (as full-length articles or short reports), but also replication studies and reports of null findings. We are also keen to report on methodological advancements in the areas of language and communication, theoretical papers, and literature reviews.

As many other journals, we have shifted from the Sixth to the Seventh Edition of the American Psychological Association's Publication Manual. Submissions should follow the style and referencing system recommended there. Furthermore, research published in PLC has always needed to conform to ethical standards for research on humans, but now, we also introduced an explicit research ethics statement that will be published along with the new articles. Similarly, we are now more forthcoming about demanding conflict of interest statements from our authors. We have also adopted the COPE guidelines for resolving any authorship and/or publishing ethics issues. We are motivated and proud to represent the best practices of scientific publishing with PLC and we hope our approach will likewise inspire our authors towards scientific excellence.

PLC is a journal not only friendly to the authors and readers, but also to reviewers. We do not require that the tables and figures be placed at the end of the manuscript or that the figures captions should be placed separately from the figures. In PLC we welcome submissions with all elements embedded in the manuscript, which makes the reviewers' job much easier. Following open science practices, we encourage authors to share their materials, data, and analysis code

on publicly available databases or as supplementary materials to be included as an appendix to the published article.

Diversity and Inclusiveness

PLC has always unified often disparate areas in the psychology of communication in one place, advancing an interdisciplinary perspective on language and communication and granting a forum for researchers from all over the world. As an editorial team, we are ourselves diverse in terms of our main research focus, but also in terms of the geographical location or gender. We welcome manuscripts representing perspectives in psychology, linguistics, sociology, philosophy, and computer science, although they should fit within the central scope of psychology. We feel strongly that through these multiple perspectives, we can contribute a more thorough understanding of the role language and communication processes play in our world.

Karolina Hansen, the new Editor-in-Chief

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