Semantics and Pragmatics

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Semantics and Pragmatics

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Presuppositions, provisos, and probability — PDF
Daniel Lassiter — 2:1-37

The meaning of plural definites: A decision-theoretic approach — PDF
Sophia A. Malamud — 3:1-58

Counterfactual attitudes and multi-centered worlds — PDF
Dilip Ninan — 5:1-57

Information Structure: Towards an integrated formal theory of pragmatics — PDF
Craige Roberts — 6:1-69

Information Structure: Afterword — PDF
Craige Roberts — 7:1-19

Contrastive topics decomposed — PDF
Michael Wagner — 8:1-54

Squibs, Remarks, and Replies

Two types of class B numeral modifiers: A reply to Nouwen 2010 — PDF
Bernhard Schwarz, Brian Buccola, Michael Hamilton — 1:1-25

Embedding epistemic modals in English: A corpus-based study — PDF
Valentine Hacquard, Alexis Wellwood — 4:1-29

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Main Articles

Taking an open access start-up journal to the next level

Kai von Fintel

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

"Open Access and the Future of Academic Publishing"
Symposium at the LSA Annual Meeting
Boston, January 3, 2013

The plan

- The story so far

- Challenges

- What's next

The story so far

- The internet disruption

- Blogs, preprint archives

- The role of peer-reviewed journals

- Open access electronic journals

- 2007: S&P

Facts & Stats

- Founding co-editors: David Beaver & Kai von Fintel

- Decision to associate with the LSA eLanguage initiative

- Supported financially by MIT and UT

- Now hosted at Public Knowledge Project (SFU)

- Using open source publication software (OJS, LaTeX)

- 8 associate editors
    - Josh Dever, University of Texas
    - Paul Elbourne, Queen Mary, University of London
    - Michael Franke, ILLC, Universiteit van Amsterdam
    - Anthony S Gillies, Rutgers University
    - Magdalena Kaufmann, University of Connecticut, United States
    - Louise McNally, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain
    - Rick Nouwen, Utrecht Institute for Linguistics OTS, Netherlands
    - Katrin Schulz, ILLC, Universiteit van Amsterdam

- 200+ members of the editorial board
- 12 big cheeses on the advisory board

- 350-500 pages per year so far

- About 10 articles per year so far
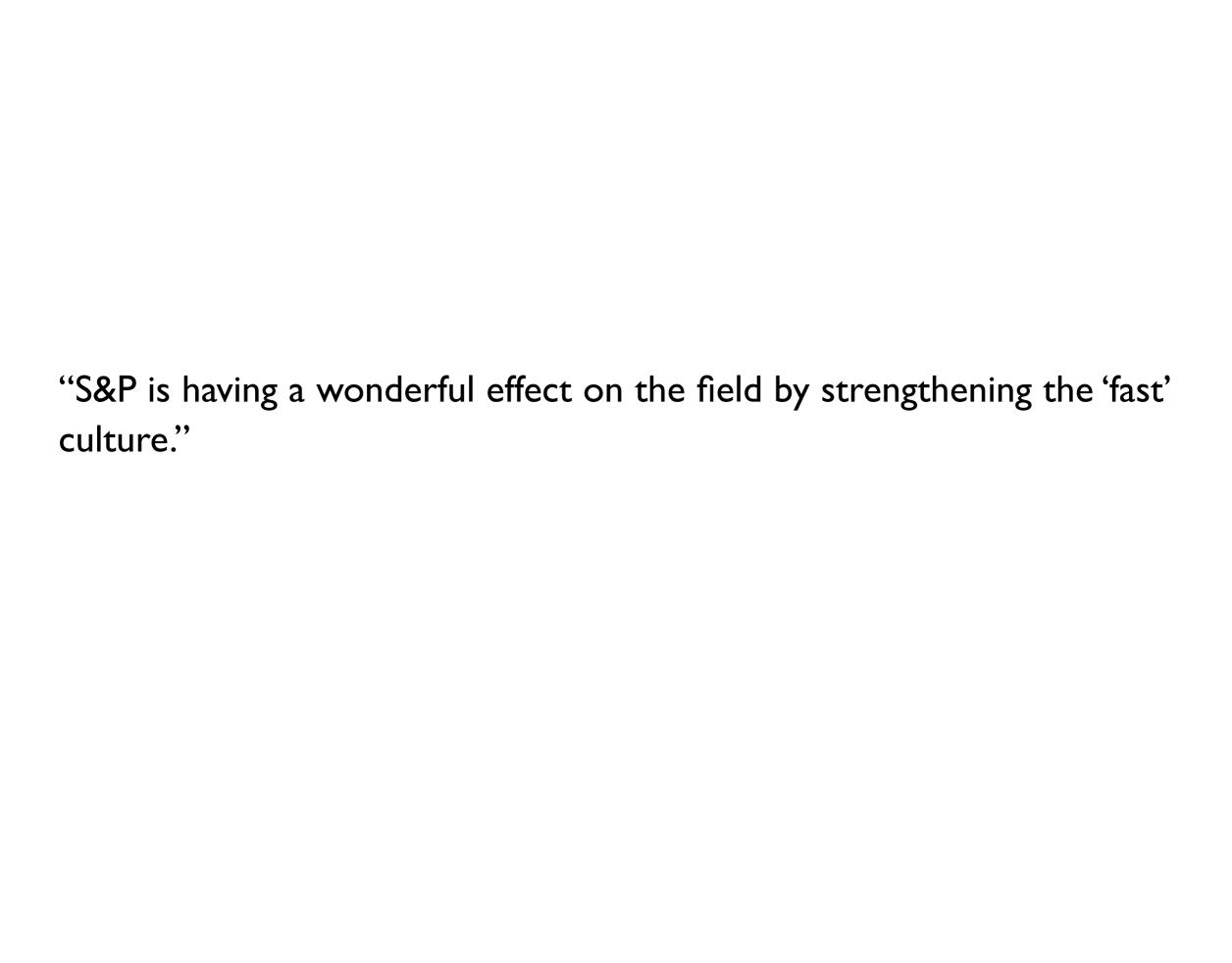
- Acceptance rate < 20%

- Time to first decision < 60 days
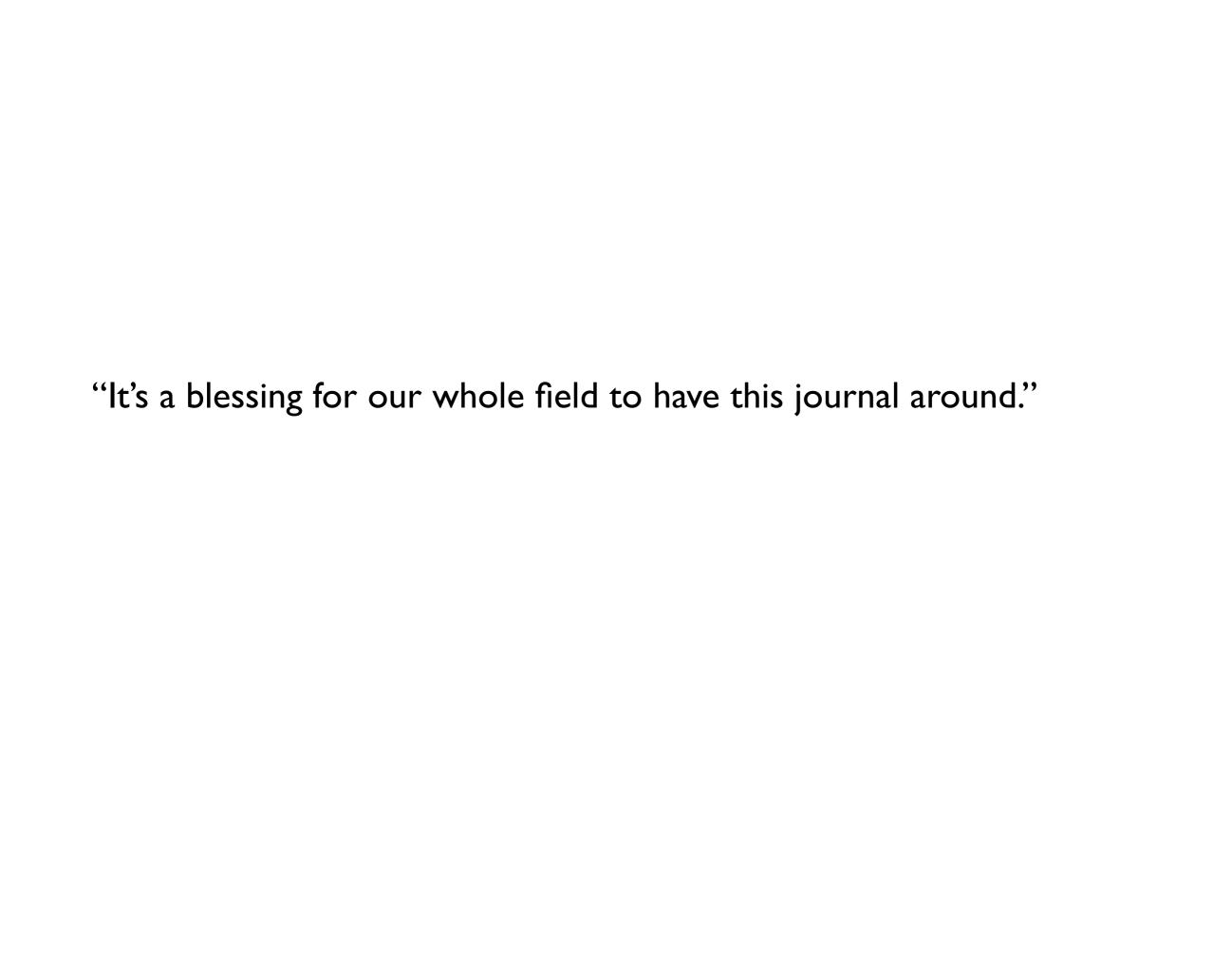
- Citation impact at least equal to Big 3

- Poised for explosion
    - 12 articles accepted for 2013 already
    - 16 articles under review

Kudos

"S&P has quickly established itself as one of the leading journals in semantics/pragmatics, thanks to three key properties:

1. It has high standards, which are shown by the thoroughness of the peer review process, and high rejection rates.

2. It has very quick turnaround times.

3. Publication is open access."

"S&P is having a wonderful effect on the field by strengthening the 'fast' culture."

"It's a blessing for our whole field to have this journal around."

Challenges

- Cyclicity of peak submissions

- Artisan sensibilities (a.k.a. quality standards)

- Culture of procrastination

- Change from startup intensity to sustainable and scalable structures and processes

- Uptake from indexing and rating agents

Phases

- Phase 1: startup phase (founders, burning souls)
- Phase 2: sustainable & scalable structures and processes
- Phase 3: founders leave; turn over to new editors

Plans

- expect to publish at least 20-30 articles per year

- additional associate editors

- additional materials:

    - underground classics;
    - state of the art on "hot" topics;
    - S&P monographs?

- push for shorter articles (issue for linguistics in general?)

- continuing to build a reputation

What does it take?

- Money

- Leadership

- Disciplinary support

Announcement!

- As of today, S&P leaves the eLanguage incubator and becomes a full-fledged LSA journal

- The LSA will join MIT and UT in supporting the journal financially
- S&P will stand alongside Language (and its offshoots) as a separate, independent LSA journal

- No change in day-to-day operations:
    - Same URL (http://semprag.org), same hosting, same stylesheet
    - Continued immediate open access, no author charges
    - LSA membership not required for authors

- The journal will be overseen by the LSA Executive Committee

- S&P Editors will maintain operational responsibility for the journal

- Big decisions (editorial succession, business model) will be made cooperatively:

    - LSA EC
    - Editors
    - Advisory Board

S&P is ready for the next level!