Letter from the President

We live in uncertain times . . . But a few certainties remain. Thus it is clear that there are good people in this world. I will mention a few, in half-random order. Perhaps first and foremost, Alec Coupe and his collaborators, who stepped in to organize our next ALT conference, the 15th already. Then also our secretary Ljuba Veselinova for supervising everything, Masha Koptjevskaja-Tamm and her team for keeping the journal on track, Dmitry Idiatov for safeguarding our funds, the chair people and the members of the juries of our two prizes, the initiative takers for our six ALT XV workshops, the program committee members, and the members of the Executive Committee. Not least also the nineteen authors of the entries for our competitions and the as yet unknown number of authors of the ALT XV abstracts. With these certainties in place, we will enjoy the Singapore ALT conference! Also, ‘ALT XV’ is to be followed ‘ALT XVI’ – section 5 below. Is it too early to thank the people that will make a bid?

Johan van der Auwera, President

1 ALT XV Conference

Alec Coupe on behalf of the ALT XV Organizing Committee

Due to unanticipated difficulties with holding the 15th Biennial Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology in China, ALT XV will now be held at Nanyang Technological University Singapore on December 4-6, 2024. NTU is often listed amongst the world’s most beautiful campuses, and Singapore is a vibrant and modern multicultural city state as well as an international hub for travel to many destinations in Asia and beyond.

ALT XV will be a hybrid virtual/in-person conference for all main sessions and workshops to ensure that prospective participants who have been inconvenienced by the change of venue might still be able to take part. The deadline for submission of abstracts has been extended to April 15, and notification of acceptance is slated for July 21.

Abstracts should be submitted via the Easy Abs portal: https://easyabs.linguistlist.org/conference/ALT_XV/.

The local organising committee has negotiated rates at 2-, 3- and 4-star hotels to suit all budgets, and daily buses will be hired to transport participants between the venue at the School of Humanities and the hotels.

Please check the website regularly at https://www.ntu.edu.sg/soh/news-events/events/alt-2024 for updated information as arrangements progress.
2 The 11th Joseph Greenberg Award Competition

Adam J. R. Tallman, Chair of the Jury, presents an update:
The members of the Jury are as follows:

- Damian Blasi, Pompeu Fabra University Barcelona, Spain
- Martine Bruil, Leiden University, Germany
- Shelece Easterday, University of Hawaii, USA
- Borja Herce, Department of Comparative Language Science, University of Zurich, Switzerland
- Natalia Kuznetsova, Università Catolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy
- Tihomir Rangelov, Max Plank Institut für evolutionäre Anthropologie, Leipzig, Germany
- Uta Reinhol, Universität Freiberg, Germany
- Shahar Shirtz, Arizona State University, USA
- Adam J. R. Tallman (Chair), University of Jena, Germany
- Phillip Weisser, Universität Leipzig, Germany

There have been 10 submissions to the Greenberg award. The anticipated date to decide on a winner is August 1st, 2024.

Past Award Winners of the Joseph Greenberg Award are presented here: https://linguistic-typology.org/greenberg-award

3 The 5th Pāṇini Award Competition

František Kratochvıl, Chair of the Jury, presents the update below
The members of the Jury are as follows:

- Mark Dingemanse, Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands
- Lauren Gawne, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia
- Guillaume Jacques, CRLAO, French National Centre for Scientific Research, Paris, France
- František Kratochvıl (Chair), Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic
- Johanna Laakso, University of Vienna, Austria
- Alexis Michaud, LACITO, French National Centre for Scientific Research, Paris, France
- Ruth Singer, The University of Melbourne, Australia
- Roberto Zariquieyi Biondi, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, Lima, Peru
There have been 9 submissions to the Pāṇini Award. The anticipated date to decide on a winner is September 1, 2024.

The Pāṇini Award is one of the two grammar Awards bestowed by the Association for Linguistic Typology. While the Pāṇini Award targets grammars passed as doctoral dissertations, the Von der Gabelentz Award targets published grammars.

Past Pāṇini Award and Von der Gabelentz Award Winners are presented here:

- Pāṇini Award Recipients
- Georg von der Gabelentz Award Recipients

4 The Journal *Linguistic Typology*

There are three issues in the making. During the wait, you can get a glimpse of what is coming, please click on Ahead of Print/Just Accepted.

5 Call for bids for a conference venue and host for ALT XVI 2026

The Association for Linguistic Typology now solicits bids for a conference venue and host for ALT XVI, 2026. We especially encourage submissions from Europe since ALT XV will take place in Singapore and ALT XIV was hosted in Austin, Texas, USA. Below you will find a full list of ALT venues, going back to 1995.

- ALT I, 1995, Vitoria-Gasteiz, The Basque Country, Spain
- ALT II, 1997, Eugene, Oregon, USA
- ALT III, 1999, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- ALT IV, 2001, Santa Barbara, California, USA
- ALT V, 2003, Sardinia, Italy
- ALT VI, 2005, Padang, Indonesia
- ALT, VII, 2007, Paris, France
- ALT VIII, 2009, Berkeley, California, USA
- ALT IX, 2011, Hong Kong
- ALT X, 2013, Leipzig
- ALT XI, 2015, Albuquerque, USA
- ALT XII, 2017, Canberra, Australia
- ALT XIII, 2019, Pavia, Italy
- ALT XIV, 2022, Austin, Texas, USA
- ALT XV, 2024, Singapore

In order to be included for consideration by ALT’s Executive Committee, please reply to the ALT secretary and conference manager, Ljuba Veselinova ljuba@ling.su.se, with responses to the questions below by October 15, 2024.
5.1 **Organizing Committee**

Who are proposed members of the local organizing committee? What is the availability of administrative support at the host institution?

5.2 **Location and accessibility**

Please provide detailed information about the following:

- Availability of conference halls of various sizes.
- Availability and accessibility of hotels and student accommodation.
- Logistics of venue access, including access by airport/rail and by local public transport.
- Accessibility of venue for people with disabilities
- Possibilities for providing sign language interpretation, live captioning
- Possibilities for facilitating the participation of people with young children, e.g. providing some form of child care during the conference.
- Keep in mind possible conflicts with respect to timing, for example local holidays, events, celebrations, etc. in that location.

5.3 **Timing**

Describe the preferred timing, keeping in mind that ALT normally takes place during late northern hemisphere summer, and describe or justify timing alternatives (for example early autumn or some other more appropriate timing), if available. Please keep in mind the availability of conference halls, hotels etc. at your institution and in your area. Please describe any possible combination and/or conflicts with other workshops or conferences at the proposed time of year (e.g. the LSA Summer Institute in the U.S., other summer schools, other conferences such as ICHL).

5.4 **Format**

The ALT EC has indicated a strong preference for an in-person conference. However, given the ecological and accessibility advantages of virtual conferences, can you as a host also consider hybrid formats? And if worst comes to worst (as in the Covid19 pandemic), can you as a host consider an online conference as an alternative?

5.5 **Finances**

Please describe any potential funding sources (research councils, university funding, or other sponsors) that can be used towards ALT XVI. Describe also options available from your institution for offering scholarships to students and scholars from developing countries.
5.6 The Role of ALT

The local host institution is the primary organizing force for ALT conferences. As such, the host is expected to have its own decision-making process in place. However, ALT will serve an advisory role in particular matters, including local organizing committee set-up, program committee establishment, facilitating calls for abstracts and award organization, and the ALT business meeting.

Special Note: If you think that your venue might be appropriate, or if you want to begin informal discussions, we strongly encourage you to reach out to ALT Secretary Ljuba Veselinova ljuba@ling.su.se or to ALT President Johan van der Auwera johan.vanderauwera@uantwerpen.be early on. We would still require the full responses to the questions above in order for EC deliberation, but we would certainly welcome working with interested parties on potential ideas.

Please send the information requested above or direct any questions to Ljuba Veselinova ljuba@ling.su.se by October 15, 2024. The Executive Committee will consider the applications, with the intention of selecting the venue by the end of November 2024 and announcing it at the 2024 Singapore ALT meeting.