

Foreword

Language is the backbone of any human society. It appears in many forms, ebbs and flows like the ripples on a pond, but it remains constant. It is how we connect with others and express ourselves to the world. Without it, what do we have? Linguistics, the study of language, is a small but mighty field. We are young, inquisitive, and constantly changing, much like the nature of language itself. We are extremely privileged to present the 2024-2025 edition of *JournalLing*. Our 8 authors, extremely hard-working, incredible young linguists, have delved into the world of language, analyzing it from different vantage points, bringing us closer to a more holistic view of the field.

This year we have had two editors-in-chief. Sophia and I (Alli) have had the incredible opportunity to lead this team through a turbulent year of many changes to the publication as a whole. I have personally been involved in *JournalLing* since 2022, making this my third year as an editor, and my first year as the editor-in-chief. I joined *JournalLing* to become more involved with Linguistics at McGill, to make new friends, and to acquire new skills. I can say that I am leaving with far more than I bargained for. I have learned so much, not only about the field, but from my peers and our mentors. To our team, thank you for your hard work. It has been a privilege to work with you. Sophia, my partner in crime, I don't have enough words to say. From the moment we met I knew we would click. Thank you for the endless messages and calls at all hours, I couldn't have had a better partner. To Jackson, our Lingua VP Journals, this publication would not exist without you. You have poured countless hours into this project, ensuring that we would make it to print. You have not only been a joy to work with, but endlessly patient, answering all questions before we can even think to ask them. As I prepare to leave the halls of McGill, all I can think about is how grateful I am for *JournalLing*, and how excited I am to see how it evolves over time.

I (Sophia) have had the wonderful opportunity to be a co-Editor-in-Chief with Alli this year. I'm much newer to *JournalLing* than either Alli or Jackson, and I have greatly appreciated both of them being so patient with me as I learned how to make a journal alongside them. I was inspired to join the *JournalLing* team because, after taking many linguistics courses at McGill, I had fallen in love with both the field and the community of undergraduate students and wanted to get involved in a more meaningful way. *JournalLing* seemed like the perfect way to do just that, and I am so grateful to all of our team for working so hard this year to make it happen. To our media team, Natalia and Minji, thank you for making the journal look the best it can be with a beautiful cover and layout, and for creating the journal's first Instagram! To our hardworking editors, Katelyn, Teva, Fei, Frances, Ella, and Liliana, thank you for your patience and diligence in editing despite the time crunch of releasing a journal. To Jackson, our LingUA VP Journals, thank you for ensuring that Alli and I had the smoothest transition possible into this

leadership position, and for the incredible amount of research and time you dedicated to this project; we could not have made this happen without you. And of course, thank you Alli for being the most amazing coworker, leader and friend. It has been such a joy to work with you, and I can't imagine a better person to take on this journey with. As we both prepare to graduate this year, I hope that our time on the *JournalLing* team remains a favorite memory from our time at McGill, and I can't wait to witness where this publication goes in the future.

Lastly, we would both like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the team at the McGill Libraries: Robin Desmeules, Jennifer Innes, and Deepak Chauhan. They have graciously guided us through the creation of our first *JournalLing* website, advised us on our copyright and editing processes, and overall helped make everything so much smoother for this transition year of the publication. We could not have done this without you and we are so grateful for your time and patience.

We hope you enjoy reading the 2024-2025 edition of *JournalLing* as much as we enjoyed putting it together!

Alli McFarlane and Sophia Flaim

Co-Editors-in-Chief of JournalLing

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