

## Editorial

We are excited to present the first papers of the new *Journal of Home Language Research*. We hope this journal will provide a forum for presentation and discussion of original research from all parts of the world, in all areas related to the study of home languages. Our focus on the home is due to the importance of family and community for the success of intergenerational transmission of minority languages. We define *home languages* as any languages that are not the majority language(s) of the context and are spoken in the family and/or community. This relates to heritage, migrant and indigenous language transmission, each with their distinctive challenges.

This is an open access journal. The decision to run the journal in this way has been taken as it is particularly important for a socially conscious journal of this nature to make its articles available to the public. Our readers are not all academics. Our research is financed by public funding, and we do not want it to be hidden behind a paywall. We see this as contributing to an international movement amongst academics, reclaiming from commercial publishers the work we have always done as volunteer editors and reviewers. At present, the *Journal of Home Language Research* does not charge author fees, and we hope to keep it this way as long as possible.

We are grateful to our stellar editorial board, comprising many of the leading researchers in our field, who have supported the *Journal* with valuable advice and assistance. Alongside a broad range of external reviewers, editorial board members have reviewed all incoming papers. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Traci Stanbury, our webmaster, and to our editorial assistants Linda Edwards and Aline Taylor, led by the amazing Jin Kim who many of you will have had e-mail contact with.

We launched the journal in Berlin in February 2016, at the successful AILA Research Network conference on Social and Affective Factors in Home Language Maintenance and Development (HOLM). While this journal is independent of the research network, there is considerable overlap of aims and focus, and the network has been very supportive of the Journal..

Finally, we publish articles as they emerge from the review and editing process, which means that we welcome submissions of research articles, book reviews and shorter pieces at any time.

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