

Addressing the resignation of the Lingua editorial board

Recently, an editorial board from one of our linguistics journals, *Lingua*, decided to leave and launch a new, fully open access journal. The move triggered [media coverage](#) and social media commentary. Here are a few facts to clarify some misconceptions:

- The editor-in-chief of *Lingua* wanted to take ownership of the journal. Elsevier cannot agree to this as we have invested considerable amount of time, money and other resources into making it a respected journal in its field. We founded *Lingua* 66 years ago.
- *Lingua* is a hybrid open access journal which means that every author who wants to publish open access (i.e., free-of-charge for the reader), can do so. However, we have observed little uptake of the open access option in *Lingua* or elsewhere in linguistics at price points that would be economically viable.
- The article publishing charge at *Lingua* for open access articles is 1800 USD. The editor had requested a price of 400 euros, an APC that is not sustainable. Had we made the journal open access only and at the suggested price point, it would have rendered the journal no longer viable – something that would serve nobody, least of which the linguistics community.

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Elsevier Connect Contributor

Tom Reller

As VP and Head of Global Corporate Relations at Elsevier, Tom Reller ([@TomReller](#)) leads a global team of media, social and web communicators for the world's largest provider of scientific, technical and medical (STM) information products and services. Together, they work to build on Elsevier's reputation by promoting the company's numerous contributions to the health and science communities, many of which are brought to life in this online community and information resource: [Elsevier Connect](#).

