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Editor-in-Chief
Ruggero S. Gilyarevskii

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НЕ ДЛЯ ПРОДАЖИ
NOT FOR SALE

The Linguist List System as a Major International Linguistic Resource*

V. B. Borshchev

Received April 3, 2008

Abstract—This paper describes the LINGUIST List system, a major international linguistic resource. This system was created by linguists and for linguists to meet their basic information needs. The system provides a convenient information environment for the linguistic community and consolidates the latter by its very existence.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to describe the popular and indeed remarkable LINGUIST List system (<http://www.linguistlist.org/>) (see also [2]), a major international linguistic resource. This system was created by linguists and for linguists to meet their basic information needs. The system provides a convenient information environment for the linguistic community and consolidates the latter by its very existence, i.e. helps transform the linguistic society into a Community. That is, the system does not represent something *outside* the community, which one is interested in looking at, but need not necessarily browse if one does not wish to. It is more like a work space where linguists live and with which they interact.

In a sense, the LINGUIST List is a metasystem or “information map” of linguistics as an academic field. However, as usual, the border between metainformation and information is blurred, and the system contains not only links to other information resources, but is itself a most valuable information resource.

This paper is organized in the following way. Section 2 gives a general description of the system and its history. Section 3 (the main section) is focused on describing and discussing the system structure and its main rubrics. The last section—Section 4—gives some concluding remarks, here I summarize the major specific features of the system. In the text of the paper I point out several times that Russian linguistics is poorly presented in the LINGUIST List. In *Appendix*, I make an attempt at understanding why this is.

2. WHAT IS LINGUIST LIST

2.1. System Description and Brief History on Its Web Site

Here I shall quote the brief description of the system from its web site:

The LINGUIST List is dedicated to providing information on language and language analysis, and to pro-

viding the discipline of linguistics with the infrastructure necessary to function in the digital world. LINGUIST maintains a web-site with over 2000 pages and runs a mailing list with over 25000 subscribers worldwide. LINGUIST also hosts searchable archives of over 100 other linguistic mailing lists¹ and runs research projects which develop tools for the field, e.g., a peer-reviewed database of language and language-family information, and recommendations of best practices for digitizing endangered language data.

LINGUIST is a free resource, run by linguistics professors and graduate students, and supported entirely by your donations.²

The site also provides a brief history of the system [3]:

1990. The LINGUIST List was founded by Anthony Rodrigues Aristar at the University of Western Australia with 60 subscribers.

1991. Helen Dry became co-moderator of the list with Anthony. 1991. LINGUIST List moved from Australia to Texas A&M University.

1991. Eastern Michigan University was established as the main editing site for the list.

1997. LINGUIST List moved from Texas A&M to its own site (where it has been ever since).

¹ The underlined fragments of this text (as well, as the fragments of the historic reference below) are hyperlinks to other web sites. An interested reader may want to turn to the original source.

² The purpose of the LINGUIST List system is to provide information on language and language analysis, as well as furnish linguistics as a discipline with the infrastructure necessary for functioning in the digital world. LINGUIST supports a web site containing over 2000 pages and communicates linguistic information to 25000 subscribers all over the world. LINGUIST also stores archives (with search tools) for more than 100 other mailing list systems and supports research projects targeted at developing the linguistic toolkit, particularly, a peer-reviewed database on languages and language families and recommendations on the best methods of creating digital representation of data on endangered languages.

LINGUIST is a free resource supported by professors of linguistics and graduate students; this resource only exists owing to your donations.

* This paper is a significant expansion of a part of a report presented at the 7th International Conference “NTI-2007” [1].

1998. Wayne State University in Michigan was established as the second editing site for the list.

2006. Research projects developed and maintained at LINGUIST were consolidated and became the Institute for Language Information and Technology (ILIT), an autonomous research center at Eastern Michigan University.³

2.2. Main Concepts and Some Metaphors

The LINGUIST List started as a mailing list and a set of databases supporting the list. In 1994, the system web site was created. Although the system goes beyond its web site, below I will focus on the description of the site, i.e., how the system is seen in the Internet.

It is a thankless job to describe an Internet system on paper, one should observe it "live," how it is built and how it works (an interested reader can do this by clicking on the above web link).

In its appearance, the LINGUIST List reminds one of a common information reference system, something like a bulletin board. But this bulletin board is very well designed and structured, equipped with plenty of service tools and *what is most important*—has been improved in the process of multiyear system functioning.

Below I will concentrate on some system concepts and principles of its organization that appear essential to me. This description will necessarily be rather schematic, and I hope that the descriptions of the rubrics given in the next section will serve as an illustration for it.

Information resources. Perhaps, the main concept of the system LINGUIST List is resources. One often speaks about information resources, such as research journals, books, databases, etc. In the system, the concept of resources has been substantially expanded. Under resources are understood the sets of descriptions of most different objects—academic communities and the linguists community itself, foundations and projects, conferences and text corpuses, etc.

Metasystem. This expansion of the resource concept is justified partially by the fact that LINGUIST list is a *metasystem*, a kind of structured catalogue describing sets of information objects.

³ 1990. LINGUIST List was founded by Anthony Rodrigues Aristar in the University of Western Australia with 60 subscribers.

1991. Helen Dry became a co-moderator of the system (together with Anthony).

1991. LINGUIST List moved from Australia to Texas A&M University.

1991. Eastern Michigan University became the main site for editing the system.

1997. LINGUIST List "moved" from Texas A&M to its editing site (and since then it is located there).

1998. Wayne State University became the second editing site of the system.

2006. The research projects developed and supported in LINGUIST were consolidated and became Institute for Language Information and Technology (ILIT), an autonomous research center at Eastern Michigan University.

These information objects are rather different. Say, a description of a conference on its Internet site is prepared by its organizers; it is usually quite detailed, and sites of different conferences may vary greatly from one another. But the LINGUIST List presents not these sites but their "catalogue-like" descriptions made according to a standard form with fixed conference parameters, and at this level all these descriptions are not only close to one another, do they do not differ greatly from other descriptions of completely different objects, such as books or university programs.

Metaphors: self-servicing, information market, "goods," their suppliers and consumers. The system is based on the *self-service* principle. The system designers developed its structure and implemented its shell, so to speak, which is, in general, represented by sets of *databases* with a similar structure, and it is the users who fill in these DBs and search them for information. The DBs are connected with service procedures, enabling users to perform the relevant actions, place and edit the necessary information, view or search information by certain "form" parameters, etc.

One can say that an *information market* is thus created. The system users play two roles at this market: the "suppliers" of certain information "goods" and their "consumers." Say that editors place descriptions of published journals or books and conference organizers—calls for their conferences, etc in the system. These are the suppliers. And the consumers are the linguists who use this information.

3. RUBRICS OF THE LINGUIST LIST AND THEIR DESCRIPTION

The system consists of set of rubrics and their sub-rubrics reflecting the information infrastructure of linguistics.

3.1. Basic Rubrics of the System:

People and Organizations

Jobs

Calls & Conferences

Publications

Language Resources

Text & Computer Tools

Teaching and Learning

Mailing Lists

Search

As you can see from the rubrics, the LINGUIST List offers linguists a map of the existing Internet information resources on linguistics, thus creating a convenient information environment where a linguist can get as complete as set of information as possible on what is going on in their science.





Welcome to the Directory of Linguists (18377 entries)	
This part of the LINGUIST site is designed to provide information about the linguists in our database, their dissertation abstracts, and any of their publications which were announced on LINGUIST	
 Browse Our Listings	
Alphabetic Listing of Linguists A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z Browse linguists by linguistic subfield, subject language, or by language family	
 Search Directory	You can search the Directory of Linguists by name, affiliation, linguistic subfield, subject language, or language family
 Add to Directory	You can create a new user account and add your professional information to the Directory of Linguists
 Update Your Entry	You can update your existing information in the LINGUIST database

Fig. 1. Homepage of the SECTION People.

3.2. Description of the Rubrics

People and Organizers

This rubric has two sections as consistent with its title. The section *People* is, first of all, a list of the people working in linguistics (see the first page of the section in Fig. 1). But not all of them, of course, only those who put themselves on the list “on their own initiative.” If you wish to add yourself to the list, you go to the system, fill in the brief “linguist’s questionnaire” (see Fig. 2), the questionnaire goes through a filter (a LINGUIST List’s editor who screens out inappropriate “candidates”) and you are added to the list (see Fig. 3), where your name contains a reference to your questionnaire.

We should point out that LINGUIST List is an open system not requiring registration, so any Internet user has access to its site. Therefore, if you do not put yourself on the list you lose the benefit of other linguists being able to get your data *from this list*. Moreover, having not registered you cannot place your dissertation abstract or other publications in the system.

At the moment of writing this paper,⁴ 18377 linguists from around the world were on the list. Unfortunately, only 63 Russian linguists put themselves to the list⁵ (i.e., put this in their questionnaires), and the majority of those who added themselves to the list do not have a personal web site.

Thus, all is very simple, and as a result we have a great resource. Indeed, after all the *major information resource of the science* is the people who work there.

⁴ The paper was written in March–April 2008. The data in the system data are permanently updated; I took different data from the system on different days in this period.

As we already said, the linguist’s name on the list contains a reference to his/her questionnaire. Thus, the list is essentially a database on linguists. In this database you can find out who a person is and where s/he works—for what institution, in what areas of linguistics, and with what languages. As we already said, one can search the database with some of the questionnaire fields (organizations, languages, areas of interest, etc.) and obtain summary lists by certain parameters of the questionnaire.

You can obtain, for example, lists of linguists who work in the area of typology (392 people, including 16 from Russia), with the Russian language (201 people, including 15 from Russia), or, for example, with the Adygei language (3 people, including 2 from Russia).⁶ I obtained a list of linguists who work at Moscow State University (13 people) and Lomonosov State University of Moscow (2 people)—the system does not understand, of course, that these are one and the same institution. Out of the Russian Academy of Sciences there are 16 linguists on the List, including 1 from the Slavic Studies Institute, 2 from the Institute of Linguis-

⁵ Unfortunately, the questionnaire does not have a parameter reflecting the country where the linguist works. Therefore, it is impossible to get a list of linguists who are working in a specific country. I had to look through the entire list to find the number of Russian linguists who added themselves to LINGUIST List. When calculating them I took into account only those who indicated in the questionnaire a Russian organization as a place of work.

⁶ All these (and other) lists are sub-lists of the main list generated by means of questionnaires. Therefore, they enlist, of course, not all the typologists and researchers studying the Russian and Adygei languages, but only those who have added their professional field to the questionnaire.

Name:	Yury A. Lander
Institution:	Institute of Oriental Studies, Moscow
Email:	click here to access email
Homepage:	http://yulander.narod.ru
Linguistic Field(s):	Language Morphology Semantics Syntax Typology
Subject Language(s):	Adyghe Indonesian Udi
Postal Address:	Dpt. of Languages, Rozhdestvenka 12 Moscow, Russia 107996
Selected Publications:	
Announced of LINGUIST-	Possessives and Beyond: Semantics and Syntax
Reviewer of:	Lang Description/Amerindian langs: Quesada (2000) (LL Issue 17.800) Semantics: Herburger (2000) (LL Issue 12.1356) Morphology/Syntax: Plank, ed. (2003) (LL Issue 14.2484) Semantics: King (2001) (LL Issue 12.2794) Typology: Newman, ed. (2002) (LL Issue 14.523) TypologyLang Desc: Adelaar & Muysken (2004) (LL Issue 16.455) Typology: Wischer & Diewald, eds. (2002) (LL Issue 13.2236)

Fig. 2. Example of linguist's questionnaire.

Yury A. Lander	Institute of Oriental Studies, Moscow
Clifford E Landers	
Michele Landis	American Translators Association
Fred Landman	Tel-Aviv University

Fig. 3. Fragment of linguists' list.

tics, and 5 from the Institute of Oriental Studies.⁷ For comparison, in the MIT list (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) there are 46 people, and the list of UMass (University of Massachusetts) has 35 people, in the lists of the four departments of the Max Planck Institute there are 70 linguists all together.

But perhaps the main value of this resources is that from the address in the questionnaire you can go to the personal web site of a person who is interesting to you

⁷ These lists do not intersect, and the system does not understand that all these institutions are a part of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the same problem comes up with the institution's consistency.

(if s/he has it; western linguists almost always have a personal site), and this site usually contains a mass of information⁸ viz., their CV (curriculum vitae), research interests, lecture courses that s/he delivers, and, as a rule, the texts of their last papers, etc. And if it does not have a paper or other material interesting to you, you can write the author, and s/he will most probably send it to you, the people are usually friendly, especially to those who are interested in their work.

⁸ I have already written about the scholars' personal web sites as an information resource [4].

Structure of Resources Presented by Rubric

The resources presented in the system rubrics are organized by similar principles. For each resource the system determines its potential "suppliers," who generate the resource, and *consumers*, who look for specific information there. The resource consumers are, first of all, linguists who look for specific information there. For the resource "People," as we have seen, they are also its suppliers. Other resources have other "suppliers." Say that the rubric *Calls & Conferences* is formed by conference organizers, the resource *Journals* by journal editors, etc.

The resource is usually presented in the form of a list. One usually develops a specialized questionnaire for the resource, whose parameters characterize each element of the list (each "commodity" of the resource). Every resource "supplier" if s/he wishes to add his/her "commodity" to the list, presses the button Add or Submit on the relevant page of the rubric, fills in the questionnaire, enters it, and (after verification by the editor) the relevant row is added to the list, the "commodity" title being connected to the link to its questionnaire (thus the questionnaire is included in the database).

Organization of the resources in the form of a database enables one to modify them effectively, organize an effective search, various sorting, sub-lists, etc.

Organizations are lists of various "relevant" organizations:

Societies—178 rows (list elements),

Projects and Research—231 row, and

Funding Sources—16 rows.

The element of each list is the title of the relevant organization and its brief description (in this case the system does not create a questionnaire for organizations, the name of the organization serves as a direct link to its site). Let me cite a few examples of these lists:

Societies

American Translators Association: Association for United States translators, interpreters, and translation services companies.

Bilingual Babies: Open community web site providing extensive material on bilingualism from birth and on. It also includes Online Help, articles on speech delay, Q&A, a Recipes section, free Online Photo Album and much more.

Linguistic Society of America: THE LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA was founded in 1924 for the advancement of the scientific study of language. The Society serves its nearly 7000 personal and institutional members through scholarly meetings, publications, and special activities designed to advance the discipline. An interest in linguistics is the only requirement for membership.

Summer Institute of Linguistics: The purpose of SIL International (formerly known as the Summer Institute of Linguistics) is to work with language communities

worldwide to facilitate language-based development through research, translation, and literacy.

Projects

The American Sign Language Linguistic Research Project (ASLLRP): A collaborative project for investigation of ASL syntax, and development of a multimedia tool, SignStream, to facilitate access to and analysis of sign language data.

Could Chomsky Be Wrong?: A collection of commented links pointing to alternatives to UG and modularity.

Funding & Research

Fulbright Scholar Program Web Site: Fulbright grants are made to U.S. citizens and nationals of other countries for a variety of educational activities, primarily university lecturing, advanced research, graduate study and teaching in elementary and secondary schools.

National Endowment for the Humanities: Grants available for all areas of the humanities.

National Science Foundation Linguistics Program: Information about NSF grants for research specifically in linguistics.

It is interesting that the list of projects does not include the famous project EMELD (Electronic Meta-structure for Endangered Languages Data). This project aimed at coordinating the tools and resources used when describing endangered languages is developed under the umbrella of LINGUIST List. The link to the LINGUIST List is given at the main page of the site in the general description of the system (see Section 2).

Jobs

This rubric is designed for job announcements. They are put here by interested organizations, primarily the university departments where these positions are vacant.

The rubric contains two main lists:

1) Positions at universities and other organizations: information on academic and professional positions for linguists.

2) Support of post-graduate students: graduate and research assistantships (financial support for graduate and post-graduate work).

The first list contains 145 job announcements placed during the last year and still relevant. Let me cite a few rows from this list (see Fig. 4).

The fragment of the list (out of 145) given in Fig. 4 contains brief descriptions of the relevant announcements. Organizations provide their announcements in the form of a specialized questionnaire. The title of the organization (and position) in the list row contains a reference to the questionnaire-announcement. Below (in Fig. 5) there is an example of this questionnaire-job announcement (some details are omitted for brevity):

Employer	Location	Rank or Title	Specialty	Deadline	Posted
University of Tromso	Norway: Tromso	Search Fellow (PhD student)	Cognitive Science; Cognitive Linguist	14-Apr-2008	29-Feb-2008
New York University	USA: New York	Asst Prof	Phonology; Sociolinguistics, Syntax	22-Feb-2008	31-Jan-2008
Central Intelligence Agency		Instructor	Applied Linguistics; Arabic, Standard; French; German, Standard; Greek, Ancient; Indonesian; Italian; Japanese; Pashto, Southern; Pashto, Northern; Farsi, Western; Polish; Farsi, Eastern; Russian; Tsai; Turkish; Urdu	(Flexible Deadline)	29-Nov-2007
Parity Computing Inc		Computational Linguist	Computational Linguist	(Open until filled)	08-Nov-2007

Fig. 4. Fragment of the first list of positions.

The second list (see Fig. 6) contains 87 announcements placed during the last year. I will cite only two examples here:

Comment

The staff of western universities (and other organizations), as a rule, change their positions several times in their life. Therefore, job searching and searching for employees is an important part of professional life but I will not stop here long, otherwise this would bring us too far from the subject. I shall make only two remarks:

1) The *Jobs* rubric is one of the most popular, linguists are now looking for a job mostly by using the LINGUIST List.

2) When telling my colleagues about the system LINGUIST List and, in particular, about the rubrics *Jobs*, I often heard comments, such as: "well, this is not for us..." Indeed, the contents of this rubric give a visual demonstration that the specific conditions of our country, viz., a fixed place of residence, limited professional mobility, due to the same fixed place of employment, and other circumstances, do still differ greatly from the professional job market in international science.

Calls and Conferences

This rubric is, naturally, designed for conference (congresses, workshops, etc.) organizers and their potential participants. Of course, conference organizers develop conference sites on their own. They provide an announcement on the conference to the LINGUIST List, then a Call for Papers and, finally, its program. The announcement appears on the list of current conferences and in the calendar of events published by the LINGUIST List.

Below (see Fig. 7) some fragments of the list of conferences are given.

The same as for the rubrics *People* and *Jobs*, *Calls & Conferences* (see Figs. 8 and 9) represents a special questionnaire filled in by the conference organizers, see

the examples below, viz., conference information. When conference organizers announce a call for papers, they put a special mark in the questionnaire, and the announcement appears in the other list as well (which is a part of the first list, only calls for papers). When the program appears, a new mark is put in the questionnaire. At the moment of writing this paper there were 575 conferences on the first list and 172 on the second.

Publications

This rubric has several subrubrics: *Books*, *Dissertations Abstracts*, *Reviews*, *Academic Papers*, *Journals*, *Publishers Websites*, and *Blogs*.

This rubric is probably the most traditional one. Books, papers, journals, etc. have always been objects of information description. The rubric contains relevant databases.

Books. At present, the database included 6727 books published since 1992. Books are entered into the database by publishing houses (or sometimes by authors). For each book there is a questionnaire (see Fig. 10). The questionnaire contains both formal (elements of bibliographic description) and content-based parameters (description, linguistic fields, etc). A search for books can be done by author (by each of them)⁹ or by the publishing house. Moreover, there is a list of books included in the database this year.

Dissertation Abstracts. This database now includes 1524 dissertation abstracts. Each abstract is presented in the database by its questionnaire (see the example in Fig. 11¹⁰). The questionnaire is, of course, filled in by the author of the dissertation.

⁹ For a paper collection, it is the editor who plays the author's role.

¹⁰ In the example of the questionnaire, the dissertation abstract is given in a contracted form.


Job Announcement: University of Tromso	
Russian & Cognitive Linguistics: Research Fellow (PhD student), University of Tromso, Norway	
 E-mail this message to a friend	
Employer:	University of Tromso Dept. of Language and linguistics
Job Location:	Tromso, Norway
Rank or Title:	Research Fellow (PhD student)
Linguistic Field(s):	Cognitive Science Cognitive Linguistics
Language Specialty:	Russian
LL Issue:	19.684
Date Posted:	27-Feb-2008
Job Description:	<p>The University of Tromsø has a research fellow position in Russian linguistics vacant for applicants who would like to complete a PhD degree. (Ref. 08-324)</p> <p>For further information, please contact: Professor Laura A. Janda or Professor Tore Nessel, telephone +47 77645633, email: tore.nessel@hum.uit.no.</p>
Application Deadline:	14-Apr-2008
Application Address:	Det humanistiske fakultet Universitetet i Tromsø Tromsø NO-9037 Norway
Application URL:	http://ec.europa.eu/eracareers/index_en.cfm?11=1&12=:1&13r=1&idjob=23132
Contact Information:	Professor Laura Janda click here to access email Phone: +47 77 645 680

Fig. 5. Job announcement questionnaire.

Institution	Level	Specialty	Deadline	Date
Easten Michigan University	Open Internships	General Linguistics	10-Jun-2008 (open until filled)	10-Jan-2008
University of California, Davis	PhD Research, Teaching	Computational Linguist	01-Mar-2008	29-Nov-2007

Fig. 6. Fragment of the second list of positions.

One can search for a dissertation (in the database) in the alphabetic order by the author's last name or by parameters areas of linguistics, languages, or language families, and by keywords (in the title or abstract). The database does not contain the addresses of the dissertations, their addresses (and often texts) can usually be

found at the author's personal web site. Dissertation defended at Western universities are as a rule published. Thus, for example, at the MIT site (<http://web.mit.edu/mitwpl/catalog.html#MITPhD>) there is a catalogue of more than a hundred dissertations on linguistics published there. Over 150 dissertations are put

April 2008	Back to top
...	
3rd Moscow Student Conference on Linguistics (MSCL 3)	
...	
Formal Semantics in Moscow 4 (FSIM 4)	
...	
September 2008	Back to top
...	
13th Int Conf. of the Soc. of Indo-European Studies	
13th International Conference on Functional Grammar (ICFG13)	
13th Sinn und Bedeutung Conference (SuB13) – Call for papers	

Fig. 7. Fragment of the list of conferences.


Conference Information	
	E-mail this message to a friend
Full Title:	Formal Semantics in Moscow 4
Short Title:	FSIM4
Location:	Moscow, Russia
Start Date:	05-Apr-2008...06-Apr-2008
Contact:	Igor Yanovich
Meeting Email:	click here to access email
Meeting Description:	Formal Semantics in Moscow is an annual workshop devoted to the formal semantics and pragmatics of natural language.
Linguistic Subfield:	Pragmatics; Semantics
LL Issue:	19.16

Fig. 8. Conference Information.

lished by GLSA (Graduate Linguistic Student Association), the publishing house managed by the post-graduate students of the Dept. of Linguistics at UMass (<http://glsa.hypermart.net/>). Dissertations are also published by other universities. They can be ordered at fairly modest price. The processed dissertations are often published as books by various publishing houses.

Reviews. This subrubric is intended for reviews. The books announced in the subrubric *Books* are reviewed, and not all of them but only those published by the so-called Supporting Publishers. This subrubric differs from other rubrics and subrubrics in terms of its

content (reviews), which is created inside the system LINGUIST List and not outside it.

The procedure by which reviewing is organized is interesting. From time to time, the LINGUIST List published a list of books accessible for reviewing. Any system subscriber can offer his/her services as reviewer of some of the books from the list. To do this, s/he should be registered in the system (in the section Books) and present arguments why s/he thinks that s/he is a suitable candidate for reviewing the selected books. If these arguments appear convincing to the editorial


Conference Information	
 E-mail this message to a friend	
Full Title:	13th Sinn und Bedeutung Conference
Short Title:	SuB13
Location:	Stuttgart, Germany
Start Date:	30-Sep-2008...02-Oct-2008
Contact:	Udo Klein
Meeting Email:	click here to access email
Meeting URL:	http://www.ilg.uni-stuttgart.de/SuB13/index.html
Meeting Description:	The 13th Sinn und Bedeutung Conference, the annual meeting of the Gesellschaft fur Semantik, will take place from the 30th of September to the 2nd of October 2008 at the University of Stuttgart.
Linguistic Subfield:	Philosophy of Language; Pragmatics; Psycholinguistics; Semantics
LL Issue:	18.3667

Fig. 9. Conference Information.

board, s/he will receive the book in order to write a review.

The reviews should be written in English. The LINGUIST List recommends a certain review format and size 1500–2500 words).

One should say that it is rather prestigious to be the author of a review published in the LINGUIST List, especially for postgraduate students. An additional incentive is that the reviewed book remains with the reviewer. I should note that in recent years graduates of Russian universities have taken part in the book reviewing process on the LINGUIST List.

In terms of structure, the rubric Reviews is organized as a database. When a review is written, the reviewer presents it to the system, the review undergoes an acceptance procedure, and, once accepted, it is included in the database.

At the moment of writing this paper, the database contained 2023 reviews; roughly speaking, every third book is reviewed.

The site displays the list of reviews for the current year and references to the reviews archive for recent years (starting from 1992). One can search reviews by publisher, book author, reviewer, area of linguistics, language and language families, and keywords.

Academic Papers. This database now contains 2018 descriptions of academic papers (the description includes the paper abstract). Papers are included by

authors who fill in the respective questionnaire (see an example of this questionnaire in Fig. 12). When searching, the papers may be sorted by title, author, language subfield, language, or language families.

Journals is a database of journals (at present there are 521 journals in it). A new journals is added to the database when its publishers present its description to the LINGUIST List by filling in a special questionnaire.

This database can be viewed as a list of journals containing their brief descriptions. A search can be conducted using questionnaire parameters (publishing houses, areas of linguistics, languages and language families, as well as keywords in the journal titles).

Note that the database contains only two Russian journals, these being far from the most famous, i.e. "Politicheskaya lingvistika (Political Linguistics)" and "Voprosy kognitivnoi lingvistiki (Problems of Cognitive Linguistics)." Let me cite as an example two element of the journals list (see Fig. 13) and the questionnaire (Journal Information) for one of them (see Fig. 14).

The section Journals also contains a regularly updated list of journal titles (however, not all of them, only those published by Supporting Publishers). Thus, the LINGUIST List performs (for linguistics) the function of the well-known Current Contents information resource, which was published sometime ago by E. Garfield and has by now been transformed into the

