Editorial Policy

I. Aim and scope

STUDIES IN CHINESE LINGUISTICS is an international academic journal devoted to comparative study of Chinese language and linguistics and a platform for research of comparative linguistics and dialectal grammar under a comparative approach. We especially welcome synchronic or diachronic comparative works on any aspects of the syntax, semantics, and morphology among Chinese dialects or between a Chinese language/dialect and any languages that contribute to theoretical linguistics or have significant theoretical implications.

II. Frequency

Two issues per year (January and July).

III. Manuscripts

- The journal publishes research papers and comments and responses on specific subjects.
- The journal accepts papers submission in general but may call for papers when there is a special topic.
- Manuscripts should be written in English, limited to 20 single-spaced pages, submitted by email at scl.editor@cuhk.edu.hk. The format of the manuscript is not limited in the first submission.

IV. Editing Affairs:

The Chief Editor can decide to accept a manuscript or not on the basis of reviewers’ opinions. If there is difficulty in deciding the manuscript, then the Chief Editor can consult the opinions of the Editorial Board. Each manuscript will be reviewed anonymously by at least two reviewers. The flow chart for manuscript processing is nine staged:

1. manuscripts received,
2. searching for reviewers,
3. review,
4. revision,
5. second review (second review after revision according to the reviewers’ opinions),
6. additional review (For those difficult or controversial manuscripts that need one or two additional reviewers),
7. final review by the Chief Editor based upon the reviewers’ or Editorial Board’s opinions),
8. typesetting,
9. printing.

It normally takes about 6 months for the procedure of soliciting reviewers and submission for reviewing in general.

V. Reviewers:

The journal invites scholars within the specialty as reviewers in various aspects. Reviewers will be given a complimentary copy of the journal.

VI. Review Content:

The manuscript is categorized according to the following review criteria:

(1) the level of originality of the ideas,
(2) the level of contribution,
(3) the level of sufficiency of the evidence, and
(4) the level of rigor in argumentation.

The review results are categorized as four levels:

(A) published without significant revision
(B) definitely published if certain revisions are made
(C) reconsidered for publication after a thorough revision
(D) rejected as unsuitable for publication

For those manuscripts that have problems in writing mechanics (too many misspelled words or grammar) or whose theme is beyond the scope of this journal, the manuscripts will be returned to the authors without any review.

(A) and (B) are at the similar category; (C) and (D) are at the similar category. If two reviewers’ comments belong to (A) and (B) for a paper, the Chief Editor can decide to accept it directly, or if two reviewers’ comments belong to (C) and (D) for a paper, the Chief Editor can decide not to accept it. If the reviewers’ comments cross the two
different categories, the paper should be re-reviewed again or reviewed by the third person.

VII. Manuscript handling procedure

- Manuscript submission: The format of the manuscript is not limited in the first submission. Manuscripts should be sent to scl.editor@cuhk.edu.hk by email.
- Revision: For those provisionally accepted manuscripts, the journal will provide the reviewers’ revising suggestions to the author who is requested to follow the format of this journal and revise the manuscript according to the reviewer’s suggestions.
- Publishing: The revised manuscript will be published after the final review. The priority (order) of publishing will be decided by the time order of the final review.

VIII. Publication ethics and malpractice statement

(1) Publication and authorship

- List of references should be provided.
- Information of the research funding should be provided.
- No plagiarism is allowed.
- No fraudulent data is allowed.
- Publishing same article in more than one journal is forbidden.
- All copyrighted material should be properly credited in the article.

(2) Author’s responsibilities

- Authors are obliged to participate in double-blind peer review process.
- All authors should have significantly contributed to the research.
- All authors are obliged to provide retractions or corrections of mistakes.
- Authors should obtain written permission for quotations from unpublished material, or for all quotations in excess of 250 words in one extract or 500 words in total from any work still in copyright, and for the reprinting of illustrations or tables from unpublished or copyrighted material.
(3) Peer review/responsibility for the reviewers

- Judgments should be objective.
- Reviewers should have no conflict of interest with respect to the research, the authors and/or the research funders.
- Reviewers should point out relevant published work which is not yet cited.
- Reviewed articles should be treated confidentially.

(4) Editorial responsibilities

- Editors have complete responsibility and authority to reject/accept an article based on reviewers’ opinions.
- Editors should have no conflict of interest with respect to articles they reject/accept.
- Editors should only accept a paper when reasonably certain.
- When errors are found, editors should promote publication of correction or retraction.
- Editors should preserve anonymity of reviewers.