From the editors

Some self-examination, once again

Inasmuch as it was a Greek, Socrates to be exact as recorded in Plato's *Apology* (38a5–6), who talked about the lack of value in the “unexamined life” (ὁ ... ἀνεξέταστος βίος), it is probably appropriate for us, representing the *Journal of Greek Linguistics*, to engage in a bit of self-examination on behalf of the journal. We have done this before, in our editorial in *JGL* 14.1 (pp. 1–4), in which we reflected on the contents of the journal in the first five years (volume 9, 2009, to volume 13, 2013) of being part of Brill's offerings in linguistics and in Greek.¹ And now, five volumes later (volume 14, 2014, to volume 18, 2018), it seems appropriate to do this once again.

In the past five volumes, we have published 38 research articles; in addition, there were 11 dissertation summaries, 6 book reviews, 2 obituaries, 4 items pertaining to new books in the field of Greek linguistics (3 with brief summaries, “Brief Notices”, and 1 with just bibliographic information, “Books Received”). All of these numbers compare favorably with the first five years of the “Brill era” (see *JGL* 14.1.1–4 (https://brill.com/abstract/journals/jgl/14/1/article-p1_1.xml) for details).

Our purpose five years ago was in part to see how the journal had fared with regard to its stated mission, which, beginning with the Brill era, was aimed, from a chronological standpoint, at the “study of the Greek language from its roots in Ancient Greek down to present-day dialects and varieties”.² Five years ago, we felt we had done reasonably well with that mission, with 35 % of our research articles being on Ancient Greek, 2 % on Medieval Greek, and 63 % on Modern Greek.

Looking now at the past five years, the same conclusion holds, as the statistics are comparable, even if Ancient Greek did somewhat better in this period, with the gains coming at the expense of Modern Greek: 41 % of the research

1 The first eight volumes of the journal, from 2001 to 2008, were published by John Benjamins Publishing Company.

2 As stated on the inside front cover as part of the description of the journal; during the Benjamins era, our stated focus was more on the latter stages of Greek, Medieval and in particular Modern Greek, though we did publish papers on Ancient Greek, especially when they had a forward look to other periods in the history of the language.

articles were on Ancient Greek, 5% on Medieval Greek, and 54% on Modern Greek. We consider this to be an encouraging finding.

Of course, as we noted in our earlier editorial, we can only publish what we receive, so in a sense it is up to you, our readers and potential authors, to keep *JGL* in mind whenever you have a research paper on Greek of any era.

There are other ways in which our contents can be assessed, e.g. as to the areas of linguistics that are covered, what our submissions—as opposed to our published papers reflect as to topic and era, and where our authors come from, but we will save those for future editorials. In the meantime, as we said in 2014, enjoining you, our readers, with regard to submissions, “keep ‘em coming, please!”.³

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3 We would like to thank our editorial assistant, Bethany Christiansen, for her help with tabulating the figures for this piece.