

Foreword

We are very happy to present the Proceedings of *Sinn und Bedeutung 30* (SuB30).

SuB30 took place at Goethe University Frankfurt from September 23 to 27, 2025. It was jointly organized by the Institute of Linguistics, the Institute of English and American Studies, and the Institute of Philosophy. The conference included a three-day main session, held from September 24 to 26, and two one-day special sessions. The first special session, *Beyond Descriptive Meaning: The Semantics and Pragmatics of Demonstrations and Depictions* (LingDem), took place on September 23 and was organized in cooperation with the Priority Program *Visual Communication* (ViCom), funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The second special session, *Philosophical and Linguistic Approaches to Negation* (PhilLingNeg), took place on September 27 and was organized in cooperation with the Collaborative Research Center *Negation in Language and Beyond* (NegLaB), also funded by the DFG.

For us, hosting SuB30 in Frankfurt was special in more than one respect. It had been more than twenty years since *Sinn und Bedeutung* last took place in Frankfurt, with SuB8 in 2003. At the same time, the thirtieth edition offered an occasion to look back at the history of the conference series. The *Gesellschaft für Semantik* was founded in 1994 at the workshop *Recent Developments in the Theory of Natural Language Semantics* in Blaubeuren by Sebastian Löbner, Arnim von Stechow, and Thomas Ede Zimmermann. Thomas Ede Zimmermann was Professor of Semantics at Goethe University Frankfurt from 1999 to 2020. We were therefore particularly pleased that the anniversary edition of *Sinn und Bedeutung* could be held in Frankfurt, a place with its own ties to the history of the *Gesellschaft für Semantik* and to the development of semantics in Germany.

The main session comprised 45 contributed talks and two poster sessions with accompanying lightning talks, featuring 27 posters in total. We were delighted to welcome Magdalena Kaufmann, Orin Percus, and Julia Zakkou as invited speakers for the main session. The LingDem special session hosted six contributed talks and an invited talk by Floris Roelofsen. The PhilLingNeg special session hosted four contributed talks, seven posters, and an invited talk by Elena Herburger. As usual for *Sinn und Bedeutung*, the present volume brings together contributions from the invited, contributed, and poster sessions, as well as from the two special sessions.

The contributed program was selected from 259 submissions to the main and special sessions combined. We are very grateful to the 185 members of the international SuB program committee whose careful reviews made this selection possible. SuB30 had 155 registered participants: 83 post-PhD researchers and 72 PhD or pre-PhD students. All participants attended the conference in person. Of the total number of participants, 78 were based outside Germany and 77 were based at German institutions. We were especially happy to see such strong participation by early-career researchers, who have always been central to *Sinn und Bedeutung* as a conference series.

SuB30 was supported by a grant for international scientific events from the DFG (grant no. 554690466), and by a grant from the Alfons und Gertrud Kassel Foundation. We also gratefully acknowledge support from the Executive Board of Goethe University Frankfurt, which funded interpretation between English and International Sign for the LingDem special session. The LingDem special session was further supported by ViCom, and the PhilLingNeg special session by NegLaB.

Many people helped make SuB30 possible. We are grateful to the Inclusion Office at Goethe University Frankfurt for their guidance and support, especially to Christoph Trüper. We also warmly thank the University Library of Konstanz for continuing to host the *Sinn und Bedeutung* proceedings and for their support in preparing this volume. We are especially grateful to Jelena Preiser and Regine Eckhardt for their guidance throughout the proceedings process. We also thank the organizers of previous editions of *Sinn und Bedeutung* for generously sharing materials and experience with us, especially the organizers of SuB29 in Noto and SuB28 in Bochum. The conference was organized by Kathryn Barnes, Cornelia Ebert, Kurt Erbach, Lennart Fritzsche, Janek Guerrini, Cécile Meier, Carolin Reinert, Frank Richter, Manfred Sailer, Sebastian Walter, Eleonora Zani, and Alexandra Zinke. On site, we received wonderful support from our student assistants: Prince Asiedu, Joana Gerheim, Theresa Gollin, Deborah Jans, Sebastian Jantsch, Leah Pavčić, Magnus Poppe, Lisa Reinhold, Maja Richter, Anton Steinfadt, Eva Todoroff, Clara Wiese, and Song Mai Vu.

A special thank you goes to Daniel Gutzmann for the cover design, and to Alex Lowles (@alexlowlesphotography) for documenting the conference through her photography. The photograph featured on the cover is credited to Alex Lowles.

We thank everyone who contributed to SuB30—as speakers, poster presenters, reviewers, chairs, participants, organizers, assistants, and supporters. We are very glad to have hosted this anniversary edition in Frankfurt, and we hope that the present Proceedings reflect some of the richness, openness, and liveliness of the conference.

Sebastian Walter and Lennart Fritzsche with Kurt Erbach, Cécile Meier, and Manfred Sailer

Frankfurt, July 2026