CONCEPTS lie at the heart of our mental life, supporting a myriad of cognitive functions – including thinking and reasoning, object recognition, memory, and language comprehension and production. The nature of concepts and their representation in the mind and brain has been studied from many different perspectives and so provides valuable opportunities for integrative, interdisciplinary discussions.

This special issue on conceptual representation contains invited papers from leading researchers across the range of cognitive science disciplines, addressing the nature of semantic and conceptual representation in the mind and brain. Contributions include both empirical reports and theoretical reviews, from the fields of cognitive and developmental psychology, neuropsychology, philosophy and linguistics. Papers include L. Barsalou Situated simulation in the human conceptual system, F.C. Keil, Categorisation and the limits of knowledge, T Rogers, J Hodges, M Lambon Ralph & K Patterson, Object recognition under semantic impairment: The effects of conceptual regularities on perceptual decisions.

Language and Cognitive Processes is an international journal which publishes theoretical and experimental research into the mental processes and representations involved in language use. The psychological study of language has attracted increasing research interest over the past three decades, and Language and Cognitive Processes provides a common focus for this enterprise. It is a journal which emphasises the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to the study of language. Apart from research in experimental and developmental psychology, Language and Cognitive Processes publishes work derived from linguistics, philosophy, cognitive neuropsychology and computational modelling.