The EURALEX Newsletter

This quarterly Newsletter is intended to include not only official announcements but also news on EURALEX members, their publications, career moves and (it is hoped) their opinions. Please try to support this by sending newsletter contributions to the Secretary at the above address. The deadlines for winter, spring, summer and autumn issues respectively are 15 September, 15 December, 15 March and 15 June annually.

Fifth EURALEX Congress and Proceedings

About 300 participants came to the University of Tampere in the south of Finland from August 4 to August 9 to attend the fifth Congress of EURALEX. The programme offered over 80 papers, a tutorial on “Computational lexicography”, a presidential debate on “The ideal computerized dictionary”, a book exhibition, computer demonstrations, and a poster session. The opening address was given by Prof. F. Karlsson on “Lexicography and corpus linguistics”, and the two plenary lectures were Prof. J. Apresjan on “Systemic lexicography” and Prof. J. Svartvik on “Lexis in corpora”.

The Proceedings had been prepared before and were handed to each participant on registration. They can now be ordered from the Congress organizers (see below). They are in two volumes (629 pages in all), containing the two plenary lectures, and 70 papers organized in 6 sections:


Note: In the Winter issue of this Newsletter it was announced that the Proceedings cost FIM 200. Unfortunately, this does not include postage. Postage is FIM 38 for surface mail, or FIM 58 for air mail. If you pay by cheque, please add FIM 40 to the whole, for handling costs.

EURALEX Executive Board

During the Congress in Tampere, EURALEX chose a new Executive Board: President B. T. S. Atkins (Oxford University Press), Vice-President F. Knowles (University of Aston), Secretary-Treasurer O. Norling-Christensen (Den Danske Ordbog), Assistant Secretary-Treasurer K. Varantola (University of Tampere), Newsletter Editor H. Bejoint (Université Lumière-Lyon 2). Board Members are R. R. K. Hartmann (University of Exeter), N. Calzolari (C.N.R. Pisa), J. D. Apresjan (Russian Academy of Sciences), U. Heid (Universität Stuttgart) and C. Marello (Università di Torino). In addition, a Board seat was reserved for the organizers of the 1994 Congress. This seat will be occupied by W. Martin (Free University of Amsterdam).

Sixth EURALEX Congress

The Sixth Congress of EURALEX will take place in Amsterdam from August 30 to September 3 1994.

International Friendship Fund

The object of the International Friendship Fund (IFF), is to assist colleagues who are unable to pay their EURALEX membership subscriptions because of currency convertibility difficulties. The IFF is financed by voluntary contributions from EURALEX members.

In order to optimize the effect of the IFF, the EURALEX Executive Board, at its meeting on 12 December 1992, decided to introduce a new membership category, the IFF-membership, that combines characteristics of the existing Individual and Institutional membership categories:

- Whenever possible the IFF membership shall cover an institution (publishing house, library, university or academy department, training centre etc. with an interest in lexicography) and not an individual. The institution is included in the list of Institutional Members, and any number of named individuals affiliated to the institution is included in the list of Individual Members.
- The institution will receive one copy of the International Journal of Lexicography (including the EURALEX Newsletter) to be shared by all. The Journal will be addressed to one named person, who will act as the institution's contact to EURALEX.
- The IFF-memberships will be subject to review annually. Applications for 1994 IFF-
membership, including renewals, should be submitted to the EURALEX Secretary before the end of October 1993.

- This matter will be brought to the notice of the members at the next General Meeting (Amsterdam 1994), when the Board will present a motion to amend the constitution accordingly. Until then, decisions will be made on an ad hoc basis.

Contributions to the IFF can be made by paying (e.g. 10 per cent) more than the fee due when you join EURALEX or renew your subscription. During the rest of the year contributions can be made to EURALEX Secretary-Treasurer Ole Norling-Christensen, Account no. 4592 812 185, Den Danske Bank, Copenhagen, DK; or Danish GiroBank Account no. 708 0352.

VERBATIM Award 1992

The European Association for Lexicography (EURALEX) is happy to announce that the VERBATIM Award, funded annually by VERBATIM, The Language Quarterly, to support lexicographical scholarship, was made to Olga M. Karpova, Russia; Patricia Thomas, UK; Andrejs Veisbergs, Latvia; and John Williams, UK. The purpose of this annual Award is to support unpaid lexicographical work of any type, including study. The amount available is GBP 1500.

The Selection Panel chose those four from among six proposals received from five countries.

Prof. Karpova, of Ivanovo State University, has for years been studying writers’ dictionaries, i.e. dictionaries on the language of a single author like Shakespeare or Joyce. The VERBATIM funding will be used for a study tour to Britain.

Ms. Thomas, M.Phil., of Surrey, is a skilled terminologist. The VERBATIM award will support her work on guidelines for terminographers on corpus-based criteria for entering compound terms and phraseology in dictionaries of special languages.

Dr. Veisbergs, of the University of Latvia, Riga, gets the Award in support of a study tour to Britain in order to complete the study of English idioms for his English-Latvian Idiom Dictionary.

Mr. Williams, a freelance lexicographer and translator based in Bolton near Manchester, gets the Award for his paper on Plagiarism and Breach of Copyright in the Dictionary-Making Process, presented to the EURALEX '92 Congress in Finland.

Information on how to apply for the Verbatim Award 1993, to be presented on January 1, 1994, can be obtained from the EURALEX Secretariat, P.O. Box 1017-DK-1007 Copenhagen K - Denmark. Applications should reach the Secretariat before July 1, 1993.

Society of lexicography founded in Leyden

At Leyden (the Netherlands) a number of Dutch and Flemish lexicographers, collectors of dictionaries and encyclopedias, and historians of lexicography have joined forces recently as the Matthias de Vries Society. The members meet three times a year and receive three issues of the newsletter Trefwoord, which contains articles, a question and answer column, and varied information (essentially in Dutch). While the main focus is on Dutch dictionaries and their history, other languages are considered as well.

For additional information please write to either

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European Society for Translation Studies founded

After the ending of the congress on Translation Studies in Vienna on 12 September 1992, many of the participants convened for founding the 'European Society for Translation Studies'. The Board is: President M. Snell-Hornby, Vice-President Y. Gambier, Secretary S. Viaggio, Treasurer R. Stolze, Board members D. Gile, J. Lambert, P. Kussmaul, H. Salevsky and E. Tabakowska.

Lexicographical work in progress in Romania

A team of Romanian lexicographers is preparing a Hungarian-Romanian Dictionary, and a Historical Dictionary of the Hungarian Language in Transylvania. About the latter, they send the following information:

Les deux dictionnaires historiques de la langue hongroise ne contiennent pas tous les mots des manuscrits des archives de Transylvanie. Le Dictionnaire historique de la langue hongroise de Transylvanie, commencé en 1966 par Attila Szabó seul pour combler cette lacune, fut publié à partir de 1975 à Bucarest. Les quatre volumes suivants ont été compilés par une équipe de linguistes, et le cinquième est en cours de parution. Le dictionnaire aura en tout environ quatorze volumes. L’ensemble contiendra les mots utilisés dans les manuscrits de Transylvanie entre le milieu du XVe siècle et la fin du XIXe. Chaque mot, transcrit dans son orthographe ancienne (sauf s’il a survécu dans l’usage contemporain) est accompagné d’une date précise, d’une provenance géographique et de deux ou trois citations. Le métalangage des articles est en hongrois, en roumain et en allemand.

Information about the Hungarian-Romanian dictionary will be given in the next issue of this Newsletter.


Dictionary standardization: a proposal

Lionel Kernerman, of Kernerman Publishing Ltd (Tel-Aviv) sends the following:

"I propose a discussion on the following subject in the Newsletter.

If certain aspects of dictionaries of similar size were standardized there would be less confusion among dictionary users, and more readiness to refer to more than one dictionary. The standardization of such elements as abbreviations and symbols, for example, would contribute to making dictionaries – particularly learners’ dictionaries – more acceptable as a learning tool, and therefore more user friendly."

New Publications


Morton Benson reports that the Cambridge University Press has published the third edition of his Dictionary of Russian Personal Names. The new edition makes use of research placed at his disposal by colleagues at the Russian Language Institute of the Academy of Sciences in Moscow.
Forthcoming Events

1993, Spring, Karkhov, Ukraine: Conference on Current problems of lexicography. Info: V. V. Dubichinsky, Flat 4, 33d Geroyev Truda Street, Kharkov, 310136 Ukraine.


1993, 16–19 April Atlanta, GA, USA: Annual Meeting of American Association of Applied Linguistics. Info: AAAL, P.O. Box 24083 Oklahoma City, OK 73124, USA.

1993, 19–21 April Singapore: RELC Regional Seminar on 'Language for Special Purposes: Problems and Prospects'. Info: SEAMEO Regional Language Centre, 30 Orange Grove Road, Singapore 1025. Fax +65 734 2753; e-mail GBORELC@NUSVM.


1993, 8–11 June Moscow: Annual Conference of Moscow Association of Applied Linguistics 'Dictionaries in Foreign Language Teaching'. Organizers: Moscow Association of Applied Linguistics and Russky Yazyk, publishers. Info: Ludmila Minaeva, Faculty of Foreign Languages, University of Moscow, Lenin's Hills, Moscow, 119899.

1993, 4–6 June Copenhagen, Denmark: 2nd Language International Conference on Teaching Translation and Interpreting. Info: Cay Dollerup, University of Copenhagen, Njalsgade 80, DK-2300 Copenhagen S.


1993, 25–27 August Cologne, Germany: TKE ’93, Third International Congress on Terminology and Knowledge Engineering. Info: TKE ’93, Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dirk Schmitz, Fachhochschule Köln, Fachbereich Sprachen, Mainzer Str. 5, D65000 Köln 1, FRG, Tel.: 49 221 8275–3272, Fax: 49 221 315457.


1993, 30 September – 2 October Montréal, Canada: Traductique TA TAO. Info: A. Clas, GRESLET, Université de Montréal, Département de Linguistique et de traduction, CP 6128, Succ. A, Montréal H3C 3J7 Canada.

1993, 5–6 October Philadelphia PA, USA: Symposium on Standardizing and

1994, 28 March–1 April Hamburg, Germany: 18th World Congress of the FIPLV in conjunction with the Fachverband Moderne Fremdsprachen (FMF). Info: FIPLV Head Office, Seestrasse 247, CH-8038 Zürich, Switzerland.

1994, June Ottawa, Canada: International Conference on Phraseology. Info: B. Harris, University of Ottawa, Faculty of Arts, School of Translators and Interpreters, 52 rue Université, Ottawa, Ontario K2N 6N5, Canada. Fax: 1 613 564 2959.
