AUTUMN 2010

EURALEX NEWSLETTER

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The EURALEX Newsletter

This quarterly Newsletter is intended to include not only official announcements but also news about EURALEX members, their publications, projects, and (it is hoped) their opinions, and news about other lexicographical organizations. Please try to support this by sending newsletter contributions to Paul Bogaards at the email address above. The deadlines for spring (March), summer (June), autumn (September), and winter (December) issues are respectively 15 January, 15 April, 15 July, and 15 October annually.

The EURALEX Web Site

The URL of the EURALEX web site is www.euralex.org

Festschrift for Patrick Hanks

At an informal meeting during the 14th EURALEX Congress in Leeuwarden, Patrick Hanks’s 70th birthday was celebrated by the award of a book in his honour, *A Way with Words*, consisting of 20 papers by well-known linguists and lexicographers, from John Sinclair and Igor Mel’čuk to Paul Bogaards and Michael Rundell. Edited by Gilles-Maurice de Schryver and published by Menha Publishers (Kampala/Ghent 2010), it covers recent advances in lexical theory and analysis to which Patrick Hanks has made significant contributions. For more details, go to the website www.menhapublishers.com/.

Reinhard Hartmann (Exeter)

Colloque international

Un colloque intitulé ‘Le terme scientifique et technique dans le dictionnaire général’ aura lieu à l’Université Lumière-Lyon 2, Campus Berges du Rhône, Amphithéâtre Emile Benveniste, du 25 au 27 novembre 2010.
Le colloque s’inscrit dans le cadre d’une réflexion sur le travail lexicographique menée conjointement par quatre partenaires :

– CRTT (Centre de Recherche en Terminologie et Traduction) à Lyon 2.
– VALD (le Vocabulaire Arabe entre Lexique et Dictionnaire) de l’université La Manouba et l’ALAT (Association de Lexicologie Arabe de Tunis) en Tunisie.
– AMEL (Association Marocaine des Études Lexicographiques) au Maroc
– CRSTDLA (Centre de Recherche Scientifique et Technique pour le Développement de la Langue Arabe) en Algérie.

Il s’agit de la 7ème édition des RIL (Rencontres Internationales de la Lexicographie), une manifestation annuelle qui a lieu chaque année dans l’un des quatre pays concernés : La France, la Tunisie, le Maroc et l’Algérie.

Les principaux thèmes retenus sont :

(1) Le terme entre dictionnaire général et dictionnaire spécialisé
(2) Le statut terminologique
(3) Le traitement lexicographique
(4) Terminologie et néologie dans le dictionnaire

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News from AFRILEX

The 15th International Afrilex Conference was recently hosted by the University of Botswana, in Gaborone, Botswana. AFRILEX 2010 started with a pre-conference workshop on ‘Traditions, trends and changes in lexicography’, presented by Prof Danie Prinsloo and Mr Makgalemele Mogano, both from the University of Pretoria, assisted by Prof Rufus Gouws, from the University of Stellenbosch. The international keynote speaker was Prof Robert Lew, from the School of English at Adam Mickiewicz University, in Poznań, Poland. Over the past few years Poznań has become the world’s centre of innovative lexicographic activity, and Professor Lew is one of Poznań’s most active members. The theme of his keynote was ‘Multimodal lexicography: advances in communicating meaning in electronic dictionaries’. This year’s keynote speaker from Africa was Dr Anderson Chebanne, from the University of Botswana, an outstanding researcher, linguist and lexicographer with an impressive track record of linguistic work and publications on African languages as well as on French. Dr Chebanne spoke about the role of dictionaries in the documentation and codification of the Khoisan languages of Southern Africa. A total of 27 papers were read, presented by colleagues from Africa (Botswana,
the Republic of the Congo, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe), Europe (Germany) and South America (Argentina). About 45 people attended.

A pre-conference publishers’ session was held during which representatives of two South African publishing houses introduced their latest dictionaries to the delegates. During the Annual General Meeting of the Association, Honorary Membership of Afrilex was conferred on Prof Rufus Gouws for the tremendous contribution he has made to the development of lexicography in South Africa. The laudatio is presented below. Prof Rufus Gouws is only the second person to be honoured in this way, the other honorary member being Prof A.C. Nkabinde.

The next Afrilex conference is to be hosted by the University of Namibia, in Windhoek, Namibia. For more as well as the latest information on all Afrilex activities, see http://afrilex.africanlanguages.com/.

Laudatio for Prof Rufus Gouws

Prof Rufus Gouws is an international leader in the field of theoretical lexicography and is nationally regarded as the top lexicographer in South Africa. He is a founding member of Afrilex, who served for 15 years (1995–2009) on the Board of Afrilex, four years (1995–1999) as Chairman, two years (2007–2009) as President, and six years (2001–2007) as Vice-Chairperson/Vice-President. He is also a member of the European Association for Lexicography, the Dictionary Society of North America, the Asian Association for Lexicography, and served on the Editorial/Advisory Boards of Lexikos, Lexicographica and Lexicographica Series Maior. Professor Gouws is the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Bureau of the Woordeboek van die Afrikaanse Taal.

To date, Professor Gouws has published 77 articles in scientific journals, 45 chapters in books and conference proceedings, as well as 14 books and dictionaries. He has been awarded a B-rating as researcher by the National Research Foundation. This rating is only given to researchers who enjoy considerable international recognition for the high quality and impact of their research outputs.

Professor Gouws has promoted the interests of Afrilex nationally and internationally in many forums through participation in high-level lexicographic activities, teaching and publication. Nationally he has made a huge contribution in lexicographic guidance of the National Lexicography Units as consultant of PanSALB. He is actively involved in many ongoing lexicographic projects, workshops, seminars and discussion groups.

He received numerous awards, and various research and merit grants for excellence, including:

- 1991: Award for Linguistics, Southern African Association of Linguistics
2001: Rector’s Award for Excellence in Research, University of Stellenbosch
2005: Award for Visiting Professor at the Aarhus School of Business in Denmark, Vilhelm Kann Rasmussen Foundation
2005: Certificate for Outstanding Achievement, African Association for Lexicography
2006: Elisabeth Eybers Grant (for research in the Netherlands), South African Academy

We believe that Honorary Membership of Afrilex should only be granted to exceptional achievers – in its 15 years of existence Afrilex has bestowed Honorary Membership on only one of its members – Prof A.C. Nkabinde. We welcome Prof Rufus Gouws as our second Honorary Member.


Nearly four years in the making, a new bidirectional Zulu–English school dictionary was released last July by Oxford University Press Southern Africa. Deemed theoretically impossible until its release, this dictionary is the first dictionary for a conjunctively-written Bantu language which presents words as lemmas rather than stems. This revolutionary compilation approach was made possible thanks to the availability of a large Zulu corpus, from which the top-frequent Zulu words and concepts could be selected, the co-texts meticulously analysed and synthesised, and authentic language snippets selected as illustrative material. A dedicated team of mother-tongue speakers of Zulu and English, led by Prof Gilles-Maurice de Schryver, joined forces with software engineers at TshwaneDJe HLT, as well as an experienced division of managers, editors, proofreaders, designers, and illustrators at OUP, to bring the 640 pages together. For the middle matter Gilles-Maurice also wrote a new type of Zulu mini-grammar, the presentation and description of which are fully driven by corpus facts. The team of 25 who worked on this school dictionary is confident that this is not only the first dictionary for Zulu which describes Zulu as it is really and currently used, but also the first one which successfully bridges such grammatically divergent languages as Zulu and English, providing a reference work in which words can actually be found, translations can actually be used, and in which extra matter material truly helps learners of both Zulu and English to become competent in their additional language.

Supporting articles: http://tshwanedje.com/publications/ (search for: Zulu)
Publisher link: http://www.oxford.co.za/ (search for: de Schryver)
Forthcoming events

2010

November
12–13, Károli Gáspár University, Budapest, Hungary: 5th Terminology Summit of the European Association for Terminology. Information at: www.eaft-aet.net/

November
25–27, Bureau LTLTA, Université Lumière-Lyon 2, France: Le terme scientifique et technique dans le dictionnaire général (RIL 7) Information at: hassan.hamze@univ-lyon2.fr

December
8–10, Copenhagen Business School, Copenhagen, Denmark: International Symposium on Approaches to the Lexicon. Information at: https://conference.cbs.dk/index.php/lexicon/lexicon/

2011

January
17–21, Santiago de Cuba: Twelfth international symposium on social communication. Information at: www.santiago.cu/hosting/linguistica/Index.html

May

June
8–11, McGill University, Montréal, Quebec, Canada: Biennial Meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America (DSNA 18). Information at: www.dictionarysociety.com/

August
Kyoto, Japan: Biennial Conference of the Asian Association for Lexicography (ASIALEX 7). Information at: www.asialex.org/

August

November
November
24–25, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia: Conference of the Australasian Association for Lexicography (AUSTRALEX 15). Information at: www.australex.org/