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 Carla Marello at the above address, or e-mailing the editors. The deadlines for winter (December), spring (March), summer (June), and autumn (September) issues are respectively 15 September, 15 December, 15 March, and 15 June annually.

The EURALEX Web Site

The URL of the EURALEX web site is http://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/euralex.

Ole Norling-Christensen: In Memoriam

The current president of EURALEX, Ole Norling-Christensen, died on June 30, 1999 at the age of 59 after a long illness. Ole was already too ill to attend the annual Board meeting earlier in June, but the news of his death was nevertheless a great shock to all of us who knew him and who knew about his selfless work for EURALEX as a long-term member, Board member, and office holder of the Board.

As office holder, he functioned as treasurer, secretary, vice-president, and president and was equally efficient and determined in all those capacities. Ole set us all an example of how these offices should and could be run. He had the interests and benefits of international cooperation close to his heart and was always able to see the large picture behind the sometimes discordant views.

His patience, reliability, kindliness, as well as scholarly care and hard work kept EURALEX going through the difficult years. It is thanks to Ole that EURALEX overcame the ideological difficulties it encountered in the late
1980s and became again a united European and international association in practical and theoretical lexicography.

Ole had an open mind and a broad perspective in his lexicographical activities as well. He held an M.Sc. degree in chemistry and had also studied the history of science. He was involved in dictionary and lexicon publishing for over 25 years, and he was a pioneer in the field of computational lexicography and corpus compilation in Denmark.

During the 1990s, Ole took part in a number of EU research projects in lexicography. He was also in great demand as a popular speaker at national and international conferences in his field. Young scholars frequently asked Ole for help because of his reputation as someone who knew how to explain difficult points and who was inspiring, knowledgeable, and always easy to approach.

It is difficult to think of EURALEX without Ole Norling-Christensen. He was a tower of strength, and we will all miss him so much.

Krista Varantola
The EURALEX Board

Fifth Conference on Nordic Lexicography

The fifth conference of the Nordic Association of Lexicography was held in Göteborg, May 26–29 1999, organized by the Department of Swedish, Göteborg University. About 120 people (from Denmark, Finland, the Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden but also from other countries) attended the conference. Thirty-three papers and two plenary lectures were presented.

The first plenary – by Bo Ralph, Professor of Nordic Languages – was on the growth of a lexicographic tradition in Sweden and the cultural climate that promoted an interest in lexicography. The second plenary – titled ‘The floating dictionary and its side-effects’ – was given by John Sinclair, Tuscan Word Centre. Sinclair used the image of a boat floating on the surface of usage: the construction of the dictionary is never final, the lexicographer always has to sharpen his or her description in the light of new data, be careful not to drown, and so on. He presented data from very big corpora to show that new lexical information tends to emerge if you look closer at the evidence.

No specific theme of the conference was given and the contributions covered a broad spectrum of lexicographic problems: computational lexicography, constructions and idioms, terminology, bilingual lexicography, dictionary structure. Other papers covered special topics like ‘hunting a good citation’ (Henrik Lorentzen), the problem of tense in the definition of words like highwayman (Matti Vilppula), and a dictionary of loanwords in Icelandic (Guðrún Kvaran) – a surprise for those who did not believe that loanwords existed in Iceland!

The proceedings will be published by the Department of Swedish next year (2000). The language will be ‘Scandinavian’ (Danish, Norwegian or Swedish) except for John Sinclair’s plenary speech and short summaries of the papers.

Martin Gellerstam, Göteborg University
Lexicographical News from Bulgaria

Three years ago (in 1996) the Bulgarian writers of dictionaries, encouraged by the activities of EURALEX, created the Bulgarian Lexicographic Society (BLS). It unites, in addition to the 20 professional lexicographers from the Institute of the Bulgarian Language (IBL) at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS), Bulgarian translators with experience in dictionary work, and language instructors from Bulgarian universities. The main office of the newly created BLS is in the IBL. Funding is collected from membership dues and from grants from foundations. One of the first events, which has been established as a tradition, was the critical presentation of a newly published dictionary before the Society. Another activity was the participation in meetings and discussions of the academic programmes of the Bulgarian and foreign languages in schools. The Society is particularly useful for the Union of Translators in Bulgaria and for the new private publishing houses which are engaged in the publication of quality dictionaries. The members of the Society are sought for professional evaluations of new dictionary projects or of already published dictionaries.

The First National Conference of Lexicography was held 19–20 October 1998 in Sofia, thanks to support from the Open Society Foundation and with the cooperation of the IBL. Seven of the sixty-seven participants were lexicographers and linguists from abroad: Dr. R. Hauge, Norway; Dr. V. Koseska and Prof. J. Ruse, Poland; Dr. G. Venediktov and Dr. G. Krilova, Russia; Dr. St. Ristic, Yugoslavia, and Dr. R. Hartmann, England. Papers dealt with the following issues: special philological and terminological dictionaries (13 papers), lexicography and semantics (17), lexis and grammar (12), lexicology (8), lexicographic analysis and criticism (6), bilingual lexicography (3), stylistic markings in dictionaries (2) and onomastics (2). Many papers were concerned with the relationship among lexicography, lexicology, semantics, and grammar: this underscores the intransigence of these questions. The fact that lexicography in Bulgaria is engaged with these problems reveals the serious, professional approach to the creation of dictionaries in Bulgaria. New dictionaries and lexicographical projects are especially necessary for the Bulgarian language in the light of changes in the country’s structure and internal relations. The ‘new’ Europe, which is in the process of unifying, also seeks common ground in language through the clarification and standardization of terminology in every sphere of life. A rich variety of papers reflected all these themes.

The Bulgarian Lexicographic Society hopes to continue to have such conferences biennially. Such events in Bulgarian cultural traditions are called readings, which literally means an ‘informal, but professional exchange of ideas and conversations on a given theme’ (similar to ‘colloquium’). In our case it will be an event which looks at theoretical and practical problems of lexicography, new projects, and the politics of publishing and marketing.

Sabina Pavlova <sabina@ibl.acad.bg>
Lexicographer in IBL, Secretary-Treasurer of BLS
Fifth International Conference on Current Problems of Lexicography (Kharkiv)

The Fifth International Conference on Current Problems of Lexicography, convened by the International Slavonic University in co-operation with Kharkiv Lexicographical Society under the auspices of the Laurentius Zizanius Tustanovskyi International Association for East Slavonic Lexicography, took place in Kharkiv (Ukraine) on 11–12 May 1999. The conference was attended by over one hundred participants from the Ukraine, Russia, Belorussia, Poland, Austria, and Canada. There was a book exhibition. The conference received greetings and wishes of good success from many people around the world.

The conference discussed methodological and linguistic aspects of dictionary-making, problems of historical, terminological, didactic and computerized lexicography, as well as new dictionary projects. The papers bore witness to the high creative potential of the participants, to the broad range of their research interests, and to the topicality of the projects presented. The conference also provided an opportunity to formulate some questions concerning the elaboration of new types of dictionaries, to discuss practical aspects of dictionary-making, and to propose some possible ways of putting into practice the innovative ideas which have been advanced. A particular theme was computer dictionaries, their classification and systematization. Special attention was paid to terminological and learners’ dictionaries. Working languages during the conference were Ukrainian and Russian.

This conference underscores the importance of the founding of the International Association for East Slavonic Lexicography, an organization that co-ordinates the efforts made by lexicographers from all over the world working in the domain of Slavonic languages, as well as compiling a database of dictionaries and dictionary-makers, issuing its own newsletter, and other such activities.

Prof. V. V. Dubichinsky, MA, PhD., Dr. Lit.
Head of the Department of Ukrainian and Russian at Kharkiv Polytechnical University, Chairman of Kharkiv Lexicographical Society, President of the International Association for East Slavonic Lexicography

Dictionary Society of North America

There is a new address for correspondence:
Luanne von Schneidemesser,
6131 Helen C. White, 600 N. Park St.,
University of Wisconsin-Madison,
Madison WI 53703,
USA

InterLex 14

InterLex 14, the fourteenth one-week international residential course in Lexicography, will be held from 10–14 April 2000 at the University of Exeter.
As with previous InterLexes, it will include lectures on theory and practice, and cover the whole range of dictionary-making activities. Further information can be found on the Dictionary Research Centre’s web site.

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DESS de Lexicographie et Terminographie

Responsables: Danielle Corbin et Pierre Corbin
Le DESS de Lexicographie et Terminographie qui est créé à la rentrée 1999 est un élargissement du Diplôme Européen de Lexicographie mis en place à l’Université de Lille III depuis 1991 par l’UMR 8528 du CNRS (SILEX). Il vise à donner une qualification de haut niveau dans les domaines de la lexicographie et des industries de la langue. La formation dure une année. Elle comporte des cours pratiques et théoriques (350 h), la rédaction d’un projet de fin d’études et un stage de 3 mois minimum.

Débouchés:
- La lexicographie monolingue et bilingue, traditionnelle et électronique, privée ou publique, dans tous ses compartiments.
- La terminographie, monolingue, bilingue et multilingue, traditionnelle et électronique: organismes officiels, grandes entreprises, édition privée.
- Les industries de la langue: conception et développement d’outils bureautiques à forte composante lexicale (dictionnaires électroniques, traduction automatique ou assistée par ordinateur, correcteurs orthographiques ou grammaticaux, logiciels de recherche documentaire, bases de données terminologiques, etc.).

Modalités d’admission

Niveau requis:
Formation initiale: maîtrise ou équivalence. La diversité des qualifications professionnelles à acquérir ouvre le DESS à des étudiants se recrutant dans un éventail assez large de formations: lettres, sciences du langage, langues vivantes, informatique, documentation, sans exclure des spécialistes de toute discipline scientifique qui seraient intéressés par l’élaboration de dictionnaires de spécialité pour leur domaine. En conséquence, même si certaines formations antérieures prédisposent mieux que d’autres à préparer ce DESS, les critères d’admission déterminants sont la qualité du dossier et la nature de la motivation.
Formation continue: la formation est ouverte d’une part aux professionnels de la lexicographie et de la terminographie désireux de compléter leur formation théorique, d’autre part aux spécialistes de disciplines scientifiques et techniques qui souhaitent s’initier à la méthodologie d’élaboration de répertoires disciplinaires.

Dans tous les cas, admission sur dossier et éventuellement examen oral.

Dossier à demander à D. Monseur:
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59653 Villeneuve d’Ascq Cedex, France
 Téléphone: +33 (0)3 20 41 64 14
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Adresse du site SILEX

http://www.univ-lille3.fr/www/sil ex

New publications

André Moulin, Apprendre une langue étrangère. Published 1999, 125 pages,
ISBN: 2–87233–023–2. Price: 400 Belgian francs (BEF). Copies available from: Liège Language and Literature, Département d’anglais, Université de Liège, 3 place Cockerill, 4000 Liège, Belgium. E-mail: pierre.michel@ulg.ac.be. For other titles available, see the web site http://www.ulg.ac.be/facphl/uer/d-german/L3/.

Michèle Fourment, DAF Dizionario di apprendimento della lingua francese. Torino, Paravia; 677 pages. A bilingual learner’s dictionary for students up to 14 years. 7000 French entries where words are explained in context and in a
contrastive perspective in order to meet the needs of young Italian beginning students. The Italian-French section is a list of one-word translations. There are accompanying workbooks by M. Fourment.


*Il mio primo dizionario di inglese illustrato*. Novara, De Agostini; 350 pages. This bilingual dictionary for young students contains 7000 entries, 600 illustrations. 50 grammatical notes, 100 usage notes.

*Il mio primo dizionario dei sinonimi e dei contrari illustrato*. Novara, De Agostini; 350 pages. It contains 3500 Italian synonyms defined through examples, starting from 600 entries. With 250 illustrations.


Lucia Marconi, Eloina Miyares Bermúdez, Daniela Ratti, Claudia Rolando, and Leonel Ruiz Miyares (eds.) (1998) *Diccionario Ortográfico Del Español* – basado en el léxico del escolar cubano- confeccionado por investigadores del Centro de Lingüística Aplicada del Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente de Santiago de Cuba y del Instituto para los Circuitos Electrónicos de Génova del Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones de Italia. Las características más importantes de este libro son: singular diccionario en Lengua Española por las particularidades originales que posee: reglas ortográficas del español, relación de 8429 entradas las que van seguidas por la categoría gramatical y la marca de género y número en los sustantivos y adjetivos; los verbos aparecen en infinitivo, seguidos por su descripción gramatical y un número que remite al modelo de conjugación correspondiente; posee una introducción con reglas ortográficas importantes; su utilidad es indiscutible para los hispanohablantes.

En noviembre de 1998 se publicó la segunda edición del Diccionario de Uso del Español de María Moliner (Gredos). El diccionario contiene unas 82,000 entradas y 181,000 acepciones y subacepciones. Además de las definiciones incluye anotaciones gramaticales, sinónimos y palabras afines o relacionadas y artículos gramaticales. Para más información diríjase a la Web de la Editorial Gredos (http://www.editorialgredos.com) o envíe un E-mail al Seminario de Lxicografia (lexicografia@editorialgredos.com).


D. Rusak, A. Ovinsky (eds.), *New Comprehensive Russian-English Scientific and Technical Dictionary*. 4 volumes, nearly 4000 pages, over 500,000 terms. ETS Verlag. This is the first ever Russian-English technical dictionary to be published in Russia and based on American English. It is also the biggest one
covering 500,000 scientific and technological terms both in traditional and the newest scientific and technological fields. Lexical databases accumulated by ETS Publishers during the last two decades were used in the compilation of the dictionary, which, in turn, took more than five years. This dictionary is the most recent one, too, for since the early 1970s there have been no actual revisions of technical dictionaries published in Russia. For more information, see the web site: http://www.ets.ru, or e-mail ets@ets.ru.

In addition to Explanatory Dictionary of Russian Living Language by V. Dal, the widely-known Explanatory Dictionary of Russian Language by D. Yshakov is now available on CD-ROM. There is a powerful multilevel search system, and friendly user interface. It is compatible with Windows 3.x, Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows NT. The Dictionary is integrated with the Russian speech synthesizer by ‘PC Voice Club’. The User can hear any text from the dictionary! For more information, see the web site: http://www.ets.ru, or e-mail ets@ets.ru.

Hasan Eren, Turk Dilinin Etimolojik Sozlugu - Dictionary of Turkish Etymology. 512 pages, hardcover. ISBN: 975–94577–0–1. Price: US$ 59.00 (including postage and handling). Special discounts for bookstores and libraries apply. To order, simply e-mail seckineren@superonline.com with the number of copies ordered, your name, institution, phone and fax numbers, postal address where you want the dictionary to be sent, and your Credit Card number and expiry date. For further details and ordering information please visit the web site: http://members.theglobe.com/seckineren/ed.htm. Orders can also be faxed to: +90 232 464 38 96.


For Web users

Concordance software

You might be interested in my recently-published software called Concordance. It is sophisticated textual analysis software for making concordances, wordlists, and Web Concordances. It is already in use among lexicographers as well as language teachers, historians, linguists, and literary scholars, for example because of its ability to display the most frequent collocations of words. It also supports many different Western languages. Its unique ability, however, is to turn a concordance into HTML ready for the web with a single click.

Concordance is shareware; the unregistered version is freely downloadable from http://www.rjcw.freeserve.co.uk. This is a fully functional version with a time limit.

Rob Watt <R.J.C.Watt@dundee.ac.uk>

EU – Terminological Information System

Forthcoming events

2000

April


7–9, Köln, Germany: 7th Symposium of the German Terminology Society. Info: John D. Graham <johdgraham@t-online.de>


10–14, Exeter, UK: 14th InterLex course. See item above in this newsletter for more information.

26–29, Maastricht, The Netherlands: 3rd International Maastricht-Lodz Duo Colloquium, 'Translation and Meaning', Maastricht session. Info: Drs Marcel Thelen, School of Translation and Interpreting, Hogeschool Maastricht, P.O. Box 964, 6200 AZ Maastricht, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 43 3466 471. Fax: +31 43 3466 649. E-mail: m.m.g.j.thelen@ftv.hsmaastricht.nl. Web site: http://ftvmaastricht.congres.nedweb.com.

May

31–2 June, Athens, Greece: LREC2000, The 2nd International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation. Organized by the European Language Resources Association (ELRA), the Institute for Language and Speech Processing (ILSP, Athens, Greece), and the National Technical University of Athens, Greece, with the assistance of ACL, ALLC, COCOSDA, ORIENTAL COCOSDA, EAFT, EAGLES, EDR, ELSNET, ESCA, EURALEX, FRANCIL, LDC, PAROLE, TELRI, etc. The Scientific Programme will include invited talks, presentations of accepted papers, poster sessions, referenced demonstrations and panels. Pre-conference workshops will be organized on the 29th and 30th of May and post-conference workshops on the 3rd and 4th of June 2000. Info: LREC Secretariat: Ms. Despina Scutari, Institute for Language and Speech Processing (ILSP), 6 Artemidos & Epidavrou Str., 15125 Marouxi, Athens, Greece. Tel: +301 6800959. Fax: +301 6854270. E-mail: LREC2000@ilsp.gr. Web site: http://www.icp.grenet.fr/ELRA/lrec2000.html

August


8–12, Stuttgart, Germany: 9th EURALEX Congress. (See the Summer 1999 newsletter (IJL 12/2) for fuller information.) Web site: http://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/euralex.
September


November