

AUTUMN 2012

# 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](http://www.euralex.org)

## New Impact Factor for *IJL*

The new impact factors for 2011 have been released by Thomson Reuters and they bring good news for the *International Journal of Lexicography*. The impact factor, which reflects journal citations of materials published in *IJL*, has gone up from 0.567 in the previous year to 1.143. As a result, *IJL* is now in the top 20% of journals within the linguistics category of Thomson Reuters' Journals Citations List.

## Lexicographic Calendar

This year the *International Journal of Lexicography* celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As part of this celebration a booklet has been produced containing a lexicographic calendar. After an introduction by Paul Bogaards it contains the twelve months of the year but in alphabetical order. For each month one finds the birthdays of a number of great lexicographers from all over the world and from various times. Each page ends with a more or less famous quote concerning an aspect of the compilation or the use of dictionaries. The booklet

has been distributed to the participants of the 15<sup>th</sup> EURALEX Congress in Oslo. Those who would like to purchase a copy or extra copies of this calendar are invited to send an e-mail to [p.bogaards@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:p.bogaards@hum.leidenuniv.nl). Members of Euralex only pay €2.50 for postage; non-members of Euralex pay €5,00. For more copies prices can be negotiated.

### **Google Endangered Languages Project**

Researchers at Eastern Michigan University and the University of Hawai'i at Manoa are teaming up with Google to launch the Endangered Languages Project, a website that provides information on endangered languages and helps speakers preserve their languages and cultures (<http://www.emich.edu/univcomm/releases/release.php?id=1340288740>). Google provides the technical infrastructure that will permit speakers and researchers of endangered languages to submit elements of their language in order to further document it. The Endangered Languages Project is an online resource to record, access, and share samples of and research on endangered languages, as well as to share advice and best practices for those working to document or strengthen languages under threat (<http://www.endangeredlanguages.com/>)

### **17<sup>th</sup> International Afrilex conference**

The 17<sup>th</sup> International Afrilex conference (2 – 5 July 2012) was hosted by the Department of African Languages at the University of Pretoria, in Pretoria, South Africa. A one-day workshop on specialized lexicography preceded the conference. The workshop was presented by Prof Pedro A. Fuertes-Olivera from the University of Valladolid, Spain. Issues such as theoretical considerations, the relationship between terminology, linguistics and knowledge engineering, and practical matters with regard to the compilation of specialized dictionaries were discussed. As has become the tradition for Afrilex conferences, two keynote speakers were invited – one from Africa and one from outside the continent. In his keynote, Prof Paul A. Mavoungou from Libreville, Gabon, gave a perspective on French-Gabonese dictionaries. Dr Rachel McKee and her husband Dr David McKee (both from the University of Wellington, Victoria) are involved in the compilation and management of the Online Dictionary of New Zealand Sign Language. They gave a riveting talk and live demonstration on aspects pertaining to this unique dictionary. A special session was dedicated to presentations by publishers to give them the opportunity to present conference delegates with news on the latest lexicographic products. Participants in this session included Oxford University Press (SA), Pearson Education (SA) and Pharos Dictionaries. The latest trends in software development for lexicographic purposes were demonstrated by a number of developers, including TshwaneDJe HLT, CText from Northwest

University and HLT@CSIR. During the AGM, honorary membership was bestowed on Dr J C M D du Plessis, who retired in 2010 after 14 years as editor of *Lexikos*, the official journal of Afrilex. Dr du Plessis went to extraordinary lengths to help create a true culture of scientific reporting on lexicography in Africa. He now joins the ranks of the two other honorary members, Proff A C Nkabinde and Rufus Gouws. The next Afrilex conference will be hosted by the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Gilles-Maurice de Schryver

### **Google Scholar for lexicographers**

Over sixty lexicographers have started to create a profile on Google Scholar: [http://scholar.google.com/citations?view\\_op=search\\_authors&hl=en&mauthors=label:lexicography](http://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=search_authors&hl=en&mauthors=label:lexicography). Wouldn't it be nice if we could all be found there? All you need to do is to allow Google to bring together the data it already has about you, and their machines will do the rest. (Do use 'lexicography' as one of your keywords.) How? Go to the profile of anyone already listed, click on "Get my own profile" in the top-right corner, and in literally a matter of minutes your page will be up. Welcome to the community!

Gilles-Maurice de Schryver

### **Online Lusoga dictionary**

The first monolingual e-dictionary for Lusoga, still a mostly undocumented Bantu language just a few years ago, is now rubbing shoulders with the world's most prestigious online dictionaries. Compiled by Minah Nabirye, using the TLex dictionary production system, it has one of the most powerful search functionalities for any online dictionary. Please visit <http://menhapublishers.com/dictionary/> for more information.

### **News from the V International Congress of Hispanic Lexicography, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, June 25-27, 2012.**

The *V International Congress of Hispanic Lexicography* was held June 25-27, 2012 at the University Carlos III of Madrid, Faculty in Spanish Language and Linguistics from Department of Humanities: Philosophy, Language and Literature, under the direction of María Pilar Garcés Gómez, organized the three-day conference, which was attended by nearly 250 people. In the ten years since the Symposium on Lexicography was organized at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona (May 2002), interest in lexicography has grown. This congress built upon the success of earlier meetings in La Coruña (2004), Alicante

(2006), Málaga (2008) and Tarragona (2010), and these meetings have attracted people interested both in monolingual dictionaries of the languages of the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America, as well as those interested in bilingual dictionaries involving those languages. Although most researchers in attendance were from Spain and Portugal, there were a significant number of researchers from Europe and Latin America as well.

Close to 200 papers were presented at the congress, which was convened under the subtitle “Linguistics and dictionaries”. There was also a poster session, a round table discussion, and three plenary lectures. All the plenary lectures addressed the relationship between linguistics and dictionaries, although from different points of view. Sven Tarp (Aarhus University) presented a concept of lexicography, called *functional lexicography*, which proposes a technique for encyclopedic dictionaries based on relational databases to obtain dictionaries adapted to the needs of potential users, as set out in Bergenholtz, Nielsen and Tarp (2009). Paz Battaner (Universitat Pompeu Fabra) first defined the concept of lexicon, and then defended the suitability of her definition as a basis both for dictionaries as linguistic resources and for reflection on language structure. The final plenary, by Raffaele Simone (Università di Roma 3), discussed questions that have been posed to dictionaries, some of which have been successfully addressed in the past, and some of which still remain as pending challenges.

The round table discussion addressed the possible contributions of morphology (Jesus Pena, University of Santiago de Compostela), syntax (María Bargalló, Universitat Rovira i Virgili), pragmatics (José Portolés, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid) and lexical semantics (Elena de Miguel, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid), to new directions in lexicography. The Congress closed with a brief talk by José Antonio Pascual, Vice-Director of the Real Academia Española and Director of the New Historical Dictionary of Spanish.

The range of topics covered in the papers presented at the conference was wide, although we may identify a few general themes. Dictionaries for second language learning, monolingual or bilingual, were a recurrent topic. Of particular interest was the discussion of the recent changes in regulations taken by the Association of Academies of Spanish and the consequences of these changes for updating dictionaries. There were also several papers addressing specific lexical or grammatical issues, such as discourse markers in dictionaries, entries for particles, pronouns, affixes, and the treatment of numerals, to name just a few. Given the importance of the New Historical Dictionary of Spanish, there were many papers on historical lexicography. Several of the posters reviewed publicly funded projects on the lexicon and lexicography, providing attendees with an excellent opportunity to find out what research is currently being undertaken at universities. A large number of researchers from the Americas presented papers on topics that are of special interest in Latin

American lexicography, especially in relation to the representation of Latin American Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese in dictionaries.

The Spanish Association for Lexicographical Studies (AELEX) held its General Meeting during the conference. The final assessment of the Congress is very positive, as the conference clearly demonstrated the increase in interest in the preparation of dictionaries and in lexicography as a research field in the Association's area of influence. Importantly, it provided attendees with an opportunity to exchange ideas and analyze problematic issues. A selected proceedings volume is planned, and AELEX is currently preparing the call-for-papers for the next congress, scheduled for 2014.

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### **Forthcoming events**

2012

September

3–7, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic: 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Text, Speech and Dialogue (TSD 15). Information at: [www.tsdconference.org/tsd2012/](http://www.tsdconference.org/tsd2012/)

6–8, University of Southampton, U.K.: Multilingual Theory and Practice in Applied Linguistics. 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the British Association for Applied Linguistics (BAAL 45). Information at: [www.baal.org.uk/baal\\_conf.html](http://www.baal.org.uk/baal_conf.html)

18–21, FAU Erlangen, Germany: Wörter, Wissen, Wörterbücher. Annual Congress of German Applied Linguistics Association (GAL 42 – including Symposium on Lexicography). Information at: [www.gal-2012.phil.uni-erlangen.de/symposien.shtml](http://www.gal-2012.phil.uni-erlangen.de/symposien.shtml)

October

18–20, University of Catania at Ragusa: Norm and Usage in Bilingual Lexicography-16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Century. Information at: [www.flingue.unict.it/lessicografia](http://www.flingue.unict.it/lessicografia).

25–27, University of Alicante: 13<sup>th</sup> Ibero-American Symposium of Terminology organized by the Iberoamerican Terminology Network (RITerm) and the Interuniversity Institute of Applied Modern Languages (IULMA). Theme: Terminology, Translation and ICT: Social Interaction and Collaborative Work for the Construction and Dissemination of Knowledge. Information at: <http://web.ua.es/es/riterm-2012/>.

## 2013

### January

21–25, Centre for Applied Linguistics, Santiago de Cuba: Thirteenth International Symposium on Social Communication. Information at: [www.santiago.cu/hosting/linguistica/index.php?id=en](http://www.santiago.cu/hosting/linguistica/index.php?id=en)

### May

9–10, University of Turin, Italy: Observing Norms, Observing Usage: Lexis in Dictionaries and in the Media.

23–25, Athens GA, U.S.A.: Biennial Meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America (DSNA 19). Information at: [www.dictionariesociety.com/](http://www.dictionariesociety.com/)

### August

4–9, National Palace of Culture, Sofia, Bulgaria: Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 51). Information at: <http://acl2013.org/site/index.html>

14–16, Oslo, Norway: Biennial Conference of the Nordisk Forening for Leksikografi (NFL 12). Information at: <http://nordisksprogkoordination.org/nfl/konferencer-og-symposier>

20–22, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia: Biennial Conference of the Asian Association for Lexicography (ASIALEX 8). Information at: [www.asialex.org/](http://www.asialex.org/)

### July

25–27, The University of Adelaide, Australia: Australex 2013: *Endangered Words, and Signs of Revival*. Organizers: Professor Ghil'ad Zuckermann and Dr Julia Miller. Information at: <http://www.australex.org/>.