



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR LEXICOGRAPHY

EURALEX NEWSLETTER

Winter 1997

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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 Carla Marelo at the above address. 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>.

The International Journal of Lexicography

It is now 10 years since IJL was first launched, under the editorship of Dr. Robert Ilson, who will be retiring as editor in January 1998. EURALEX and its Executive Board wish to express their gratitude to Bob Ilson for his achievements in producing a journal that the lexicographical community can be proud of and that is highly respected. The quality of the contributions, their variety, and the impeccable presentation are all the result of Bob Ilson's hard work. We wish him every success in the future.

A.P. (Tony) Cowie will be taking over the editorship of IJL in succession to Bob Ilson. Articles intended for publication, and any enquiries, should now be addressed to him at 30 Wetherby Road, Leeds, LS8 2QD, England (fax: +44 113 2334774; e-mail: a.p.cowie@leeds.ac.uk). EURALEX welcomes Tony Cowie, and we look forward to working with him in the future and to the continued success of IJL.

3rd International Symposium on Phraseology

The 3rd International Symposium on Phraseology will be held in Stuttgart from April 1–4, 1998: it is organized under the aegis of EURALEX. Following on from successful symposia held in Leeds (April 1994) and Moscow (April 1996), this will be the third meeting aiming to bring together linguists, lexicographers, NLP system and lexicon developers and others interested in multiword units, to discuss recent and ongoing research, development, and dictionary-making in the field of phraseology. It is hoped that papers will range through all aspects of phraseology, but with particular focus on two topic areas: the detailed description of phraseological units, and methods and tools for the acquisition of information about phraseological units from textual corpora and

machine readable dictionaries. For further information, please contact Ulrich Heid: see details under 'Forthcoming Events' below.

Euralex '98

The next EURALEX Congress will be held from 4–8 August 1998 at the University of Liège, Belgium. Keynote speakers include: A.P. Cowie (University of Leeds), Gregory Grefenstette (Rank Xerox Research Centre, Grenoble), and Marie-Hélène Corréard (Oxford University Press).

Two pre-Euralex tutorials will be offered, provided there are at least 15 participants: one on 'Creating a Bilingual Dictionary' (Tutors: Michela Clari & Jeremy Butterfield, HarperCollins Publishers), and one on 'Preparing a Terminological Database' (Tutor: Alain Reichling, Translation Service of the European Commission).

For further information, please contact the congress organizers: see details under 'Forthcoming Events' below. Information can also be found on the web site, from where interested readers can download the circulars, registration forms, hotel reservation forms, and so on: <http://engdepl.philo.ulg.ac.be/euralex.htm>.

European Languages Council

As part of the initiatives that led to the creation of the European Language Council earlier this year, a Thematic Network Project in the Area of Languages has been established, and it is reporting on the state of language teaching in the universities of Europe. One of the 10 subject groups is on Dictionaries: it is chaired by Dr. Reinhard Hartmann and supported by EURALEX. This group has begun to survey the lexicographic scene in various countries. If you are interested in contributing to this group, please make contact by fax (+44 1392 264361) or e-mail (r.r.k.hartmann@exeter.ac.uk).

DTT German Terminology Society

The DTT is a German association promoting research in the field of terminology. For information, please contact Jens Hiltmann (Secretary/Administrateur/Geschäftsführer), c/o Translingua, Ludwig-Erhard-Allee 3, D-53175 Bonn, Germany. Tel: +49 228 8160 152. Fax: +49 228 30888 55. E-mail: jensh@translingua.de

News from DSNA

The Dictionary Society of North America held its eleventh biennial meeting at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin, from May 29–31, 1997. Hosts to the meetings were the staff of the Dictionary of American Regional English (in progress at the University), chaired by Joan H. Hall and Luanne von Schneidmesser. The meetings were attended by 95 members and guests from 20 states of the United States and five other countries (Australia, Canada, England, Russia, and Switzerland). Thirty-one papers were presented in ten sessions. A concluding session, open to the public, was a forum on the *Dictionary of American Regional English*, with presentations on the history and significance of the project, reminiscences of field workers, samples of DARE tapes, and a question time. A selection of the proceedings will be published in the Society's journal *Dictionaries*. Social events included a reception and a Wisconsin fish fry near the shore of Lake Mendota.

New officers for 1997–99 are Edward Gates, President, and Joan Houston Hall, Vice-President and President-Elect. Gates, Professor of English, Emeritus, Indiana State University, was one of the founders of the Society in 1975 and was secretary-treasurer

(or associate) and newsletter editor from 1977 till 1989. Hall is the Associate Editor of the *Dictionary of American Regional English*, of which three volumes have been published. The Executive Board has again separated the editing of the newsletter from the responsibilities of the secretary-treasurer and appointed as editor Victoria Neufeldt, who was the Editor in Chief of *Webster's New World Dictionary*, Third College Edition, and is now a Senior Editor at Merriam Webster, Inc. Edward Gates, President DSNA

Lexicographical Work in Progress

The OED project: from 1993 to 1997

Many readers will know that work is currently proceeding on the revision and third edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary*. The *OED* is unusual in the world of historical lexicography for a number of reasons. The most significant is, perhaps, that it is a dictionary which seeks to cover a major international language as comprehensively as possible, not just over a long chronological period (the earliest records of English in the Anglo-Saxon age up to the present day), but also over a wide geographical area (in principle wherever English is or has been spoken over this period). But it is also significant in that it is funded not by a national government or confederation of governments, or through research grants, but by one of the major British universities, the University of Oxford, and within that, by its university press. After an initial period of editorial work, the timescale of the project has been extended to 2010, and a budget of £35 million has been approved by the delegates of Oxford University Press.

An overview of progress

As the current timescale demonstrates, the revising and updating of the *OED* is a substantial undertaking. Most of the text has not been changed since its first publication between 1884 and 1928. Since then, scholarship has moved on by leaps and bounds. Many large-scale historical dictionaries of varieties of English, of specific periods of the language, and of particular subject areas, have been published or are in publication. Our understanding of the etymology of English words has been enhanced by countless dictionaries and scholarly articles, both covering English words and the vocabularies of other languages from which English has borrowed terms, either directly or indirectly. The academic world has new bibliographical standards (the first edition of the *OED* preceded the publication of the current standard short-title and union catalogues). The editions of works cited in the *OED* are often not those we would expect to use today. Furthermore, the range of works available for consultation by the Dictionary's editors has expanded since the end of the nineteenth century, with the publication of many more non-literary texts.

The third edition of the *OED* must take note of each of these developments, and more. Each is currently receiving extensive editorial attention, with the result that those entries currently revised document, as far as is possible, a more accurate picture of each word's history and development than has hitherto been feasible.

Our intention is that the *OED* should in future be a dynamic document, able to respond to scholarly (and other) discoveries relating to the language far more rapidly than it has been able to in the past. Antedatings and references to scholarly articles are now being regularly noted to the editors, both by traditional post and e-mail; each day the oed3 e-mail account (see details below) receives further antedatings, etc., from academics and others throughout the world, complementing the researches of the Dictionary's own historical and other reading programmes. The situation at present is that revised entries show earlier usages (to take just one aspect) for one in every four

subsenses of each word covered, in many cases of fifty or more years. The generosity of scholars in sharing their discoveries with the Dictionary has been remarkable.

OED3: progress details

Revision of the Dictionary began, for various reasons, at the letter M. From this starting-point, the first-round revision of general (i.e. non-scientific) entries has already reached **po** – about one-tenth of the full text. The parallel revision of scientific entries has reached **pr**. 25,000 of the 55,000 projected new entries are already in draft, developed from the results of the Dictionary's historical and modern reading programmes. Alongside this work, the continuing reverification of tens of thousands of illustrative quotations from historical texts is well under way, and the results are being applied to the *OED* database. A complex computer-assisted routine is being employed to standardize the very varied short-titling evident in the current edition of the Dictionary, to assist subsequent electronic retrieval. The final editing of general and scientific entries, as well as of the *OED*'s etymologies, has recently started.

Conclusion

Even in Dr Johnson's day, the task of editing a large-scale dictionary was no longer a single-handed activity. Today, the *OED* has a team of 42 editors working on different aspects of the text, as well as some fifty research assistants, keyboarders, proofreaders, etc., and a further 200 or so specialist consultants from whom advice may be obtained about any aspect of the language. But even now it is quite possible for anyone to read a text and to discover a usage not covered by any dictionary, or to predate the documentary evidence available to the *OED*'s editors. The strength of the *OED* lies not solely in its electronic and card files, and its editorial staff, but in the support it receives from the users of the Dictionary, who supplement material and comment on potential alterations (to definitions, etymologies, etc.). If you discover something that is relevant to the revision of the *OED*, never assume that someone else has already told us about it – make sure that we know about it by telling us yourself!

John Simpson, Chief Editor, *OED*

For anyone wishing to contact us with queries or contributions, the address of the Dictionary is:

The Oxford English Dictionary

Oxford University Press

Great Clarendon St.

Oxford, OX2 6DP, England

Tel: +44 1865 556767 or +44 1865 267660

Fax: +44 1865 267810

E-mail: oed3@oup.co.uk

TELRI

The TELRI Association is pleased to announce the imminent availability of a CD-ROM of linguistic resources, produced in association with Multext East. This CD-ROM is a direct product of the EU-funded TELRI (Trans-European Linguistic Resources Infrastructure) Concerted Action, currently in its third successful year, which brings together researchers from over twenty sites in Central and Eastern European and the newly independent states. The CD-ROM contains extensive corpora, both spoken and written, in more than 15 languages of Western, Central and Eastern Europe, for instance Lithuanian, Polish, Hungarian, and Slovene. The corpora are available in plain text and SGML encoding, and have been successfully aligned. Also available are various tools including a corpus query language, concordancer, alignment tools, software, POS

taggers, lexica in 6 languages and samples of research work involving the data. The CD-ROM will be usable on UNIX, PC and Mackintosh platforms.

The CD-ROM will be available in a limited edition for academic purposes from mid-December 1997, at the cost of 25 ECU. To request further information or a copy of the product, please contact telri@ids-mannheim.de, or visit the web site at <http://www.ids-mannheim.de/telri/cdrom.html>.

Dr Ann Lawson, TELRI, Mannheim

Information for Web and Internet users

Foundation for Endangered Languages

For information about this foundation, please visit the web site <http://www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/Philosophy/CTLL/FEL/>

Invitation to join the Southeast Asian Languages List, SEALANG-L

SEALANG-L is a non-moderated mailing list devoted to scholarly discussion relevant to Southeast Asian languages. While much past discussion has focused on 'traditional' linguistics, I am strongly encouraging participation from computational linguists and computer scientists. Research across the board has suffered greatly from a lack of instrumentation (on the linguistics side), analysis (on the software side), and machine-usable data (on both sides). Existing software/algorithms for both roman-alphabet and Far Eastern languages have not supplied satisfactory solutions. Computing in the region presents fascinating problems. For example, the central SEA languages Thai/Lao, Burmese, and Khmer are of different families, and have related, but mutually unintelligible writing systems. But challenges they pose for software development are essentially identical – the myriad complications that arise from very long alphabets, written without spaces between words, on many vertical levels, and read in context-dependent order. Open questions involve text segmentation, optical character recognition, information retrieval, text-to-speech, transcription systems, parallel text alignment, translation assistants, phonetic lookup, and so on. These find immediate application in lexicography, etymology, phonology, and all corpus-based linguistics research.

For more information, please visit the SEALANG Web site <http://seasrc.th.net>. To subscribe, send a message to: majordomo@nectec.or.th. In the body of your letter, include the line: `subscribe sealang-l your-email-address`. To post messages on sealang, send your message to: sealang-l@nectec.or.th. For further details, please contact us at the address given below. We look forward to hearing from you on SEALANG-L.

Doug Cooper, Southeast Asian Software Research Center, Bangkok, Thailand (doug@nwg.nectec.or.th)

New Dictionaries

The Macquarie Dictionary: the third edition is to be published in Australia in November 1997. The first edition, published in 1981, broke new ground in reflecting the independent status of Australia's culture and providing a record of Australian English for its users to consult as a standard reference. The second edition in 1991 built on this foundation by embodying the results of research on a corpus of Australian English and including encyclopedic entries of Australian and international significance for the first time. The third edition takes another step forward, with several new features in addition to the regular work of revising, updating and supplementing the 100,000+ headwords. For the first time examples of word use drawn from Australian literature are used as illustrative phrases; more detailed attention is given to the regional distribution of words within Australia; words from Aboriginal-English and the Englishes of South-

East Asia are covered; usage notes provide guidance on points of debate and controversy; and long entries are structured in a new way that makes it easier to find the phrase for which one is searching.

Le Guide all'Usò dei Dizionari Zanichelli, edited by Carla Marellò: a series of guides on using dictionaries. By December 1997, three guides will have appeared. The first is by Professor M.T. Prat Zagreblesky (Turin University) on using the Ragazzini English and Italian dictionary; the second is by Nadine Celotti (Trieste University) and is aimed at translators using the Boch Italian and French dictionary; and the third is by Carla Marellò, on using the Zingarelli monolingual dictionary. The three guides are each about 100 pages. They are different in structure but they share the following aims: to explain how the dictionaries are made and to give training in reference skills; to improve the knowledge of the language(s) by means of exercises in which dictionaries are used to read sentences and texts or to produce them; and to show students how skills in using one dictionary can be applied to different dictionaries or other linguistic data banks.

Lardil Dictionary: a vocabulary of the language of the Lardil people, Mornington Island, Gulf of Carpentaria, Queensland, with a grammatical preface by Ken Hale. It comprises an English-Lardil wordfinder list, a history of the volume, a map, kinship diagrams and an index of botanical names. Compiled by Ngakulmungan Kangka Leman, the Language Projects Steering Committee of Mornington Island; published by Mornington Shire Council. The Lardil Dictionary can be purchased for AUS \$40.00 plus postage from Mrs Catrina Felton-Busch, Director of Community Services, Mornington Shire Council, Mornington Island, QLD. 4871, AUSTRALIA Tel: +61 077 457200. Fax: +61 077 457275. Please address any enquiries to Mrs Catrina Felton-Busch.

Tullio De Mauro, *Dizionario Avanzato dell'Italiano Corrente* (DAIC), Torino, Paravia: a monolingual Italian dictionary, with 20,000 defined words, and 1,385 pages, for students from 11 to 15 years old. It includes 2,500 pictures in the *Dizionario Visuale*, and a Guida Didattica with exercises to improve reference skills and language skills.

S. Mostafa Assi and M. Abdeal (1996) *A Dictionary of Linguistics*, Tehran, the Scientific and Cultural Publishing Company: a specialized bilingual dictionary (English-Persian, Persian-English), published in book form – 450 pages, with 9,000 English and 12,000 Persian entries – and in electronic form on diskette. The dictionary is based on a corpus comprising 130 bilingual linguistics texts, including almost all of the most important Persian sources.

G. Pittano *Sinonimi e Contrari Dizionario Fraseologico delle Parole Equivalenti, Analoghe e Contrarie* (second edition), Bologna, Zanichelli. 40,000 entries with 300,000 synonyms, 3,500 geographical place names, and 2,500 pseudonyms or nicknames.

Other New Publications

Manuel Alvar Ezquerro (ed.) (1996) *Estudios de Historia de la Lexicographia del Español*, Universidad de Málaga.

Recent volumes in the Lexicographica Series Maior (Tübingen, Max Niemeyer Verlag) include:

Jens Bahns (1996) *Kollokation als lexikographisches Problem: Eine Analyse allgemeiner und spezieller Lernwörterbücher des Englischen* (No 74).

Dorothea Behnke (1996) *Furetière und Trévoux. Eine Untersuchung zum Verhältnis der beiden Wörterbuchserien* (No 72).

Helmut Feldweg and Erhard W. Hinrichs (eds.) (1996) *Lexikon und Text. Wiederverwendbare Methoden und Ressourcen zur linguistischen Erschließung des Deutschen* (No 73).

Thierry Fontenelle (1997) *Turning a Bilingual Dictionary into a Lexical-Semantic Database* (No 79).

Ulrich Heid (1997) *Zur Strukturierung von einsprachigen und kontrastiven elektronischen Wörterbüchern* (No 77).

Peter Howarth (1996) *Phraseology in English Academic Writing. Some Implications for Language Learning and Dictionary Making* (No 75).

Arne Zettersten and Viggo Hjørnager Pedersen (eds.) (1996) *Proceedings of the Seventh International Symposium on Lexicography, May 5–6 1994 at the University of Copenhagen* (No 76).

Forthcoming events

1998

March

25–27, Vigo, Galicia, Spain: 'Anovadores de Nos, Anosadores de Vos', International Conference on Translation and Interpretation Studies. Info: Alberto Alvarez Lugris, Faculdade de Humanidades, Universidade de Vigo, Apto. 874, 36200 Vigo (Pontevedra) Spain. Tel: +34 86 812271. Fax: +34 86 812380. E-mail: anovar@uvigo.es

26, Paris, France: 'Journée d'études sur la lexicographie bilingue'. Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, Paris. Info: Thomas Szende, Journée d'études sur la lexicographie bilingue, INALCO Service de la Recherche, 2 rue de Lille, 75343 Paris Cedex 07, France.

27–28, Compiègne, France: Usages des Nouvelles Technologies dans L'Enseignement des Langues Étrangères. Info: Abdi Kazeroni, Didactique des Langues et Interculturalité, Technologie et Science l'Homme, Université de Technologie, Compiègne, BP 60649, 60206 Compiègne cédex, France. E-mail: untele@utc.fr

April

1–4, Stuttgart, Germany: 3rd International Symposium on Phraseology. Info: 3rd International Symposium on Phraseology, c/o Dr. Ulrich Heid, Universität Stuttgart, IMS-Computerlinguistik, Azenbergstr. 12, D 70174 Stuttgart, Germany. Telefax: +49 711 121 1366. E-mail: isp-3@ims.uni-stuttgart.de

16–19, Pennsylvania, USA: LSRL 28 – XXVIII Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages. Info: LSRL 28 Organizing Committee (Marc Authier, Barbara Bullock, & Lise Reed), Department of French, The Pennsylvania State University, Room 325 – Borrowes Building, University Park, PA 16802–6203, USA. Tel: +1 814 863–2814. E-mail: LSRL@psu.edu. Web site: <http://www.psu.edu/lslr/>

24–25, Köln, Germany: German Terminology in International Business, 6th Symposium of the German Terminology Society (DTT) Info: Jens Hiltmann, c/o Translingua, Ludwig-Erhard-Allee 3, D-53175 Bonn, Germany. Tel: +49 228 8160 152. Fax: +49 228 30888 55. E-mail: jensh@translingua.de

27–1 May: 12th International Course on Lexicography. Info: Dictionary Research Centre, University of Exeter, EX4 4QH. Fax +44 1392 264361 E-mail r.r.k.hartmann@exeter.ac.uk

May

5–9, Évora, Portugal: SILF98 – XXII International Congress of Functional Linguistics. Info: Comissão Organizadora do XXII Colóquio Internacional de Linguística Funcional, Departamento de Linguística e Literaturas, Universidade de Évora, 7001 Évora Codex, Portugal. Tel: +351 66 744675. Fax: +351 66742597. E-mail: SILF98@evunix.uevora.pt

June

1–6, Jyväskylä, Finland: Summer School of Applied Linguistics. Info: Prof. Kari Sajavaara, Centre for Applied Language Studies, University of Jyväskylä, P.O. Box 35, 40351 Jyväskylä, Finland. Tel: +358 14 603 529. E-mail: sajavaara@cc.jyu.fi.

24–26, Regensburg, Germany: International Symposium, Degrees of Restructuring in Creole Languages. Info: Prof. Dr. Ingrid Neumann-Holzschuh, Regensburg Universität, Institut für Romanistik, D-93040 Regensburg, Germany. E-mail: ingrid.neumann-holzschuh@sprachlit.uni-regensburg.de

July

17, Brisbane, Australia: AUSTRALEX biennial conference. Web site:

<http://www.anu.edu.au/linguistics/alex>

23–29, Bruxelles, Belgium: XXIIe Congrès International de Linguistique et Philologie Romanes. Info: XXIIe Congrès International de Linguistique et Philologie Romanes, CP 175/Faculté de Philosophie et Lettres, Université Libre de Bruxelles, 50 avenue Franklin D. Roosevelt, B-1050 Bruxelles, Belgium. Tel: +32 2 650 24 36. Fax: +32 2 384 04 83. E-mail: congres@romane.ulb.ac.be. Web site: <http://www.emich.edu/~linguist/issues/8/8-124.html#1>

August

4–8, Liège, Belgium: EURALEX '98. Info: Congress Organizers EURALEX '98, University of Liège, Department of English Language and Linguistics, Building A2, 3, Place Cockerill, B-4000 Liège, Belgium. Tel: +32 4 3665360 (Michiels). Fax: +32 4 3665721. E-mail: amichiels@ulg.ac.be. Web site: <http://engdepl.philo.ulg.ac.be/euralex.htm>

10–14, Montréal, Canada: COLING/ACL-98, 17th International Conference on Computational Linguistics and 36th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics. E-mail: coling-ac198@iro.umontreal.ca. Web site: <http://coling-ac198.iro.umontreal.ca>

17–28, Saarbrücken, Germany: 10th European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information. Web site: <http://www.dcs.warwick.ac.uk/~essli98/>

26–30, St. Andrews, Scotland: 31st Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea. Info: Dr. C. Beedham, Dept. of German, School of Modern Languages, The University, Buchanan Bldg., St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9PH, Scotland. E-mail: cb1@st-andrews.ac.uk

September

17–19, Reading, England: The Convergence and Divergence of Dialects in Changing Europe. Info: Paul Kerswill (ESF), Dept. of Linguistic Science, The University of Reading, Whiteknights, P.O. Box 218, Reading RG6 6AA, England. E-mail: p.e.kerswill@reading.ac.uk

23–26, Granada, Spain: 2nd International Congress of the European Society for Translation Studies. Info: EST Congress – Granada 1998, Organizing Committee, Gymnasiumstrasse 50, A-1190 Vienna, Austria. Web site: <http://www.univie.ac.at/transvienna/est/>

October

2–3, Savonlinna, Finland: Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Translation and Cognition. Contact: Riitta Jääskeläinen, University of Joensuu, Savonlinna School of Translation Studies, P.O. Box 48, 57101 Savonlinna, Finland. E-mail: riitta.jaaskelainen@joensuu.fi

November

16–21, Habana, Cuba: IV IberoAmerican Symposium of Terminology. Organizing association: RITerm – Red Iberoamericana de Terminología (IberoAmerican Terminology Network). Info: Manuel Barreiro Sánchez, Comité Nacional Preparatorio del VI RITerm, 19 de mayo, n° 14, esq. Ayestarán – Municipio Plaza, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba CP 10600. E-mail: ulcuba@ceniai.cu