

AFRILEX

Newsletter 3 – October 1998

Compiler: D.J. Prinsloo

Dear Members,

So far 1998 has been another good year (and we are not talking tyres) for the *African Association for Lexicography*.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 3rd International Conference of Afrilex which was held in Potchefstroom was attended by more than 40 members from all over the country. Keynote papers were read by Sidney Landau from the USA and our own 'Minister of Lexicography', Mr. M.B. Kumalo. Afrilex wishes to thank our organiser on the scene, Mr. Gerhard van Huyssteen, once again for all his hard work. The main programme was followed by a one-day tutorial (a refresher of SALEX '97). More than 30 delegates attended this tutorial which acted as a forerunner to Afrilex-Salex'98. The Conference Dinner was sponsored by PHAROS and our members showed that they really can appreciate good food and wine.

AFRILEX-SALEX'98

Afrilex-Salex'98 was a two-week tutorial on the compilation of bilingual dictionaries for the African languages which was held from 7 to 18 September 1998 at the University of Pretoria. More than fifty delegates, representing all the official languages of South Africa, attended. Donations for this meeting were received from the *Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, Anglo American and De Beers Chairman's Fund and First National Bank*. We are indebted to Mariëtta Alberts and Penny Silva for their hard work and initiatives to obtain these sponsorships. The first week's lectures were given by the British lexicographers Sue Atkins and Michael Rundell as well as by Rufus Gouws. For the second week "local talent" was exploited in the form of Margaret Marggraff, Fezi Shoba, Nelson Lekganyane and Daan Prinsloo. A special word of thanks goes to Margaret Marggraff, the star performer of the second week. All participants were requested to complete an evaluation form at the end of the course answering explicit questions such as things that they liked/disliked about the course as well as speaking their minds on what should be done in future to promote the interests of the official languages of SA as far as the compilation of dictionaries is concerned. One of the major concerns expressed by the delegates is the delay in the establishment of the National Lexicography Units. In this regard, the delegates instructed Prof. Malope, Prof. D.J. Prinsloo and Mr. B. Schulz to approach the authorities in writing. In general delegates were satisfied by the quality of the lectures and the informal discussions which were conducted in smaller groups. One delegate singled out the *tea breaks* as the highlight of the course. Food and refreshments were super and Regina, Rose and Refilwe (our three BIG RRRs as in STARRRS) cooked us a meal unsurpassed in the history of Afrilex.

AFRILEX-SALEX'98 – na B. Lepota

Ke yo bolela ka ga katlego ya Konferense yeo go ya ka dintlha tše di latelago:
thulaganyo
thuto le khuetšo

Thulaganyo

Konferense ya Afrilex-Salex '98 e bile le katlego ka gore thulaganyo ya yona e be e le ya maleba. Dinako tša go thoma le go fetša di be di latelwa gomme diboledi di be di bontšha gore ke ditsebo mererong ya go rulaganya dipukuntšū.

Thuto le khuetšo

Konferense yeo e bile le thuto ye kgolo kudu go borapolelo mmogo le baithuti ba dipolelo tša Afrika. Ge a bapetšwa le maleme a mangwe, Maleme a Afrika a sa le nthago kudu ditabeng tša go rulaganya dipukuntšū tša ona. Tšeo di šetšego di le gona ga di nape di hlaloša ditaba ka tsela ya maleba bjale ka ge go lemogilwe thutong ya go hwetša konfereseng. Konferense yeo e bile le khuetšo ye kgolo go nna bjalo ka moithuti gore le nna ke kgatehe tema thulaganyong ya dipukuntšū tša Sepedi.

LEXIKOS FOR FREE

The Board is pleased to announce that the 1998 edition of our Journal *Lexikos* will once again be **sent to members free of charge**. Afrilex wishes to thank the publishers, the Bureau of the WAT, for keeping the costs as low as possible to enable the Association to send this excellent publication to our members free of charge. (The normal price of *Lexikos* exceeds the annual membership fee for Afrilex).

CONFERENCE 1999

The 4th International Conference of Afrilex is scheduled to take place from 5-6 July 1999 at the University of Pretoria. We are planning a tutorial on dictionary compilation for 7-9 July, so please reserve the whole week for Afrilex activities! A [Call for Papers](#) is included and members are encouraged to prepare a paper on any practical or theoretical aspect of lexicography. A very reasonable tariff has been negotiated with the Hostel Administration of the University of Pretoria to make it affordable for all our members, even for university lecturers.

MEMBERSHIP 1999

The Treasurer will send out reminders for payment of membership for 1999 (R70 for Africa, USD 25 for the rest of the world) in early 1999. Please remember to inform us immediately of any changes in your *address, telephone numbers or personal particulars*.

AFRILEX ON THE INTERNET

Since March this year Afrilex is on the web, so if you wish to surf a 'real cool' web site try:
<http://www.up.ac.za/academic/libarts/afriLang/homelex.html>

You have to type this address only the first time, once you are logged into our web site "Bookmark" it and your favourite association (we hope) will then simply be one click away whenever you need us.

Information on issues such as activities, the Constitution, the story of Afrilex, names and particulars of Board and Executive Members, scenes from forthcoming attractions, application forms for membership, registration forms for conferences, etc. are available online. Visit this web site regularly and click on "New on the Afrilex Web Site" for the latest information.

AUSTRALEX, EURALEX and the DICTIONARY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA have been requested to add a link to AFRILEX from their web sites in order to bring the -LEX family closer together.

COMPUTER PROGRAMS FOR THE COMPILATION OF DICTIONARIES IN SA

Afrilex in co-operation with Dictionary Units, publishers and computer experts are trying to develop computer programs for the compilation of dictionaries in SA. Three types of programs are developed, namely (a) programs for counting word frequency, (b) concordance programs, and (c) the toughest of all, dictionary compilation programs. These developments are in an initial stage.

ELECTION OF A NEW BOARD

In terms of the Constitution, a new Board has to be elected in July 1999. The Organiser will contact you in writing in early 1999 to nominate members for the Board. A list of nominees will then be mailed to all members in good standing with the association and they will be requested to elect a new Board by postal vote. At the Conference in July members will elect a Chairperson. The new Board will then meet and elect an Executive Committee.

REMEMBER AFRILEX IS NOT JUST 'ANOTHER' ASSOCIATION, WE ARE 'SPECIAL'!

Board of Afrilex: M. Alberts (Secretary), H.D. Buttner, A. Carstens, A.R. Chuwa, R.H. Gouws (Chairperson), M.M. Marggraff (Treasurer), B.M. Mini, M.H. Mpungose, A.C. Nkabinde (Vice-Chairperson), D.J. Prinsloo (Organiser), P.M. Silva, G. van Huyssteen, D.J. van Schalkwyk, Editor of Lexikos (Ex officio)

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