



28th International Conference of the African Association for Lexicography
1 – 4 July 2024, Pretoria, South Africa

FIRST CIRCULAR

19-02-2024

Dear AFRILEX member/friend

You are cordially invited to the 28th **International Conference of the African Association for Lexicography** (AFRILEX 2024) to be held at the University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa. Please note that the conference also hosts the **6th Globalex Workshop on Lexicography and Neology (GWLN-6 2024)** (https://globalex.link/gwln-6_2024/).

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1. CONFERENCE DETAILS

Date: 1 – 4 July 2024

Host: University of Pretoria

Venue: Hatfield campus, University of Pretoria

Corner of Lynnwood Road and Roper Street, Hatfield, Pretoria

Venues: Plant Sciences auditorium (plenary sessions) and Graduate centre, rooms 1-56, 1-64 and 1-68 (Buildings 59 and 61 respectively on this [UP campus map.](#))

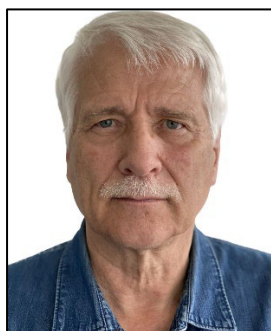
Cost: Early bird (before 3 May 2024): R2 500 (members); R2 800 (non-members)

Late registration (after 3 May 2024): R2 900 (members); R3 100 (non-members)

Afrilex membership fee: R200 (individual), R800 (corporate)

2. KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

International speaker: Prof. Sven Tarp, School of Communication and Culture, Centre for Lexicography, Aarhus University.



Topic: Lexicography has a bright future: Shifting the focus from dictionaries to databases.

Short biography:

Sven Tarp is a Sworn Translator and Interpreter, Professor of Spanish and Director of the Centre for Lexicography at Aarhus University (Denmark). He is also Extraordinary Professor at Stellenbosch University (South Africa), collaborator of the International Lexicography Centre at Valladolid University (Spain) and Yun Shan Professor at Guangdong University of Foreign Studies (China).

With a Ph.D. in Specialised Lexicography (1993) and a Senior Doctorate (Dr.ling.merc.) in Learner's Lexicography (2006), he is one of the founders of the Function Theory of Lexicography and has published a large number of articles in journals and monographs.

He is the editor, author or co-author of 17 dictionaries and several books on lexicography such as *Manual of Specialised Lexicography* (Benjamins 1995), *Lexicography in the Borderland Between Knowledge and Non-knowledge* (Niemeyer 2008), *Lexicography at a Crossroads: Dictionaries and Encyclopedias Today*, *Lexicographical Tools Tomorrow* (Peter Lang 2009), *Lexicography in the 21st Century* (John Benjamins 2009), and *Theory and Practice of*

Specialised Online Dictionaries (De Gruyter 2014). His most recent book is *Introducción a la Lexicografía en Español: Funciones y Aplicaciones* (Routledge 2024), written together with Dr Antoni Nomdedeu Rull.

He is currently working together with the Danish company Ordbogen A/S on the development of an AI-based writing assistant for foreign learners of Spanish. In this context, he is researching the usefulness and limitations of generative AI language models as a means of increasing productivity, as well as the new and changing relationship between the human and the artificial lexicographer.

Africa speaker: Prof. Sonja Bosch, Professor emerita, Department of African languages, UNISA.



Topic: Lexicography beyond dictionaries – Exploring Semantic Relations in African Wordnets.

Short biography:

Sonja E Bosch holds the position of Emerita Professor and Professor Extraordinaria in the Department of African Languages at the University of South Africa. She has a National Research Foundation Rating.

Her extensive research interests encompass natural language processing of Nguni languages, with a focus on morphological analysis, syntax and e-lexicography. She has been involved in various notable research projects, including Scientific e-Lexicography for Africa (SeLA) in collaboration with the Universities of Hildesheim, Pretoria, Stellenbosch and Namibia, funded by DAAD (2012 to 2015), New Methods in NLP for South African Languages in collaboration with the University of Leipzig, funded by the Erasmus+ Mobility Grant (2017-2021), and the African Wordnet Project, funded by the South African Centre for Digital Language Resources (SADiLaR) from 2017 onwards. Her contributions to computational morphological analysis and the expansion of the African Wordnet highlight her commitment to the technological advancement of African languages.

Beyond her academic achievements, she has held a number of professional positions, including being a Board Member of the European Language Resources Association (ELRA), Chairperson of the Human Language Technology Expert Panel (HLTEP), and currently serving as Vice-President of the African Association for Lexicography (AFRILEX). She is an elected member of the Academy of Science of South Africa, and also serves on the editorial boards of the academic journals *Language Matters* and *Literator*.

3. PRE-CONFERENCE SADILAR WORKSHOP

Date: Monday 1 July 2024, time to be confirmed

Venue: Graduate centre, 1 - 64

Cost: Free

Topic: Navigating towards accessible electronic multilingual terminology.

Presenter(s): Dr Friedel Wolff and Mr Juan Steyn

Presenters' bio:

Dr Friedel Wolff is a computer scientist specialising in language technology. His career spanned over multiple industries with varied responsibilities, including software development, leadership, training and research. Having worked in industry, the NGO sector and academia, his focus has always been on the proper application of information technology, and the sustainability of teams and projects. As a researcher his core interests are in language resources, translation support, and techniques for addressing resource scarceness. As a developer and consultant his role involved designing and building systems in a number of industries. In most positions his role naturally expanded into one of taking the lead on the quality of software, systems, and processes.

Mr Juan Steyn is the Director of Operations at SADiLaR. He has been involved in multiple Digital Humanities and Educational technology related projects in looking at ways of how technology and computational approaches could be included and integrated effectively as part of research and teaching and learning. He also has a special interest in training and human capacity building.

4. WELCOMING COCKTAIL

Date: Monday 1 July 2024, 18:30

Venue: Foyer of Graduate centre
R300 per person for guests, i.e. partners of delegates

5. CONFERENCE DINNER

Conference delegates are invited to attend the conference dinner. Confirmation of attendance must be **before 3 May 2024**.

Date: Tuesday 2 July 2024, 18:30

Venue: Function Hall

Cost: R450 per person

Menu: Three-course meal, wine and juice.

6. CONFERENCE EXCURSION

Date: Thursday 4 July 2024, 09:00 (Meeting point to be announced)

Cost: R 850, **subject to a minimum of 40 people**

Note: The conference excursion is only available to participants who register and pay for the conference and excursion **before 3 May 2024**. *There is no late registration for the excursion.*

Details: Visit via Union Buildings to Freedom Park Heritage Site (<https://www.freedompark.co.za/>) and the Voortrekker Monument (<https://vtm.org.za/en/home/>) with tour guide. Lunch will be a traditional rustic braai in the Schanskop lapa on the terrain of the Voortrekker monument. From this viewpoint there is a wonderful view over Pretoria.

7. ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORT

Conference participants are responsible for making their own accommodation and travel arrangements. Please click [here](#) for accommodation in the vicinity of the campus and information on transport in and around Pretoria.

8. PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Any person entering South Africa must hold a valid passport. Please consult your travel agent or local South African representative in good time regarding possible visa or entry permit requirements.

The local conference organisers will gladly provide an official conference invitation upon request to any participant who has registered and fully paid for the conference, for use to apply for a visa/permit as may be required. Unfortunately, no invitation can be issued to a prospective participant who has not registered and paid the full conference fees.

Please note that the local organisers are not in a position to apply for visas/permits on behalf of any conference participant. Travelers are responsible for ensuring that their documents are in order before they travel.

9. CURRENCY

South African currency is the South African Rand (ZAR, indicated by R).

10. REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

Delegates can register online by clicking [here](#) or by clicking on “Register Here” on the AFRILEX homepage: <https://www.afrilex.co.za/>. Proof of payment must please be e-mailed to the treasurer, Elsabé Taljard, elsabe.taljard@up.ac.za.

For all queries regarding overseas payments, delegates can also contact the treasurer.

Delegates who require an invoice should please fill in the online registration form and send the request to elsabe.taljard@up.ac.za. An invoice will be generated according to the information on the registration form.

11. CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

For administrative enquiries, please contact Ms Michelle Goosen:

michelle.goosen@up.ac.za

For enquiries regarding payment, please contact the treasurer:

Prof Elsabé Taljard

E-mail: elsabe.taljard@up.ac.za

PRESENTERS PLEASE NOTE

It is compulsory for presenters of papers and special sessions to register **before 3 May 2024**.