

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP PROF ELSABÉ TALJARD

In terms of the Afrilex constitution “*Honorary membership can be bestowed by the Board upon persons who have made outstanding contributions to lexicography and the Association.*”

In the following paragraphs we highlight Prof. Taljard’s contributions to Afrilex through services and promotion of the Association, her research standing and activities, academic performance, teaching and administrative leadership.

Activities, service to and promotion of Afrilex

Prof Taljard served for many years as Board Member and Treasurer of Afrilex, (Associate) Editor of *Lexikos* for several issues and organizer of two international Afrilex conferences. As treasurer she meticulously handled the membership and financial issues of Afrilex. As board member she actively participated in the day-to-day running of the association. As editor of *Lexikos* she made invaluable contributions to upholding the status and quality of the journal and provided substantial input in facilitating the adjudication of articles.

Research standing and activities

Prof Taljard is a recognized international leading researcher with a B-rating from the National Research Foundation. She published more than 40 articles in accredited journals and is the author or co-author of a number of books and chapters in books. She was also a linguistic consultant for the *Oxford Bilingual School Dictionary: Northern Sotho and English / Pukuntšu ya Polelopedi ya Sekolo: Sesotho sa Leboa le Seisimane*, which received the 2009 SATI Prize for Outstanding Translation Dictionaries. Many of her articles and book contributions deal with lexicography and she made a substantial contribution to corpus-based lexicography. She participates in many international research collaborations on lexicography and frequently receives invitations for presentations abroad.

Academic, teaching and administrative leadership and activities

Prof Taljard gave excellent academic and administrative leadership in the Department of African Languages at the University of Pretoria over the past

more than 40 years. She moved through all the academic ranks from a teaching assistant, lecturer, senior lecturer, full professor and head of the department. She served on many faculty and university committees such as the Committee for the Implementation of the Language Development plan of the university and the Research Ethics Committee of the faculty. She participated in the promotion of Afrilex and lexicography through the teaching of dictionary use to secondary school learners in the Mamelodi township.

Honorary membership of Afrilex is not easily granted – in the 30 years of its existence the association bestowed honorary membership on only five of its members. However, Prof Elsabé Taljard is deserving of this honour in recognition of her significant contributions to Afrilex.

7 July 2025