

**Joint Symposia of
JACET Society of English
Lexicography and
Kansai English
Lexicography Circle
30 May 2014
Aichi University, Nagoya**

The joint symposia of the JACET Society of English Lexicography and the Kansai English Lexicography Society (KELC) was organized by Professors Michihisa Tsukamoto and Yoshihito Kamakura from Aichi University in Nagoya. If Japan is counted among lexicographic powerhouses, these organizations are two of the driving forces behind it, contributing to the improvement and promotion of theoretical and practical lexicography. JACET Society of English Lexicography is a group under the auspices of the Japan Association of College English Teachers. It was co-founded in 1995 by Professors Minoru Murata and Kosei Minamide, and chaired by Professor Murata from 1995 to 2006 and Professor Kaoru Akasu from 2007 to 2013. The society holds an annual workshop (including a joint one with its sister society JACET Vocabulary Acquisition Research Group once in three years), and has played a key role in organizing the two Asialex conferences held in Japan (Tokyo 2003 and Kyoto 2011). KELC was founded in 2003 with a view to read literature



have appeared that no longer resemble traditional paper dictionaries but try to fully exploit the new possibilities of the digital medium. Though serious attempts have already been made at embedding electronic lexicography into a theoretical framework, an up-to-date research paradigm and common standards for electronic lexicography are still lacking, as are common standards and cooperation for interlinking content of digitized dictionaries and innovative e-dictionaries.

d. The digital medium offers the potential for a new type of lexicography that no longer views languages as isolated entities. Language migration has always been part of human history, yet this is often not properly reflected in dictionaries. Many dictionaries have their origins in the 19th century, where a national perspective on language prevailed. Consequently, the information in the dictionaries is mostly presented from the point of view of a single language, not sufficiently taking into account similar or related developments in other European languages. This view of languages often dominates also modern dictionaries. There is a clear need for a common approach to e-lexicography that forms the basis for a new type of lexicography that fully embraces the pan-European nature of much of the vocabularies of languages spoken in Europe.

Aim of the network

The aim of the European Network of e-Lexicography is to increase, co-ordinate and harmonise research in the field of e-lexicography and to make authoritative information on the languages of Europe easily accessible.

The network will:

- Make lexical knowledge of small and large languages available in a European dictionary portal. This portal will serve as the central reference point for all dictionary users who look for reliable, authoritative dictionary information on the languages of Europe and their histories on the internet.
- Enable cooperation and the exchange of resources, technologies and experience in e-lexicography and provide support for dictionaries that are not yet online.
- Discuss and aim at establishing standards for innovative e-dictionaries that fully exploit the possibilities of the digital medium.
- Establish new ways of representing the common heritage of European languages by developing shared editorial practices and by interconnecting already existing information.

Working groups

Four working groups are the main vehicles of delivering the scientific program. Each consists of lexicographers and computational linguists from different countries and includes both experienced researchers and young ones. The working groups are led by a chair and vice-chair, who also provide annual reports on its activities.

All researchers affiliated to an institution in a COST country can join the network. There is also room for researchers from countries neighbouring a COST country and from Argentina, New Zealand and South Africa.

Working group 1. Integrated interface for European dictionary content

Working group 1 investigates how authoritative dictionary information on the languages of Europe can be made accessible to both the general and academic public. Chair of the working group is Anne Dykstra (Netherlands) and vice-chair is Bob Boelhouwer (Netherlands).

The working group will:

- Set up a European dictionary portal, which will give information on scholarly dictionaries of the languages of Europe and provide access to these dictionaries. Different parameters will be considered, e.g. dictionary type, language covered, digitally-born versus retro-digitized.
- Investigate the possibilities of interlinking the contents of European dictionaries.
- Investigate user requirements with respect to the presentation of dictionary content.
- Investigate the possible involvement of users in the creation of dictionary content.

Working group 2. Retro-digitized dictionaries

In working group 2 the focus is on the digitization of paper dictionaries. It intends to set up guidelines and standards for turning paper dictionaries into digital format. Chair of the working group is Vera Hildenbrandt (Germany) and vice-chair is Vladimír Benko (Slovakia).

Work will be carried out on:

- The development of standards for encoding of information and the description of relevant categories for print dictionaries.
- Presenting an overview of software for the conversion of physical layout information to logical information.
- The investigation of relevant information categories to be added to the dictionary in order to make its content more readily accessible and interoperable.
- The development of a work plan for

digitisation, including parameters necessary for estimating costs.

- The investigation of possible use of dictionary content for computational linguistic applications.
- The organisation of a training school on standard tools and methods for retro-digitising dictionaries in 2015.

Working group 3.

Innovative e-dictionaries

The scope of working group 3 is the development of digitally-born dictionaries, focusing in particular on the latest developments in e-lexicography and the interface between lexicography and computational linguistics. Chair of the working group is Simon Krek (Slovenia) and vice-chair is Carole Tiberius (Netherlands). Work will be carried out on:

- The description of the workflow for corpus-based lexicography.
- Providing an overview of existing software needed to set up this workflow.
- The use of dictionary writing systems.
- The analysis of the possible impact of automatic acquisition of lexical data.
- The analysis of the interface between dictionary and computational lexica (cf. wordnets) and syntactically and semantically annotated corpora (cf. FrameNet, SemCor, Senseval).
- The investigation of the possible use of dictionary content for language technology applications.
- The organisation of a training school on innovative approaches in e-lexicography in 2016.

Working group 4.

Lexicography and lexicology from a pan-European perspective

Working group 4 investigates how the pan-European nature of the vocabularies of the languages of Europe can be represented in single-language dictionaries and within the European dictionary portal. This is particularly relevant to studying the multiple dimensions of borrowing, i.e. the migration and re-migration of words and meanings across the languages of Europe. Chair of the working group is Eveline Wandl-Vogt (Austria) and vice-chair is Phil Withington (UK).

This working group will:

- Develop ways in which already existing information from single language dictionaries can be displayed and interlinked to represent more adequately their common European heritage.
- Develop editorial guidelines for the integration of European information into more traditional dictionaries as well as innovative ones.

- Find new applications for the very large amount of interconnected dictionary information from the European dictionary portal in the field of digital humanities.
- The organisation of a training school in lexicography and lexicology from a pan-European perspective in 2017.

Training schools and short term scientific missions

One of the responsibilities of the network is to organise training schools and to provide so-called short-time scientific missions (STSMs). The three training schools mentioned above will be organised by members of the relevant working groups, in close cooperation with the training school manager of the network, Rute Costa (Portugal). Participants of the training schools will get their travel and accommodation expenses reimbursed by the network.

The first training school will be held in 2015 on the subject of retro-digitization. More information on this training school will be available at the time of the network meeting in July 2014 and will also be published on the website: <http://www.elexicography.eu/events/training-schools/>.

As part of an STSM researchers visit established dictionary projects and centres of excellence in a country other than their own. The visit period may take from five days to three months and can range from discussions and demonstrations to deeper involvement in the activities of the centres visited, in accordance with the needs of the researchers. Travel and accommodation expenses of approved missions are reimbursed by the network. There is room for at least four STSMs in each year, which brings the total of STSMs to take place within the duration of the project (till October 2017) to sixteen or more.

STSMs are especially meant to allow young researchers to build up their own networks, and they will facilitate and increase the capacity for research in the field of e-lexicography. Tanneke Schoonheim (Netherlands) is appointed as the manager of these missions. For more information on the missions and how to apply, see <http://www.elexicography.eu/events/workshops/>.

Impact of the network

The network will allow the exchange of knowledge and expertise in the field of e-lexicography. It is open to all scholarly dictionaries in Europe irrespective of their previous experience with e-lexicography. The network will facilitate the coordination and progressive expansion and standardization of research activity through the work of the four working groups and



about lexicography, lexical semantics and corpus linguistics, and deepen the understanding of recent research findings in these fields of study.

Coordinated by Professor Kosei Minamide, the circle meets bi-monthly to discuss the issues and insights raised in selected books, and its members have translated and brought three of these to publication in Japan: *Phraseology* (Cowie, ed. 2001), *Words and Phrases* (Michael Stubbs, 2001), and *Lexicography: An Introduction* (Howard Jackson, 2002).

The regular meeting of the JACET group is in Tokyo and that of KELC is in Kyoto. Located between the two cities, Nagoya was a fine venue for the joint symposia. The meeting began with a special session on 'Challenges Facing English Dictionary Editors', with the participation of the chief editors of four major English-Japanese learners' dictionaries, and continued with sessions on 'EFL Dictionaries: Description and Use' and 'Collocation and English-Japanese Dictionaries'. Altogether there were a dozen talks, attended by 80 participants. The symposium included a book display and was followed by a buffet-style party at the university cafeteria.

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