

GLOBALLEX 2016 workshop summary and next steps

GLOBALLEX 2016 organizing committee

Andrea Abel
(Euralex, Vice-President)

Ilan Kerenerman
(Asialex, President; workshop co-chair)

Steve Kleinedler
(DSNA, Vice-President)

Iztok Kosem
(eLex, Co-Organizer)

Simon Krek
(eLex, Co-Organizer; workshop co-chair)

Julia Miller
(Australlex, President)

Maropeng Victor Mojela
(Afrilex, President)

Danie. J. Prinsloo
(Afrilex, Vice-President)

Rachel Edita O. Roxas
(Asialex, Vice-President)

Lars Trap-Jensen
(Euralex, President)

Luanne von Schneidemesser
(DSNA, President)

Michael Walsh
(Australlex, Vice-President)

GLOBALLEX preparatory board 2016-2018

Edward Finegan, Ilan Kernerman, Iztok Kosem, Simon Krek, Julia Miller, Maropeng Victor Mojela, Lars Trap-Jensen

<http://globalex.link/>

The GLOBALLEX 2016 Workshop on Lexicographic Resources for Human Language Technology was held as part of the Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC 2016) at Portorož, Slovenia, on 24 May 2016, with approximately 60 participants, and constituted the first step in forming a global network for lexicography. The organizing committee consisted of the presidents and vice-presidents of Afrilex, Asialex, Australlex, DSNA and Euralex, and two co-organizers of eLex, with the actual working group comprising Ilan Kernerman, Iztok Kosem, Lars Trap-Jensen and Simon Krek. The program committee (including about 40 members) selected 16 papers out of 24 submissions, each having 15 minutes for presentation plus 5 minutes for questions. More details are available on the workshop website <http://ailab.ijs.si/globalex/>, and the proceedings are at http://lrec-conf.org/proceedings/lrec2016/workshops/LREC2016Workshop-GLOBALLEX_Proceedings.pdf/.

The workshop closed with a roundtable discussion about next steps for GLOBALLEX. It lasted about 90 minutes and had about 30 participants. The first part was moderated by Simon and consisted of a brief presentation of each member organization, including four in person, by Sonja Bosch (Afrilex), Ilan (Asialex), Lars (Euralex) and Iztok (eLex), a video by Julia Miller (Australlex), and live Skype participation by Edward Finegan (DSNA). The second part was moderated by Ilan in discussion with those present, including Ed by Skype. The following main points emerged:

- All the associations and the individuals present welcomed the formation of GLOBALLEX as an umbrella constellation to enhance worldwide cooperation and exchange on lexicography
- The organizations began to cooperate in this vein by co-organizing this GLOBALLEX workshop
- The five continental associations have reached a consensus on jointly running a new GLOBALLEX website and sharing its hosting costs
- The new GLOBALLEX website <http://globalex.link/> will go live in mid-2016
- The site will function as a repository and will link conference proceedings, presentations, slides and videos, post news, announcements, etc.
- It is hoped GLOBALLEX can operate in a lean non-bureaucratic fashion; still a

steering committee is needed, including a representative of each body

- Participation will be open to any local, special topic, or other lexicography-minded community, and will serve to promote the members' interests and activities
- Holding conferences could be handled by combining models of various activities, such as:
 - Video-record talks at different conferences and post them on the GLOBALLEX website
 - Minimize or avoid meetings scheduled across the world at the same time
 - Promote meeting in person whenever and wherever possible
 - Have GLOBALLEX sessions as part of other conferences
 - Welcome the interest expressed in principle by Afrilex and Australlex to hold GLOBALLEX sessions as part of their 2017 conferences
 - Advance the DSNA offer to hold a GLOBALLEX session at its 2017 meeting
 - Organize virtual conferences with the aim to keep costs low, facilitate the participation of those from distant places or with fewer resources, take advantage of technology, and attain wider dissemination of information worldwide
 - Ultimately hold face-to-face GLOBALLEX *Olympic* conferences every few years

Work has already begun to set the ground for implementing such ideas and planning further. For example, talk is underway to leverage the coinciding DSNA and Asialex conferences in June 2017 for cross-broadcasting between dinner in Barbados and morning plenary in Guangzhou. In June, the organizing committee's four working-group members were joined by one liaison each from Afrilex (Victor Mojela), Australlex (Julia Miller), and DSNA (Ed) to continue operating together as a preparatory board for the formation of GLOBALLEX. Besides the immediate task of getting the new website up and running, the main work will focus on setting a framework for GLOBALLEX to function in full cooperation with all its members and to their benefit on a worldwide scale, deciding what shape such body might have, defining its strategic policy, decision-making process, etc. It is encouraging that the initiative launched last year has already had such an overwhelmingly welcoming response and is starting to develop.