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## A Few Words from AFRILEX

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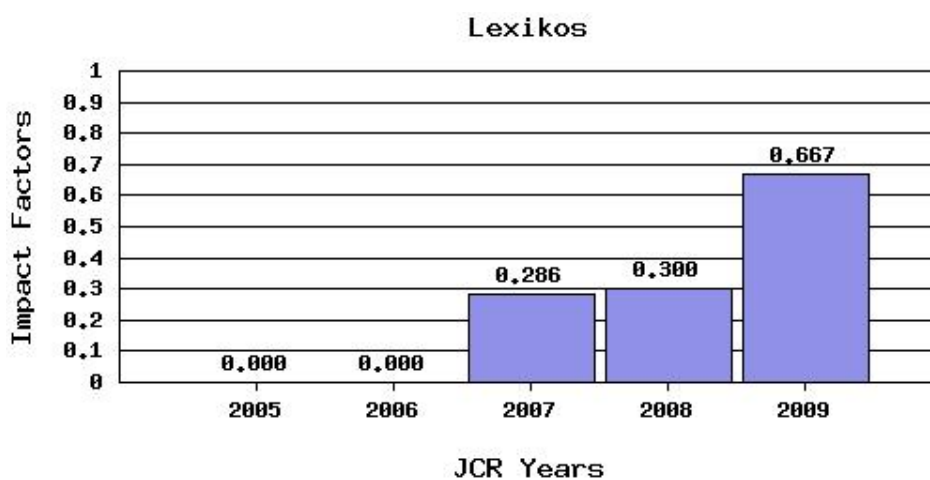
A total of five continental associations for lexicography are currently active. Although this division is entirely artificial — as each association welcomes lexicographic endeavours in any of the world's languages — the cut-up remains practical. AFRILEX, founded in 1995, is one of the younger siblings, given that the DSNAs had already been created twenty years earlier. Three of the five continental associations also have 'their' own journal, as may be seen in the table below.

Association	Acronym	Founded	Journal	Since
The Dictionary Society of North America	DSNA	1975	<i>Dictionaries</i>	1979
European Association for Lexicography	EURALEX	1983	IJL	1988
Australasian Association for Lexicography	AUSTRALEX	1990	—	—
African Association for Lexicography	AFRILEX	1995	<i>Lexikos</i>	1991
Asian Association for Lexicography	ASIALEX	1997	—	—

The first volume of the journal *Dictionaries*, the mouthpiece of the DSNAs, appeared four years after that association's establishment. Contributors to *Dictionaries* must be members of the DSNAs in the year of publication of their contributions. The first issue of the *International Journal of Lexicography* (IJL), the mouthpiece of EURALEX, appeared five years after that association's establishment. Contributions from any scholars are accepted in IJL. The relationship between AFRILEX and *Lexikos*, however, is slightly different, as the first volume of 'our' journal appeared four years *before* the establishment of our association. In effect, the initiative to launch the journal *Lexikos* came from the Bureau of the *Woordeboek van die Afrikaanse Taal* (WAT), and when AFRILEX was established, our association was lucky enough to be able to piggyback on an already successful publication. Over the years, the editor of *Lexikos* has come to expect a right of first refusal for reworked papers initially read at AFRILEX conferences, and additionally welcomes material from any part of the world, on any language(s). What all three journals — *Dictionaries*, IJL, and *Lexikos* — have in common is that they are included with a membership of the respective associations — the DSNAs, EURALEX, and AFRILEX. Membership fees for AFRILEX, however, do not cover the cost to produce *Lexikos*, so we should continue to be grateful to the Bureau of the WAT for its ability to attract dona-

tions with which to subsidize this wonderful publication. Looking at the full picture, then, AFRILEX has been very fortunate indeed to be able to cooperate with the Bureau on so many levels, and this for fifteen years already.

These strokes of good fortune did not end there. As I pointed out in my Word from AFRILEX in last year's volume, *Lexikos* is now an indexed journal for which an Impact Factor is being calculated, in the category Linguistics. As may be seen from the graph below, the latest (2009) Impact Factor of *Lexikos* has more than doubled compared to the previous one:



As a reminder, here is how Impact Factors are calculated: For any particular year, one divides the number of cites to articles published in the two previous years, by the total number of articles published in those two years. In the 2009 Journal Citation Reports, this gives the following for *Lexikos*:

Cites in 2009 to articles published	Number of articles published
in:	in:
2008 = 14	2008 = 21
2007 = 20	2007 = 30
Sum: 34	Sum: 51

$$\text{Impact Factor} = \frac{\text{Cites to recent articles}}{\text{Number of recent articles}} = \frac{34}{51} = 0.667$$

With an Impact Factor of 0.667, *Lexikos* now ranks 49th out of 92 journals in the Linguistics category, which places it in the so-called third quartile (up from the fourth quartile). With the impact of *Lexikos* now double of what it used to be, our heartfelt thanks to its editor, Dr J.C.M.D. du Plessis, as well as his right hand, Ms Riette Ruthven, redouble concurrently!

Gilles-Maurice de Schryver  
 President: AFRILEX