

Lexikos 33(2)



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## Rufus H. Gouws: 'n Huldeblyk A Tribute

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African Association for Lexicography

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## Voorwoord

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Ons kollega en vriend Rufus Gouws tree aan die einde van 2023 af ná 'n akademiese loopbaan van meer as 45 jaar. Dit is gebruikelik om ten tyde van so 'n aftrede 'n gedetailleerde lys van die betrokke kollega se prysen, toekennings, publikasies, nagraadse studente en dies meer te maak. Al hierdie inligting is reeds elders uitvoerig geboekstaaf, en in die geval Gouws is so 'n lys nie kort nie. Dit word dus nie hier herhaal nie.

Daar is egter twee aspekte van hierdie leksikograaf en taalkundige se loopbaan wat moontlik ook meer gepas is vir 'n afskeid van 'n jarelange kollega. Eerstens, die begin van die betrokke loopbaan.

Rufus vertel 'n keer in die personeelkamer dat hy tydens sy tyd aan die Universiteit van Suid-Afrika die eerste keer die taak opgelê is om 'n kursus aan te bied in wat vandag as leksikografie bekend staan. In daardie stadium was sy navorsingsfokusarea die Afrikaanse sintaksis. Na afloop van dié gesprek moes hy in 'n verklarende woordeboek gaan naslaan wat presies die woord beteken wat nou, bykans vyf dekades later, bykans 'n sinoniem vir sy werk geword het.

Tweedens behoort daar iets genoem te word oor nalatenskap. Rufus se eie werk en publikasies is reeds besonder indrukwekkend. In hierdie huldigingsuitgawe van *Lexikos* kom egter 'n bykomende dimensie daarvan na vore. Hier is naamlik al die tekens van die kundigheid en ook die menslikheid wat studente en kollegas in verskeie uithoeke van die wêreld geïnspireer het, en in die proses die leksikografiese tuiste inderdaad 'n huis met baie wonings gemaak het — 'n uitdrukking wat Rufus self graag gebruik.

Ons neem afskeid van jou, Rufus, op 'n manier wat hopelik iets vervat van toewyding, die erns en, as ons mag, die liefde wat jy vir die taalkunde, vir Afrikaans en natuurlik vir die leksikografie beliggaam. Jy skryf in 2012 'n artikel met die titel "Who can really be called a lexicographer?" en ons is van mening dat jy dit met meer as voldoende oortuiging beantwoord het. Geluk met 'n verbluffende loopbaan, dankie vir jou kollegialiteit, en net die beste wense vir jou aftrede.

Mag die welverdiende rus, soos jy dit sal stel, bloedstollend lekker wees.

Marius Swart, Ilse Feinauer en Amanda Marais  
Redakteurs

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## Foreword

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Our colleague and friend Rufus Gouws is retiring at the end of 2023 after an academic career spanning more than 45 years. At this time, standard practice would entail making a detailed list of said colleague's prizes, awards, publications, postgraduate students, and the like. All of this information has been recorded extensively elsewhere, however, and in the Gouws case the list is not short. Therefore, we will not repeat it here.

However, there are two aspects of the career of this lexicographer and linguist that might be better suited to saying farewell to a colleague of so many years. Firstly, the start of it all.

In the staff room, Rufus once told us about his time at the University of South Africa, where he was first tasked with presenting a course on what is known today as lexicography. At that point, his research focus area was Afrikaans syntax. After the instruction to present this course, he had to use a dictionary to find the exact meaning of the word that now, five decades later, stands as a synonym to his work.

Secondly, there is the matter of heritage. Rufus's own work and publications are undoubtedly impressive. In this special issue of *Lexikos*, however, another dimension comes to the fore. Here we have the clearest of indications of the expertise and the humanity that have inspired students and colleagues from many parts of the world. The lexicographic world knows no borders, in large part thanks to Rufus.

We are saying farewell, Rufus, in a way that hopefully captures your dedication, your zeal and, if we may, your love for the study of language, for Afrikaans and, of course, for lexicography. In 2012 you wrote an article titled "Who can really be called a lexicographer?". We strongly believe that you have answered this question more than convincingly. Congratulations with your astounding career, thank you for your collegiality, and best wishes in your retirement.

May you enjoy your well-deserved rest, and perhaps also press some flowers.

Marius Swart, Ilse Feinauer and Amanda Marais  
Editors

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# Redaksionele doelstellings

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*Lexikos* is 'n tydskrif vir die leksikografiese vakspesialis en word in die AFRI-LEX-reeks uitgegee. "AFRILEX" is 'n akroniem vir "leksikografie in en vir Afrika". Van die sesde uitgawe af dien *Lexikos* as die amptelike mondstuk van die *African Association for Lexicography* (AFRILEX), onder meer omdat die Buro van die WAT huis die uitgesproke doel met die uitgee van die AFRILEX-reeks gehad het om die stigting van so 'n leksikografiese vereniging vir Afrika te bevorder.

Die strewe van die AFRILEX-reeks is:

- (1) om 'n kommunikasiekanaal vir die nasionale en internasionale leksikografiese gesprek te skep, en in die besonder die leksikografie in Afrika met sy ryk taleverskeidenheid te dien;
- (2) om die gesprek tussen leksikograwe onderling en tussen leksikograwe en taalkundiges te stimuleer;
- (3) om kontak met plaaslike en buitelandse leksikografiese projekte te bewerkstellig en te bevorder;
- (4) om die interdissiplinêre aard van die leksikografie, wat ook terreine soos die taalkunde, algemene taalwetenskap, leksikologie, rekenaarwetenskap, bestuurskunde, e.d. betrek, onder die algemene aandag te bring;
- (5) om beter samewerking op alle terreine van die leksikografie moontlik te maak en te koördineer, en
- (6) om die doelstellings van die *African Association for Lexicography* (AFRI-LEX) te bevorder.

Hierdie strewe van die AFRILEX-reeks sal deur die volgende gedien word:

- (1) Bydraes tot die leksikografiese gesprek word in die vaktydskrif *Lexikos* in die AFRILEX-reeks gepubliseer.
- (2) Monografiese en ander studies op hierdie terrein verskyn as afsonderlike publikasies in die AFRILEX-reeks.
- (3) Slegs bydraes wat streng vakgerig is en wat oor die suiwer leksikografie of die raakvlak tussen die leksikografie en ander verwante terreine handel, sal vir opname in die AFRILEX-reeks kwalifiseer.
- (4) Die wetenskaplike standaard van die bydraes sal gewaarborg word deur hulle aan 'n komitee van vakspesialiste van hoë akademiese aansien voor te lê vir anonieme keuring.

*Lexikos* sal jaarliks verskyn, terwyl verdienstelike monografiese studies sporadies en onder hulle eie titels in die AFRILEX-reeks uitgegee sal word.

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## Editorial Objectives

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*Lexikos* is a journal for the lexicographic specialist and is published in the AFRILEX Series. "AFRILEX" is an acronym for "lexicography in and for Africa". From the sixth issue, *Lexikos* serves as the official mouthpiece of the *African Association for Lexicography* (AFRILEX), amongst other reasons because the Bureau of the WAT had the express aim of promoting the establishment of such a lexicographic association for Africa with the publication of the AFRILEX Series.

The objectives of the AFRILEX Series are:

- (1) to create a vehicle for national and international discussion of lexicography, and in particular to serve lexicography in Africa with its rich variety of languages;
- (2) to stimulate discourse between lexicographers as well as between lexicographers and linguists;
- (3) to establish and promote contact with local and foreign lexicographic projects;
- (4) to focus general attention on the interdisciplinary nature of lexicography, which also involves fields such as linguistics, general linguistics, lexicology, computer science, management, etc.;
- (5) to further and coordinate cooperation in all fields of lexicography; and
- (6) to promote the aims of the *African Association for Lexicography* (AFRILEX).

These objectives of the AFRILEX Series will be served by the following:

- (1) Contributions to the lexicographic discussion will be published in the specialist journal *Lexikos* in the AFRILEX Series.
- (2) Monographic and other studies in this field will appear as separate publications in the AFRILEX Series.
- (3) Only subject-related contributions will qualify for publication in the AFRILEX Series. They can deal with pure lexicography or with the intersection between lexicography and other related fields.
- (4) Contributions are judged anonymously by a panel of highly-rated experts to guarantee their academic standard.

*Lexikos* will be published annually, but meritorious monographic studies will appear as separate publications in the AFRILEX Series.

