Paul Bogaards, 1940-2012

Paul Bogaards died at his home in Den Bosch, the Netherlands, on October 3, 2012.

He studied French, general linguistics and Italian at Leiden University, where he was appointed as a teacher and researcher in the Department of French in 1976, and in 1982 he defended his PhD. dissertation on foreign language teaching at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. As a teacher of French he was very interested in dictionaries as a tool in foreign language teaching, which was the subject of many of his articles. He also was general editor of a series of French / Dutch bilingual dictionaries of the Van Dale and Robert publishing houses.

Many people will know Paul as the editor of the International Journal of Lexicography (IJL). He held that position from 2003 to 2012 and during that period he was an ex-officio member of the EURALEX Executive Board. During his editorship, IJL made it to the top of linguistic journals.

One of the good things of EURALEX congresses and board meetings was that I would meet Paul Bogaards. It is so sad that this will never happen again. Paul was on everybody’s mind at the interim meeting in Bolzano on June 1, where we observed a moment of silence in his memorial.

Paul Bogaards was a gentle and amiable colleague and friend. His simple presence was enough to make people relax. He even managed to make me feel good and at home when I visited him three days before he died. He was so sick and tired, but wanted to make sure that IJL would remain in good hands. We worked together for a couple of hours. I do not know how he managed this, but he did. That was Paul all over.

Paul will be sorely missed by IJL, EURALEX and the international lexicographical community.

Anne Dykstra

Wolfgang Worsch, 1953-2013

On March 17, 2013, Wolfgang Worsch died unexpectedly.

Born in Erlangen, Wolfgang studied German and Literature, and began teaching at the University of Birmingham in 1980. There he met John Sinclair, got bitten by the dictionary bug, and became involved in the Collins Birmingham University International Language Database (COBUILD). While in England, he started to work for Oxford University Press as well as for the American publisher Collier Macmillan.

Returning to Germany in 1986, he became a lexicographer at Langenscheidt in Munich, where his most important project was the new edition of the Muret-Sanders, the largest existing bilingual English-German dictionary and the Langenscheidt flagship. In 2007 he took on a new challenge and moved to Berlin to help build the dictionary department at Cornelsen, managing to produce a series of seven school dictionaries in only two years. He also worked for Duden and for Akademie der Wissenschaften (Academy of Sciences) and took part in a number of international projects like the New English-Irish Dictionary.

WoWo, as he was known by friends, was an enthusiastic basketball player and coach, as well as a passionate chef. After his son Fabian was born disabled in 1990, he joined the board of directors of Helfende Hände (Helping Hands). Everybody was impressed by the way he balanced his family, career, and volunteer work, and he will be thoroughly missed by his family, colleagues and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Christine, his son, Fabian, and his daughter, Laura.

Helga Holtkamp and Benedikt Model