

The International Schools on Lexicography at Ivanovo State University

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The idea of holding International Schools on Lexicography at Ivanovo State University goes back to 1992, after the EURALEX Congress in Tampere. In spite of the fact that the EURALEX congresses are held every two years, to our regret, only few Russian scientists attend them due to financial reasons. That is why we decided to organize International Schools on Lexicography regularly every two years, between EURALEX congresses, in Russia and to host them at our university, where we have stable lexicographic traditions.

The topic Contemporary Problems of Theoretic and Applied Lexicography at the English Language Department is one of the leading themes of research at Ivanovo State University. Since 1996 ten postgraduate thesis and fifty final projects have been defended on general and special purpose dictionaries: authors', learners', several LSP (architecture, stock market and finance) and new words dictionaries, etc.

Special courses in modern and historical lexicography are delivered at the department, with about 25 students annually attending and writing course projects in lexicography. There is a student scientific society in lexicography, LEXICOGRAPHICA, that works quite successfully. Being a collective member of EURALEX, Ivanovo State University regularly receives the *International Journal of Lexicography*, as well as the latest news about conferences, workshops and publications.

The aims of the Ivanovo Schools in Lexicography (which have acquired in the course of time the status of an international conference) are to give young scholars a good opportunity to learn current tendencies in foreign and Russian lexicography through plenary lectures of invited prominent scholars and to present their own research results and dictionary projects, dictionary surveys, etc.

Our University has already held four Schools on Lexicography, with about 160 participants on average, hosting world famous lexicographers and scholars:

1995: Theoretical and Practical Aspects of Lexicography, guest lecturer: R.R.K. Hartmann.

1997: Problems of Bilingual Lexicography, guest lecturer: Krista Varantola.

1999: The Dictionary in the Contemporary World, guest-lecturer: Ruth Vatvedt Fjeld.

2001: Language. Culture. Dictionaries, guest lecturers: Svetlana G. Ter-Minasova and Kenneth A. Haseley. (<http://lcd2001.narod.ru>)

The results of the Schools' work were published in the form of proceedings and conference materials.

The last conference aroused great interest in Russia and abroad. Professor Ter-Minasova, Dean of the Faculty of Foreign Languages at the Moscow State University, delivered three lectures: The Life of a Word in Speech and Dictionaries; Foreign Languages Teaching – Science, Art or Politics?; and Linguistic and Extralinguistic Problems of Intercultural Communication. Professor Emeritus of Ivanovo State University, Kenneth A. Haseley, presented two reports: The New Communicators: What Research Can Teach Us About Effective Communication; and Handling Questions and Answers: Guidelines for Comfort and Success. There were also plenary lectures by prominent Russian scholars and guest-lecturers from Croatia. Besides the outstanding representatives of Russian Lexicography there were senior university teachers and post-graduates who got an excellent opportunity to share the results of their scientific work, get them valued and approbated. Above all, the lectures were attended by the senior and junior students of regional universities, who also took great interest in the conference. Altogether, 26 plenary lectures and 80 session reports were delivered during the three days of the conference.

The 5th International School on Lexicography, with the subject, Theoretical Lexicography: Modern Tendencies of Development, will be held on September 8-10, 2003. Guest lecturers include Dmitry Dobrovolsky, Moscow State University, and Bertha Marie Toft, University of Southern Denmark.

The conference will include sessions on Historical Lexicography, LSP Lexicography, Computer Dictionaries, and New Dictionary Projects. The working languages are English and Russian. The Organizing Committee is planning to publish the Conference Proceedings.