

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

Summary

The Royal Commission for Onomastics and Dialectology performs its scientific task under the high patronage of the Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten and the Académie royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique. It is the scientific aim of the Academy to study the onomastics (toponymy and anthroponymy) and the dialectology, especially in Belgium in both Germanic and Romance areas. The Commission therefore brings out scientific studies (Bulletin, Publications) about these disciplines. The Commission is also an advisory body; the government can always ask for its scientific advice.

The statutory meetings took place in the Paleis der Academiën in Brussels on 31 January, 30 May, and 24 October 2004. There were seven meetings, one plenary meeting was held on 31 January, and a meeting of the board on 24 October.

Lecture given at the plenary meeting: Kathleen Van Doren: The toponymical database of the National Geographic Institute.

Lectures given in the Flemish section:

PAUL KEMPENEERS: The importance of historical texts.

MAGDA DEVOS: The etymology of *heibei* and *haaribaai*.

PAUL KEMPENEERS : Figurative place-names in the east of Flemish Brabant.

Lectures given in the Walloon section :

JEAN LECHANTEUR : In Memoriam Albert Baguette.

JEAN-MARIE PIERRET : Notes on Walloon hydronymy in Brabant.

MARIE-GUY BOUTIER : The name *Spa*.

JEAN LOICQ : The name of the Vierre and the place-names on *-voir*.

The board for the period 2005-2006 was composed as follows : Johan TAELEMAN, president; Ms Marie-Guy BOUTIER, vice-president and president of the Walloon section; Ms Magda DEVOS, president of the Flemish section; Jean GERMAIN, secretary of the Walloon section; José CAJOT, secretary of the Flemish section; Frans DEBRABANDERE, secretary-general.

The Bulletin LXXVII (2005) counts 336 pages. It was exchanged for a number of periodicals and with scientific institutions. The publications acquired by purchase or exchange were stored in the library, which is located in the library of the *Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Schone Kunsten*. One hundred copies are placed at the disposal of researchers and students at the scientific centres of the Belgian universities.

The Walloon department published its *Mémoire 24 : The toponymy of Spontin and Durnal* by Jean Germain and Louis Genette.

The Flemish department published its *Werk 25 : The toponymy of Budingen* by Paul T.C. KEMPENEERS.

With regard to street names the Commission was consulted by numerous Brussels, Walloon and German-speaking local authorities in 2005.

The Academy further continued the linguistic adaptation of the geographical names of the ordnance survey maps published by the *Nationaal Geografisch Instituut – Institut national géographique*.

secretary-general

Frans DEBRABANDERE

president

Johan TAELEMAN