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Voorwoord

In 1972 begin Leon de Stadler se verbintenis met die Universiteit Stellenbosch toe hy as eerstejaarstudent op die kampus aanmeld. Dié verbintenis sou vir meer as vier dekades ononderbroke voortduur – tot en met sy uittrede in Januarie 2017.

As student, maar nog meer as dosent en veral as Direkteur van die Taalsentrum het Leon ’n wesenlike bydrae gelewer en ’n onuitwisbare nalatenskap daargestel. Hy het hom onderskei as dosent, navorser, akademiese bestuurder en gewaardeerde kollega. ’n Huldiging deur middel van ’n tydskrif kan nie werklik reg laat geskied aan sy bydrae of aan die rol wat hy gespeel het nie – die studente wat hy opgelei het, die kollegas wat hy geïnspireer het, die navorsing wat hy gepubliseer het en die werk wat hy gedoen het en wat nog voortleef en floreer, is die eintlike huldiging.

Tog wil kollegas in Suid-Afrika en elders met hierdie *Festschrift*-uitgawe erkenning gee aan dit wat Leon gedoen het en aan die ingrypende invloed wat hy op sy vakgebied, op sy studente, op sy kollegas en medewerkers, op sy departement, op die Taalsentrum en op die Universiteit gehad het. Dié invloed kan min mense hom nadoen.

Die Redaksie van hierdie bundel bedank graag al die kollegas wat die uitnodiging aanvaar het om ’n bydrae tot die *Festschrift* te lewer. Die verskeidenheid onderwerpe wat binne die breë tema van hierdie bundel ter sprake gekom het, asook die gehalte van die onderskeie bydraes, is ’n gepaste weerspieëling en bevestiging van Leon se veelsydige betrokkenheid by die taalkunde, taalpraktyk, taalbeplanning en taalpolitiek.

Vir die redigering, vertaling waar nodig en die uitleg van hierdie uitgawe van *SPiL Plus* bedank die Redaksie die personeel en vryskutwerkers van die Taalsentrum se Taaldiens en by name Susan Lotz, Lenelle Foster en Marguerite van der Waal.

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Editorial

Leon de Stadler's association with Stellenbosch University started in 1972 when he arrived on campus as a first-year student. This uninterrupted association would continue for more than four decades – up to his retirement in January 2017.

Leon has made a significant contribution and has left an enduring legacy – as a student, even more so as a lecturer and particularly as Director of the Language Centre. He has excelled as a lecturer, researcher, academic manager and valued colleague. Honouring him with a *Festschrift* cannot really do justice to his contribution or to the role that he has played – the students he has trained, the colleagues he has inspired, the research he has published and the work he has done, which still continues and thrives, are all a living testament and commemoration.

Nevertheless, with this *Festschrift* volume, colleagues in South Africa and abroad wish to acknowledge what Leon has accomplished and what a dramatic impact he has had on his field of study, on his students, on his colleagues and co-workers, on his department, on the Language Centre and on the University. Few can equal the extent and depth of his influence.

The Guest Editors of this volume wish to thank all the colleagues who have accepted the invitation to contribute to the *Festschrift*. Both the variety of subjects falling under the broad thematic thrust of this volume, and the quality of the various contributions are fitting reflections and an affirmation of Leon's versatile involvement in linguistics, language practice, language planning and language politics.

For the language editing, translation where necessary and the layout of this edition of *SPiL Plus*, the Guest Editors wish to thank the staff and freelancers of the Language Centre's Language Service, and in particular Susan Lotz, Lenelle Foster and Marguerite van der Waal.

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