

The Medium-Term Research Programmes of those institutions of the Austrian Academy of Sciences which dedicate their work to European languages and literatures comprise two common basic components across a broad spectrum of highly-specialized research undertakings, naturally each with their own particular focuses and subject-specific projects.

First of all, there is lexicography in its various forms, a traditional field of academic endeavour which the relevant research institutions are engaged in over both shorter and longer-term projects; these naturally have their place in the context of medium-term planning. Here, mention should be made of collaborative work on publication of the *Thesaurus linguae Latinae* of ancient and classical Latin, published by the Bavarian Academy of Sciences since 1894, the most recent instalment of which ends with the lemma “pronuntiatus”, as well as collaboration on the *Mittellateinisches Wörterbuch* (Dictionary of Middle Latin), also published – since 1959 – by the Bavarian Academy of Sciences (considered by German-speaking scholars to cover the period up to the end of the 13th century); the first fascicle of the letter D is currently being printed. The following (in chronological order) are overseen solely by the Austrian Academy of Sciences. First on the list is the *Specimina lexic Augustiniani*, a lexicological exploration of selected terms central to the thinking of St Augustine, so influential on the history of ideas also beyond the boundaries of western Europe; this is to be completed in 2005. Further lexicographical projects focus on Austrian dialectology and names, namely the *Altdeutsche Namenbuch* (Book of Old German Names), in which the tradition of German place names in Austria and South Tyrol is documented up to 1200 (the project should enter its final phase by 2005). This comprises both an *Ortsnamen-Datenbank* (Place-Name Database) and the *Wörterbuch der bairischen Mundarten in Österreich* (Dictionary of Bavarian Dialects in Austria), for which, during the scheduled five-year period, article entries “tris” to “fi” are to be researched, and is complemented by the *Datenbank der bairischen Mundarten in Österreich* (Database of Bavarian Dialect in Austria), to be completed before the end of 2005, including sub-databases covering specific terminological fields such as plant names. The quantity of documentary evidence already gathered in the databases, and indeed the quantity still to be recorded, is impressive, and will serve to create a

reliable basis for German-language and interdisciplinary research. Mention should further be made in this context of the combined project *Der Ziviliationswortschatz im südosteuropäischen Raum 1840–1870: Herrschaft und Staat* (The Vocabulary of Civilization in South-Eastern Europe 1840–1870: Power and the State) which, over five sub-projects, is examining the written languages of the cultural territory in question (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, Bulgarian, Modern Greek, Romanian, Turkish), the region having been under the influence of two supranational power constructs during this period, namely the Habsburg monarchy and the Ottoman Empire; the study is being undertaken from the perspective of construction of expressions in the relevant political and social fields as described in the title, also with reference to handbooks and school books. This historico-culturally significant project links up in terms of subject matter with preparatory work on the text of an *Etymologisches Wörterbuch der türkischen und anderen orientalischen Elemente im Serbokroatischen* (Etymological Dictionary of Turkish and Other Oriental Elements in Serbo-Croat), based on studies by the late K. H. Menge. Alongside this enterprise, also relating to southern Slavic, is continued work on the *Thesaurus der slovenischen Volkssprache in Kärnten* (Thesaurus of Slovenian Vernacular in Carinthia). Thematically related, and also referring to *Austria Slavica*, but with a literary focus, is the project *Slavica in den Wiener Zeitschriften und Almanachen des Vormärz* (Slavica in Viennese Periodicals and Almanacs of the Vormärz), the Bohemistic material of which is to be assembled by 2004. The project relating to the three-part *Text-Wörterbuch zur Fackel* (Text-Dictionary of Karl Kraus’s Periodical “Die Fackel”), scheduled over a total of fifteen years, marks a milestone in modern lexicography, whereby the researchers are confronted with a truly vast quantity of material – 22,586 pages – constituting the periodical volumes published in Vienna between 1899 and 1936. Following publication on schedule of the first volume, in 1999, (*Wörterbuch der Redensarten* (Dictionary of Idioms)), lexicographical preparation for the second volume is to take place during this next research period, bearing the working title *Schimpf- und Schmähwörterbuch* (Dictionary of Insults). In line with its subject matter, this requires a fundamentally different approach from that adopted for the first volume, since the preparatory work necessitates treading a path between literary studies and

philology which will involve close cooperation with several neighbouring disciplines.

Associated with lexicography on a secondary basis, to some extent an interpretation of earlier handbook production (and handbooks may be understood as a literarized sub-genus of the lexicon), is a project commenced at the end of 1999, focusing on *Traditionslinien klassisch-mythologischer Handbücher von der Renaissance bis in die Goethezeit* (Lines of tradition of classical mythological handbooks from the Renaissance to the time of Goethe). Mythological reference works have made an inestimable contribution to the incorporation of Greco-Roman mythology in the very diverse manifestations of European modern art. Furthermore, one of these handbooks, *De deis gentium varia et multiplex historia* by Gregorius Gyraldus, published in the mid 16th century, may be considered the first academic lexicon of mythology. Its influence was huge. Both on-line publication and traditional publication in book form are planned.

In addition to lexicographical work in both the narrow and broader sense, by way of second constant, critical text editing links the activities of the linguistic and literary research institutions of the Academy. Here, in terms of both chronology and precedence of research, mention must be made of the long-term project aimed at publication of the *Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum* (CSEL), of which to date more than 110 volumes have appeared. For the period up to 2005, completion of the first full scholarly edition of the works of St Ambrose, comprising the ethical tracts of the so-called virginity treatises and the work *De officiis*, is planned. Also anticipated is completion of most of the texts of St Augustine's engagement with his heretical opponent Julian of Eclanum (*Contra Iulianum* and Books 4–6 of the so-called *Opus imperfectum*; 1–3 were published within the CSEL back in 1974), as well as parts of the longer-term project on editing St Augustine's sermons on the psalms (*Enarrationes in psalmos*). In addition, further volumes of Augustinian works and pseudo-Augustinian works of late antiquity, as well as a series of texts by Hilarius of Poitiers, are to be completed, partly by external editors. Work commenced just a few years ago on bibliographically supplemented reprints and new editions of older texts is being continued with works of St Ambrose, St Augustine and patristic poetry over five volumes. Conceived as an editorial aid, work has been going on since the late 1960s, albeit with interruptions, on preparation of the huge body of manuscripts comprising Augustinian and pseudo-Augustinian works (*Die handschriftliche Überlieferung der Werke des Heiligen Augustinus* (The Manuscript Tradition of the Works of St Augustine)). The volumes are arranged and published according to country. By 2005, the indexes of all Augustinian codices of Switzerland, and possibly also Hungary, should be completed, preliminary work on the inventory of the new German federal states will be

approaching a conclusion, and work on recording the manuscripts of France will be continuing.

Partly as a counterpart to the manuscript project, namely as an aid for users of the critical editions, it is planned – in view of the decline in linguistic competence in Latin – that an increasing number of explanatory and accompanying publications, such as translations and commentaries, will be prepared. Next in the series of text editions, and topically connected with the CSEL enterprise, are the planned *kritische Ausgaben der kirchenslawischen Denkmäler* (critical editions of Old Church Slavic monumental texts) – specifically the *Missale Sinaiticum* and the *Codex Zographensis* from the Mount Athos Monastery of Zographou, as well as, also in the area of Slavic culture, publication of the (modern) correspondence of Serbs and Croats with the Armenian community of Mechitarists in Vienna. A connection with Austria exists also through long-term editing of the printed texts and the largely unpublished letters of Baron Ernst von Feuchtersleben, of which, during the five-year period, the *Beiträge zur Literatur-, Kunst- und Lebenstheorie* (Contributions to Literature, Art and Life Theory), as well as the key work *Zur Diätetik der Seele* (On the Diathesis of the Soul) are scheduled for publication. It is planned that the extensive on-line archive arising during the course of work on the Feuchtersleben edition will be made available to the general public as a major source of literary and cultural history for the period of the Austrian *Vormärz*. In connection with electronic data media, mention should also be made of a major project scheduled for completion by 2005, a particular type of text record which could be described as a variety of text edition: preparation of an academically structured electronic full-text compilation having 100 million running words, the Austrian Academy Corpus. In collaboration with the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy and the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, the plan is to create an electronic text corpus on language and literature of the 19th and 20th centuries. The Austrian Academy of Sciences plans to work on texts which, covering a broad range of topics and text types, comment on and interpret life in Austria. Initially, themes such as the history of social democracy, journalism and political public life, advertising and consumption, Judaism/Christianity, academic science and research, are to be covered, to name but a few.

Those academic activities lying outside the above two principal fields of lexicography and text editing are predominantly diachronic or interdisciplinary in nature. Here, reference should first be made (again in chronological order) to research arising from what are already long-term studies on the early Greek epic; these are to be continued in the form of research reports and focus on ancient Greek music in its relation to the poetic language of epic and lyric poetry. Here, the early stages of research in fact demonstrate a new methodology – not just through incorporation of the statements of ancient

music theorists but, above all, through experimentation with the practical potentiality of ancient instruments, some of which have been reconstructed purely for this purpose on the basis of pictorial testimony and literary evidence. For the period to 2005, studies on modulation, on musical performance of the early-Greek hexameter, and performance on the flute (aulos) are planned. The major project *Erzählter und angewandter Mythos* (Narrated and Applied Myth) comprises certain elements which, to be developed over the medium term, will extend across both disciplines and epochs; these include the use of myth in oral narrative tradition, a systematic recording of the function and use of ancient myth in middle-Latin lyric poetry, the myth as an instrument of imperial panegyrics on the House of Habsburg, or the various types of application of myth in the high and everyday culture of the modern age.

The latter topics also cover the problem of literary reception, which is also central in contemporary literary studies. Logically, specialists in various European literatures are working on this issue but, due to its huge scope, it can only ever be examined in terms of sub-fields. One project planned, for instance, is the *Erfassung und Analyse von Übersetzungen englischer Literatur ins Deutsche im 18. und frühen 19. Jh.* (Recording and Analysis of Translations of English Literature into German in the 18th and Early 19th Centuries). Even during the course of setting up this project, one highly-interesting conclusion was already emerging: depending on staging, and on the inclinations of the audience, in translation, tragic material could become comic, and vice

versa. The transforming effect of a language threshold is pursued from another perspective in the forthcoming publication *160 Jahre Wien in der tschechischen Literatur* (160 Years of Vienna in Czech Literature). This, and the project *Studien zu einer österreichischen Sprachstilgeschichte* (Studies on a History of Austrian Linguistic Style), completed in 1997, both take a diachronic approach. From the latter project there followed a study of Nestroy's modernism and a further study on the function of irony in the *Wiener Gruppe* and language experimentation in Austrian literature. Both of these works are to be completed within the next few years; what they have in common is an emphasis on the distance between those producing the respective literature and the traditional understanding of literature, as well as the consequences in terms of language aesthetics, i.e. the approach is from a context of literary studies, a perspective which should also become increasingly prevalent in the periodical *Sprachkunst*.

The above projects are being conducted at the following research institutions of the Academy:

- Commission for Literary Studies
- Commission for Editing the Corpus of the Latin Church Fathers (CSEL)
- Commission for Ancient Literature and Latin Tradition
- Commission for Non-Fictional Literary Texts
- Balkans Commission
- Institute for Lexicography of Austrian Dialects and Names

