FOLLOWERS, LEARNERS AND EDITORS: PORTLEX AND ITS USERS

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Our paper will tackle the different roles of users within the PORTLEX dictionary. After a short overview of the main features of this multilingual valency dictionary of the noun phrase, we will proceed to present the third phase of the project, in which we will focus on exploring new ways of interaction and collaboration between dictionary editors and dictionary users. Beyond the classical bottom-up interaction by e-mail, the PORTLEX project will test different practices to enhance communication, not only between editors and users, but also among users, with the primary aim of increasing and improving the dictionary content. Most of these practices are not a novelty, since they are already being implemented in many lexicographic online tools: dictionary blogs, dictionary forums or dictionary profiles or groups in social networks. The innovative aspect of PORTLEX is perhaps the inclusion of a learning management system where users can be trained to become dictionary experts and, thus dictionary editors. Like in the wiktionaries, users can become editors, but in the case of PORTLEX this process transcends the community of practice based on a forum and implies a formal e-learning process adapted to the specific features and conceptual framework of the dictionary.