The Fryske Akademy is a multi-disciplinary institute, with scholarly research into the Frisian language, culture, history and society as its core responsibility. The institute initiates and carries out research at the interface of science and society. The Fryske Academy’s start-up is the starting point for collaborative projects. In addition to its scholarly core task, the Academy aims to give the Frisian culture and its Frisian colleagues in public cultural attention in Friesland, by contributing to programming projects. In 2011, for instance, the Academy collaborated in the publication of the Euro-Frisian Campus Fryslân (2011), the draft of the Frisian Language Act and the new Administrative Agreement on the Frisian Language.

Social Sciences

The Civil Society Partners to Promote Multilanguage for International Dialogue, set up by the European Commission, consists of three working groups. The Education working group is chaired by kamerlid Meer (project coordinator of the Mercury Research Centre). The Platform has presented its policy recommendations for the Promotion of Multilingualism in the European Union. The cooperation with the Baque government has been extended for four years on account of its success. In June the Fryske Akademy, following the example of the Baque cooperation project, concluded a cooperation agreement with the Baque government of the autonomous Vlaam-Schelde region in Belgium. A follow-up meeting resulted in a cooperation programme that will be worked out in further detail over the next few years.

Linguistics

The final volume of the 25-volume Woordbank fok fryske tael (Dictionary of the Friesian Language), the dictionary project on the Frisian part of the Language Portal project, was presented at the University of the North-Campus Fryslân (2011), the draft of the Frisian Language Act and the new Administrative Agreement on the Frisian Language.

History and Literature

On the occasion of the symposium on ‘The History of the New Frisian State of the Arts’ (The History of the National Netherlands: State of the Arts in the 19th Century), Henk-Marike’s book ‘The English Language in the 19th Century’ was presented. In addition, Amsterdam as a cultural centre was presented in a new, comprehensive volume. The Friesian folk tales were presented at the basis of this work.

The Province of Friesland granted subsidies for the development of three language technology products for criminal cases in the language: a new spelling checker, an automatic translation tool and a dictionary portal with digital Dutch and Friesian language technology products for regular users of the language.

The ‘Civil Society Platform to Promote Multilingualism for International Dialogue’ is involved in the Humanities project Tunes and Tales of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), aiming at the automatic identification of narrative texts. The extension of the Frisian folk tales line was set at the basis of this research.

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