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**Essays in honour of
Johann Ramming**

**Eds. Giancarlo Abbamonte,
Minna Skafte Jensen & Marianne Pade**



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Preface

For almost 40 years, Johann Ramminger worked at the *Thesaurus linguae Latinae*, the world-wide largest dictionary of ancient Latin. This exceptional experience as a lexicographer and as a Latinist has informed his work on the Latinity of other periods, too. Ever since Hans attended the Wolfenbüttel meeting of the *International Association for Neo-Latin Studies* (IANLS), in now far-away 1985, he became fascinated with the idea of writing a dictionary of Neo-Latin. He began – foolheartedly as he himself willingly admits – by compiling a list of neologisms in post-medieval Latin in the traditional manner, simply by excerpting texts he read. However, as Latin scholarship entered the digital age, he also made extensive use of searchable corpora of Neo-Latin texts made available on the internet. In 2003, the *Neulateinische Wortliste* went online and by 2005 it had 3000 entries, continuing to grow steadily. By 2015, it comprised 20.000 entries, and since this journal is based in Denmark, it may be relevant to notice that lemma no. 20.000 was [danebroga](#), the Latin name for the Danish flag. As we write this, the *Neulateinische Wortliste* has 21.254 entries and is thus easily our most comprehensive Neo-Latin dictionary.

Besides his lexicographical work, Hans has in recent years increasingly studied other aspects of Neo-Latin as a language, using digital tools. He has, in fact, become one of the pioneers in the field, and his work on e.g. stylo-metrics and lexical richness has opened up novel paths within his chosen discipline.

Hans has also been an active member of the Neo-Latin community: he was for many years IANLS' Chair of Digital Resources and he is now a driving force behind the corpus work of the new Centre for Danish Neo-Latin.

The present volume is meant to reflect both Hans' scholarly interests and his wide-ranging network of friends and colleagues in the Neo-Latin *Res Publica Litterarum*. The editors wish to thank the contributors for both their articles and for ready collaboration during the editorial process; we hope the result will please the dedicatee.

Giancarlo Abbamonte, Minna Skafte Jensen & Marianne Pade
Naples, Copenhagen, and Aarhus, November 2022

Tabula gratulatoria

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