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Patrick Hanks is Professor in Lexicography at the Research Institute of Information and Language Processing in the University of Wolverhampton. He is also a visiting professor at the Bristol Centre for Linguistics (University of the West of England), where, with Professor Richard Coates, he is leading a team investigating the origins, history, and geographical distribution of family names in Britain and Ireland. He studied English Language and Literature at Oxford and was awarded a PhD in Informatics at the Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. For ten years (1990–2000) he was chief editor of Current English Dictionaries at Oxford University Press. He is the author of *Lexical Analysis: Norms and Exploitations* (MIT Press, 2013), which presents a new theory of word meaning and language in use. He is a consultant on lexicographical methodology and definition to several institutions throughout Europe, including Oxford University Press, and is a frequent invited plenary speaker at international conferences on lexicography, corpus linguistics, phraseology, figurative language, and onomastics.