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THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF THE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES OF THE AMERICAS

\*\*\* SSILA BULLETIN \*\*\*

An Information Service for SSILA Members

Number 8: September 16, 1994

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SOLICITS NEW MEMBERS

8.1 SCHEDULING OF THE CAIL SESSIONS IN ATLANTA

The following program for CAIL (and related) sessions in the AAA meeting in Atlanta, Georgia (Nov. 30 - Dec. 4, 1994) was announced earlier this month by the AAA Program Committee. Although some small adjustments may be made, this is likely to be the final schedule. Please note that three of the sessions have been scheduled at different times from those originally proposed by SSILA:

- Does the Category Irrealis Exist? (Sunday a.m. instead of Friday a.m.)
- Linguistics and Language Communities: Teaching, Recording, Maintaining

Endangered Languages (Friday a.m. instead of Saturday a.m.)

--Native American Dialectology (Saturday a.m. instead of Saturday p.m.)

\* Session 1: Wednesday, Nov. 30, 12:00 - 3:45 p.m.  
~~Comparative and Historical Linguistics~~

(Chair: Karen Booker)  
Eric P. Hamp, "Genetic Relation and Dubious Relation"  
Hongan Li, "A Comparative Study: Archaic Chinese and Haida"  
Giulia R. M. Oliveira & Robert Rankin, "Where Does Tzeltal Stand?"  
Ives Goddard, "J. W. Powell's Classification and Map"  
Joseph C. Salmons, "Beyond the Syllable in Sound Change: Evidence from Mixtec"  
John E. Koontz, "The Vowels of Chiwere-Minnebago Pronominals"  
Jeffrey Heath, "Social Pragmatics and Rich Pronominal Agreement"  
Alejandra Vidal, "Noun Classifiers in Pilaga (Guaykuru): Synchronic Description and Diachronic Explanation"  
Karen M. Booker, "Color Naming in Muskogean"  
Karen Dakin, "Cycles of Uto-Aztecan Composition Across Time"

\* Session 2: Thursday, Dec. 1, 8:00 - 11:45 a.m.  
~~Grammar: From Sound to Text and Beyond~~

(Chair: Harriet E. M. Klein)  
Catherine A. Callaghan, "Autosegmental Analysis and Sierra Miwok"  
M. Dale Kinkade, "Neyer Trust a Salish Syllable Either"  
Arthur P. Sorensen, "The Case for Canononic Form in Tukano"  
Janis B. Nuckolls, "Sound Symbolic Schematization of Durativity and Perfectivity in Pastaza Quechua"  
John O'Meara, "Morphological Causatives in Ontario Delaware"  
Charles Andrew Hofling, "Itzaj Maya Verb Categories: Voice, Transitivity and Language Typology"  
Paulette Levy, "Some Totonac Lexicalization Patterns"  
Robin Quizar, "Serial Verbs in Ch'orti"  
Willem J. de Reuse, "The Dual as Container and Contained: Metonymic Extensions of Number in Siberian Yupik Eskimo"  
Christel Stolz, "The Vertical Dimension in Yucatec Maya and the Search for Semantic Primitives"  
Monica Macaulay, "The Discourse Function of the Postposition 'i:n'"  
Jule Gomez de Garcia, "Repair Strategies in Conversational Kickapoo"  
Brenda M. Farnell, "Person Centered Enactment: The Integration of Vocal and Manual Gestures in Nakota Storytelling"

\* Session 3: Friday, Dec. 2, 8:30 - 9:45 a.m.  
~~Teaching, Recording, and Maintaining Indigenous Languages~~

(Chair: Leanne Hinton)  
Clay Slate, "Navajo Linguistics on the Navajo Nation"  
Lynette Melnar, "The Viability of Particles Borrowed from Spanish as Discourse Markers in the Context of Kaqchikel Maya Standardization"  
Catherine S. Fowler & Harold Abel, "The Northern Paiute Language at Ft. McDermitt Reservation, Nevada"  
Leanne Hinton, "Keeping the Language Alive: The Master-Apprentice Language Program of California"

\* [Non-CAIL Session]: Friday, Dec. 2, 10:00 - 11:45 a.m.  
Language and Identity among the Guatemalan Maya

Chair: Michael Richards  
Papers from: Demetrio Cojti Cuxil, Julia B. Richards, Linda Schele,  
Judith M. Maxwell, and Robert McKenna Brown.  
Discussant: Nora C. England

\* Friday, Dec. 2, Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
SSILA Business Meeting

\* Session 4: Sat., Dec. 3, 8:00 - 9:45 a.m.  
Native American Dialectology

(Chair: Willem de Reuse)  
Steven A. Jacobson, "Investigation of the Dialectology of Central  
Alaskan Yup'ik Eskimo"  
Lawrence D. Kaplan, "Seward Peninsula Inuit Dialectology"  
Victor Golla, "Yokuts Dialectology and California Socio-Political Units"  
Jane H. Hill, "Spanish Loanwords as Sociolinguistic Markers and  
Historical Clues," in Tohono O'odham (Papago) Regional Variation"  
John E. McLaughlin, "Language Boundaries in the Great Basin"  
Douglas R. Parks & Ray De Mallie, "Levels of Dialect Variation in Sioux  
and Assiniboine"

\* Session 5: Sun., Dec. 4, 8:00 - 11:45 a.m.  
Does the Category Irrealis Exist? (Chair: Marianne Mithun)

Robert S. Williams, "On the Status of Irrealis: The Case of Oklahoma  
Choctaw"  
Amy Dahlstrom, "Irrealis in Fox"  
Wallace L. Chafe, "The Genesis of Irrealis Marking in Caddo"  
David S. Rood, "Irrealis in Lakota"  
Sandra Clarke & Deborah James, "Different Faces of 'Irrealis' in  
Cree-Montagnais"  
Marianne Mithun, "The Relativity of Irreality"  
Paul D. Kroeber, "Irrealis Articles in Thompson Salish"  
Marie-Lucie Tarpent, "The Interplay of Irrealis, Future, and Negative  
in the Tsimshianic Languages"  
Melissa Axelrod, "The Category Irrealis in Koyukon Athabaskan"  
Annette Veerman-Leichsenring, "Irrealis in Popolocan Languages"

## 8.2 SESSIONS ON SOUTHEASTERN LANGUAGES AT MID-AMERICA CONFERENCE

The Mid-America Linguistics Conference (Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, KS,  
October 14-15, 1994) will feature two full days of papers on American  
Indian Languages of the Southeast:

Friday Session, October 14

8:45 Tutelo Verbs of Motion, Giulia R. M. Oliverio, University of Kansas  
9:15 Quapaw Positionals, Robert L. Rankin, University of Kansas  
9:45 Position in Yuchi/Euchee, Mary S. Linn, University of Kansas  
10:30 Comparative Adjectives in Cherokee, Ruth Bradley Holmes  
11:00 Learning to Write in the Cherokee Syllabary, Janine Scancarelli,  
College of William and Mary  
11:30 Grammaticalization and Referentiality, Marianne Mithun, University  
of California, Santa Barbara  
2:00 Identification of Frozen Caddo Verb Stems, Lynette Melnar, Univer-

2:30 The Genesis of Irrealis Marking in Caddo, Wallace Chafe, University  
of California, Santa Barbara  
3:00 Syllable Structure and Sonority in Plains Sign Language, David  
Maddox, Julie Wagner, and Louanna Furbee, University of Missouri-  
Columbia  
3:30 The Current Status of the Native American Languages Act (NALA) of  
1992: Linguists and NALA Grant Proposals, Akira Yamamoto, University  
of Kansas

Saturday Session, October 15

8:45 Covert Number Marking in Choctaw Nouns, Marcia Haag, State Univer-  
sity of New York at Stony Brook and University of Oklahoma  
9:15 Causation and Affectedness in Choctaw, George Aaron Broadwell, State  
University of New York at Albany  
9:45 The Functions of naho in Alabama Discourse, Heather K. Hardy,  
Northern Illinois University  
1:30 Verbs of Hearing in Creek (Muskogean), Margaret Maudlin and Jack  
Martin, College of William and Mary  
2:00 Some Markers of Causal Relations in Creek, Donald E. Hardy, Northern  
Illinois University  
2:30 The Structure of Mikasuki Selfhood, Gilbert Prost, Summer Institute  
of Linguistics  
3:15 Mobilian Jargon in the Language Area of Southeastern North America,  
Emmanuel J. Drechsel, University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
3:45 Marking the Beneficiary in Siouan, Muskogean, and Yuchi, T. Dale  
Nicklas  
4:15 The Position of the Calusa Language in Florida Prehistory, Julian  
Granberry, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.

If you plan to attend, please register by October 1. By mail: University  
of Kansas, Cathy Dwigan-MALC, Division of Continuing Education, Continuing  
Education Building, Lawrence, KS 66045-2607. By telephone: (913) 864-3284.  
By Fax: (913) 864-5074. Registration Fee: \$22 (\$15 Student). Parking  
permit (for Friday): \$2.

## 8.3 COWAN RETIRES

From William Cowan (wcowan@ccs.carleton.ca):

This is to let people know that I am no longer editor of the Papers of  
the Algonquian Conference. After 20 years, I have retired, not only  
from the editorship of the Papers of the Algonquian Conference, but  
also from Carleton University. I also retired from the editorship of  
the Canadian Journal of Linguistics in January, after ten years at that  
job. The new editor of the Papers is David Pentland at the University  
of Manitoba. I have sent all the back issues to him, and from now on all  
orders, requests for back issues, and all other correspondence dealing  
with the Papers of the Algonquian Conference should be sent to him.  
I have finished editing the Papers of the 25th Algonquian Conference  
(en realite, Les Actes du vingt-cinquieme congres des algonquinistes),  
and have sent Pentland the camera-ready copy, which will be printed in  
Winnipeg in time for the 26th Algonquian Conference there in November.

## 8.4 A NEW ELECTRONIC FORUM FOR ENDANGERED LANGUAGES

A new Internet discussion group, ENDANGERED-LANGUAGES-L, has been

established at the Australian National University to provide a world-wide communications vehicle and a central electronic archive for anyone working on, or interested in, the study and documentation of disappearing or endangered languages. The forum is a joint initiative of the Coombs Computing Unit, Research Schools of Social Sciences & Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University, and Dr Mari Rhydwen <mrhydwen@decel.ecel.uwa.edu.au>, Graduate School of Education, University of Western Australia.

To subscribe to ENDANGERED-LANGUAGES-L send the message:

subscribe Endangered-Languages-L <your e-mail address>

to: majordomo@coombs.anu.edu.au

Transactions of the Forum are archived in the WAIS dbase "ANU-Endangered-Languages-L".

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#### 8.5 SYLLABUS FOR A COURSE ON NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN LANGUAGES

Monica Macaulay (macaulay@sage.cc.purdue.edu) writes:

A while ago I posted a request for suggestions on how to teach a "Survey of North American Indian Languages" course. I received very helpful messages from Emmon Bach, Gene Buckley, Amy Dahlstrom, Leanne Hinton, Margaret Langdon, Michael Mackert, Martha Macri, Pamela Munro, and Tony Woodbury. These contained syllabi, assignments, readings, and term paper/project ideas. There is much too much to post it all here, so instead I'll post a summary. If anyone would like the entire collection (minus one thing I was told not to circulate, since it was in preliminary form), let me know. I can send it electronically or by snail mail. It includes a bibliography I made up from what was included in everyone's messages, as well as from things I've found. The summary follows:

##### READINGS:

One thing that was suggested repeatedly was Leanne Hinton's new book, *Flutes of Fire: Essays on California Indian Languages* (1994, Heyday Books). The essays are written for an audience with no background in linguistics, and so are extremely accessible. Although the book only talks specifically about California, many topics are introduced and explained that have a wider application. Highly recommended, especially for classes like mine, which has many students with no background in the field.

A couple of collections are also very useful:

---Bill Bright's two books: *Variation & Change in Language: Essays by William Bright* (1976; Stanford UP) and *American Indian Linguistics & Literature* (1984; Mouton). Suggested chapters: "Semantic Structures in Northwestern California and the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis" (in Bright 1976), "The Classification of North American & Meso-American Indian Lgs," "Place Names of American Indian Origin," and "A Karok Myth in Measured Verse" (in Bright 1984). Many other chapters are also relevant.

---Mary Haas: *Lg, Culture, & History: Essays by Mary R. Haas* (1978; Stanford UP). Practically every article is relevant.

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---Preston Holder (1991): contains Haas's "Introduction to Handbook of American Indian Languages" (originally published in 1911) and Powell's "Indian Linguistic Families of America North of Mexico" (originally published in 1891).

---Several people mentioned a textbook that has been in the works for a long time, by Shirley Silver and the late Wick Miller. Sadly, this is now unlikely to appear soon.

Obviously, there are lots of other very important things; as I said above, I'd be happy to send anyone the full bibliography.

##### SYLLABI:

Although I only received four syllabi, among those four there were several different approaches. In one case a single language was chosen as the focus, and topics were discussed using it for examples. The students worked through lessons in the language, as well as analysis. The goal was not for them to learn the language, necessarily, but to learn about it as a case study. Each student also chose another language for comparison. In another case, the class alternated between general issues and the analysis of four typologically and genetically diverse languages. The other two syllabi were more oriented towards issues, and included some sketches of particular languages, but didn't focus on them to the extent of the first two.

##### ASSIGNMENTS:

Several people had similar assignments, which I finally understood when one person commented: "These are things that Mary Haas used to assign to her class." The assignments included fairly small things, like going to the library to look up what language was spoken where the student was born (or in some other place important to them), and to find out some information on it; or finding out about English words that were borrowed from various American Indian languages; or having them look up the names of states to find out first, which ones come from an indigenous language, second, what they mean, and third, how many of these "etymologies" are completely fictitious. Most classes had a term project assigned which involved "adopting" a grammar of some language, doing small projects with it over the course of the semester, and then doing a larger project for the final paper (e.g. write up a sketch of the language based on it).

##### SPEAKER(S):

Having a speaker of some language (or of various languages) come in to work with the students was suggested by a couple of people. This could be tied to the language(s) chosen as focus language(s), if that kind of structure was used in the class.

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#### 8.6 AAAS SECTION Z SCHEDULES LINGUISTIC SYMPOSIA FOR 1995 MEETING, SOLICITS NEW MEMBERS

Vicki Fromkin (IY01VAF@MVS.OAC.UCLA.EDU) writes:

The AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science), the major umbrella organization for all scientific disciplines in the U.S., has finally (as of 1992) accepted linguistics as a science, provisionally establishing Section Z (Linguistics and the Language Sciences). In order to get final approval we must get 400 to 500 members of the AAAS to designate Section Z as their affiliated section in the next couple of years. We are far short of that.

So I am writing to urge all linguists to join AAAS and designate Section Z. You can fax your membership application to 202-842-1065 if you wish, asking them to charge your Visa or MasterCard (giving the number and expiration date), or asking them to bill you later if you are joining as a Regular member. The membership fees are (for U.S. Residents): Regular \$92; Postdoc \$67; and Student \$50. Or you can mail your membership fee or send your credit card number to: AAAS, PO Box 2033, Marion, OH 43306.

The next AAAS meeting will be held in Atlanta Georgia, from Feb 13-19. Section Z is sponsoring 3 symposia:

- #194 Endangered Languages... Sat. Feb. 18 8:30am - 11:30am  
Organizer: Bill Poser
- #190 Ling. Sci. & Lang. Tech... Sat. Feb. 18 2:30pm - 5:30pm  
Organizers: Steve Anderson & Judy Klavins
- #191 Unity in Diversity... Sun. Feb. 19 8:30am - 11:30am  
Organizers: Richie Kayne and David Pesetsky

Section Z Business Meeting... Fri. Feb. 17 2:30pm - 5:30pm

--Vicki Fromkin, Secretary, Section Z

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