

**The Society for the Study of the
Indigenous Languages of the Americas**

SSILA BULLETIN

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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Correspondence should be directed to the Editor

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52.1 1997 SIL-NORTH DAKOTA WORK PAPERS AVAILABLE ON-LINE

From Steve Marlett (Steve_Marlett@sil.org) 28 July 1997:

Volume 41 (1997) of the *Work Papers of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, University of North Dakota Session* (ed. by Stephen A. Marlett), is now accessible on-line at the SIL-North Dakota website. Hard copies of individual papers may also be purchased. The papers concerned with American Indian languages include:

Stephen A. Marlett. "Empty Consonants in Root-medial Position" (4 pp.)

[Evidence is given that empty consonants occur in root-medial position in Seri, which bears on the observation in Broselow 1995 (Skeletal positions and moras) that such had not been described in the literature. This brief work complements an earlier publication (Marlett and Stemberger 1983, Empty consonant positions in Seri) which posited such consonants at the beginning of various verbs.]

Mary B. Moser & Stephen A. Marlett, "Seri Dictionary: People and Kinship Terms" (21 pp.)

[A subset of the Seri bilingual dictionary (in preparation) is presented which includes terms referring to people, kinship terms, and verbs that are closely related to them. This version includes English glosses in addition to the Spanish glosses, and an English-to-Seri reversal.]

Steve Parker, "An OT Account of Laryngealization in Cuzco Quechua" (11 pp.)

[Classical phonemic accounts of Cuzco Quechua posit three distinct series of stops: plain, aspirated, and glottalized. Parker and Weber 1996 argue instead for a root-level feature of laryngealization governed by a small number of formal mechanisms. In this paper the analysis is taken one step farther and it is shown that even greater explanatory power may be achieved by appealing to the model of Optimality Theory.]

Jan Persons, "High Pitch as a Mark of Respect in Lachixio Zapotec" (2 pp.)

[Demonstrating respect to the addressee is accomplished by speaking in a high-pitched voice among the Zapotec speakers of Santa Marma Lachixmo. Various factors determine the use of this feature.]

David Tuggy, "Rule-governed Allomorphy Can Be Suppletive Also" (5 pp.)

[Data from Tetelcingo Nahuatl.]

These and the other 1997 Work Papers can be read with Adobe® Acrobat® Reader 3.0. at: (<http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/linguistics/wp/1997.htm>). Paper copies of a paper may be ordered from the editor at a prepaid cost of \$.10 (U.S. currency) per page (this includes postage within the US). The authors hold the copyright to their papers individually. Send orders, questions and comments to:

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For further information (including an index of SIL-UND Work Papers from volume 18 onward) see the SIL North Dakota Linguistics Program home page:
(<http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/linguistics/silund.htm>).

52.2 UPCOMING MEETINGS

International Native Languages Conference (Oct. 10-12, 1997)

“Immersion: Cure for the NAtive Language Crisis” will be the theme of the 16th annual INLI Conference (formerly NALI), to be held in Bismarck, North Dakota. Keynote speaker at the opening ceremony on October 10th will be Dorothy Lazore (Mohawk). For conference details, contact Cynthia Mascarenas at 1-800-437-8054.

Symposium on Stabilizing Indigenous Languages (May 14-16, 1998)

“Strategies for Language Renewal and Revitalization,” the 5th Annual Symposium on Stabilizing Indigenous Languages, will be held May 14-16, 1998 at The Galt House East, Louisville, Kentucky. Co-chairs for the symposium are Robert N. St. Clair (University of Louisville) and Evangeline Parson-Yazzie (University of Northern Arizona). This active group had some 500 participants at previous meetings, many of them native speakers of Indian languages who are developing their own language renewal materials.

Topics will include: Language Renewal; Bilingual Education Programs for Indigenous Languages; Developing Grammars, Dictionaries, and Textbooks for the Classroom; Teaching Indigenous Languages in Tribal Colleges; Teaching Language through Indian Story Telling; Tribal Art and Humor; Narratives and Text Development; Teaching the Symbolism of Indian Art; Teaching the Meanings of Indian Dance; The Roles of the Tribe in Language Development; Community Based Language Restoration Programs; and the Use of Indigenous Epistemologies or Philosophies in the Classroom.

Abstracts deadline: January 12, 1998. For further information contact:

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52.3 CORRESPONDENCE

Language Maintenance Database

From Luisa Maffi (maffi@cogsci.berkeley.edu) 3 Aug 1997:

Last June I posted a query on several discussion lists requesting information on language maintenance and revival organizations, with a special interest in related cultural revival activities as well as the relationships between language and land and language and the environment. Elicited information was meant for the database that my group "Terralingua: Partnerships for Linguistic and Biological Diversity" is developing. I promised to post the results, but we've received more information than would be practical or desirable to put on line. So this is just to thank everybody who has sent information and to say that what we have received so far will be posted very soon on the Terralingua Web site:

<http://cougar.ucdavis.edu/nas/terralin/home.html>

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Kwakw'ala Language Revival

From Albert Bickford (bickford@flash.net) 12 Aug 1997:

I'd like to let people know about a thesis that was completed this summer at the University of North Dakota by Stan Anonby which consisted of a proposal for language revival in the Kwakw'ala-speaking communities of Vancouver Island. A copy is available on the web at

<http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/linguistics/theses/theses.htm>

You can communicate with the author at Box 316, Alert Bay BC, CANADA V0N 1A0 (tel: 250/974-5211; email: anonby@north.island.net).

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52.4 NEW WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Yukon Native Language Centre

The YNLC (located at Yukon College, Whitehorse) has been active since 1977 in teaching, documenting, and promoting Yukon Native languages (Tlingit and seven Athabaskan languages). The Centre recently opened a very informative website. The URL for the homepage is:

<http://www.yesnet.yk.ca/sites/YNLC/YNLCinfo/YNLCHome.html>

The site has pages for specific Yukon Native Languages (although several are still under development); portraits and biographies of elders; maps and placenames; information about various YNLC programs; and a complete catalog of YNLC's publications (a 25-page file). Among the many YNLC publications available are: language lessons; literacy materials; dictionaries; teaching aids; maps; culture and history; story booklets; multimedia; and talking books.

YNLC can also be reached at Box 2799, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5K4 (tel: 403/668-8820; fax: 403/668-8825).

Alfred Kroeber and the Klamath River Yurok

A website on "American Anthropology at the Turn of the Century" is being developed by the Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology and the Center for Studies in Higher Education, UC-Berkeley. So far, all that is available are some interesting pages on "Alfred Kroeber and the Klamath River Yurok", with period photographs (including photos of Ishi, for some reason). The site can be reached via two URLs:

<http://www.gal.berkeley.edu/~kroeber/>

<http://ishi.lib.berkeley.edu/humanities/anthro/museum.html>

Cahto Language

Bill Anderson (Bloomington, Indiana) has developed a very nice website for Cahto (Kato), an extinct (or nearly extinct) Athabaskan language of Northern California. It contains an alphabet chart (with sound files), a vocabulary, and most of the texts in Pliny Earle Goddard's collection (1906). The URL is:

<http://www.kiva.net/~wranders>

52.5 JACOBS FUNDS INVITE SMALL GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR 1998

The Jacobs Research Funds (formerly the Melville and Elizabeth Jacobs Research Fund) have issued their annual invitation to North Americanists to apply for small research grants (up to \$1,200) in social and cultural anthropology among living American native peoples.

Preference will be given to projects focusing on the Pacific Northwest, but other regions of the North American continent will be considered. Field studies which address cultural expressive systems, such as music, language, dance, mythology, world view, plastic and graphic arts, intellectual life, and religion, including ones which propose comparative psychological analysis, are appropriate. Funds will not be supplied for salaries, for ordinary living expenses, or for major items of equipment. Projects in archaeology, physical anthropology, applied anthropology, and applied linguistics are not eligible, nor is archival research supported.

For further information and application forms visit the Jacobs Funds website at: www.cob.org/cobweb/museum/jacobs.htm. Or write: Jacobs Funds, Whatcom Museum of History & Art, 121 Prospect St., Bellingham, Washington 98225 (tel: 360/676-6981; fax: 360/738-7409). Applications must be postmarked on or before February 15, 1998. Grants will be awarded in the spring.

52.6 “THE WORLD OF LANGUAGE” TAKES SHAPE IN LONDON

Nicholas Ostler (nostler@chibcha.demon.co.uk), of the Foundation for Endangered Languages, has forwarded information on a “World of Language Centre” that may be built, under British Council sponsorship, next to the recently reconstructed Globe Theatre in London. Prof. David Crystal (crystal@dial.pipex.com), the academic advisor to the project, writes:

“The idea has been around a long time, in various incarnations, but no one ever had the clout to get it off the ground until the British Council took a serious interest last year....The immediate stimulus was the apparent availability of a site - a building adjacent to Shakespeare’s Globe, on the new ‘tourist avenue’ which is going to be a major part of the London scene in the ‘00s....I was asked to do the detailed Content Specification for the idea - in which, incidentally, research is well represented. Indeed a whole floor of the four-floor scheme I proposed is devoted to it, in various ways. The whole issue of endangered languages is, as you’d expect, also well represented.... The scheme is planned to cost 20 million pounds over 3 years - not a large sum, compared with, say the Greenwich Dome. There is some preliminary interest already shown, and people are cautiously optimistic that the idea will go ahead.”

Further information is on the Web at: <http://www.worldoflanguage.com>

52.7 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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