

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

SSILA BULLETIN

An Information Service for SSILA Members

Editor - [Victor Golla](#)

Associate Editor - [Scott DeLancey](#)

Correspondence should be directed to the Editor

Number 57: October 28, 1997

57.0 SSILA BUSINESS

Address change

As part of the process of incorporation, SSILA's official mailing address has been changed to:

SSILA
P. O. Box 555
Arcata, California 95518-0555

Mail will continue to be received by the Secretary-Treasurer at his campus address (Native American Studies, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521), but members are urged to send dues payments, election ballots, and any business correspondence to the new post office address.

57.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Mystery words

>From Judith Gut (jhgut@linguistik.uni-erlangen.de) 20 Oct 1997:

I am editing the manuscript of a polyglot dictionary that was written around 1600 by a Swiss author. In this manuscript there appear the following three words in a language which is identified by the author only as "Mogorisch-Americanisch" (Mogorian-American):

Rahat ("God")
Met ("may give")
xoda ("clemency")

Regrettably, I have not succeeded in finding out anything further about this language. I wonder if I might prevail upon readers of the SSILA Bulletin for help in identifying it? Do these forms look like words in some American indigenous language? I would be very grateful for any ideas or suggestions about the source of "Mogorisch-Americanisch".

Many thanks.

--Judith Gut

Institut fuer Deutsche Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft
Lehrstuhl fuer Germanische und Deutsche Sprachwissenschaft & Mundartkunde
Bismarckstr. 1, D-91054 Erlangen, GERMANY
(jhgut@linguistik.uni-erlangen.de)

57.2 SUGGESTIONS FOR SSILA INITIATIVES

A web page for courses

Several people have asked if it would be possible for SSILA to add a page to its website with information about courses on American Indian languages and linguistics. We would be interested in hearing from anyone who teaches such courses and/or has access to information about them that they would be willing to post at the SSILA site (or, if the information is already on the web, be willing to let us link to).

The courses could include introductory surveys, courses on the structure of specific languages or language groups, and more advanced courses on specific topics. (Courses intended for second language learners can be included, although this is not the primary focus.) Materials posted should include course descriptions, syllabi, reading lists, and information about the instructor. We would be particularly interested in posting information on experimental and innovative courses.

If there is a sufficient response we hope to have this page in operation by the end of the year. Send all information and queries to the Editor (gollav @ axe.humboldt.edu).

Information on language revival

We receive a fair number of requests for information on strategies, models, training programs, and conferences for the teaching, maintenance, and revival of American Indian languages. When the request is specific and we know of an appropriate individual or institution to refer the questioner to, we of course are happy to help. On the other hand, we have made no attempt to collate and publish information of this nature, except for specific conferences and workshops that we have been asked to announce. Earlier this year planning began (thanks to IPOLA in Santa Fe) for a clearinghouse for language teaching/revival information, and once such a center is in operation SSILA will refer queries to it. Until that time, however, we will continue to respond to requests for information as best we can. Readers of the SSILA Bulletin are urged to let us know of upcoming events and publications that may be relevant.

57.3 POSITIONS OPEN

Contemporary Native North American Cultures at U of Oregon

>From Scott DeLancey (delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu) 13 Oct 1997:

The Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, invites applications for a tenure-track appointment in contemporary Native North American cultures. Topical and theoretical specialties are open, although innovative anthropological approaches to sovereignty, identity and dislocation, and post-colonial discourses and studies will be especially welcome. Strong candidates will show an interest in theoretical and comparative understanding in their scholarship, an interdisciplinary orientation, and a commitment to undergraduate and graduate teaching. The Department is looking for a colleague who is aware of and interested in addressing and accommodating indigenous critiques of anthropology and in engaging with Native Americans on and off campus. Ph.D. is required at the time of appointment, September 15, 1998. Teaching experience and publications are preferred; women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

The cover letter should describe ongoing collaborations and research with Native American communities, a vision for future research, and approaches to and strengths in undergraduate and graduate teaching. Applications must be received by December 1, 1997, to assure consideration. Applicants who wish to be considered for an interview at the 1997 AAA annual meeting should submit materials no later than November 1, 1997.

Appointment pending budgetary approval. The University of Oregon is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Send nominations or applications, including vita, the names of 3 references and cover letter to: Aletta Biersack, Search Committee Chair, Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1218.

Syntax at U of Rochester

>From Roberta Colon (colon@ling.rochester.edu) 15 Oct 1997:

The Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester, in conjunction with the Center for the Sciences of Language, is searching for a new faculty member with a primary specialization in syntax. Applications are encouraged from all schools of syntactic theory, as well as from candidates with interests in computation, typology, and language contact. A Ph.D. and an established record of excellence in teaching and research is required. Especially welcome are applicants interested in actively contributing to a strong interdisciplinary training and research community. The faculty member will teach graduate and undergraduate courses in linguistics, and supervise graduate students with research interests in linguistics, computational linguistics, and psycho-linguistics.

Applicants should send a vita, articles and three letters of reference to the Syntax Search Committee, Department of Linguistics, Lattimore Hall, University of Rochester, RC Box 270096, Rochester, New York 14627-0096. For fullest consideration, applications should be

received by December 15, 1997. Although the search is primarily targeted at junior candidates, outstanding candidates at the Associate Professor level are also encouraged to apply.

The University of Rochester is an equal opportunity employer. Applications from women and minority candidates are strongly encouraged.

57.4 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights

The full text of the Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights, signed in Barcelona in 1996, can be found at

<http://www.indigo.ie/egt/udhr/udlr-en.html>

Inuktitut

"Inuktitut: The Language of the Inuit People" is maintained by Leo Ussak Elementary School-- "The Coolest School in Canada's Arctic"--in Rankin Inlet, NWT (in the soon-to-be Inuit territory of Nunavut). The site features downloadable Inuktitut lessons in Hypercard created by Alexina Kublu and Mick Mallon, and sound files of, among other things, "Amazing Grace" sung in Inuktitut, and the Inuktitut version of "O Canada!" Many links to other sites, including syllabary fonts. The URL of this delightful site is:

<http://www.arctic.ca/LUS/Inuktitut.html>

Cahto Site Expands Coverage

Bill Anderson tells us that he has extracted the vocabulary from P. E. Goddard's Sinkyone field notes (in APS 372.1, reel 47) and put it on his Cahto website. He intends to make this site a general resource for students of California Athabaskan languages. The URL is:

<http://www.geocities.com/athens/parthenon/6010>

57.5 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

Altman, Cristina	altman@netcomp.com.br
Davidson, Jill	davidson-j@mail.mssc.edu
Koontz, John	john.koontz@colorado.edu
Meira, Sergio	meira@ruf.rice.edu
Meredith, America	ahalenia@aol.com
PROEIB Andes	proeib@llajta.nrc.bolnet.bo