

**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

Number 66: May 1, 1998

## 66.1 CORRESPONDENCE

### Dying languages website

- From Patrick-Henri Burgaud ([burgaud@compuserve.com](mailto:burgaud@compuserve.com)) 23 April 1998:

In my earlier message inviting participation in the construction of a Monument for Dying Languages website, I gave an incomplete URL. The site will be found at:  
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/burgaud> I hope you can visit it.

~Patrick-Henri Burgaud  
Arnhem, The Netherlands

### Georgia name?

- From SnowWolffe ([snowwolffe@aol.com](mailto:snowwolffe@aol.com)) 23 April 1998:

I am trying to find the English translation of the word "Wahsega"—the name of a camp, built in the 1930's, in Dahlonega, Georgia. Can anyone help?

~Linda Wolffe

### Ontario language?

- From Scott DeLancey ([delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu)) 24 April 1998:

A correspondent in southern Oregon has asked me to help identify this language. She says the speaker is an elderly man who grew up somewhere in Ontario or thereabouts. Can anybody help?

~Scott DeLancey  
([delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu))

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dog on dog' yoo (the dog sounds like dag with a dot over the a)  
tree doesh' da (long o - long a)  
horse wee' nah (long e - dot over the a)  
sky wah' loe (dot over a sound - long o)  
moon quee' e nah (long e - short e - dot over a)  
mother loh' ah (long o - dot over a)  
father dow' wee (ow sound - long e)  
clothes ah moe' noe (dot over a - long o - long o)  
bear eesh' ne (long e - short e)  
arrow lay' loe (long a - long o)  
(and bow together)  
fence oom' quosh (long oo - odd sound)  
lodge gay' shay (long a - long a)

turtle bae (sounds like bay)  
snake coi' tae (oui sound - long a)  
caribou ee' na ta (long e - dot over both a's)  
path pa tae' (dot over a - long a)  
river pie an na (long i - short a - dot over a)  
lake mee dtae (long e - long a)  
bush shoi' ta qua (oui sound - dot over a -dot over a)  
rock a ya wae (long a - dot over a - long a)  
(rock-mountain...said it is one word...the aya would be the rock part)  
fire ploom (oo sound)  
feather gow' we (ow sound - short e)  
cook doi (oi sound)  
food pah' tah (ow sound - short e)  
corn qwee' nah (long e - dot over a)

## 66.2 SOCIETY FOR ENDANGERED LANGUAGES ESTABLISHED IN GERMANY

- From Gunter Senft ([gunter.senft@mpi.nl](mailto:gunter.senft@mpi.nl)) 13 March 1998:

*We apologize for the delay in posting this message. -- Eds.*

According to reliable estimates, a third of the world's 6,500 languages will become extinct during the next century. More pessimistic estimates even predict the death of up to 90% of all natural languages. The disappearance in the near future of most of the languages (and dialects) of the world will deprive us of a significant portion of the cultural and historical heritage of humankind. In the last few years action in response to this threat of language extinction has been taking shape in the form of national and international activities for the maintenance and documentation of endangered languages. In cooperation with the Committee on Endangered Languages of the German Linguistic Society, a group of German linguists founded the \*Society for Endangered Languages\* (Gesellschaft fuer bedrohte Sprachen e.V.) in Cologne in November 1997. The goal of this independent, non-profit society is to promote the use, preservation, and documentation of endangered languages and dialects. To achieve this aim, the Society for Endangered Languages will:

- support endangered languages projects and to advise the project staff with respect to problems of how to plan, carry out and evaluate these projects;
- promote field research, language documentation and other scientific projects that will contribute to the preservation of endangered languages and dialects;
- initiate and support activities that promote the pursuit of these topics within the curricula of universities and other educational institutions;
- promote national and international cooperation between scientists involved in the preservation and documentation of endangered languages and dialects; and
- inform, as comprehensively as possible, the scientific and general public about the situation of endangered languages and dialects and about the problems such speech communities face.

It goes without saying that the Society for Endangered Languages aims to fully cooperate with all the speech communities involved. It will endeavour to consider and realize these speech communities' own ideas with respect to the documentation and preservation of their languages or dialects.

The members of the founding managing board are:

- Hans-Juergen Sasse (U of Cologne, President);
- Gunter Senft (MPI for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Vice-President);
- Dagmar Jung (U of Cologne, Secretary);
- Werner Drossard (U of Cologne, Treasurer);
- Utta von Gleich (Hamburg, Advisor);
- Otto Jastrow (U of Erlangen, Advisor); and
- Jan Wirrer (U of Bielefeld, Advisor).

Applications for membership should be sent to the managing board of the society. Annual membership fees are 30.- DM for members with regular income and 15.- DM for students and members without income. Further information on the Society is available from:

Gesellschaft fuer bedrohte Sprachen

c/o Hans-Juergen Sasse

Institut fuer Sprachwissenschaft

Universitaet zu Koeln

50923 Koeln, GERMANY

e-mail: [gbs@uni-koeln.de](mailto:gbs@uni-koeln.de)

### 66.3 UPCOMING MEETINGS

#### **1998 Hokan-Penutian Conference (U of Oregon, June 26-28)**

- From Scott DeLancey ([delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu)) 24 April 1998:

The 1998 Hokan-Penutian Conference will be held at the University of Oregon, Eugene, June 26-28, 1998. Papers are invited on all aspects of languages customarily referred to under the rubrics of "Hokan" or "Penutian", or other orphan languages of California and Oregon.

Please send titles/abstracts by June 1 to:

Scott DeLancey

Dept. of Linguistics

University of Oregon

Eugene, OR 97403

or by e-mail: [delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu)

## 66.4 TEMPORARY POSITIONS OPEN AT U OF OREGON

- From Scott Delancey (delancey@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU) 30 April 1998:

### **Visiting Assistant Professor of Linguistics**

The Linguistics Department at the University of Oregon announces the opening of a non-tenure-related Visiting Assistant Professor position for the 1998-1999 academic year, potentially renewable pending funding, ranging from .50 to 1.0 FTE depending on Departmental needs. The Linguistics Department of Oregon enjoys a long tradition of work within the functionalist tradition, concentrating in descriptive work and field work and in empirical work on language use, discourse, and language acquisition. We invite applications from qualified individuals who can contribute to the functional and typological orientation of the department. Since the openings fill teaching gaps for faculty on leave, the candidate must show evidence of considerable teaching skill, at both undergraduate and graduate levels. The successful applicant must be able to help cover our core curriculum, which includes phonetics, phonology, functional-typological morphosyntax, semantics, and second language acquisition and teaching. Additional specializations in discourse, psycholinguistics, and/or historical syntax and grammaticalization will be particularly attractive, depending on department needs. In addition, the successful applicant must have an active research profile and must be able to direct graduate student research.

**Qualifications:** Ph.D. in Linguistics. Duties: Up to two courses per term of hire (we are on a quarter system); mentor students in research projects, as needed; participate in department life, as appropriate. Please submit a letter of application, vita, and names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references to:

VAP Search Committee  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon 97403.

Applications must be received by June 1, 1998 to receive fullest consideration.

### **Open Pool**

The Department of Linguistics at the University of Oregon seeks applications for an open pool for the 1998-1999 academic year. The Department occasionally needs to cover specific courses in our curriculum on short notice. All positions filled through this advertisement are for temporary, part time and/or emergency hires. There will be no permanent positions filled through this pool. Teaching positions may be made for one to two courses a term and may be renewable up to but not over four terms depending on Departmental needs and funds. For teaching positions, candidates must show evidence of considerable teaching skill at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

**Qualifications:** Ph.D. in Linguistics. Duties: Up to two courses per term of hire (we are on a quarter system); mentor students in research projects, as needed; participate in Department life, as appropriate. Please submit a letter of application, vita, and names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references to:

Open Pool 98-99  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon 97403.

For consideration for possible Fall 1998 appointments please apply by June 15.

Web address: <http://logos.uoregon.edu>

The University of Oregon is an AA/EO/ADA institution committed to cultural diversity.

## 66.5 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

### CyberQuechua

- From Serafin Coronel-Molina ([Scoronel@dolphin.upenn.edu](mailto:Scoronel@dolphin.upenn.edu)) 1 May 1998:

I am a member of SSILA, and I am very impressed with the work that the Society does. I am also a native speaker of Quechua, and I have recently developed a website devoted to Quechua which I would like to share with interested members of SSILA. I have called the site "CyberQuechua".

The URL is: <http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~scoronel/quechua.html>

CyberQuechua is organized into thematic pages: academics; literature and culture; translation work; bibliography on Quechua; linguistics; and news about Quechua (a list of links to selected sites that do not fall into any of the other categories). The linguistics page is still under construction and I would be more than happy to receive suggestions from other members regarding any pertinent links or other (non-link) information that I could include. I would particularly welcome hearing from anyone who would like to link my page to theirs.

~Serafin M. Coronel-Molina  
Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania



## 66.6 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

Leer, Jeff ..... [jleer@mosquionet.com](mailto:jleer@mosquionet.com)

Sturtevant, William ..... [sturtevant.william@nmnh.si.edu](mailto:sturtevant.william@nmnh.si.edu)