

**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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84.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Native American cosmology

- From David McGuiness (orientalist@webtv.net) 25 Feb 1999:

I am doing an extensive research project on comparative Asiatic cosmological systems. I myself am a trained Sumerologist with some additional work in East Asian linguistics. I would like to know if anyone could pass along some Native American words for 'circle' or 'sphere' or 'cycle', 'reptile' or 'air', 'cosmos' or 'heaven' or 'sky and earth'. Thank you so much for your help.

~David McGuiness
(orientalist@webtv.net)

Mystery sentence

- From Michael Adkins (mahopa2000@hotmail.com) 28 Feb 1999:

I was told that the following sentence is from some Native American language, and that it means something like "living in harmony with nature". Can anyone tell me (1) what language it is, and (2) if this translation is accurate?

POMMAUCHSUWI MAJAWIECHEN NACHPI NAPCHPIKIN

Thanks for your help.

~Mike Adkins
(mahopa2000@hotmail.com)

Seeking language preservation specialists

- From Jeff Allen (jeff@elda.fr) 23 Feb 1999:

I am aware of a new project in the US that could benefit from the participation of a linguist, ethnologist, or sociologist who has experience/knowledge in the area of language preservation. It would help if the person were familiar with electronic text and speech corpora techniques of data collection. The purpose of the project is to develop bi-/multi-lingual databases and systems (e.g., machine translation, speech translation) to preserve Alaskan languages. Some language-specific linguists are already involved. The project is now hoping to find specialists with a background in language preservation in order to form academic partnerships. Funding opportunities are currently being investigated.

There is also the possibility that specialists outside of the US could participate, aiming at international cooperation efforts.

Please get back to me directly on this if you are interested.

~Jeff Allen
Directeur Technique
Agence Europeenne de Distribution des Ressources Linguistiques
55, rue Brillat-Savarin
75013 Paris, FRANCE
(jeff@elda.fr)

84.2 UPCOMING MEETINGS

Algonquian Conference address

In the announcement of the 31st Algonquian Conference (Lafayette, Indiana, Oct. 29-31) in SSILA Bulletin #83.3, only an abbreviated snail-mail address for inquiries was given. The full address is:

Nicholas L. Clark, Executive Director
The Museums at Prophetstown
22 N. Second St.
Lafayette, IN 47901

tel: 765/423-4617
fax: 765/423-4495
e-mail: nclark@prophetstown.org

Registration materials will be available by August 1. Abstracts are due September 1.

Tribal Language Summit (Spearfish, South Dakota, April 15)

- From Marion BlueArm (mwobbel@hotmail.com) 24 Feb 1999:

The Black Hills State University, Center of Indian Studies, invites you to a Tribal Language Summit on the BHSU campus in Spearfish, SD, on April 15, 1999, 10 am to 5 pm.

Topics on the agenda include: English-Only legislation; Summer language camps; Curriculum development; Native teacher training; Elder involvement; and Language immersion programs. All individuals involved and/or interested in language maintenance issues are welcome. Refreshments, snacks, and lunch will be provided.

Contact (605) 642-8105 for hotel reservations (identifying yourself as a summit participant). For additional information please contact:

Stephanie Charging Eagle (schargin@mystic.bhsu.edu)
Marion Blue Arm (mwobbel@hotmail.com)
Kirsten Durzy (kdurzy@hotmail.com)

WAIL (Santa Barbara, May 14-16): second call

- From Fiona Whalen (6500frw0@ucsbuxa.ucsb.edu) 8 Mar 1999:

The 2nd annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages at UC Santa Barbara -- a forum for the discussion of theoretical and descriptive linguistic studies of indigenous languages of the Americas -- will be held May 14-16. The invited speaker will be Sara Trechter. Papers are invited for talks on any topic in Native American linguistics. E-mail submissions are encouraged. DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS is March 19. For further information contact the conference coordinator at <wail@humanitas.ucsb.edu> (tel: 805/893-3776) or check out the WAIL website at: <http://www.linguistics.ucsb.edu/wail/wail.html>

Atlantic Provinces Linguistic Association (Sackville, NB, Nov. 5-6)

- From M-L Tarpent (mtarpent.employee.msvu@msvu1.msvu.ca) 18 Feb 1999:

The 1999 conference of the Atlantic Provinces Linguistic Association (APLA) will be held November 5-6, at Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick, with the theme 'Language and Identity'. Papers on the indigenous languages of the Maritime provinces of Canada are most welcome. Contact:

Wendy Burnett
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Mount Allison University,
49A York St.
Sackville, NB E4L1C7, Canada
tel: 506/364-2485
e-mail: wburnett@mta.ca

Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Conference (Tucson, AZ, June 3-5)

- From Karen Francis-Begay (kfbegay@u.arizona.edu) 25 Feb 1999:

"One Voice, Many Voices: Recreating Indigenous Language Communities"

The 6th annual Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Conference (SILC) will be held at the University of Arizona, Tucson, June 3-5, 1999, in conjunction with the 20th Annual American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI). Participants have the option of attending only the Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Conference, or participating jointly in SILC and the American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI). As part of their coursework, all AILDI participants will also participate in SILC.

The SILC is dedicated to promoting, preserving and protecting indigenous languages of the Americas. Participants learn more about language planning and programs of other communities, network with language professionals from around the world, and gain knowledge, skills, and hands-on materials to expand the circle of Native language speakers in their own community.

Participants include parents, teachers, teacher assistants, school administrators, and other academic professionals; policy makers; language revitalization advocates and activists; technology specialists; and tribal scholars, elders, and leaders in a recommitment to strengthening indigenous languages.

The focus of this year's conference is on strategies for recreating and strengthening the ties between speakers in the contexts of community, home and school. Please join us for information sharing, collaboration, networking and strategic planning by completing a call for proposal and/or a conference registration form.

Contact:

Sheilah Nicholas, SILC Coordinator
University of Arizona
Department of Language, Reading & Culture
College of Education, Room 517
P.O. Box 210069
Tucson, AZ 85721-0069

tel: 520/626-7555 or 520/621-1068

fax: 520/621-8174

e-mail: silc@u.arizona.edu

Indigenous Literature of the Americas (Guatemala City, July 27-30)

- From Fernando Peñalosa (pelnan@yaxte.org) 27 Feb 1999:

The 2nd Congress of Indigenous Literature of the Americas (el Segundo Congreso de Literatura Indígena de América) will be held in Guatemala City, July 27-30, 1999, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture & Sports of Guatemala and the B'eyb'al Cultural Association.

Papers will be accepted from indigenous writers, preferably those who have published in their native languages, but also from literary critics, academics and researchers from all countries. The principal topics will be:

- Indigenous literature of the Americas
- Poetry
- Prose, narratives, stories, fiction
- Oral tradition, including myths, legends, fables, oral history
- Indigenous world view and culture in literature
- Form and content of indigenous literature
- Methodology and techniques of indigenous literature
- Anthropological aspects of indigenous literature
- Publishing and publishers
- Libraries, archives, indigenous writers' organizations
- Cultural and language politics in the Americas
- Schools and literary currents in indigenous literature

For further information contact:

Gaspar Pedro Gonzalez, Coordinador General
Asociación Cultural B'eyb'al
12 calle 10-27, zona 1, Guatemala, Guatemala, C.A.

tel: 232-1107 y 232-0125
fax: 230-0591 y 232-2023
e-mail: lacade@pronet.net.gt

84.3 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Wayne Leman's site

Readers of the Bulletin who haven't visited SSILA-member Wayne Leman's website recently will probably be astounded by the amount of useful information he has brought together there. His Cheyenne page establishes a benchmark for thorough and reliable coverage of a Native American language, but he has posted much, much more. Included at the site are:

- An A-Z list of language pages for dozens of languages, some with links to resource materials for purchase, others with word lists, on-line language lessons, articles about languages and their history, and downloadable fonts.
- Links to scholarly articles about native languages and their preservation, books, conferences, and legislation.
- Links to teacher training and bilingual education sites, computer resources for Native Americans, and other linguistics and language learning sites.
- A page of Other Native American Resources with links to official and unofficial Tribal home pages.

The URL for Wayne's site is:

<http://www.mcn.net/~wleman/langlinks.htm>

List archiving

- From Jordan Lachler (lachler@unm.edu) 4 Mar 1999:

I'm arranging with the nice folks at the Linguist List to have the Athabaskan (Athlang-l) list archived on their site. If you want to see what they've done for some other lists, such as the Salishan list among others, take a look at:

<http://www.linguistlist.org/list-archives.html>

As time goes by, that will hopefully be a useful service for folks.

~Jordan Lachler
University of New Mexico
(lachler@unm.edu)

Enlace Abyayala / WebSite Abyayala

- From Santiago Fruci (enlace@abyayala.org) 3 Mar 1999:

El Centro Cultural Abya-Yala (Quito, Ecuador) esta desarrollando sus actividades desde hace 24 años... Además de otras actividades el Centro cuenta con una Editorial y Librería especializada... En 1983 se escoge el nombre de ABYA-YALA para cobijar en un solo sello editorial todas las publicaciones que se refieren a los pueblos indios del continente...

Hemos lanzado al mundo nuestra página web. Visítenos a la dirección:

<http://www.abyayala.org>

Además desde este año somos los anfitriones de la RED de Lenguas Indígenas de Amazonía (LINDA). Puede revisarla en

<http://www.abyayala.org/Linda>

Abya-Yala promociona periódicamente, por medio de Circulares e-mail, material de su editoría relativo a temas indígena, antropológico, social, educativo, medio ambiente, etc. Si desea recibir información en nuestra lista de distribución, escribanos a <enlace@abyayala.org>.

Si tiene una lista de amigos que le gustaría recibir nuestra información, por favor indique sus direcciones e-mail a

enlace@abyayala.org

Les indicamos nuestras otras direcciones e-mail:

editorial@abyayala.org

admin-info@abyayala.org (Ventas Internacionales)

Esperamos sus comentarios,

~Santiago Fruci S.
Centro Cultural Abya-Yala
Av. 12 de Octubre 1430 y Wilson - Casilla 17-12-401
Quito, Ecuador
(enlace@abyayala.org)

CARLA

- From Suzanne Hay (carla@tc.umn.edu) 3 Mar 1999:

The Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA) at the University of Minnesota is one of seven National Language Resource Centers (NLRC) funded by the U.S. Department of Education to improve the nation's capacity to teach and learn foreign languages effectively. In addition to NLRC-funded projects, CARLA supports a number of coordinated programs of research, training, development and dissemination of information relating to second language teaching and learning.

The CARLA website is filled with information about the research and action initiatives at CARLA and contains many resources for the language teaching community. The website features information on second language assessment, less commonly taught languages (LCTLs), technology and second language learning, immersion education, culture and language learning, second language learning strategies, and the articulation of language instruction. It also has information on CARLA's products and services including summer institutes, conferences and workshops, publications and presentations, CARLA working papers, and language proficiency assessments. CARLA's LCTL database lists the post-secondary institutions at which less commonly taught languages—including a number of Native American languages -- are taught in North America. It is the most popular component of the CARLA website and receives an average of 27,000 "hits" per month.

Come and visit our site:

CARLA Homepage : <http://carla.acad.umn.edu/>

Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs):
<http://carla.acad.umn.edu/lctl/lctl.html>

The CARLA Update is a quarterly electronic newsletter designed to give second language teachers and researchers current information on the programs and projects currently operating under the auspices of CARLA. If you would like to be added to the list or if you would like more information about CARLA and its activities, please e-mail the center at <carla@tc.umn.edu>.

84.4 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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