

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

*SSILA BULLETIN*

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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## 110.0 SSILA BUSINESS

### **Sessions organized for the San Francisco meeting**

The preliminary program of the 39th Conference on American Indian Languages, to be held as part of the 2000 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco, Nov. 15-19, has been submitted to the AAA Program Committee. This year's CAIL will include 65 papers, arranged in 8 sessions, listed below. Four of the sessions (#1, 4, and 7-8) were pre-organized around specific topics. The others were assembled by the SSILA Program Committee from individual submissions.

Final decisions on sessions and individual papers will be made by the AAA Program Committee, but we anticipate little change in the overall structure of the program. As for days and times, we have recommended that the CAIL sessions be scheduled sequentially, with no overlap, from Thursday morning Nov. 16 through Sunday morning Nov. 19. A tentative schedule will be announced by the AAA in late August or early September, and we will disseminate it as soon as we receive it. Check the AAA website (<http://www.aaanet.org>) for hotel and travel information.

Meanwhile, all presenters, chairs, and discussants in the meeting are reminded that they must be members of the AAA to participate. If you are on the program and are not a member of the AAA for the current year, you should join as soon as possible. Membership information is available at the AAA website. Waivers of the membership requirement are often given to scholars permanently residing outside North America, but these waivers must be formally requested from the AAA Program Committee.

1. Linguistic Bases of the Ancient Mayan Script
  - Organizers/chairs: Max Viatori & Martha Macri
  - Papers by: Matthew G. Looper, Martha Macri, Robert F. Wald, Judith Storniolo, Gabrielle Vail, J. Kathryn Josserand & Nicholas A. Hopkins, David Mora-Marin, Eve Danziger, and Max Viatori.
2. Semantics, Metaphor, and Sociolinguistics
  - Organizer: SSILA Program Committee
  - Chair: Victor Golla
  - Papers by: Brent D. Galloway, Sean O'Neill, Patrick Moore, Karen Dakin, Gale Goodwin Gomez, Martha Muntzel, Mercedes Montes de Oca, Maria del Carmen Herrera, Rocio Dominguez, and Rich Henne.
3. Phonology, Sound Symbolism, and Reduplication
  - Organizer: SSILA Program Committee
  - Chair: Sara Trechter
  - Papers by: Heriberto Avelino, Jonathan D. Amith, Gary M. Holton, Arthur P. Sorensen, Megan J. Crowhurst & Sara Trechter, Eric P. Hamp, Ashlee Bailey, John D. Nichols, Suzanne Wash, M. Dale Kinkade, and Monica Macaulay.

4. The Role of Language Ideologies in Changing Native American Contexts
  - Organizers/chairs: Pamela Bunte & Christopher Loether
  - Papers by: Christopher Loether, Pamela A. Bunte, Briggittine M. French, Justin B. Richland, and Derek Milne. Discussant: Wesley K. Thomas.
  
5. Typological and Comparative Issues
  - Organizer: SSILA Program Committee
  - Chair: Sarah G. Thomason
  - Papers by: Gregory D. S. Anderson, Oliver Iggesen, Catherine A. Callaghan, Edward J. Vajda, and Marie-Lucie Tarpent.
  
6. Grammar and Discourse
  - Organizer: SSILA Program Committee
  - Chair: Randolph Graczyk
  - Papers by: Cathlin M. Davis, Harriet E. Klein, Anna M. S. Berge, Mary S. Linn, Ives Goddard, Connie Dickinson, Richard A. Rhodes, Toshihide Nakayama, Paul T. Barthmaier, and David L. Shaul.
  
7. Applicatives in the Languages of the Americas -- North American and Mesoamerican Languages
  - Organizers: Roberto Zavala, Alejandra Vidal & Thomas Payne
  - Chairs: Pamela Munro & Colette Grinevald
  - Papers by: Thomas Payne, Marianne Mithun, Donna Gerdts, Kaoru Kiyosawa, Timothy Thornes, Carolyn MacKay & Frank Trechsel, Veronica Vazquez, Valentin Peralta, Pamela Munro, and Roberto Zavala.
  
8. Applicatives in the Languages of the Americas -- Central and South American Languages
  - Organizers: Roberto Zavala, Alejandra Vidal & Thomas Payne
  - Chair: Marianne Mithun
  - Papers by: Colette Grinevald, Doris Payne, Pilar M. Valenzuela, Alejandra Vidal, and Lucia Golluscio.

## 110.1 CORRESPONDENCE

### Discovery of an 18th century Illinois dictionary

- From Michael McCafferty ([mmccaffe@indiana.edu](mailto:mmccaffe@indiana.edu)) 26 Mar 2000:

In December 1999 in the course of doing research at the Jesuit archives in La Fontaine, Quebec, on a native place-names volume for the Indiana Historical Society, I discovered and properly identified an early 18th century French-Illinois dictionary that had lain in the archives for about 300 years. Several notes in the book, written by earlier scholars, indicate that in the past attempts had been made without success to identify the Algonquian language in the dictionary. This dictionary is only one of three known dictionaries compiled by Jesuit missionaries working in the 1700's with the Illinois Indians (principally the Kaskaskia) in "les Pays d'En Haut". The two others are the so-called "Gravier" Illinois-French dictionary, the original of which is housed at the Watkinson Library, Hartford, Connecticut, and the Le Boullenger French-Illinois dictionary, the original of which is housed at John Carter Brown Library, Providence, Rhode Island. The discovery of this new, voluminous, "working-man's" dictionary will further understanding of the Miami-Illinois language and culture.

Michael McCafferty  
307 Memorial Hall, Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN 48405  
([mmccaffe@indiana.edu](mailto:mmccaffe@indiana.edu))

### Linguistic anthropologists in interdisciplinary graduate programs

- From Jim Wilce ([jim.wilce@NAU.EDU](mailto:jim.wilce@NAU.EDU)) 27 Mar 2000:

I'm interested in hearing from those who self-identify as linguistic anthropologists and who teach in **\*\*interdisciplinary\*\*** graduate programs that might bring together such fields as linguistics (including applied and socio-), rhetoric, discourse studies, cultural studies, and communications. I would like to know how the interdepartmental/university politics work for you, what is your institutional role (and that of linguistic anthropology courses) in the graduate program, and what sorts of jobs your students get.

~Jim Wilce, Associate Professor  
Anthropology Department  
Box 15200, Northern Arizona University  
Flagstaff AZ 86011-5200  
([jim.wilce@nau.edu](mailto:jim.wilce@nau.edu))

### Mid(-), Middle, and Central

- From Koontz John E ([John.Koontz@Colorado.EDU](mailto:John.Koontz@Colorado.EDU)) 27 Mar 2000:

You wrote (in Bulletin #109.2):

- > And finally, Kansas -- if it is only semi-mockingly located in “Middle
- > America” (the Mitteleuropa of the United States), it most definitely
- > and unmockingly is part of the “Middle West”, where folks speak “Middle
- > Western (English)”.

Actually, with due respect, dear editor, I’ve never heard anything but Midwest (plus or minus a hyphen?). Middle America would be the middle class, perhaps, no doubt with a scornful “bourgeoisie” reading.

I wish also to report “the Central Mississippi” (from the Ohio through the Yazoo, roughly) and “the Middle Missouri” (the Dakotas segment), both from archaeological/cultural usage.

~John Koontz  
Louisville, Colorado  
([john.koontz@colorado.edu](mailto:john.koontz@colorado.edu))

### **Meso-, Middle, and Central**

- From Lyle Campbell ([l.campbell@ling.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:l.campbell@ling.canterbury.ac.nz)) 31 Mar 2000:

I enjoyed what you wrote about “Middle America” in Bulletin #109.2. I’d add to it only that “Middle America” has long been something of a standard way to refer to Mexico and Central America together. In this usage the term is not related to Mesoamerica much at all, other than that Mesoamerica happens to be included in this territory.

[True, but this must be distinguished from the Tulane/Handbook of Middle American Indians use of the term, where it is virtually synonymous with “Mesoamerica”. -- Ed.]

And a minor point about Mesoamerican languages: You cite Xincan and Lenca as both being Mesoamerican. However, in anthropological discussions “Mesoamerica” is usually considered to end at the Lempa River – right at Lenca territory – with a minor extension down the coast to Costa Rica. More importantly, in its linguistic traits Lenca really falls outside of the Mesoamerican area. See Campbell, Kaufman & Smith-Stark, “Mesoamerica as a Linguistic Area”, *Language* 62:530-70 (1986); or pp. 344-6 and Map 12 in Campbell, *American Indian Languages* (1997).

--Lyle Campbell  
University of Canterbury  
Christchurch, New Zealand  
([l.campbell@ling.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:l.campbell@ling.canterbury.ac.nz))

### **Need Quechua translation**

- From Johanna Rubba ([jrubba@CALPOLY.EDU](mailto:jrubba@CALPOLY.EDU)) 3 Apr 2000:

I am looking for someone who can provide a translation (morpheme-by- morpheme gloss, plus idiomatic translation, and verification of phonemic transcription) for a song in Quechua (I don't know which dialect). The song is not terribly long, and is called "Tinku". I'm using it in an introductory linguistics class, and would like to be able to say what the words mean! Thanks in advance.

~Johanna Rubba  
English Department, Cal Poly  
San Luis Obispo, California  
([jrubba@calpoly.edu](mailto:jrubba@calpoly.edu))

### **Help with a T-shirt?**

- From Sue McNamara ([Suemack624@aol.com](mailto:Suemack624@aol.com)) 31 Mar 2000:

I am the mentor of the Urbana, Illinois, Leukemia Society running team. We are a group of local volunteers who train to run a marathon (26.2 miles) and raise money for medical research on Leukemia in the process. (None of us is a professional runner.) I have designed a T-shirt as a fund-raiser and am trying to get as many languages on it as possible. I have 18 languages so far - several European ones and Vietnamese, Japanese, Korean, Urdu, Mandarin, Hebrew, and Arabic. I wonder if I could get someone to provide a translation into an American Indian language?

The sentence we need translated is "I helped the Team In Training to go the distance" or "I helped TNT run the distance". Any help you can give me would be greatly appreciated. In addition to my e-mail address, you can also reach me by fax at 217-893-9797.

~Sue McNamara  
1516 Winston Drive  
Champaign, IL 61821  
([Suemack624@aol.com](mailto:Suemack624@aol.com))

## 110.2 “CONFERENCE OF SILENCE” TO BE HELD AS PROTEST AT ILLINOIS STATE

- From Bruce Hawkins ([BWHawkins@aol.com](mailto:BWHawkins@aol.com)) 13 Mar 2000:

[The SSILA Executive Committee endorses the “Conference of Silence” at Illinois State University and encourages members who are concerned about the issues surrounding the “Chief Illiniwek” controversy to consider participating and/or writing a letter of support. -- Ed.]

I am writing to ask if SSILA members would be interested in supporting and participating in our “Conference of Silence.” Inspired in part by statements made last summer by leaders of SSILA and LSA in response to the “Chief Illiniwek” mascot at the University of Illinois, the “Conference of Silence” is planned as a way of commemorating and honoring Native American languages and cultures while also protesting, in a solemn, respectful manner, the commitment of the State of Illinois to the caricature that stands as the mascot of its flagship university. In a reference to commitments made by SSILA and LSA not to return to Illinois until Chief Illiniwek is retired, we are planning a unique conference that linguists are invited to participate in by not attending. The “Conference of Silence” will take place on the campus of Illinois State University on May 4-6. Sponsors include the Native American Student Association at Illinois State University and Midwest SOARRING (Save Our Ancestors Remains and Resources Indigenous Network Group.)

Linguists can participate in the “Conference of Silence” in two ways:

- (1) By submitting offprints of already published work, or reports of work in progress, which result from field research on American Indian languages. These materials will be on display throughout the Conference to demonstrate the need for, and results of, trusting and respectful interpersonal relationships between linguists and communities comprising native speakers of American Indian languages. (The author/researcher will retain all copyrights for the material submitted and displayed.)
- (2) By sending letters and/or e-mails to Bruce Hawkins (addresses listed below) in support of efforts within Illinois to persuade the University of Illinois to retire Chief Illiniwek.

Send all questions and contributions to:

Bruce Hawkins, 4240 English Department, Illinois State Univ., Normal,  
Illinois 61790-4240 (e-mail: [bwhawkin@ilstu.edu](mailto:bwhawkin@ilstu.edu) or [BWHawkins@AOL.com](mailto:BWHawkins@AOL.com)).

### 110.3 THE STRAIGHT DOPE ON “SQUAW”

Cecil Adams’ syndicated column “The Straight Dope”, which appears in many North American newspapers (most of them weekly “alternative” publications), provides well-researched answers to (often arcane) questions of fact sent in by readers. In the column that was published on the weekend of March 17-19 (we read it in the Berkeley-based “Express”) Cecil took on the “squaw” controversy. Asked by a reader in Maine – where the state legislature recently voted to ban the use of the word in placenames – if it is indeed true that the word is a vulgarity that originally meant ‘prostitute’ or ‘vagina’, as some Native American activists claim, Cecil (or his research staff) compiled a surprisingly well-informed response. The correct Algonquian etymology is given, but also the fact that “squaw” is taken as an insult by many Native American women is made abundantly clear. Among the scholars who were consulted are Ives Goddard and Bill Bright.

The full text of the article is available on the internet at:

<http://www.straightdope.com/columns/000317.html>



## 110.4 QUECHUA LANGUAGE STUDY AT THE U OF MICHIGAN AND IN CUZCO

- From Serafin M. Coronel-Molina ([scoronel@umich.edu](mailto:scoronel@umich.edu)) 4 Apr 2000:

Quechua is offered at the University of Michigan as a regular course during the academic year in Ann Arbor, and as an intensive summer course in Cuzco, Peru.

In Ann Arbor, three levels are taught in year-long courses: Beginning Quechua (LACS 471/472), Intermediate Quechua (LACS 473/474) and Advanced Quechua (LACS 475/476). Each course meets twice a week for two hours, in order to facilitate enrollments by off-campus students. The course is taught by Serafin M. Coronel-Molina, a native Quechua speaker. Normally, students must complete the fall semester of each sequence before enrolling in the winter semester continuation. LACS also offers a Summer Quechua Study Program in Cuzco, Peru (in 2000, July 3 to August 16). This is the third year that LACS has co-sponsored the program with the Escuela Andina de Postgrado, Centro de Estudios Regionales "Bartolome de las Casas" in Cuzco. The program is open to all college and university undergraduate and graduate students who wish to learn Southern Quechua. This unique program offers high quality intensive language instruction through the faculty of the Escuela Andina de Postgrado and the unusual experience of living and learning in the ancient Inka capital of Cuzco.

Three levels of Southern Quechua will be taught this summer: Intensive Beginning Quechua, Intensive Intermediate Quechua, and Intensive Advanced Quechua. These courses meet daily for 4 hours per day for seven weeks, a total of 140 language instruction contact hours per course. Enrollment will be limited to 15 for each of the levels. A series of lectures on Quechua culture and history and an extensive program of excursions and cultural events will supplement the courses.

More information on both the Ann Arbor courses and on the summer program in Cuzco can be found on the LACS website:

<http://www.umich.edu/~iinet/lacs/quechua.html>

## 110.5 POSITION OPEN

### **Academic year position in linguistic anthropology at UCLA**

- From Alessandro Duranti ([aduranti@ucla.edu](mailto:aduranti@ucla.edu)) 29 Mar 2000:

The Department of Anthropology at UCLA is searching for a linguistic anthropologist for the 2000-01 academic year to teach a large lower division course, Culture and Communication (for details see the course webpage at <http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/anthro/faculty/duranti/anthro33/>) and a number of other courses on two or more of the following:

- (1) language in culture;
- (2) ethnographic approaches to everyday language use;
- (3) multilingualism or language contact (e.g. pidgins & creoles);
- (4) field methods in linguistic anthropology; and
- (5) language variation or language change.

The Ph.D. is required at the time of employment.

Please send a CV and a list of referees (with phone numbers and e-mail addresses) to: Prof. Marjorie H. Goodwin, Linguistic Search, Department of Anthropology, UCLA, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1553.

## 110.6 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

### **OED Online**

The online version of the Oxford English Dictionary was launched on March 14 at:

<http://www.oed.com>

Subscribers will be able to access the entire text of the current print edition of the dictionary (the 2nd, 1928, with supplements). The interface allows rapid and comprehensive searches of all entries. Linked to OED Online is a complete revision of the dictionary, a project that is expected eventually to double the length of the text. Draft versions of new and revised entries from the revision program will be added to OED Online at quarterly intervals, with each revised entry being linked to the 2nd edition version for comparison. The first batch of 1000 new and revised entries will run from the letter M to the word mahurat. By publishing in installments, the editors hope to make the results of the revision available, and incorporate improvements suggested by readers, before the entire project is complete.

OED Online is available to individuals by annual subscription, which can start at any time. The cost is # 350+VAT or US \$550 per annum. Network licenses are also available.

### **Nativeculture.com**

- From V Giglio ([virginia.giglio@nativeculture.com](mailto:virginia.giglio@nativeculture.com)) 28 Mar 2000:

NATIVECULTURE.COM, a comprehensive portal site for Native American resources on the Internet, was officially launched earlier this month, the first high-visibility, multi-faceted resource for native culture information on the World Wide Web. The URL is:

<http://www.nativeculture.com>

NATIVECULTURE.COM was created by a multi-cultural design team including myself (an ethnomusicologist); e-commerce specialist Neal T. Dunnigan; Cherokee graphic designer and code developer Ken Brink, Jr.; and Cheyenne artist Frank Sheridan (Pipe Woman). It draws assistance from a team of advisors including Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, Comanche/Kiowa musician and educator; Lisa Mitten, Mohawk web bibliographer; and Tonia Robinson, Cherokee information technology professional. Other advisors include Diane and Burton Hawk, who bring years of experience in Cheyenne tribal leadership and traditional ceremonial activity; noted educational writer Dr. Bryan Burton; and Dr. Victoria Levine, Director of Southwest Studies, The Colorado College. The Sales and Promotion Team is spearheaded by Clara Bushyhead, noted Native American journalist.

The site areas include UPDATE, LEARN, SEARCH, VISIT, RELAX, and SHOP. The UPDATE section contains current information, news, and an exhaustive database driven powwow and events calendar. Resources for learning and finding accurate information appear in the LEARN section. A custom-designed SEARCH indexing the best Native American web information allows users to find information more accurately and quickly than on any other search site. The user community can find lots to do in the VISIT and RELAX sections of the site, including specially developed games and free e-mail. In the SHOP area, a Business Directory lists a wide assortment of products and services geared to native culture interests.

We believe that the network of distinguished advisors and talented developers we have woven together has produced a synergy of creativity and tradition, and that the beneficiaries of our loving labor will be teachers, students, researchers -- anyone who wants immediate access to the best Native Culture information. As President of NATIVECULTURE.COM, I would like to invite my academic colleagues in Native American studies programs and Native American colleges throughout the US and Canada to collaborate with us to bring the best information to the Internet user audience.

~Virginia Giglio, Global Thinking, Inc.  
Boca Raton, Florida  
([vgiglio@nativeculture.com](mailto:vgiglio@nativeculture.com))

### **SF State site**

The California Studies Program at San Francisco State University has a website devoted to Native American Resources. The pages provide good sources of information and links on Native California languages, culture, and history, as well as information on rancherias and casinos. Among the other features are maps of indigenous California languages and language families. The URL is: [http://bss.sfsu.edu/calstudies/ci\\_main.htm](http://bss.sfsu.edu/calstudies/ci_main.htm)

## Profiles of Native language education programs

Detailed profiles of Native language education programs in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas are on the web at a site maintained by the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL) in Austin, Texas. Based on a published report compiled by Nancy Fuentes, the profiles cover 24 separate programs in the five-state area. The URL is: <http://www.sedl.org/pubs/lc05/contents.html>

### 110.7 BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRECTIONS

- Sharon Hargus ([sharon@u.washington.edu](mailto:sharon@u.washington.edu)) confirms that the Workshop on Athabaskan Prosody and the 2000 Athabaskan Languages Conference, scheduled for the weekend of June 9-11, will take place in the First Nations community of Moricetown, British Columbia. Participants should make arrangements for lodging in Smithers, a town about 21 miles to the south of Moricetown. However, a limited amount of billeting in private homes in Moricetown may be available. Accommodation and travel details, as well as a registration form, are available at the conference website: <http://faculty.washington.edu/sharon/ALC2000/>

Abstracts for presentations at either the Workshop or the Conference should reach Sharon by May 1.

- The University of Nebraska Press has, after a lengthy scholarly review, become the US publisher of Robert Bringhurst's controversial book A Story as Sharp as a Knife: The Classical Haida Mythtellers and Their World (reviewed in SSILA Newsletter 18.2, p.13, and 18.3, pp.5-8). Nebraska is also the publisher of, among other things, John Enrico & Wendy Bross Stuart's Northern Haida Songs (1996).

Bringhurst and his colleague Sean Kane (both of whom are professors at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario) have also just been awarded a major research grant by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. This grant is primarily in support of Bringhurst's Field Guide to the Aboriginal Literatures of North America.

### 110.8 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

French, Briggittine ..... [bfrench@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu](mailto:bfrench@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu)  
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