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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141.0 SSILA BUSINESS

First Call: 2001 Annual Meeting (San Francisco, Jan. 3-6, 2002)

The 2001-02 annual winter meeting of SSILA will be held in San Francisco, California, January 3-6, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America.

Proposals for papers are invited from all members of SSILA in good standing (whose dues are paid through 2001). Proposals from non-members or from members in arrears will be reviewed ONLY if accompanied by a membership application and/or 2001 dues (\$13).

Submissions must include an abstract of up to 250 words (150 or fewer will often suffice) for publication in the LSA Meeting Handbook. Submission by e-mail is encouraged, but if your abstract employs special fonts you should submit a hard copy of your abstract.

Most papers will be scheduled for 20-minute time periods (15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for discussion).

In addition to an abstract, proposals must include:

- --NAME OF AUTHOR(S) (if joint authorship, indicate who will deliver the paper)
- --AFFILIATION (for the Meeting Handbook)
- --MAILING ADDRESS (in Fall 2001)
- --TELEPHONE/FAX NUMBERS
- --E-MAIL ADDRESS
- --EXACT TITLE OF PAPER
- --THREE KEY WORDS (identifying the subject of the paper)
- --AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED (all meeting rooms will be equipped with microphones, an overhead projector, and a screen; one additional piece of equipment may be requested)

Proposals should be sent by mail to:

2001 Program Committee SSILA P.O. Box 555 Arcata, California 95518-0555 USA

and/or by e-mail to:

ssila@ssila.org

All materials must reach SSILA no later than Friday September 7, 2001.

Proposals for SSILA papers must not be sent to the LSA. SSILA organizes its sessions separately from LSA sessions, although the two meetings are scheduled together and the SSILA program and abstracts are included in the LSA Meeting Handbook.

Participants in the SSILA sessions are required to pay the LSA meeting registration fee, but are not required to be members of the LSA. All registered participants at the joint meeting are welcome to attend the sessions of either group. SSILA participants are eligible for the special hotel rates and transportation discounts that have been negotiated by the LSA. Meeting registration forms and hotel reservation information will be mailed with the July issue of the Newsletter, and can also be found at the LSA website (www.lsadc.org).

Special sessions

This year's SSILA meeting will include two special sessions. Members who wish their papers considered for inclusion in one of these sessions should contact the organizer(s) noted below IN ADDITION to submitting a proposal to the SSILA Program Committee.

- --"Denominal Verbs in the Languages of the Americas", organized by Donna Gerdts and Steve Marlett. In many languages, denominal verbs differ in interesting ways from lexical verbs, and denominal verb constructions show evidence of category mixing. Thus, the arguments of the N may carry over as clausal arguments of the V, or sometimes inflectional features of the N, such as plural and diminutive, are inherited by the V. The organizers invite descriptive and formal papers on the morphology, syntax, and semantics of denominal verbs. If you think you might want to contribute to this session, contact Donna Gerdts (gerdts@sfu.ca) or Steve Marlett (stephen_marlett@yahoo.com) by August 15, 2001.
- --"Organizing American Indian Linguistics", a session in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the founding of SSILA. Papers are invited on topics dealing with the institutional or programatic organization of research on American Indian languages. Topics may be historical (e.g., the Bureau of American Ethnology, or Boas's Committee on Native American Languages), may report on on-going projects and initiatives, or may discuss proposals for the future. If you think you might want to contribute to this session, contact Victor Golla (golla@ssila.org).

Participation guidelines

SSILA generally follows LSA guidelines regarding participation in the meeting: Any member may submit one paper proposal as sole author and a second as co-author, or two as co-author of each. In addition, he or she may also be the organizer of a symposium or workshop.

Presentation of a paper (or other participation) in an SSILA session has no effect on an individual's eligibility to present a paper in an LSA session, or in a session of another organization meeting jointly with the LSA. Submissions will be separately reviewed by the various program committees. However, to minimize overlap with the SSILA sessions, the LSA program committee usually recommends that Field Reports/Endangered Languages papers on American Indian languages be submitted to SSILA rather than the LSA.

Reminder: The Mary R. Haas Award

Members are reminded that the selection committee is now accepting submissions for the Mary R. Haas Award for 2001, presented annually to a junior scholar for an unpublished manuscript that makes a significant substantive contribution to the knowledge of native American languages. Submissions should reflect substantial empirical research, and can include descriptive and issue-oriented grammars, topical studies, dictionaries, and text collections. Academic affiliation is not required but holders of tenured faculty positions will not normally be eligible. Submissions must be in English.

The winning manuscript will be eligible for publication under the Society's auspices in the University of Nebraska Press series "Studies in the Indigenous Languages of the Americas".

The deadline for receipt of submissions is August 25, 2001. Five full copies of the manuscript should be submitted, accompanied by a short letter indicating whether the work is a dissertation or was prepared under other circumstances. These should be sent to:

Sarah Thomason Department of Linguistics 1076 Frieze Building University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1285

Inquiries should be directed to Prof. Thomason, preferably by e-mail at: thomason@umich.edu

141.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Kinship terminologies sought

>From Pierre Bancel (pierrejbancel@hotmail.com) 20 Jun 2001:

We are looking for vernacular kinship terminologies, in order to build a worldwide linguistic and anthropological database with comparative aims. All references (books, journals, and websites) would be greatly appreciated.

Although any language is of interest to us, those from Africa, Australia, and New Guinea are most eagerly wanted. Whenever possible, the

distinction made between reference and address terms would be welcome.

Many thanks in advance.

--Pierre Bancel Association d'etudes linguistiques et anthropologiques prehistoriques (AELAP), Paris

Language a hoax?

>From Peter Bakker (linpb@mail.hum.au.dk) 23 Jun 2001:

For those curious to know if anyone identified the language sample that was posted in SSILA Bulletin #140.1, the one response we got was that it was 'Kemosabe's language." In other words, a fake text, from a European source.

--Peter Bakker U of Aarhus, Denmark

Help needed for documentary film on linguistics

>From Pierre Morize (pmorize@hotmail.com) 27 Jun 2001:

I am a film director currently working on a documentary about comparative and historical linguistics. I will be filming linguists at work in the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig (directed by Bernard Comrie), but also in the field. In order to illustrate the amazing language diversity of the world I am trying to collect "origin myths" from different language families. Ideally this would be a video (any format) showing a native speaker telling the story of his group's origin. I'm looking for between 5 and 10 examples from language families that "sound" very different from one another (Khoisan, Altaic, Athapaskan, Afroasiatic, Austronesian, Uralic, Australian, etc). I could also use an audio recording accompanied by photographs of the speaker and his environment. Of course, I will also need a transcription and a detailed translation of the text.

My film is planned to be broadcast on several public channels with educational and cultural aims. My goal is to to convey to the huge TV audience some accurate information about linguistics and the concerns regarding endangered languages.

If you possess any relevant material and are willing to share it with a broader public, I hope you will contact me.

--Pierre Morize (pmorize@hotmail.com)

A linguistic volunteer

>From Daniel Sokol (dksokol@club-internet.fr) 29 Jun 2001:

I've just finished my degree in French and Linguistics at Oxford and am very keen on doing some volunteer language-related fieldwork this summer. Do such possibilities exist with American Indian languages?

--Daniel Sokol (dksokol@club-internet.fr)

141.2 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

* Resources for Endangered Languages

>From Erik Rauch (rauch@mit.edu) 15 Jun 2001:

I would like to announce a website called Resources for Endangered Languages, with an emphasis on Native American/First Nation/American Indian languages:

http://nativelanguages.org

It has pointers to organizations that offer grants for Native American language revitalization projects originated from within the communities themselves, as well as links to the full text of books giving the best methods for revitalizing languages and reversing language shift. It presents an account of successful Native American and other language revitalization projects, including the Maori language nests. The site has recently been updated.

If you have any requests for information to be added to the site, please let me know.

--Erik Rauch, Editor (rauch@mit.edu)

* Canadian TV series

The TV series "Finding Our Talk", produced by Cree-owned Mushkeg Media Inc. and broadcast in Canada this past spring on the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN), now has a website at:

http://www.nutaaq.com/finding_our_talk.html

The 13 programs in the series document Canadian native languages, with emphasis on retention and revitalization efforts. Videotapes of the programs are available, and a second season is being planned. Details can be found at the site.

141.3 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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Haugen, Jasonjhaugen@u.arizona.edu
Tarpent, Marie-Lucie.....mltarpent@hotmail.com (until late August)

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