

*** SSILA BULLETIN ***

An Information Service for SSILA Members

Editor - Victor Golla (golla@ssila.org)
 Associate Editor - Scott DeLancey (delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu)

--> --Correspondence should be directed to the Editor-- <--

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 175.0 SSILA Business

* Paper proposals for annual meeting due by Friday
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Members are reminded that Friday, September 6, is the deadline for receipt of proposals for papers to be presented at the SSILA annual winter meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2-5, 2003. Proposals should follow the guidelines set out in the Call for Papers (SSILA Bulletin #170.0, or accompanying the July 2002 Newsletter; see also the SSILA website <www.ssila.org>), and may be submitted by e-mail. If your paper is intended to be part of a special session it should be submitted to the session organizer, who will forward it to the SSILA program committee with the session proposal.

175.1 Correspondence

* Phonetic orthography for Braille

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From John H. Esling (esling@uvic.ca) 19 Aug 2002:

Re: Sheri Wells-Jensen's inquiry about Braille orthographies in SSILA
Bulletin #174:

A phonetic Braille orthography exists, which we mention in the Handbook of the International Phonetic Association: A guide to the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (Cambridge University Press, 1999). The section (7.5) reads as follows:

Over the years, a braille version of the International Phonetic Alphabet has evolved. A book by W. Percy Merrick and W. Potthoff, A Braille Notation of the International Phonetic Alphabet with Keywords and Specimen Texts, published in London by the Royal National Institute for the Blind in 1932, was reviewed in the Association's journal, Le Maitre Phonétique, in 1936 by E. E. Quick (p. 51). This book is archived in the Library of Congress in the US and elsewhere, and has served as the basis for the development of a braille standard for the rendering of phonetics. The code book used for many years by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and by many other institutions was a 1977 volume entitled Code of Braille Textbook Formats and Techniques, published by the American Printing House for the Blind (1839 Frankfort Avenue, P.O. Box 6085, Louisville, Kentucky 40206-0085; tel: 1-800-223-1839). Rule XIX, section 45, of this book refers to phonetic notation, principles, and the phonetic alphabet, with indications of braille equivalents and illustrations of braille usage in print (dot) form. The book of codings was available at \$50 in print and \$235 in braille in 1996. A new edition of the book, Braille Formats: Principles of Print to Braille Transcription (1997), was released by the American Printing House for the Blind in September, 1998. It is a 300-page volume with print and braille editions, each costing \$30. The phonetic symbols represented in Braille Formats are for the most part still valid and in use in the IPA. Some may no longer be in use; and some newer symbols added to the IPA more recently may not appear.

--John H. Esling
Secretary, International Phonetic Association
University of Victoria, Canada
(esling@uvic.ca)

175.2 Sturtevant Festschrift

Anthropology, History, and American Indians: Essays in Honor of William Curtis Sturtevant. edited by William L. Merrill and Ives Goddard, has recently been issued by the Smithsonian Institution Press as Number 44 of the Smithsonian Contributions to Anthropology.

Sturtevant, general editor of the *Handbook of North American Indians*, has been on the staff of the Smithsonian since 1956 and is one of the world's leading scholars of the cultures, languages, and histories of the indigenous peoples of the New World. This impressive volume of papers written in his honor is divided into six sections: Essays on Sturtevant's life and career, and a compilation of his writings; papers on the history of anthropological and historical research related to Native Americans; studies of the transformations of Native American cultures and communities since European contact; papers on the history of museum and archival research; studies arising out of museum and archival research; and essays exploring the complex interconnections between the cultural and natural worlds. There are 32 papers in total.

Contributions which will be of special interest to linguists include: Kathleen Bragdon, "The Interstices of Literacy: Books and Writings and Their Use in Native American Southern New England"; Elizabeth Tooker, "Classifying North American Indian Languages before 1850"; Ira Jacknis, "The Creation of Anthropological Archives: A California Case Study"; Ives Goddard, "The Linguistic Writings of Alfred Kiyana on Fox (Meskwaki)"; and Dell Hymes, "Coyote, Acorns, Salmon, and Quartz: Verse Analysis of a Karok Myth."

Publications in the Smithsonian Contributions series are federally funded and cannot be sold. They are distributed free of charge to many research libraries and institutions throughout the world, and to interested individuals who write to the Press to request a copy. Once the Press's stock has been exhausted through such requests, the publication is effectively out of print. If you would like to receive a copy, write to:

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Smithsonian Institution Press
P.O. Box 37012
Victor Building, Suite 4300, MRC 950
Washington DC 20013-7012

Individuals may request only one book, and no requests from commercial dealers will be honored.

175.3 Sna Jtz'ibajom Seeks Support for Translations

From Teague Channing (tgoosh@hotmail.com) 21 Aug 2002:

I have recently returned from San Cristobal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, where I work with a group of Maya writers and actors by the name of Sna Jtz'ibajom ('The House of the Writer'). With the guidance of Dr. Robert Laughlin of the Smithsonian they helped compile the *Great Dictionary of the Tsotsil Language*, published in 1983. Since then this group of Tsotsiles and Tzeltals has transcribed and created a growing collection of their peoples' oral stories and legends. The communities concerned in this work are Zinacantan and San Juan Chamula (Tsotsil speaking), and Tenejapa, (Tzeltal). They have had a good portion of this literature published bilingually (Tsotsil/Tzeltal and Spanish) with

funding from the National Indigenist Institute in Mexico and the Rockefeller Foundation. They have also been able to publish their literacy program manuals, which they use to teach Tseltal and Tsotsil to men, women and children.

Sna Jtz'ibajom is now seeking help in the translation of these works from Spanish into English, for future publication here in the States. Since the majority of Sna's funding comes from the States, they are strongly hoping to have their stories disseminated to an English-speaking audience. In general, furthermore, there has been far more interest and concern among North Americans and Europeans about Maya culture than there is in Mexico and Central America itself.

Sna Jtz'ibajom's members are also actors, traveling with their itinerant drama troupe to hamlets throughout the highlands of Chiapas. Their plays deal both with their stories and with the modern social and ecological issues that confront Maya people. In recent years the use of video, radio and photography has further helped to disseminate their traditions and history of ancestral culture.

Right now, unfortunately, Sna's Literacy Program is on hold due to lack of funding. Anyone interested in helping, or with suggestions about this project, can contact me by phone (505/989-5374) or by e-mail (tgoosh@hotmail.com). More information about Sna can be found on-line at:

<http://www.mnh.si.edu/anthro/maya>

--Teague Channing
Santa Fe, NM

175.4 Upcoming Meetings

* California Indian Conference (Palomar College, Oct. 10-12)

17th Annual California Indian Conference will take place October 10-12, 2002, at Palomar College, San Marcos, hosted by the American Indian and American Studies Departments. The theme of the meeting will be "The Spirit of the Story." There will be five organized sessions:

I. Language: The Spirit of the Story can be conveyed through oral or written language traditions. Cultural identity is reflected in all aspects of culture, but is most rooted in traditional and to some degree in contemporary languages. How are our communities preserving, using and communicating their language heritage? Organizers: R. Bugbee (Luiseno) and D. Suarez (Jicarilla/Pueblo).

II. History and Government: The Spirit of the Story is reflected in original California family and governance structures and institutions, as well as in the various governments of colonial invaders from Spaniards to the current populations of North Americans. In what ways have the people maintained and preserved traditions from ancient times to the present day? Organizers: Alumnus Joley De La Torre (Luiseno) and

P. Dixon (Luiseno).

III. Visual Arts and Music: The Spirit of the Story is captured, in its more subtle spiritual aspects, through visual and performance arts. How can these traditions be appropriately preserved and presented to communicate the integrity and richness of these ancient traditions? What are the effective and appropriate ways to integrate traditional arts with today's media technologies? Organizers: L. Locklear (Lumbee/Catawba) and A. Harris (Cherokee).

IV. Archives, Records, and Museums: The Spirit of the Story lives within the minds and hearts of the People, especially the elders. A parallel record of evolving California traditions exists in tribal and nontribal records. How can the preservation, recovery, and repatriation of cultural resources and family histories contribute to today's communities? Organizers: L. Sisquoc (Chumash/Luiseno) and J. Keller.

V. Education and Youth: The Spirit of the Story of the future waits for today's California Indian families and communities to write it. How can we develop the tools needed by modern folks to bring positive learning environments to California Indian communities and our youth? What are effective technologies for bringing the ancient tellings and traditions to the community with appropriate security? Organizers: Tracy-Cook Lee and E. Hood (Luiseno/Shawnee).

Please send submissions for any individual and/or group presentations to the session organizers in care of:

California Indian Conference
Palomar College
1140 W. Mission Rd.
San Marcos, CA 92069

For more details call (760) 744-1150, ext. 2425, or visit the web site:

<http://www.palomar.edu/cic17>

175.5 Positions Open

* Language and Culture, Case Western Reserve University

From Thomas J. Csordas (txc9@po.cwru.edu) 19 Aug 2002:

The Case Western Reserve University Department of Anthropology invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position beginning Fall 2003 in language and culture, with an emphasis on issues of language use in relation to health/illness and/or human development. Candidates should have research interests that complement and contribute to the department's graduate program in medical anthropology, psychological

anthropology, cultural gerontology, international health, and urban health, as well as an ability to teach an introductory undergraduate course in sociolinguistics/ language and culture. Geographical area is open. Please submit 1) letter of application describing research and teaching interests; 2) curriculum vitae; 3) list of referees; 4) relevant publications, to: Thomas J. Csordas, Chair, Department of Anthropology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 44106-7125 by November 10th, 2002. Requirements: doctorate. CWRU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women and/or minorities are encouraged to apply. This employer does offer employment benefits to domestic partners of employees. This employer does prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation/preference and gender/identity expression.

* Linguistic anthropologist at U of Iowa [2nd posting]

From Laura Graham (laura-graham@uiowa.edu) 3 Jul 2002:

The University of Iowa Department of Anthropology invites applications for a tenure track faculty appointment in linguistic anthropology at the Assistant Professor rank to begin August 2003.

We seek candidates with active empirical projects and innovative theoretical approaches to how language mediates sociocultural life. Candidates should have strengths both in descriptive linguistics and in sociocultural anthropology. We are particularly interested in candidates who will enhance the linguistic component of the department's strength in cultural politics and representation, as well as other departmental foci. Geographic area open, teaching experience and publications preferred. Applicants must hold the Ph.D. by the date of appointment. Teaching load is four courses per year.

Send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references to: Laura Graham, Chair, Search Committee, Department of Anthropology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242.

Screening of applications will begin on December 1, 2002. The University of Iowa is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. This employer does offer employment benefits to domestic partners of employees. This employer does prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation/preference and gender identity/expression.

175.6 E-mail Address Updates

The following additions or changes have been made to the SSILA mailing list since the last Bulletin:

Burnouf, Laura.....lburnouf@yahoo.com; lburnouf@ualberta.ca
Davis, Cathlin M.davis2@eljay.org

Schultze-Berndt, Evaschultzeberndt@eva.mpi.de
Sheedy, Cory R. C.crcs@u.arizona.edu
Szymonik, Henry E.heszy@attbi.com

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF THE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES OF THE AMERICAS

Victor Golla, Secretary-Treasurer & Editor

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

tel: 707/826-4324 - fax: 707/677-1676 - e-mail: golla@ssila.org

Website: <http://www.ssila.org>
