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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The recent call for recordings of Native American languages for a museum exhibit prompts me to describe a moving exhibit that I visited a few weeks ago at the excellent Museo Chileno de Arte Precolombino in Santiago, Chile. The exhibit was staged in a single large, very dark room lit only by tightly focused spots on large graphic posters. It consisted of "stations," each with one of these posters and a speaker suspended from the ceiling. The speaker was also focused so that a visitor standing below it clearly heard its recording, with only a murmur of the other recordings in the room in the background. Some of the speakers played loop tapes of indigenous languages, most of them described on the posters as being from the last, or nearly last, speakers of the language. Other speakers played sounds from the natural environment--bird songs, animal calls, weather and sea sounds. The posters accompanying each speaker were more artistic than informational, with photos of the speakers and their environment, and the text quite subordinate; I don't know whether a viewer who wasn't actively seeking information about the languages and speakers would have perceived it well. There was an entry foyer with some graphics and maps, and an exit room with handouts and book sales. I found this presentation profoundly affecting and think it could be a model for similar exhibits in North America.

> --Jane McGary Portland, Oregon (janemcgary@earthlink.net)

* More on the Iquito Language Documentation Project

From Chris Beier (cmbeier@mail.utexas.edu) 3 Nov 2002:

To follow up on the announcement in SSILA Bulletin #180.2 regarding an Endangered Language Fund award to Lev Michael's and my Iquito Language Documentation Project:

The Project has recently launched a website at <http://www.iquito.org>. The website includes information on the development and background of this community-based language revitalization project, as well as a small but growing set of audio and textual materials in and on Iquito. Correspondence or questions regarding the project are welcome; contact us at <chris@iquito.org> or <lev@iquito.org>.

> --Chris Beier and Lev Michael University of Texas at Austin (cmbeier@mail.utexas.edu)

A recent paper by Bickel ("Referential density in discourse and syntactic typology," ms, University of Leipzig, 2002) on Sino-Tibetan languages suggests a pattern of noun/pronoun use that is influenced by case. Mickey Noonan and I would like to examine this hypothesis in other languages. Currently, we have several texts from several languages, but would like to expand our database. If anyone would be willing to share well-glossed texts, (i.e., morpheme for morpheme), preferably Pear Stories or Frog Stories (a la Dan Slobin) in the languages of California, the Southwest, South America, and other areas, please let me know. (We already have data on Salish languages, but would be interested in Pear/Frog stories in these languages.) Thanks in advance

--Mike Darnell (darnellmanda@earthlink.net)

* Navajo books available

From Carl Masthay (cmasthay@juno.com) 3 Nov 2002:

I have recently acquired a copy each of Berard Haile's 1926 _A Manual of Navaho Grammar_ and Irvy Goossen's 1973 _Navajo Made Easier_.

I already have my own copies. I would like to have someone have these two books, and would like to choose 1 or 2 of the first 4 or 5 respondents at \$10 a book.

--Carl Masthay 838 Larkin Ave., St. Louis, MO 63141-7758 314-432-4231 (cmasthay@juno.com)

181.2 Peter Austin to hold the Rausing Chair at SOAS

From (peterka@unimelb.edu.au) 14 Nov 2002:

Prof. Peter K. Austin has just left the University of Melbourne to take up the Marit Rausing Chair in Field Linguistics and Directorship of the Endangered Languages Academic Program (ELAP) at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. This new position will involve setting up an M.A. and Ph.D. in Language Documentation and Description and is part of a major new Endangered Languages Program being established at SOAS with support from the Lisbet Rausing Charitable Trust. In addition to ELAP there is an Endangered Languages Documentation Program (ELDP) administered by SOAS that will be distributing 15 million pounds of research grant funding over the next 10 years, and an Endangered Languages Archive.

Several new positions will be advertised at SOAS in coming months: a lectureship in Language Documentation, an Archivist, and two postdoctoral fellowships. Several Ph.D. scholarships will also be available.

Peter is currently at the University of Frankfurt, having earlier this year received a Humboldt Prize for international leadership in research. He will take up the post at SOAS full-time in January. He can now be contacted via e-mail at <pa2@soas.ac.uk>.

181.3 FEL Grant Competition for 2003

From Blair Rudes (BARudes@aol.com) 9 Nov 2002:

The Foundation for Endangered Languages is now accepting proposals for projects of work that will support, enable or assist the documentation, protection or promotion of one or more endangered languages.

There is a form that defines the content of appropriate proposals, which is accessible at the Foundation's website:

http://www.ogmios.org

It may also be obtained from:

Blair A. Rudes Applied Linguistics Program Department of English University of North Carolina at Charlotte 9201 University City Boulevard Charlotte, NC 28223-0001 USA

(BARudes@email.uncc.edu) Fax: +1-704-687-3961

All proposals must be submitted in this form to ensure comparability. The deadline for receipt of proposals for the current round will be January 31, 2003. The review committee will announce its decision before March 31.

Three points to note:

* The Foundation's funds are extremely limited and it is not anticipated that any award will be greater than US \$1,000. Smaller proposals stand a better chance of funding.

* Where possible, work undertaken within endangered language communities themselves will be preferred.

* The Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL) is separate from the Endangered Language Fund (ELF) (www.haskins.yale.edu). It is perfectly possible (and has indeed occurred in the past) that the same project can be partially funded by both FEL and ELF.

FEL awarded the following grants in 2002:

--Elena Perekhvalskaya (Russia): \$700 for the collection of oral histories and biographies on audio/video, in Udihe, a Tungusic language of Manchuria. Udihe speakers number only about 50.

--Marshall Lewis (USA): \$800 to compile dictionary materials, a grammar outline, texts, videos of performance for the Anyimere language, a Niger-Congo language with some 60-70 speakers.

--Suzanne Cook (Canada): \$800 for collection of audio/video recordings

of the Mayan language Lacandón in Mexico. There are about 500 Lacandón speakers.

--Beatrice Clayre (England): \$500 to produce a first reader in the Sa'ban language of Borneo, an Austronesian language with some 2,000 speakers.

--Daniel Aberra (Ethiopia): \$500 for elicitation of syntactic structures and collection of texts in the Shabo language spoken in his own country, an isolate with 200-600 speakers.

--Eun-Sook Kim (Canada): \$500 for research on the grammar and phonology of Nuu-chah-nulth, a Wakashan language of North America with some 50 speakers.

--Kevin Ford (Brunei): \$420 for collection of narratives, to be used in literacy development, for the Siwu language, a Niger-Congo language with about 5,000 speakers.

--Pascale Jacq (Australia): \$500 for a dictionary and grammar to be used in a multi-media teaching program in Nhaheun, a Mon-Khmer language of Southeast Asia with 2,500 speakers.

--Thomas Saunders (Australia): \$500 for a salvage description, with texts and conversations, of the Andajin language of the northern Kimberley in Australia. Andajin only has 2 speakers left.

--Alexander Sitzman (Austria): \$180 towards a sociolinguistic survey of Romaniki, an exoteric dialect of Greek.

181.4 Positions Open

* Post-doctoral fellowship at Rice University

From Philip W. Davis <pwd@ruf.rice.edu) 11 Nov 2002:</pre>

The Department of Linguistics at Rice University invites applications for a one-year post-doctoral fellowship for the 2003-2004 academic year. The successful candidate will have an active research program in an area of linguistics that complements the strengths of current departmental faculty. Preferred areas are psycholinguistics (language acquisition, neurolinguistics, and/or laboratory phonology) or anthropological linguistics (Native American languages or endangered languages more generally). The Post-Doctoral Fellow will interact with faculty and graduate students and with programs outside the department where appropriate, e.g. Cognitive Sciences. Teaching duties will include one course per semester: a general course in linguistics and a graduate seminar in his/her area of specialization. Salary: \$35,000. For full consideration, reply by January 31, 2003, with three letters of recommendation to:

> Philip W. Davis, Chair Department of Linguistics, MS 23

6100 Main St. Rice University Houston, TX 77005 (ling@rice.edu) http://www.linguistics.rice.edu

181.5 Upcoming Meetings

* Navajo language workshop (U of New Mexico, Gallup, January 17)

From Alyse Neundorf (aneundorf@gallup.unm.edu) 07 Nov 2002:

Navajo language students and scholars are invited to present their papers and or participate in a one day gathering on January 17, 2003 at the University of New Mexico, Gallup Branch Campus. The all day meeting will be held in Gurley Hall B 207, 205 and 204. There will be a \$10 fee for Conference expenses. We expect a good turn out. There is much to be discussed along with the papers we hope to have presented at this meeting. E-Mail a one double spaced page summary of a 20 to 30 minute talk on Navajo Language to <aneundorf@gallup.unm.edu> or mail by snail mail to: Alyse Neundorf, UNM-G, Box 23, Gallup, NM 87301.

* SALSA 2003 (U of Texas, Austin, April 11-13)

From SALSA (utsalsa@uts.cc.utexas.edu) 07 Nov 2002:

The SYMPOSIUM ABOUT LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY--AUSTIN is pleased to announce its 11th annual meeting to be held April 11-13, 2003, at the University of Texas at Austin. We encourage the submission of abstracts on research that addresses the relationship of language to culture and society. Desired frameworks include but are not limited to: Linguistic Anthropology; Sociolinguistics; Ethnography of Communication; Language and Identity; Speech Play, Verbal Art, and Poetics; Language and Media; Political Economy of Language; Language and Social Interaction; Discourse Analysis; Language Vitality; Language Socialization; and Gesture in Talk and Interaction.

Keynote speakers will include: Richard Bauman, Indiana University; Penelope Eckert, Stanford University; Lisa Green, University of Texas at Austin; and Karen Tracy, University of Colorado at Boulder.

Papers delivered at the conference will be published as a special edition of the Texas Linguistic Forum. Speakers will be allowed 20 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. Papers will be selected based on the evaluation of an anonymous written abstract, which may not exceed 600 words. This year, we will accept only electronic submissions.

Please e-mail your abstract to <utsalsa@uts.cc.utexas.edu>, Subject: SALSA 11 Abstract. Please include in the following order:

1. Title of the paper

- 2. Author's name
- 3. Author's affiliation
- 4. Address, phone number, and e-mail address at which the author wishes to be notified
- 5. A 600-word abstract*
- 6. A short 200-word abstract* for publication in the conference program
- Equipment needs (e.g., overhead projector, computer projection, etc.)

*Please send the abstracts as a Word attachment as well as in the body of the e-mail message.

Visit the SALSA web page for submission guidelines and conference details:

http://www.utexas.edu/students/salsa/index.shtml

Deadline for receipt of abstracts is January 15, 2003. Late submissions will not be accepted, and we cannot accept papers that are to be published elsewhere. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be sent in mid-February 2003. Registration fees will be approximately \$20 for students and \$40 for non-students. Completed papers must be brought to the conference to be included in the published proceedings.

For further information:

SALSA, University of Texas at Austin Department of Linguistics 1 University Station B5100 Austin TX 78712-0198 (utsalsa@uts.cc.utexas.edu)

* 6th WAIL (UC Santa Barbara, April 25-27)

From Jeanie Castillo (jeaniec@UMAIL.UCSB.EDU) 4 Nov 2002:

The Linguistics department, University of California, Santa Barbara announces its sixth annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages (WAIL), April 25-27, 2003. WAIL, which is organized by UCSB graduate students, provides a forum for the discussion of theoretical and descriptive linguistic studies of indigenous languages of the Americas.

Anonymous abstracts are invited for talks on any topic in linguistics. In addition, we will be hosting a special session on language revitalization and encourage the submission of abstracts in this area. Talks will be 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes for discussion. Individuals may submit abstracts for one single and one co-authored paper. Abstracts should be 500 words or less and can be submitted by hard copy or e-mail.

For hard copy submissions, please send five copies of your abstract and a 3x5 card with the following information: (1) name; (2) affiliation; (3) mailing address; (4) phone number; (5) email address; (6) title of your paper. Mail these to: Workshop on American Indigenous Languages Department of Linguistics University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA 93106

E-mail submissions are encouraged. Include the information from the 3x5 card (above) in the body of the e-mail message, with the abstract as an attachment. Please limit your abstracts to the following formats: PDF, RTF, or Microsoft Word document.

Send e-mail submissions to:

wail@linguistics.ucsb.edu

The deadline for receipt of abstracts is January 15, 2003. Notification of acceptance will be by e-mail by February 15, 2003.

The UCSB campus is located near the Santa Barbara airport. Participants may also choose to fly into LAX airport in Los Angeles which is approximately 90 miles south of the campus. Shuttle buses run between LAX and Santa Barbara. Information about hotel accommodations will be posted on the web.

For further information contact the conference coordinator at wall@linguistics.ucsb.edu or (805) 893-3776 or check out the WAIL website at:

http://orgs.sa.ucsb.edu/nailsg/

* Symposium on linguistic diversity (ICAES, Florence, July 5-7)

From EAA (eaa@inantro.hr) 8 Nov 2002:

A symposium on "Language Dynamics and Linguistic Diversity in Anthropological Perspective" will be held in Florence, Italy, July 5-7, 2003, under the auspices of the XV ICAES (the 15th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences). This world congress is organized every five years and traditionally attempts to cover the most diverse important aspects of anthropological research, including those related to human languages. The goal of the symposium is to consider how the contemporary global processes of cultural and environmental disruption represent also a threat to linguistic diversity.

The symposium will address a wide range of cultural, social, political, economic and technological issues affecting language dynamics and change at a global scale in order to contribute to the definition of factors that sustain the vitality and maintenance of languages in their environment. Papers by anthropologically informed linguists and/or linguistically trained anthropologists that explore any aspect of broadly conceived language dynamics are welcomed -- especially those that focus on cross-disciplinary questions such as the biological and sociocultural functions of linguistic diversity and other relevant themes of ecolinguistics, contact linguistics, cultural identity, language policies and linguistic rights. The proceedings with the full accepted papers will be published after the conference by the organizers.

Submissions should include the following information: Title of the paper, your particulars (initials and surname), your address, telephone number, e-mail address, and fax number, as well as an abstract of no more than 250 words. The abstract should briefly indicate the paper's aim, perspective and findings, and must be received before 20 December 2002, preferably by e-mail. All materials should be sent to the symposium organizers:

Prof. Anita SUJOLDZIC Dr. Vesna MUHVIC-DIMANOVSKI Institute of Anthropology Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb Amruseva 8 10000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: 385 1 4816903; Fax: 385 1 4813777 (eaa@inantro.hr)

* Symposium on Andean languages (ICA, Santiago, Chile, July 14-18) From Serafín M. Coronel-Molina (scoronel@adelphia.net) 11 Nov 2002:

[The following is a second call for papers for a symposium that I am organizing with two colleagues to be held at the 51st International Congress of Americanists in July 2003 in Santiago, Chile. Please note that the deadline for submission of abstracts is December 30. --SCM.]

* * * *

A symposium on "Languages, Cultures, Ideologies and Identities in the Andes" is being organized as part of the 51st International Congress of Americanists, in Santiago, Chile, July 14-18, 2003. The convenor of the symposium is Serafín M. Coronel-Molina; co-convenors are Linda Grabner-Coronel and César Itier.

The primary focus of this symposium is on the interface between cultures, languages and ideologies of the Andean region, long known as a nexus of cultures and languages bound up in a colonizing context: What do people do with their repertoire of languages and identities? How do they constitute their multiple ethnic, linguistic and national identities? How do linguistic, political and social ideologies mediate cultural patterning in terms of ethnic or gendered identities?

Novel perspectives and approaches to these or related topics are encouraged, and may include interactions among two or more themes. Individual presentations should not exceed 20 minutes in length, and may be in Spanish, English, Portuguese or French.

Proposals should be no longer than 600 words, and must include (1) a cover page with the title of the presentation, the presenter's name, affiliation, preferred mailing address, telephone and fax if available, e-mail address, and any special audio-visual equipment that may be needed for the presentation; and (2) the text of the proposal with

the title of the presentation, but no other identifying information. Proposal submissions should be received no later than December 30, 2002.

Residents of Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa or Asia should submit proposals to: Serafín M. Coronel-Molina, 95 South Drive, Amherst, New York 14226, USA (scoronel@adelphia.net). Residents of Canada, the USA, Europe and Australia should submit proposals to: Linda Grabner-Coronel, Canisius College, Department of Modern Languages, 2001 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14208, USA (grabnerl@canisius.edu).

If you choose to submit your abstract via e-mail, please send it as a Word attachment. Submitters will be notified of their acceptance no later than the end of January 2003.

For more information, see the Symposium website:

http://www2.canisius.edu/~grabnerl

For more detailed information on the rules governing presentations, and all other conference arrangements, see the ICA website:

http://www.uchile.cl/vaa/americanista

181.6 Media Links

* News story on language revitalization in Alaska

The text of an article about Deg Xinag (Ingalik Athabascan) language revitalization that appeared in the October 20 edition of the Anchorage Daily News can be found on-line at:

http://www.adn.com/life/story/1994446p-2096145c.html

* Second series on aboriginal Canadian languages aired on APTN

North Americans lucky enough to have access to the Aboriginal Peoples' channel (APTN) on cable and satellite TV are currently enjoying a new 13-part series on the indigenous languages of Canada. "Finding Our Talk," produced by Native-owned Mushkeg Media Inc., garnered much acclaim in its first season in 2001. The second season continues to document the efforts made by Aboriginal communities, groups and individuals across Canada to preserve and promote their Native languages and cultures. Episodes began airing earlier this month and will continue into the new year. Each episode is shown in English, French, and Cree versions. For titles and schedules visit the Mushkeg Media website:

http://www.mushkeg.ca

* Article on Hertitage Languages conference

Education Week has a nice article on the 2nd national Heritage Languages in America conference that was held in Washington in October. (SSILA's Leanne Hinton and Acoma language educator Christine Sims were among the participants.) The text is available on-line at:

http://www.edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=09language.h22

Links to this and many other news stories on language education can be found at Jon Reyhner's "Teaching Indigenous Languages" website:

http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~jar/TIL.html

181.7 E-mail Address Updates

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

Austin, Peterpa2@soas.ac.uk Callaway, NickCzarnicholasII@aol.com DuPuis, Marlamjdupuis@chehalistribe.org Paster, Marypaster@socrates.berkeley.edu

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