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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182.1 Correspondence

* Amerindian electronic texts

From Yuri Tambovtsev (yutamb@mail.cis.ru) 16 Nov 2002:

I have fed into my computer the Sweet Grass Cree texts from Bloomfield's "Sacred Stories of the Sweet Grass Cree" (1930), pp. 8-27. I've computed the frequencies of occurrence of separate phonemes and phonemic consonantal groups: 1) labial; 2) front; 3) mediolingual or palatal; 4) back (velar and glottal); 5) sonorant; 6) occlusive; 7) fricative and 8) voiced. I have compared their distribution in 31 portions of the Sweet Grass Cree to the analogical distributions in 120 world languages of different families: Finno-Ugric, Turkic, Tungus-Manchurian, Paleo-Asiatic, and Indo-European. The results are quite interesting. However, I'd like to compare my data with some other Amerindian languages. Could readers of the SSILA Bulletin tell me where I might obtain other Amerindian texts in electronic form?

--Yuri Tambovtsev Novosibirsk Pedagogical University Novosibirsk, Russia (yutamb@hotmail.com)

182.2 Endangered Language Fund: Request for Proposals, 2003 From Doug Whalen (whalen@alvin.haskins.yale.edu) 23 Nov 2002:

The Endangered Language Fund, thanks to the generosity of its members, is once again able to offer small grants for work on endangered languages.

The Endangered Language Fund provides grants for language maintenance and linguistic field work. The work most likely to be funded is that which serves both the native community and the field of linguistics. Work which has immediate applicability to one group and more distant application to the other will also be considered. Publishing subventions are a low priority, although they will be considered. Proposals can originate in any country. The language involved must be in danger of disappearing within a generation or two. Endangerment is a continuum, and the location on the continuum is one factor in our funding decisions. Eligible expenses include consultant fees, tapes, films, travel, etc. Grants are normally for one year periods, though extensions may be applied for. We expect grants in this round to be less than \$4,000 in size, and to average about \$2,000.

There is no application form, but the information requested below should be printed (on one side only) and FOUR COPIES sent to:

The Endangered Language Fund Dept. of Linguistics Yale University P. O. Box 208366 New Haven, CT 06520-8366 USA

Applications must be mailed in. No e-mail or fax applications will be accepted. Please note that regular mail, especially from abroad, can take up to four weeks. If you have any questions, please write to the same address or e-mail to <elf@haskins.yale.edu>.

The cover page of the application should include:

--Title of the project --Name of the language and the country in which it is spoken --Name & address of the primary researcher (include phone and e-mail) --Social Security Number (if U.S. citizen) --Place and date of birth --Present position, education, and native language(s) --Previous experience and/or publications that are relevant

Include the same information for collaborating researchers if any.

Beginning on a separate page, provide a description of the project.

This should normally take two pages, single spaced, but the maximum is five pages. Be detailed about the type of material that is to be collected and/or produced, and the value it will have to the native community (including relatives and descendants who do not speak the language) and to linguistic science. Give a brief description of the state of endangerment of the language in question.

On a separate page, prepare an itemized budget that lists expected costs for the project. Estimates are acceptable, but they must be realistic. Please translate the amounts into US dollars. List other sources of support you are currently receiving or expect to receive and other applications that relate to the current one.

Two letters of support are recommended, but not required. Note that these letters, if sent separately, must arrive on or before the deadline (April 21st, 2003) in order to be considered. If more than two letters are received, only the first two will be read.

A researcher can be primary researcher on only one proposal.

Applications must be received by APRIL 21, 2003. Decisions will be delivered by the end of May 2003.

Receipt of application will be made by email if an email address is given. Otherwise, the applicant must include a self-addressed post-card in order to receive the acknowledgment.

If a grant is awarded, before receiving any funds university-based applicants must show that they have met the requirements of their university's human subjects' committee. Tribally or otherwise-based applicants must provide equivalent assurance that proper protocols are being used.

If a grant is made and accepted, the recipient is required to provide the Endangered Language Fund with a short formal report of the project and to provide the Fund with copies of all audio and video recordings made with ELF funds, accompanying transcriptions, as well as publications resulting from materials obtained with the assistance of the grant.

For further information contact <elf@haskins.yale.edu>, or visit the ELF website:

http://www.ling.yale.edu/~elf

182.3 Positions Open

* Tenure-track position at Alaska Native Language Center From Gary Holton (Gary.Holton@UAF.EDU) 15 Nov 2002:

The Alaska Native Language Center invites applications for a tenuretrack position in Athabascan languages and linguistics at the Assistant Professor level, effective August 2003. TYPICAL DUTIES: Research in Alaska Athabascan languages, especially in the fields of language documentation, language revitalization, language acquisition and second language pedagogy. Compilation of grammars, dictionaries and texts. Support for Native language revitalization efforts throughout the state of Alaska, including coordination with community-based organizations. Curriculum and materials development for Alaska Native languages. Teaching in the field of Alaska Native languages and linguistics (including distance delivery).

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Advanced degree in Linguistics or a related field (Ph.D. preferred). Experience working in endangered language communities and knowledge of Athabascan languages preferred.

APPLICATION: Please provide an Applicant Form, letter of interest, curriculum vitae, sample of recent work, and names and contact information for three references. The University of Alaska applicant form can be downloaded at:

http://www.alaska.edu/hr/forms/PDF_ent/applicant_form_ent.pdf

Submit all application materials to:

Dr. Lawrence Kaplan, Search Committee c/o UAF Human Resources 3295 College Road, Room 108 PO Box 757860 Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7860

The closing date is Jan 10, 2003.

A complete job vacancy announcement can be found at:

http://www.uaf.edu/uafhr/jobs/Job1102-472.html

For more information contact Lawrence Kaplan at (907) 474-6582 or <ffldk@uaf.edu>, or visit the ANLC website at:

http://www.uaf.edu/anlc

* Linguistic anthropologist at Southern Illinois University From Andy Hofling (ahofling@siu.edu) 20 Nov 2002:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Department of Anthropology invites applications for a linguistic anthropologist, rank open, beginning August 16, 2003. Salary and rank dependent on qualifications. Applicants must have completed all requirements for the Ph.D. degree by starting date. This position forms part of the SIUC Faculty Strategic Hiring Initiative. Areal focus open, but Department is especially interested in languages and cultures of the Americas. Topical specializations open, but should complement those of a four-field oriented faculty. Active fieldwork experience, experience in descriptive linguistics and ethnography, and strength in cultural anthropology desired. Must have an established record of excellence in research and teaching. Teaching two courses per semester, including undergraduate and graduate core courses in linguistic anthropology, and advanced undergraduate and graduate courses in the candidate's geographical and topical areas of interest. Closing date for applications is February 1, 2003, or until position is filled. Send vitae, letter detailing professional interests and teaching experience, and names/addresses/ e-mail addresses/phone/fax #s of three references to:

> Search Committee Chair Linguistic Anthropology Position Department of Anthropology, SIUC Carbondale, IL 62901-4502.

SIUC is committed to developing a diverse faculty and staff population. SIUC is an equal opportunity employer that strives to enhance its ability to develop a diverse faculty and to increase its potential to serve a diverse student population. All applications are welcomed and encouraged and will receive consideration.

* Research Chair in Aboriginal Studies, Memorial U, Newfoundland From Adrian Tanner (atanner@mun.ca) 29 Nov 2002:

Memorial University invites applications for a Canada Research Chair (Tier II) in Aboriginal Studies. We seek a rising new scholar with outstanding research accomplishments in Aboriginal Studies in the Social Sciences, Humanities or Education. Fluency in an Aboriginal language would be an asset. While the position will be associated with a department in the Faculty of Arts or in Education, the holder is expected to engage in and encourage Aboriginal Studies in general, especially in relation to Newfoundland and Labrador. Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. For further information, go to:

http://www.mun.ca/research/crc/abor.html

Applicants should send a CV, statement of research interests and plans, teaching dossier and names of three referees to: Dr Adrian Tanner, Chair, Search Committee for the CRC in Aboriginal Studies, c/o the Dean of Arts, Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, AlC5S7. Tel: (709) 737 8254; Fax: (709) 737 2135; E-mail: deanarts@mun.ca

182.4 Websites of Interest

The Intertribal Wordpath Society maintains a website at:

http://www.ahalenia.com/iws

Our mission is to promote the teaching, awareness, status and use of Oklahoma Indian languages.

--Alice Anderton Executive Director, IWS (wordpath@yahoo.com)

* Mundus Gateway to Missionary Collections in the UK

[The following might be of interest to SSILA members, especially to those working in Canada. --Joseph Tomei (jtomei@kumagaku.ac.jp).]

From: Caroline Brick (cb61@soas.ac.uk) 15 Nov 2002:

The SOAS Library is pleased to announce the launch of the Mundus Gateway, an on-line guide to missionary-related resources in the UK:

http://www.mundus.ac.uk

Since the early 18th century missionaries have set out from Britain to evangelize the world. In so doing they have created or collected a wealth of documentation, including archives, personal papers, printed books and pamphlets, photographs, films, sound recordings and artifacts. These materials document the encounter between western missionaries and the peoples and terrain of Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands and the Americas over a 200 year period and are increasingly being used and appreciated by researchers from a broad range of academic disciplines. However, missionary collections are widely dispersed and difficult to locate. For the first time descriptions of these scattered resources have been brought together in a unified electronic guide.

The Mundus database contains summary descriptions of more than 400 collections held in over 50 institutions in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Each description provides content and contextual information, and details of finding aids and of access conditions. The database can be accessed in a number of ways: free-text searching, browsing by name, place and subject indexes and using a clickable map. There are links to missionary-related on-line resources and other useful websites in the British Isles and elsewhere, while the Mundus Gallery provides a sample of the extensive range of visual materials to be found in many missionary collections. The Mundus guide also aims to assist in the planning of research visits since full location and access details for each holding institution are supplied.

The Gateway is the culmination of the three-year RSLP funded Mundus Project, to improve access to missionary collections held in a wide variety of institutions throughout the UK. It was compiled by project staff at the School of Oriental and African Studies with technical assistance from staff at the University of London Computer Centre and in consultation with partners at the Universities of Birmingham, Cambridge, Edinburgh and Oxford. In addition to the Gateway the Mundus project has achieved the cataloguing of 90 previously unlisted archival collections and some 40,000 photographs. On-line catalogues have been created to a number of major archives and to some 15,000 printed books. Measures have also been taken to improve the physical storage of fragile materials and to conserve badly affected documents. The Mundus Gateway will continue to be maintained and updated at the School of Oriental and African Studies under the direction of the Archivist, Rosemary Seton.

182.5 Upcoming Meetings

* Symposium on Amerindian Linguistics (Mérida, Yucatán, February 24-28)

From Ramón Arzápalo (arzapalo@servidor.unam.mx) 22 Nov 2002:

An International Symposium on Amerindian Linguistics will be held in Mérida, Yucatán, February 24-28, 2003, sponsored by the Instituto de Investigaciones Antropológicas, UNAM, the Presidencia Municipal of Mérida, and the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán. The theme of the Symposium will be LAS LENGUAS AMERINDIAS ANTE EL NUEVO MILENIO.

Objetivo general:

--Ofrecer un espacio apropiado para la presentación y discusión de trabajos recientes de los estudiosos dedicados a las lenguas amerindias.

Objetivos especmficos:

- --Analizar los diversos modelos empleados para la descripción de las lenguas originarias de la América Latina, así como las aportaciones hechas por los lingüístas de esta región geográfica a la teoría lingüística.
- --Fomentar la diversificación en el enfoque de los estudios lingüísticos, filológicos y literarios del ámbito amerindio, para conocer así, su realidad social y cultural.
- --Difundir la relevancia de estos estudios para la sociedad en general, a través de foros de discusión que vinculen a estas lenguas con la educación, la política y la religión.
- --Establecer lazos más estrechos con aquellos estudiantes interesados en estos campos de estudio, así como con investigadores de disciplinas afines.

Líneas temáticas del simposio:

- Estudios de las estructuras lingüísticas (fonología, morfosintaxis, semántica, análisis del discurso
- 2. Aportaciones teóricas de la lingüística indoamericana
- 3. La lingüística aplicada a las lenguas indoamericanas
- 4. Lengua, cultura y sociedad
- 5. Políticas del lenguaje
- 6. Lengua y literatura
- 7. Filología indoamericana
- 8. Estudios transdisciplinarios
- 9. OTRAS

Dirigir toda correspondencia a:

Dr. Ramón Arzápalo Marín, Presidente del Comité Organizador Primer Simposio Internacional de Lingüística Amerindia Instituto de Investigaciones Antropológicas, UNAM Ciudad Universitaria. Delegación Coyoacán CP 04510 México, D.F. México Fax: (52) 56.22.96.51 E-mail: arzapalo@servidor.unam.mx

* Role and Reference Grammar (São Paulo State U, Brazil, July 14-20) From Robert Van Valin (vanvalin@ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU) 21 Nov 2002:

The 2003 International Course and Conference on Role and Reference Grammar will be held at São Paulo State University at São José do Rio Preto, Brazil, 14-20th July 2003. The theme will be "Exploring the interfaces among meaning, function and morphosyntactic form."

The organizing committee for RRG2003 consists of Robert Van Valin (University at Buffalo), Dan Everett (University of Manchester), Roberto Gomes Camacho (São Paulo State University), Marize M. Dall'Aglio Hattnher (São Paulo State University), Ricardo Mairal (UNED, Madrid) and Toshio Ohori (Tokyo University).

A four-day international course will be followed by a three-day international conference. The course will include lecture sessions at three levels: introductory, post-graduate and specialized. Introductory sessions will present the basics of the main topic of the day; post-graduate sessions will provide a detailed account of functional models, including RRG and Functional Grammar; and specialized sessions will deal with advanced topics in RRG. The conference will stage papers, workshops and plenary sessions. There will also be a workshop on Amazonian languages headed by Daniel Everett on July 18-20 as part of the conference. The title is "Autochthonous languages in Brazil and syntactic theory: functional and formal considerations." Contact Daniel Everett (Dan.Everett@man.ac.uk) for more details.

RRG2003 will deal with issues in linguistic theory related to the theory of RRG as presented in Van Valin and LaPolla, _Syntax_ (1997). Special attention will be paid to the further elaboration of RRG in areas like morphology, information structure, and lexical semantics. During the conference, there will be a parallel session on FG. Papers should be devoted to the elaboration of the theory of FG as set out in Dik, _The Theory of Functional Grammar_, edited by Kees Hengeveld. Workshops may bear on points of convergence and divergence between the two functional models.

Speakers invited to the course and conference include Anna Siewierska (Lancaster University), Balthasar Bickel (University of Leipzig), Dan Everett (University of Manchester), Robert Van Valin (University at Buffalo).

The deadline for the submission of abstracts of papers and workshops is March 15, 2003. Abstracts should be no longer than three hundred words,

including references. The language of the conference will be English. Papers will last twenty minutes, followed by another ten minutes of discussion. Workshops will last forty-five minutes, followed by another fifteen minutes of discussion. The selection of papers for presentation will have been communicated by April 15, 2003.

A web page is under construction at the moment. Further information on RRG2003, including a detailed program, accommodation information, fee payment, social events, etc., will be enclosed in subsequent announcements. Anyone interested in receiving further information should send a message to:

RRG2003@ibilce.unesp.br

182.6 E-mail Address Updates

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

Arzápalo, Ramón	arzapalo@servidor.unam.mx
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