

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

*** 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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201.0 SSILA Business

* Registration for the Boston meeting

Most of the scheduled participants in the SSILA sessions of the Boston meeting have preregistered. A few have not, for various reasons. Since preregistration has now closed, it is expected that these participants will register on-site with the LSA. They will be billed for the additional SSILA fee (\$10, \$5 for students) by mail.

SSILA participants must comply with the LSA policy on meeting registration, as set forth in the October 2003 LSA Bulletin:

Everyone attending the meeting is expected to register. Compliance is important for keeping our fees affordable. Only those who register and are wearing badges will be allowed to present papers, use the Job Placement Service, or attend plenary presentations.

* Mouton discount offer renewed

After a short hiatus due to administrative changes at the editorial office, Mouton de Gruyter has renewed its longstanding offer to SSILA members of substantial discounts on selected publications. The titles and prices remain those announced in the last published brochure (2002), with the addition of several new volumes in the Mouton Grammar Library series. Members who still have copies of the 2002 brochure may use the order form there. An updated brochure will be distributed with the January issue of the SSILA Newsletter and will be posted at the SSILA website.

The Mouton de Gruyter discount offer is made to individual members of SSILA only, and not to libraries or other institutions. Orders must be placed through the SSILA office, not sent directly to Mouton, and the special Mouton-SSILA order form (included in the brochure) must be used.

201.1 Correspondence

* Better addresses for SIL's publications

From Paul Frank (paul-maggie_frank@sil.org) 27 Nov 2003:

While browsing the latest SSILA Newsletter I noted that the "Regional Networks" information on SIL's publications isn't the best one. It currently only lists <www.sil.org>. The best URL for our Bookstore is:

<http://www.ethnologue.com/bookstore.asp>

Or more simply:

<http://www.ethnologue.com>

Another change that needs to be made: The SSILA notice gives <academic_bookstore@sil.org> as the Bookstore's e-mail address. That account does not exist. It should be <academic_books@sil.org> instead.

Thanks for noting these changes. SSILA readers may be interested to know about one of our most recent publications -- a book in honor of Ken Pike. See:

http://www.ethnologue.com/show_product.asp?isbn=1556711409

--Paul Frank
SIL International
(paul-maggie_frank@sil.org)

201.2 Position Open

* Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Studies, U of Victoria
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From Aliko Marinakis (aliki@uvic.ca) 3 Dec 2003:

The Department of Linguistics at the University of Victoria seeks a candidate for a Chair in Indigenous Studies within the Canada Research Chair program. This position is designated as Tier II (emerging scholar) and will be filled by an active researcher whose profile meets the requirements of the CRC program (see <http://www.chairs.gc.ca> for details of the CRC program and necessary qualifications for those nominated). The person will provide leadership to the efforts centred in our Department and the Faculty of Humanities related to Indigenous language research, documentation, maintenance, and revitalization, and will contribute to interdisciplinary work through links across campus especially in the faculties of Social Sciences, Fine Arts and the newly approved Minor in Indigenous Studies.

The Canada Research Chair will be filled by a person of indigenous origin who will examine First Nations languages and linguistic cultures within Canada as well as in an international context. We are looking for a person who will contribute to and participate in the linguistic and cultural aspects of the life of indigenous communities, preferably those in British Columbia or those with close connections to this province. The chair holder will add to the store of knowledge and understanding of languages, cultures and related issues of concern to First Nations peoples by developing scholarship in partnership with indigenous communities. In doing this, the chair holder will be involved in the process of both defining significant issues internal to the community and the definition of the academic field of study itself.

Candidates should submit a letter of application indicating a research plan and priorities and a curriculum vitae by 1 February 2004. Names of referees will be requested at a later date. Applications should be submitted to:

Dr. Leslie Saxon
Chair, Department of Linguistics
University of Victoria
Box 3045 STN CSC
Victoria, BC V8W 3P4
(saxon@uvic.ca)

In accordance with the University's Equity Plan and Section 42 of the BC Human Rights Code, the selection of this Chair holder will be limited to aboriginal peoples. Candidates from this group are encouraged to self-identify.

The University of Victoria is one of Canada's most vigorous comprehensive universities. UVic is committed to excellence in research and accordingly invests significant resources to support its research activities. UVic's Strategic Research Plan, available at web.research.uvic.ca, outlines how the Canada Research Chair program will be used to enhance our capabilities. Our researchers are highly successful in attracting external grants and contracts, over \$30M in the past year. In 2003 the Department of Linguistics was awarded several very substantial grants associated with indigenous language studies, including a five-year Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) grant to support research and training in indigenous language revitalization on Vancouver Island.

Please direct questions either to Aliko Marinakis (aliko@uvic.ca), or to the Department Chair, Dr. Leslie Saxon (saxon@uvic.ca).

201.3 Grants and Awards

* FEL calls for proposals for 2004

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From Nicholas Ostler (nostler@chibcha.demon.co.uk) 25 Nov 2003:

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

Form for Submissions

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 me at the address below. All proposals must be submitted in this form, to ensure comparability.

Deadline

The time-limit for proposals in the current round will be 18 January 2004. By that date, proposals and supporting testimonials must reach FEL at the address below. The FEL Committee will announce its decision before March 31, 2004.

Four points to note (the first two are new this year):

1. The form now contains a question about the potential for further work after completion of a first grant. This information serves both to support the current application and to provide the Foundation with arguments in their quest for further funds to supplement existing projects in the future.
2. Where possible, work undertaken within endangered language communities

themselves will be preferred in the selection. FEL is prepared to comment on draft proposals from communities or community linguists, and suggest weaknesses and potential remedies (without prejudice) before the selection. Such draft proposals -- clearly marked "DRAFT" -- should reach FEL as soon as possible, and no later than December 31, 2003.

3. The Foundation's funds remain extremely limited and it is not anticipated that -- in the first instance -- any award will be greater than US\$1,000. Smaller proposals stand a better chance of funding.

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

Direct all correspondence to:

Nicholas Ostler
Foundation for Endangered Languages
Batheaston Villa, 172 Bailbrook Lane
Bath BA1 7AA
UNITED KINGDOM
(nostler@chibcha.demon.co.uk)

* ELF announces 10 grants

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From Doug Whalen (whalen@haskins.yale.edu) 5 Dec 2003:

The Endangered Language Fund's seventh annual request for proposals resulted in the submission of 68 projects on languages throughout the world. As usual, the quality of the proposals was high, leading to many difficult decisions. We funded ten of the projects, and could easily have done twenty. We are hoping to expand our resources for future grants.

Of the ten proposals selected, five focused on indigenous American languages:

-- Cora McKenna & Brenda McKenna (Nambe Pueblo, NM): "Tewa Dictionary and Curriculum, Nambe Dialect." [Nambe Pueblo is north of Santa Fe. Current Nambe classes serve learners from age 4 to 60, so the curriculum has to be specially designed. The ELF grant will help collect material for the classroom and a better dictionary.]

-- Lisa Conathan & Belle Anne Matheson (UC Berkeley): "Arapaho Description and Revitalization." [The Northern Arapaho community feels a need for an audio dictionary. Pitch accents are not necessary for fluent speakers to write, but they are difficult for learners to remember. Conathan and Matheson will work on a dictionary along with a better description of the rules of the sound system.]

-- Arthur Schmidt, Rita Flamand & Grace Zoldy (Metis): "The Camperville Michif Master-Apprentice Program." [Michif is a mixed language from Cree and French. Schmidt, a native Michif, but not a speaker, will apprentice himself to Flamand and Zoldy. The Endangered Language Fund grant will

allow Schmidt to spend time in Camperville in Manitoba, Canada.]

-- Rosemary Beam de Azcona (UC Berkeley): "Southern Zapotec Language Materials." [It appears that there are only two remaining speakers of San Agustín Mixtepec Zapotec, a southern Zapotec language of Mexico. Coatlán-Loxicha Zapotec is declining, though it has about 170 speakers. Beam de Azcona will record as much language material as possible.]

-- Rick Thoman & Gary Holton (U Alaska Fairbanks): "The Tanacross Athabascan Sound System." [This project will produce a CD-ROM illustrating the sound system of Tanacross. Speakers will pronounce selected words and phrases with the rich array of ejectives, affricates and fricatives as well as contrastive tone. This CD-ROM will be a useful resource for Tanacross.]

The five other projects funded include:

-- Nadezhda Shalamova (Tomsk Polytechnic U), Andrei Filtchenko (Rice U) & Olga Potanina (Tomsk State Pedagogical U): "Documentation of Vasyugan Khanty."

-- Dmitri Funk (Russian Academy of Sciences): "The Last Epic Singer in Shors (Western Siberia)."

-- Cheruiyot Kiplangat (Centre for Endangered Languages, Kenya): "Working to Save Ogiek and Sengwer of Kenya." [Two languages of the Rift Valley.]

-- Claire Bowern (Harvard U): "Bardi Language Documentation: The Laves Material." [An Australian language of the Nyulnyulan family. Bowern will re-check texts collected by Gerhardt Laves in 1929 with the remaining fluent speakers.]

-- Francis Egbokhare (U Ibadan, Nigeria): "Documenting Akuku Oral Traditions." [An endangered language of the Edoid family spoken in Edo state of Nigeria.]

As always, we depend on the generosity of our members. Just a dozen new members would sponsor a new grant. Please visit

<http://www.ling.yale.edu/~elf/join.html>

if you would like to join.

--Doug Whalen
Haskins Laboratories
New Haven, Connecticut
(whalen@haskins.yale.edu)

201.4 Upcoming Meetings

* Alaska Anthropological Association (Whitehorse, April 7-10)

From Roy Mitchell (roy.mitchell@sealaska.com) 25 Nov 2003:

I am organizing a session on "Revitalizing Indigenous Circumpolar Languages" for the 31st Annual Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association, which will meet April 7-10, 2004, in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.

Indigenous communities in the North have been working actively since the 1960s to revitalize their languages, often through formal programs in schools or through direct tribal activities. This session is to consider which areas of language work actually are contributing to language revitalization (and, perhaps, which are not), why or why not, and to propose what further efforts are needed and why.

Anyone interested in contributing to this session should contact me at the address below.

--Roy Mitchell
Sealaska Heritage Institute
One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 201
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(roy.mitchell@sealaska.com)

* Friends of Uto-Aztecan (Ignacio, CO, July 14-16)

From Tom Givon (tgivon@uoregon.edu) 04 Dec 2003:

This is a reminder that we would like to hear from those who seriously plan to attend the July 14-16 meeting of FOUA and present papers. In addition, please note that my e-mail address has been shortened to (mercifully): <tgivon@uoregon.edu>.

I'd like to again remind you that Ignacio, CO is a one-motel town, the motel being part of the Sky-Ute Casino & Lodge complex (tel: 970-563-3000 or 800-876-7017; ask for motel desk). I again urge those of you who plan to stay at the Sky-Ute Lodge to make reservations early (by March). It is a 40-room place and the Sundance weekend is kinda over-booked. If you plan to fly in, this is your most realistic option, unless you rent a car at the Durango-La Plata airport. The Sky-Ute Lodge has a van to transport guests to and from the airport.

If you drive, then there are many motels in Durango (20-25 miles away). But please bear in mind that July is in the midst of the (often busy) tourist season, so you're better off making reservations ahead of time.

Again, let me hear from those who plan to attend and participate.

--Tom Givón
University of Oregon
(tgivon@uoregon.edu)

* New list for Algonquian lexicographers

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From Monica Macaulay (mmacaula@wisc.edu) 18 Nov 2003:

An e-mail list, ALGONQDICT, has been started for those working on (or merely interested in) dictionaries of Algonquian languages. To sign up:

1. Go to <http://www.linguistlist.org/>
2. Click on "mailing lists."
3. Scroll down and on the left, in the grey box, you'll see "join a list"; click on that.
4. Find "Algonqdict" and click on "join."
5. Fill in the requested information and click "subscribe." (Note that you have to do this before you can choose any of the other options. If you want to click any of the other options you have to wait until you're subscribed and then go back and do it.)

Once you've subscribed, you can post to the list by sending a message to <algonqdict@listserv.linguistlist.org>.

---Monica Macaulay
Department of Linguistics
University of Wisconsin, Madison
(mmacaula@wisc.edu)

* Online database of historic Native American vocabularies

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From Evolution Publishing (EvolPub@aol.com) 5 Dec 2003:

Evolution Publishing is pleased to announce that our enhanced Interactive ALR web site is now up and running.

The Interactive ALR is a powerful online resource for the comparative study of Native American languages. Built from the ever-expanding catalog of our American Language Reprint (ALR) series, the Interactive ALR puts a growing 10,000 word linguistic database and powerful search capabilities into the hands of scholars, allowing for instant comparison of dozens of historical vocabularies.

Representing 400 years of linguistic data, and over two dozen languages scattered throughout more than 50 different documents, the database brings together a collection of information that has never before been so readily accessible in either book or electronic form.

Evolution will be beta-testing this database during December 2003 and most functions are freely available, including:

- Enhanced word search allowing the user to search for words, phrases and letter patterns in native entries as well as their English translations.
- An Interactive Linguistic Atlas, plotting native words on the user's

To read LD, visit: <http://linguistic-discovery.dartmouth.edu>

201.6 E-Mail Address Updates

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

Ackerman, Ilse ilal@cornell.edu
Bringhurst, Robert L. roehurst@uniserve.com
Danielsen, Swintha swintha@hotmail.com
Kim, Eun-Sook vanabba@yahoo.com
Koerner, Konrad efk.koerner@rz.hu-berlin.de
McEwan-Fujita, Emily emcewan@artsci.wustl.edu
Minks, Amanda agm25@columbia.edu
Truitt, Nell Joycenell@aol.com
Zamponi, Raoul zamponi_raoul@libero.it

When your e-mail address changes, please notify us (golla@ssila.org).

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>
