

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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Number 207: March 29, 2004

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207.0 SSILA Business

- \* Nominations solicited for the Ken Hale Prize

207.1 Correspondence

- \* Searching for materials on Siberian languages (R. Girlando)
- \* User-friendly dictionaries (W. Leman)

207.2 New Book Series on Native American Literatures and Translation

207.3 Upcoming Meetings

- \* "Reclaiming Native Languages" Seminar (Tahlequah, April 15-16)
- \* 6th Chinook Jargon Workshop (Portland, May 14-16)
- \* 36th Algonquian Conference (Madison, Oct. 28-31)
- \* ICHoLS-10 (Urbana-Champaign, Sept. 1-5, 2005)

207.4 E-Mail Address Updates

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207.0 SSILA Business

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\* Nominations solicited for the Ken Hale Prize  
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From Roberto Zavala (rzavmall@hotmail.com) 18 Mar 2004:

The Ken Hale Prize is presented annually by SSILA in recognition of outstanding community language work and a deep commitment to the documentation, maintenance, promotion, and revitalization of indigenous languages in the Americas. The Prize (which carries a small monetary stipend and is not to be confused with the Linguistic Society of America's Kenneth Hale Book Award) honors those who strive to link the academic and community spheres in the spirit of Ken Hale, and recipients can range from native speakers and community-based linguists to academic specialists, and may include groups or organizations. No academic affiliation is necessary.

Nominations for the award may be made by anyone, and should include a letter of nomination stating the current position and affiliation, if appropriate, of the nominee or nominated group (tribal, organizational, or academic), and a summary of the nominee's background and contributions to specific language communities. The nominator should also submit a

brief portfolio of supporting materials, such as the nominee's curriculum vitae, a description of completed or on-going activities of the nominee, letters from those who are most familiar with the work of the nominee (e.g. language program staff, community people, academic associates), and any other material that would support the nomination. Submission of manuscript-length work is discouraged.

The 2004 Ken Hale Prize will be announced at the next annual meeting of SSILA, in San Francisco in January 2005. The members of this year's selection committee are Roberto Zavala (chair), Akira Yamamoto, and Jack Martin.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is September 30, 2004.

The nomination packet should be sent to:

Akira Yamamoto  
Dept. of Anthropology  
University of Kansas  
Fraser Hall 622  
1415 Jayhawk Blvd.  
Lawrence, KS 66045

Nominations will be kept active for two subsequent years for prize consideration and nominators are invited to update their nomination packets if so desired. Inquiries can be e-mailed to Roberto Zavala at <rzavala@juarez.ciesas.edu.mx> or <rzavmall@hotmail.com>.

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207.1 Correspondence  
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\* Searching for materials on Siberian languages  
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From Raffaele.G (raffaelegir@tin.it) 22 Mar 2004:

As an autodidact (and a member of SSILA) I am very interested in the comparative study of Amerindian languages. I have been trying to substantiate (with my limited resources) the supposed genetic relationship between Na-Dene and some languages of Siberia, mostly those near and around the Bering Straits. I have access to some grammatical materials on Itelmen, Koryak and Chukchee, all belonging to the Chukotko-Kamchatkan family. Now, in order to enlarge my attempts at comparative study, I would like to find some grammatical materials (if possible, some grammatical sketches), even as photocopies, on the following two languages:

\* Ket, the only surviving member of the otherwise extinct Yeniseian family. According to some scholars, Yeniseian languages are supposed to be genetically related both to Na-Dene and to the Abkhazo-Adyghean (North-West Caucasian) family.

\* Nivkh/Gilyak, an isolate probably related to Chukotko-Kamchatkan.

I would, of course, pay the cost of any materials or photocopies, plus postage, in advance. Is there someone who could help me obtain these materials? I thank him/her very much in advance for his/her kindness.

--Raffaele Girlando  
Via Minghetti 8  
97013 Comiso (Ragusa), Sicily  
Italy  
(raffaelegir@tin.it)

\* User-friendly dictionaries  
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From Wayne Leman (wayne\_leman@sil.org) 28 Mar 2004:

(Also posted to Lexicography List, March 28, 2004.)

We live at a time when native speakers are (in my opinion, justifiably) increasingly calling for greater ownership of materials produced about their languages, greater input into decision-making in the production of those materials, and increasingly stating their desire to have those materials truly usable by native speakers.

Which dictionaries of aboriginal (First Nations, etc.) languages have proven to be most user-friendly to native speakers of those languages, and what features of those dictionaries have made them user-friendly?

Which dictionaries are widely used (not simply purchased) by native speakers themselves?

--Wayne Leman  
Busby, Montana  
(wayne\_leman@sil.org)

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207.2 New Book Series on Native American Literatures and Translation  
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From Brian Swann (swann@cooper.edu) 15 Mar 2004:

The University of Nebraska Press has invited me to edit a series titled "Native American Literatures and Translation." We intend to publish about two books a year and I am in the process of soliciting proposals. I am particularly interested in the practical and theoretical problems of translations from Native American languages throughout the Americas, as well as in collections of translations themselves. It might be a good idea to look at my Coming to Light and Voices from Four Directions, as well as On the Translation of Native American Literatures, though I am open to other formats and approaches. Perhaps we will be able to utilize technical innovations such as CD-ROM and the Internet.

Proposals should be as detailed as possible and addressed to me at:

Humanities and Social Sciences

Cooper Union  
Cooper Square  
New York, NY 10003

If you'd like to e-mail me I am <swann@cooper.edu>. (Please do not send proposals via e-mail.) My phone number is 212-353-4279 and my fax is 212-353-4398. Feel free to put out the word. I look forward to hearing from you.

--Brian Swann  
Cooper Union, New York City  
(swann@cooper.edu)

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207.3 Upcoming Meetings

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\* Seminar on "Reclaiming Native Languages" (Tahlequah, April 15-16)  
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From Mayrene Bentley (bentley@nsuok.edu) 16 Mar 2004:

The 32nd Annual Symposium on the American Indian will be held in the University Center, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, April 14-17. A featured part of the Symposium will be a special one-credit seminar course, "Reclaiming Native Languages: It's in the verb" (Th 6-8 pm and Fri 8 am-5 pm, April 15-16). This seminar focuses on current global efforts to reclaim and revitalize native languages by using innovative and scholarly approaches to teaching, learning, and program development.

The seminar invites all native language teachers, speakers, learners, and individuals interested in joining the revitalization efforts. It will be led by Dr. Akira Yamamoto, Anthropology Department, University of Kansas. Co-sponsors are: Oklahoma Native Language Association (OLNA), NSU Center for Tribal Studies, and the Cultural Resource Center of the Cherokee Nation.

The seminar is open to the public free of charge. Guests need not be enrolled to attend. For more information, contact Dr. Mayrene Bentley (bentley@nsuok.edu), or the Center for Tribal Studies at 918/456-5511, ext. 4350 (tribalstudies@nsuok.edu).

For the full Symposium agenda visit <http://www.nsuok.edu> and link to "upcoming events."

\* 6th Chinook Jargon Workshop (Portland, May 14-16)  
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From Jeffrey Kopp (jeffreykopp@att.net) 23 Mar 2004:

Native Americans, linguists and historians will meet from May 14th to 16th at the Native American Center at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon for the Sixth Chinook Jargon Workshop. The Workshop

consists of language classes, discussion groups and presentations designed to encourage the use and preservation of Chinook Jargon in the Pacific Northwest.

Chinuk Wawa (the Native term) was a language that served as a powerful communication tool in a variety of environments. Not just a "jargon," it was used as an important vehicle for artistic expression and cultural transmission, and was the primary language of many Native Americans along the northwest coast. This was especially true for the Grand Ronde community of northern Oregon, where a revival of the language is under way. Grand Ronde has a Chinuk Wawa immersion preschool and a university sponsored adult education class.

Workshop details are available on the Web at:

<http://www.adisoft-inc.com/lulu>

or by contacting Jim Holton (510-483-3725).

A Chinook Jargon discussion group, moderated by SSILA member Dave Robertson, is also available on the Web at:

<http://listserv.linguistlist.org/archives/chinook.html>

\* 36th Algonquian Conference (Madison, Oct. 28-31)  
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From Monica Macaulay (mmacaula@wisc.edu) 22 Mar 2004:

The 36th Algonquian Conference will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Thursday through Sunday, October 28-31, 2004.

Papers are invited on any scholarly topic in the field of Algonquian studies including, but not limited to, anthropology, archaeology, art, biography, education, ethnography, folklore, geography, history, language, linguistics, literature, music, politics, and religion. Papers may be delivered in English or French. Speakers will be allowed a maximum of 20 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion.

This year we would also like to particularly encourage submissions in three focal areas:

- Medicine and ethnobotany
- Politics and law
- Preverbs (linguistics)

If the number of submissions in these areas is high enough we will have parasessions devoted to each topic.

We also encourage organized sessions on particular topics. Interested parties should contact the conference organizers at the address below as soon as possible.

We ask that potential contributors submit an abstract (no more than one page in length, including title and names of all presenters), preferably by e-mail, by September 1st, 2004. All submissions should include the

name, address, affiliation, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address of each presenter. Please indicate on your submission any equipment needed for your presentation.

The e-mail address for submissions is: `mmacaula@wisc.edu`

In cases where e-mail submissions are not possible, a paper copy may be sent to the following address:

Organizing Committee, 36th Algonquian Conference  
Linguistics Department, 1168 Van Hise Hall  
1220 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706

Submissions may also be faxed to: (608) 265-3193.

Presentations will begin on Thursday, October 28th in the afternoon and will end on Sunday, October 31st at noon. The registration fee, payable to the 36th Algonquian Conference, is \$40 US (\$50 Canadian) if received by September 15th, 2004, and \$50 US (\$60 Canadian) thereafter, with student rates \$15 lower. Further information about the conference venue and accommodations is available at the Algonquian Conference website:

<http://www.umanitoba.ca/Algonquian>

--Monica Macaulay  
Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of Wisconsin  
(mmacaula@wisc.edu)

\* ICHoLS-10 (Urbana-Champaign, Sept. 1-5, 2005)

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From Douglas Kibbee (`dkibbee@uiuc.edu`) 15 Mar 2004:

The 10th International Conference on the History of the Language Sciences will take place at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Sept. 1-5, 2005. This conference takes place every three years, and this is the first time it has been held in the US since 1993. The history of descriptions of indigenous languages of the Americas has always been an important part of this conference. This year there will be special sessions on "missionary linguistics", organized by Otto Zwartjes (`otto.zwartjes@kri.uio.no`) but the organizing committee would also be happy to entertain independent proposals.

Papers on all aspects of the history of the language sciences are invited. Please submit abstracts of no more than 300 words to the conference organizer (address provided below). If a full panel on a particular topic is proposed, the organizer(s) should provide full abstracts for each paper.

We particularly encourage participation by scholars of non-Western linguistic traditions.

The deadline for receipt of abstracts is October 1, 2004. For further information contact the conference organizer:

Douglas Kibbee  
Department of French  
University of Illinois  
707 South Mathews Avenue  
Urbana IL 61801 USA  
(dkibbee@uiuc.edu)  
tel: 217 333-2020  
fax: 217 244-2223

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207.4 E-Mail Address Updates

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

Adams, Carrie Olivia ..... coa@press.uchicago.edu  
Hopper-Moore, Greg ..... greg\_hopper-moore@sil.org  
Lowes, Gwendolyn ..... glow@mail.utexas.edu  
McEwan-Fujita, Emily ..... ecmcewan@alumni.uchicago.edu  
von Wichert, Paul..... battlehard@shaw.ca  
Wilhelm, Andrea ..... wilhelm@ualberta.ca

An incorrect address was given in Bulletin #206 for Michael Swanton. His correct address is <m.swanton@let.leidenuniv.nl>. Our apologies.

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

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

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