

\*\*\* 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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Supplement: June 28, 2004

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SSILA ANNUAL MEETING, SAN FRANCISCO, JANUARY 6-9, 2005

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS AND ORGANIZED SESSIONS

The 2004-05 annual meeting of SSILA will be held in San Francisco, California, January 6-9, jointly with the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. There will be two categories of presentation: individual 15-minute papers (with 5 minutes for discussion: i.e., 20-minute paper slots), and organized sessions of variable structure. Abstracts for individual papers and proposals for organized sessions are now invited.

The deadline for receipt of abstracts and session proposals is 9 pm (Pacific Time) Tuesday, \*September 7, 2004\* (the first working day after Labor Day). Submission should be by e-mail (to ssila@ssila.org), although hard-copy submissions will be accepted in special circumstances (ask golla@ssila.org). In whatever format they are submitted, all abstracts and proposals must arrive by the stated deadline. Late submissions will not be considered, whatever the reason for the delay.

Following a policy decision made at the January 2004 meeting in Atlanta, this year's Program Committee will be reviewing abstracts more critically than in the past, in order to achieve a balanced program with no more than two simultaneous sessions. Regrettably, some abstracts may have to be rejected. Members of the Program Committee will discuss and judge each abstract on the basis of their collective knowledge and, when appropriate, on reports from consultants. In consultation with the SSILA Executive Committee, they will arrange each session, assemble the final program, and select session chairs.

Members of the Program Committee for the January 2005 meeting are: Pam Munro (chair), Wallace Chafe, Megan Crowhurst, Victor Golla (secretary), and Leslie Saxon. The President, David Rood, serves ex officio.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. All authors of papers (or participants in organized sessions) must be members of SSILA at the time the abstract or session proposal is submitted. Although SSILA membership is on a calendar year basis, an application for

2004 membership may be submitted at the same time as the abstract or session proposal (a form is available at the SSILA website). The membership requirement may be waived for co-authors, or for participants in organized sessions, who are from disciplines other than those ordinarily represented by SSILA (linguistics and linguistic anthropology). Requests for waivers of membership must be made by a member of the Society and must accompany the abstract or session proposal. (Note: Membership in LSA is not required for participation in the SSILA meeting.)

2. Any member may submit one 15-minute abstract as sole author and a second as co-author, or two as co-author. He/she may also be proposed as a presenter of a paper in one organized session, but if this proposal is accepted, the Program Committee may withdraw the 15-minute proposal on the author's behalf. (Note: These restrictions apply to the SSILA meeting program only. If you are the sole author of a paper on the LSA program you may also be the sole author of a paper on the SSILA program.)

3. Authors who will be unable to present their papers personally should specifically name a proxy who will both read the paper and respond to questions that follow.

4. After an abstract has been submitted, no changes of author, affiliation, title, or wording of the abstract, other than those due to typographical errors, are permitted.

5. Papers must be delivered as projected in the abstract or represent bona fide developments of the same research.

6. Handouts, if any, are not to be submitted with abstracts but should be available at the meeting for those listening to the paper.

7. All presenters of individual papers and all participants in organized sessions must register for the meeting.

#### CATEGORIES OF PRESENTATIONS

##### A. 15-Minute Papers

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The bulk of the program will consist of 15-minute papers, with 5 minutes for discussion. Guidelines for preparing abstracts for these papers appear below.

##### B. Organized Sessions

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SSILA encourages submissions of organized session proposals. Organized sessions typically involve more than one scholar and are expected to make a distinctive and creative contribution to the meeting. Proposals for organized sessions are NOT reviewed anonymously. These sessions may be:

1. Symposia which include several presentations on a single topic.
2. Workshops focused on a specific theme or issue.
3. Colloquia which include a major presentation with one or more invited discussants.
4. Sessions of any other kind with a clear, specific, and coherent rationale.

The organizer(s) of such sessions must submit the following:

1. By \*Monday, August 16\*: A preliminary version of the proposal, including a general statement of the purpose of the session and an abbreviated abstract for each paper that will be presented.

2. By \*Tuesday, September 7\* (following acceptance of the preliminary proposal by the Program Committee): A final version of the proposal, which must include:

-- A session abstract outlining the purpose, motivation, length (1 1/2 to 3 hours), and justification for the session.

-- Full abstracts (following the format and contents guidelines below, except for the requirement of anonymity) for all papers that are to form part of the session.

-- The names, addresses, e-mail, and telephone numbers of all participants, including discussants.

-- A complete account, including timetable, of what each participant will do. Note that organized sessions, even when structured as symposia, do not have

to follow the 15-minute paper + 5-minute discussion format. (The Program Committee reserves the right to modify this schedule.)

For the fullest consideration, organizers are strongly urged to submit a preliminary proposal at the earliest possible date in order to receive comments and suggestions from the Program Committee. Inquiries should be directed to the chair of the Program Committee, Pam Munro (munro@ucla.edu).

Funding. The Program Committee does not have funds for organized sessions. If special funds are required, it is the responsibility of the organizer(s) to seek and obtain them. When submitting the proposal to the Program Committee, the organizer(s) should state whether or not special funds will be necessary. If so, include the source of the funds, with an indication of what alternatives will be pursued if special funds fail to materialize.

#### ABSTRACT FORMAT

1. Abstracts should be sent as Microsoft Word or pdf files, attached to an e-mail in which you give your name, e-mail address, snail mail address, and affiliation. (In the case of co-authored papers, give this information for each author.) If you use any fonts other than Times, Times New Roman, or Symbol, submission as a pdf file is highly recommended; if the Program Committee cannot read your abstract, it may be rejected. If special circumstances require the submission of an abstract in hard copy, contact the SSILA Secretary (golla@ssila.org) for mailing instructions.

2. The abstract, including a bibliography and examples, if needed, should be long enough to give the Program Committee a clear idea of the paper that is being proposed. There is no minimum number of words, but an abstract of fewer than 250 words stands a good chance of being rejected. The maximum is 500 words, but the abstract must be printable on one side of a single page. All words in examples including glosses and numbers in tables, references, abbreviation explanations, and so on are counted in the 500 word limit.

Abstracts longer than 500 words or that cannot be printed on one side of a single 8.5" x 11" page will be rejected without being evaluated.

3. At the top of the abstract, put the title and two or three key words, such as language, language family, and subfield of linguistics. Please note the word count at the bottom of the abstract. These items do not count in the 500 word limit.

4. Abstracts will be reviewed anonymously. Do not include your name in the abstract (Word or pdf) file. Your name should appear only on the e-mail accompanying the abstract. If you identify yourself in any way in the abstract (e.g. "In Smith (1992)...I"), the abstract will be rejected without being evaluated.

5. Abstracts which do not conform to these format guidelines will not be considered.

#### ABSTRACT CONTENTS

Papers whose main topic does not focus on the indigenous languages of the Americas will be rejected without further consideration by the Program Committee. The Program Committee requires further that the subject matter be linguistic, that the research presented include new findings or developments not published before the meeting, that the papers not be submitted with malicious or scurrilous intent, and that the abstract be coherent and in accord with these guidelines.

Many abstracts are rejected because they omit crucial information rather than because of errors in what they include. The most important criterion is relevance to the understanding of indigenous languages of the Americas, but other factors are important too. It is important to present results so that they will be of interest to the whole SSILA (and larger) linguistic community,

not just to those who work on the same language or language family that you do.

Below is an adaptation of the LSA guidelines for abstract contents, which may be helpful:

1. Choose a title that clearly indicates the topic of the paper and is not more than one typed line.

2. State the problem or research question raised by prior work, with specific reference to relevant prior research.

3. State the main point or argument of the proposed presentation.

4. Cite sufficient data, and explain why and how they support the main point or argument. Provide word by word or morpheme by morpheme glosses and, if appropriate, underline the portions of the examples which are critical to the argument. Explain abbreviations.

5. If your paper presents the results of experiments, but collection of results is not yet complete, then report what results you've already obtained in sufficient detail that your abstract may be evaluated. Also indicate explicitly the nature of the experimental design and the specific hypothesis tested.

6. State the relevance of your ideas to past work or to the future development of the field, as well as any more general contributions to linguistic research made by your analysis. Describe analyses in as much detail as possible. Avoid saying in effect "a solution to this problem will be presented." If you are taking a stand on a controversial issue, summarize the arguments that led you to your position.

7. While citation in the text of the relevant literature is essential, a separate list of references at the end of the abstract is generally unnecessary.

REMEMBER. . .

The deadline for receipt of abstracts of individual papers and of the final version of organized session proposals is \*Tuesday, September 7th\*.