

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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In Memoriam: M. Dale Kinkade

Dale Kinkade, dean of Salishan linguistics and one of the founders of SSILA, passed away quietly at 8:20 pm, Sunday, December 19, 2004. Below are excerpts from an obituary notice prepared by William Seaburg (with the help of Dale's nephew, Rick Manson) for publication in the Seattle Times.

* * *

Born in Hartline, Washington, in 1933, Dale graduated from Peshastin High School in 1950 and attended the University of Washington, BA 1955 and MA 1957 (member Pi Kappa Phi fraternity). From 1957-60 he was stationed in Hawaii while he served in the United States Army. He received his PhD in Linguistics from Indiana University in 1963. He taught at Central Washington State College (1961-64), the University of Kansas (1964-70), and the University of British Columbia (1970-98). Retiring from UBC in 1998 as Distinguished Professor of Linguistics, Dale continued his research and writing until his death from a brain tumor.

Between 1960-76 he conducted extensive linguistic fieldwork, primarily on Salish Indian languages in the Northwest, including the Chehalis, Cowlitz, and Columbian languages; he was the foremost specialist of Salishan studies. Dale belonged to several professional organizations and he helped found the International Conference on Salish and Neighboring Languages in 1966. He was a long-time member of the board of trustees of the Jacobs Research Fund, which supports fieldwork on Northwest American Indian languages and cultures. He co-edited several books, authored and published scores of important scholarly articles, and his scholarship was celebrated by the publication of two collections of papers in his honor.

Dale had a great sense of humor and was generous with his time and extensive knowledge. He bridged both linguistics and anthropology in a way that is now rare. Dale also had a life outside of academe: he had an abiding interest in classical music, especially opera, and was a strong supporter of the Seattle Opera Company. He read widely, from NW based mysteries to obscure east European novels. He had a personal (and professional) interest in Northwest place names. He was also an avid baseball fan--sometimes combining two loves by watching a ball game while listening to an opera.

No funeral service will be held, at his request. Those wishing to honor Dale's memory and his work may make a contribution in his name to the Jacobs Research Fund, Whatcom Museum Foundation, 121 Prospect Street, Bellingham, WA 98225.

217.0 SSILA Business

* E-mail ballots delayed

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Due to a computer glitch, the e-mail version of the SSILA ballot was not mailed promptly to a number of members who requested it. The problem has now been repaired and the ballot has been mailed. Our apologies for the delay.

* A few late changes in the SSILA meeting program

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Three papers have been withdrawn:

-- Session on Argument Structure, Saturday morning, January 8: George Aaron Broadwell, "Hierarchy effects in a Zapotec pronominal system."

-- Session on Morphology, Sunday morning, January 9: Mary Willie, Natasha Warner, Alina Twist, & James McQueen, "Processing of Navajo VerbalMorphology"; and Katharina Haude, "Valency and Incorporation in Movima." (This session will now convene at 9:40 am).

The following is the final list of session chairs:

Thursday afternoon, January 6

Yokuts and Utian Languages: Juliette Blevins (MPI Leipzig) & Victor
Golla (Humboldt State U)
Historical Syntax: Robert L. Rankin (U Kansas)

Friday morning, January 7

Syntax & Semantics: Catherine Rudin (Wayne State College)
Discourse & Thought: Pamela Bunte (CSU Long Beach)
Electronic Applications: Nicholas Ostler (Foundation for Endangered
Languages, UK)

Friday afternoon, January 7

Phonetics and Phonology: Carmen Jany (UC Santa Barbara)
Adjuncts and Applicatives: Roberto Zavala (CIESAS)

Saturday morning, January 8

Argument Structure: Leslie Saxon (U Victoria)
Language Change and Adaptation: Kathryn Klar (UC Berkeley)
Writing: Joyce McDonough (U Rochester)

Saturday afternoon, January 8

Glottals: Patricia A. Shaw (U British Columbia)
Historical Phonology: Harriet E. Manelis Klein (SUNY Stony Brook)
Tense, Voice and Transitivity: Aaron Sonnenschein (USC)

Sunday morning, January 9

Morphology: Akira Yamamoto (U Kansas)
Clitics: Jerrold Sadock (U Chicago)

217.1 Foundation for Endangered Languages: Proposals for 2005

From Nicholas Ostler (nostler@chibcha.demon.co.uk) 15 Dec 2004:

The Foundation for Endangered Languages is now accepting proposals for projects that will support, enable or assist the documentation, protection or promotion of one or more endangered languages. These endangered languages may be anywhere in the world.

The Foundation's funds remain extremely limited and only an exceptional award will be greater than US \$1,500. Smaller proposals stand a better chance of funding.

Format for Submissions

As of this year, there has been a change in the format for submissions to the Foundation. In future, applicants must submit a short "Case for Support" and a Application Form. Guidance on how to write a Case, and

fill out the form, is accessible at the Foundation's website:

<http://www.ogmios.org/grant.htm>

It may also be obtained from me at the address below. (Any other, older, FEL materials are obsolete, and should not be used.)

The Case for Support (CS) and Application Form (AF) are best submitted as Word files attached to an e-mail message sent to:

FEL@chibcha.demon.co.uk

Non-ascii text should be in some form of Unicode. The two files should be named "languageCS.doc" and "languageAF.doc", substituting the name of the language to be studied for "language."

Copies printed on paper will also be accepted as an alternative. In general, it is not necessary to send a hard copy of an electronic proposal for confirmation, but FEL may request this if there are major difficulties in reading the file.

All proposals must be submitted in this format, to ensure comparability. Unless agreed with me in advance in writing, all proposals must be in English.

Deadline

The time-limit for proposals will be 30 January 2005. By that date, full proposals (consisting of Case for Support and Application Form) must reach me at the address below. All proposals received will be acknowledged on receipt.

The FEL Committee will announce its decision by 31st March 2005.

Comments on Draft Proposals

FEL tries to keep its procedures as simple as possible. But it recognizes that they may be especially taxing for those without training in a western university. In the case of proposals from communities or community linguists, FEL is prepared to comment on drafts, 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 31 December 2004.

This commenting service is simply offered in order to help. It is not required to submit such a draft. If draft applications are received from applicants who are judged not to be members of endangered language communities or such communities' designated linguists, they may be re-classified as final applications, at FEL's discretion.

--Nicholas Ostler
FEL Chairman and Grants Officer
172 Bailbrook Lane, Bath BA1 7AA, England
(nostler@chibcha.demon.co.uk)

[Please note: The Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL) is separate from ELF, the Endangered Language Fund (www.haskins.yale.edu,

From Lindsay Jones (ljones@ovcdc.com) 29 Nov 2004:

The Nüümü Yadoha Program is seeking two linguists, one for the Paka'anil (Tübatulabal) language, and one for the Wukchumni and Yowlumni (Yokuts) languages. The program, headquartered at the Owens Valley Career Development Center in Bishop, CA, is dedicated to preserving the languages of the communities it serves and to teaching them in a community setting.

Under minimal supervision of the Nüümü Yadoha program director and in close cooperation with the language team being served, the linguists will do academic research, field elicitation, documentation, community instruction on language structures, and practical linguistics as required by the language community.

Typical duties will include:

- Establishing productive working relationships with elders, fluent speakers, and other language team and community team members.
- Working with the language community to devise and train community on a consistent, phonologically appropriate writing system.
- Gathering and reviewing existing relevant linguistic materials and making them accessible to the language community through training, creation of new materials, and consultation.
- Eliciting linguistic data from speakers for the creation of dictionaries, descriptive/pedagogical grammars, and language lessons as required by the language community.
- Training (or recommending training for) interested community members in linguistic analysis and encouraging maximum community ownership of language revitalization work.

Qualifications include:

- The ability to adapt understanding of linguistic theory and field practice to fit the specific needs of the language community.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills; excellent analytical, organizational, and interpersonal skills; and demonstrated computer skills
- Ability to work as a team member.
- The ability to travel to and work at locations most practical for the language community (the Paka'anil language team currently has an office in Mountain Mesa, CA; Wukchumni and Yowlumni speakers and learners are concentrated between Visalia and Porterville, CA).
- Passing an in-depth background check, including motor vehicle record, criminal background check, work experience verification, and educational background check.
- Understanding that community-based linguistic work is for the benefit of the language community, and all language information is the intellectual property of the language community. Work done for academic purposes will need to be negotiated with the community.

Applicants must have at least a BA in linguistics; an MA or PhD is preferred. Previous field experience is preferred, especially with an endangered and/or North American indigenous languages. Knowledge of Indian communities and sensitivity to Indian context is required. Preference will be given to Indian applicants.

Pay range for both positions is \$15-\$20/hour, up to full time.

Please contact: Laura Grant, Angie Aukee, or Lindsay Jones at the Nüümü Yadoha Program (language@ovcdc.com; tel: 760/872-3604).

* Postdoctoral research fellowship at RCLT, La Trobe U, Australia

From Alexandra Aikhenvald (A.Aikhenvald@latrobe.edu.au) 19 Dec 2004:

Applications are invited for a 3-year Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the Research Centre for Linguistic Typology, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia, to commence on 1st July 2005, or soon thereafter.

Applicants should have been awarded their doctorate within the last five years. They should have experience of linguistic fieldwork and will, ideally, have already completed a grammatical description of some previously undescribed language (not their native language) in terms of basic linguistic theory. The University may consider cases in which the period is in excess of five years due to special circumstances. Applications will be considered from candidates whose thesis is currently under examination. Applicants must hold a doctoral degree or have equivalent qualifications at the date of appointment. La Trobe graduates should normally have a minimum of two years postdoctoral research experience at another institution. A Fellowship will not normally be awarded to an applicant who holds a permanent appointment within the University.

The successful applicant will work as part of a team with Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, Professor R.M.W. Dixon, and other members of the Research Centre, on a topic relating to languages preferably from South America (although applicants with primary interest in another area would be considered). They will undertake extensive fieldwork and will either (i) produce a comprehensive description of some previously undescribed language; or (ii) pursue an in-depth study of a language contact situation. Option (ii) will be suitable for someone who already has good knowledge of one or more of the languages involved in a suitable contact situation. The choice of project will be made after discussion between the successful applicant and Professors Aikhenvald and Dixon.

The Fellowship will be a three-year appointment and is intended to advance the research activities of the University by bringing to or retaining in Australia a promising scholar.

Enquiries should be directed initially to the Associate Director of RCLT, Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (a.aikhenvald@latrobe.edu.au, tel: +61 3 9479 6402).

Further information and the application form may be obtained from the RCLT website (<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/rclt>).

The application must be received by the Secretary of the RCLT Research Committee no later than 11 March 2005. Applicants should supply the names of three referees who will be contacted by RCLT. Applicants should also send in hard copies of their thesis and/or dissertation, and of published

work (including papers in press).

Salary Range: Aus \$52,853 - \$56,734 per annum.

Closing Date: 11 March 2005.

La Trobe University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and provides a smoke-free work environment.

216.3 Of Interest on the Internet

* New address for Lakhota site
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From Jan F. Ullrich (jfu@lakhota.org) 23 Dec 2004:

The Lakota Language Consortium site has moved to:

<http://www.lakhota.org>

* Meaning of "Kimosabe" being weighed by Canadian high court
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Paul von Wichert (battlehard@shaw.ca) alerts us to a recent Canadian news story -- the Supreme Court of Canada is being asked to hear arguments on whether the word "kemosabe" is racist to native people. Check it out at:

<http://www.cbc.ca/story/canada/national/2004/12/22/Kemosabe-Slur.041222.html>

216.4 E-mail Address Updates

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

- Alpher, Barry barryalpher@yahoo.com
- Armagost, James L. mvarmagost@verizon.net
- Blount, Ben G. benjamin.blount@utsa.edu
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- Cameron, Terry D. terru@unm.edu
- Canger, Una una@hum.ku.dk
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Russell, Rodney E. rerodney@wm.connect.com
Salmons, Joseph C. jsalmons@wisc.edu
Ullrich, Jan jfu@lakhota.org
Webster, Anthony awebster@wesleyan.edu

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

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

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