

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-- <<--

Number 256: July 27, 2007

256.0 SSILA Business

- * Newsletter now available online
- * Bill Poser takes over management of SSILA website
- * By-Laws ballot delayed; will be posted at website
- * Dues statements soon
- * Abstracts for annual meeting due September 1 (not August 1)

256.1 Correspondence

- * Re: Opening the Jacobs Collection (L. & T. Thompson)
- * Etymologies for an entomologist? (C. Favret)
- * Words for trail trees? (J. Nardo)

256.2 Upcoming Meetings and Workshops

- * 22nd California Indian Conference (UC Davis, October 26-27)

256.3 Funding Sources

- * American Philosophical Society research grants for 2008

256.4 New on the Web

- * New items at USON site

256.5 E-Mail Address Updates

256.0 SSILA Business

* Newsletter now available online

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PDF versions of the January and April 2007 issues of the SSILA Newsletter have been posted at the SSILA website (<http://www.ssila.org>). In a few weeks, the July 2007 issue will also be posted in the same location. These files are available for downloading without charge, and SSILA members residing outside the US and Canada are urged to take advantage of this mode of distribution. Due to steeply rising postage rates and long delays in delivery, the hard-copy Newsletter will no longer be mailed to addresses outside the US and Canada unless a specific request is made (this does not apply to institutional subscriptions and exchanges). Requests for mail delivery of the 2007 issues to addresses outside of North America should be e-mailed to <editor@ssila.org>.

256.1 Correspondence

* Re: Opening the Jacobs Collection
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From Larry & Terry Thompson (lcthomp@earthlink.net) 4 July 2007:

In connection with Alice Taff's note (SSILA Bulletin #254.3, 14 May 2007) about the availability of the Melville and Elizabeth Jacobs manuscript collection at the University of Washington Archives: We are very glad that the study group she refers to did some hard lobbying to make the collection accessible. But it has been accessible ON REQUEST since it was donated to UW early in 1972, and the donation agreement also included the proviso that "after January 1, 2006, access [to the Jacobs Collection] will be governed by rules that normally apply to other manuscripts accessions in the Manuscript Collection of the University of Washington." In other words, the collection automatically became open last year, subject only to the general rules and restrictions of the UW Archives (all archives must have formal requests for use).

The reason for the closure between 1972 and 2006 was to keep family matters included in the raw field notes private for a period of time for the sake of the language experts the Jacobs worked with. When the two of us went through Mel's and Bess' files and processed them for the archives, Mel was near death of cancer and knew he would no longer be able to use the material or give his personal permission for it to be used. He would be very pleased at its extensive use during the past 36 years. At one time, it was the most used of any of the collections in the archives.

Over the years, there has also been some negative noise about the Northwest Collection of manuscripts also being closed. That closure is due to the still active scholars and the living language/culture experts who need to give permission for specific material to be used. Again, these are raw field notes and need some understanding by a responsible person for their use. They can be used with specific permission from the collector of the material, just as would be necessary for the use of the SAME MATERIAL which in most cases is still in the collector's possession. At this point, the materials in the Archives are considered "safe copies" of rare material. Much of it is only copies of the originals, which are still in active use in the collector's possession.

As all of us know, the purpose of an archive is the permanent preservation of rare material, and does not necessarily mean that the original collector or the expert furnishing the material are dead or that work with the particular native group has been completed. The idea is to preserve safe copies of this rare material that was so hard to collect, and much of which is no longer available for collection.

Sorry to sound so preachy, but since we originally helped set up these collections many years ago, we understand the reason for them to be "closed" but available for study only with the proper permission. We do hope scholars and native people will also understand, be pleased to have them protected, and will not feel they are hidden away and inaccessible.

--Laurence C. and M. Terry Thompson

linguists working on American Indian languages: (1) Phillips Fund Grants; (2) Franklin Research Grants; (3) Lewis & Clark Fund Grants; and (4) Sabbatical Fellowships.

General information

Awards are made for non-commercial research only. The Society makes no grants for academic study or classroom presentation, for travel to conferences, for non-scholarly projects, for assistance with translation, or for the preparation of materials for use by students. The Society does not pay overhead or indirect costs to any institution or costs of publication.

Applicants may be residents of the United States or American citizens resident abroad. Foreign nationals whose research can only be carried out in the United States are eligible. Grants are made to individuals; institutions are not eligible to apply. Requirements for each program vary.

Grants and fellowships are taxable income, but the Society is not required to report payments. It is recommended that grant and fellowship recipients discuss their reporting obligations with their tax advisors.

Phillips Fund Grants for Native American Research

For research in Native American linguistics and ethnohistory, focusing on the continental United States and Canada. Given for a maximum of one year from date of award to cover travel, tapes, and informants' fees.

Applicants may be graduate students pursuing either a master's or a doctoral degree; post-doctoral applicants are also eligible. Awards are made from \$1,000 to \$3,500 (note that the maximum award has been increased). Deadline: March 1; notification in May.

Franklin Research Grants

This is a program of small grants to scholars intended to support the cost of research leading to publication in all areas of knowledge. The Franklin program is particularly designed to help meet the cost of travel to libraries and archives for research purposes; the purchase of micro-film, photocopies or equivalent research materials; the costs associated with fieldwork; or laboratory research expenses.

Applicants are expected to have a doctorate or to have published work of doctoral character and quality. Pre-doctoral graduate students are not eligible, but the Society is especially interested in supporting the work of young scholars who have recently received the doctorate. Awards are made from \$1,000 to \$6,000. Deadlines: October 1 and December 1; notification in February and April.

Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research

The Lewis and Clark Fund encourages exploratory field studies for the collection of specimens and data and to provide the imaginative stimulus that accompanies direct observation. Applications are invited from disciplines with a large dependence on field studies, such as archeology, anthropology, biology, ecology, geography, geology, linguistics, and paleontology, but grants will not be restricted to these fields.

Grants will be available to doctoral students who wish to participate in field studies for their dissertations or for other purposes. Master's candidates, undergraduates, and postdoctoral fellows are not eligible. Grants will depend on travel costs but will ordinarily be in the range of several hundred dollars to about \$5,000. Applicants who have received Lewis and Clark Fund grants may reapply after an interval of two years. Deadline: February 15; notification in May.

Sabbatical Fellowship for the Humanities and Social Sciences

This program is open to mid-career faculty of universities and 4-year colleges in the United States who have been granted a sabbatical/research year but for whom financial support from the home institution is available for only part of the year. Candidates must not have had a financially supported leave at any time subsequent to September 1, 2005. The doctoral degree must have been conferred no later than 2000 and no earlier than 1987.

Stipends are \$30,000 to \$40,000 for the second half of an awarded sabbatical year. Deadline: October 15; notification in March.

Questions concerning any of these programs should be directed to Linda Musumeci, Research Administrator, at LMusumeci@amphilsoc.org or telephone 215-440-3429.

256.4 New on the Web

* New items at USON site
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From Zarina Estrada (zarina@guaymas.uson.mx) 26 June 2007:

This is to let you know that on the Web page of our Masters program in Linguistics at the University of Sonora, you can now find the MA theses which have been defended, as well as other news. This includes the programs for the Workshops in Syntax that we have organized at USON from 2003 to date. The URL is:

<http://www.maestriaenlinguistica.uson.mx>

Although most of the dissertations deal with Mexican Indigenous languages, the most recent one was about Toba, a language from Argentina.

--Zarina Estrada Fernández
Licenciatura y Maestría en Lingüística
Universidad de Sonora

256.5 E-Mail Address Updates

The following additions or changes have been made to the SSILA e-mail list

since the last Bulletin:

Barragan Trejo, Daniel ... danbartre@gmail.com
Barrett, Rusty erbarrett@uky.edu
Conathan, Lisa lisa.conathan@yale.edu
Midtlyng, Patrick J. midtlyng@uchicago.edu
Stapert, Eugenie eugenie.stapert@gmail.com

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

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The SSILA Bulletin is distributed electronically to all members of SSILA. Non-members may subscribe free of charge by sending their e-mail address to the editor (golla@ssila.org).

SSILA also publishes a quarterly hard-copy Newsletter that contains book reviews, notices of journal articles and recent dissertations, and other news and commentary. The Newsletter and other publications of the Society are distributed only to members or to institutional subscribers.

SSILA welcomes applications for membership from anyone interested in the scholarly study of the languages of the native peoples of North, Central, and South America. Dues for 2007 are \$16 (US) or \$20 (Canadian) and may be paid in advance at the 2007 rate. (The basic rate will rise to \$20 in 2008.) Checks or money orders should be made payable to "SSILA" and sent to: SSILA, P.O. Box 555, Arcata, CA 95518. For further information, visit the SSILA website (<http://www.ssila.org>).
