To: <ssila2@gmail.com> Subject: SSILA Bulletin #269 Date: Wed, 15 Jul 2009 02:16:32 -0500 BULLETIN NUMBER 269: JULY 2009 Published monthly by the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, Inc. Interim Editor: Karen Sue Rolph, Stanford University, Menlo Park, California 94025 (e-mail: ksrolph@stanford.edu; web:www.ssila.org). ISSN 1046-4476. Copyright © 2009, SSILA. An Information Service for SSILA Members Editor - Karen Sue Rolph (ksrolph@stanford.edu) Executive Secretary - Ivy Doak (ivy@ivydoak.com) -->> -- Correspondence should be directed to the Editor -- <<--269.0 SSILA BUSINESS ANNUAL MEETING (Baltimore, Jan 7-10, 1010) THE 2009 SUMMER SSILA MEETING AND PROGRAM TO OUR SSILA READERS 269.1 CORRESPONDENCE CLASSIFICATION UPDATES AND CALL FOR INPUT FROM ETHNOLOGUE Update on the Chané Enigma and Bolivian Guarani A REMINISCENCE OF MORRIS SWADESH, by Rudy Troike 269.2 269.3 CALL FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS ATHAPBASCKAN-L 269.4 MEDIA WATCH E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES 269.5 CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE 269.6 269.7 **OBITUARIES** Richard Allsopp, Caribbean Creoles expert, 1923-2009 Willard Walker, Cherokee syllabary scholar, 1927-2009 CAREER OPPORTUNITIES 269.8 269.9 **NEW PUBLICATIONS** 

269.0 SSILA BUSINESS

From: "Ivy Doak" <ivy@ivydoak.com>

# ANNUAL MEETING

The 2009-10 annual winter meeting of SSILA will be held jointly with the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America in Baltimore, Maryland, at the Hilton Baltimore, January 7-10, 2010. The call for papers, instructions for abstract submission, and hotel information are available at www.ssila.org <a href="http://www.ssila.org/">http://www.ssila.org/</a>. August 1 is the deadline for submissions for the 2010 Annual Meeting in Baltimore.

## THE 2009 SUMMER SSILA MEETING

The Summer Meeting of the SSILA will be held at the University of California, Berkeley from July 17 through July 18, 2009 during the LSA Summer Institute (http://lsa2009.berkeley.edu <a href="http://lsa2009.berkeley.edu/">http://lsa2009.berkeley.edu/</a>). The registration fee will be \$35, discounted to \$15 for students enrolled in the Summer Institute. Registration at the full rate is available at <a href="https://www.regonline.com/SSILASummer2009">https://www.regonline.com/SSILASummer2009</a>. Registration at the discounted rate will be available at the Institute with Institute ID.

The program is given below.

| SUMMER SS | TIA | MEETING | PROGRAM |
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Friday, July 17

9:00-12:15

- 1. PHONOLOGY & PHONETICS. (9:00) Gabriele Müller (Westfälische Wilhelms-U) "Intonation in Beaver (Athabaskan)"; (9:30) Patricia A. Shaw (UBC) "Default-to-Opposite Stress: Quantity Sensitivities in a Default-to-Right System"; (10:00) Erin Haynes (UC Berkeley) "Phonetic and Phonological Features of L2 Northern Paiute"; (10:45) Maria Burgess, Richard Wright, and Guadalupe Lopez (U Washington) "An Acoustic Description of Santiago Tamazola Lowlands Mixtec".
- 2. SEMANTICS IN SOUTH AMERICAN LANGUAGES. (11:15) Marine Vuillermet (CNRS/ U Lyon II) "Multi-layered Imperfective Marking in Ese Ejja: From Aktionsart to Periphrasis".

2:00-5:15

- 3. MAYAN SYNTAX. (2:00) Stavros Skopeteas (Potsdam U) "Morphological demarcation of prosodic domains in Yucatec Maya"; (2:30) Marc Peake (U Lyon II) "Untangling argument marking in Tojol Ab'al Mayan complex sentences"; (3:00) Eladio (B'alam) Mateo Toledo (CIESAS-Sureste) "Finiteness in Q'anjob'l (Maya): The Case of Nonverbal Predicates".
- 4. MESO-AMERICAN DISCOURSE. (3:45) Elisabeth Verhoeven (U Bremen) "Animacy hierarchy and passive voice in Yucatec Maya"; (4:15) Penelope Brown, Olivier Le Guen, and Mark Sicoli (MPI Nijmegen) "Dialogic repetition in Tzeltal, Yucatec, and Zapotec conversation"; (4:45) Telma Can (UT Austin) "The particle wi in K'ichee': A focus marker".

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9:00-12:15

5. DIALECTOLOGY. (9:00) Norval Smith (U Amsterdam) "The geography of Yokuts dialects: The northern San Joaquin Valley regrouped"; (9:30) Hannah J. Haynie (UC Berkeley) "A Computational Assessment of Deep Relationships Among California Languages"; (10:00) Luis Oquendo (U Zulia) "La sintaxis dialectal en yukpa".

6. HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS. (10:45) Karen Sue Rolph (Stanford) "Some evidence of instability in traditional indigenous toponyms in the Peruvian Andes"; (11:45) Simeon Floyd (UT Austin) "Stages in the development of Cha'palaa numerals".

#### 2:00-5:15

- 7. DISCOURSE. (2:00) Connie Dickinson (U Oregon) "Reference Tracking and Evidential/Mirative Constructions in Tsafiki"; (2:30) Stavros Skopeteas (Potsdam U) "and Elisabeth Verhoeven (U Bremen) "Syntax and Discourse: Field experiments in Yucatec Maya"; (3:00) Andrej Kibrik (Inst of Ling, RAN) "and Olga Markus (Moscow State U) "Local discourse structure in Upper Kuskokwim Athabaskan".
- 8. MORPHOLOGY. (3:45) Jack Martin (Col William and Mary) "From switch reference to case marking in Muskogean"; (4:15) Siri Tuttle and James Kari (U Alaska, Fairbanks) "U-elh Tay-tesdedzi: The Morphological Clamp"; (4:45) Richard A. Rhodes (UC Berkeley) "Construction morphology meets the Ojibwe verb".

### TO OUR SSILA READERS

SSILA Bulletins and Newsletters are now delivered to your email. If you wish to continue to receive hard copies for any reason, please contact: Ivy Doak at ivy@ivydoak.com or PO Box 1295, Denton, TX 76202. While it was our intention that the Bulletin and Newsletters be available on the website late in 2008, there has been some delay accompanying the changing of the guard at the Bulletin. Do you prefer pdf or email text delivery? Please let us know.

## 269.1 CORRESPONDENCE

CLASSIFICATION UPDATES AND CALL FOR INPUT FROM ETHNOLOGUE

Subject: ISO 639-3--Please send in and comment on requested changes to language identifiers

Are you aware of inaccuracies in the ISO 639-3 standard codes for the identification of languages relating to your area of expertise? If so, please consider taking a fairly simple step to get them fixed! Submit a "change request" stating the nature of the change needed, rationale for it, and the evidence in support of it. Change requests to be processed and decided at the end of 2009 are now being accepted. The submission deadline for this year is September 1, 2009. It is a good idea to send in requests as early as possible. Requests sometimes require clarification or expansion to be sure that everything is complete for review and evaluation. Details on the process and the forms needed may be found at: http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/submit\_changes.asp#Submitting

There are already some changes pending for 2009 that may also interest you. Please send your comments--in support or in opposition--regarding these changes to iso639-3@sil.org with the number of the change request (e.g., 2009-013) in the subject line.

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Sumo-Mayangna update

2009-035 Oto-Manguean

cjr Chorotega merge

2009-034 Oto-Manguean

mom Monimbo update

2009-036 Uto-Aztecan

ppl Pipil

update

2009-013 America, North Algic mof

Mohegan-Montauk- split

Narragansett

2009-013 Algic

xnt Narragansett create

2009-013 Algic

xpq Mohegan-Pequot create

2009-033 Chimakuan

xch/cmk Chemakum update/retire

2009-026 America, South Deaf Sign Lang pys

Paraguayan Sign Lang create

Lengua de Señas del Paraguay

2009-006 Tupi

agz Akunsu create

2009-010 Witotoan

noj Nonuya create

2009-011 Witotoan

htm Mïka Huitoto create

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In 2008, significant changes were made in relation to the identifiers for Mayan languages, as well as less sweeping updates for some languages of other language families. Details of these changes may be found through this index link: http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/chg\_requests.asp?order=3Dregion <a href="http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/chg\_requests.asp?order=3Dregion&chg\_status=3D2008">http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/chg\_requests.asp?order=3Dregion&chg\_status=3D2008</a> &chg\_status=3D2008 (this link sorts the list by region).

Thank you in advance for your interest and participation to improve the ISO 639-3 code list for the identification of languages.

Joan Spanne

ISO 639-3 Registrar SIL International

iso639-3@sil.org

http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/

P.S. (From the SSILA Editor) The Ethnologue 16th ed. book has recently been released. The website version will be updated very soon. Paul Lewis is still the Ethnologue Editor.

Update on the Chané Enigma and Bolivian Guarani

Dear editor and readers,

Thank you to several readers who responded about my Chané inquiry last year. Chané is reported as an Arawak language, part of the group of Southern Arawak with Terena (Tsané) and other languages spoken today in Mato Grosso do Sul (Brazil) and once living along the upper Paraguay River. However 'Chané' is historically cited as having been a people and language, now extinct, once spoken farther west, along the Andean front and western Chaco of what is now Bolivia. This Chané is said to have been the language of an Arawak people who inhabited this area prior to Guarani occupation. The Guarani, for their part, are said to have migrated from Paraguay shortly before and during the Spanish invasion. There the Guarani conquered, enslaved, and linguistically and culturally absorbed (and ate) these 'Chané,' forming a new people, the 'Chiriguano.' The term Chiriguano, though derogatory, is still used by linguists, historians, and anthropologists, to refer to the Bolivian Guarani. This 'Chiriguano thesis'- of peaceful Chané and cannibal Guaraní - is replicated both in popular and scholarly accounts of Guarani origins here on the eastern Andean front.

This Chiriguano thesis - as with stories of savage Caribes and Chichimecas on frontiers elsewhere - is more a narrative of colonial frontier creation than a satisfactory account of historical Guarani migrations and Arawak-Guarani interaction. There are no recorded instances of a 'Chané' language in colonial documents, and there are no contemporary remains, other than a few problematic words noted by Nordenskiold during a visit in the early 20th century. Early colonial language work (largely Jesuit) was implicated in intense disputes over this frontier region that pit colonizers from the Andes and La Plata against each other. All were concerned with legitimating a just and permanent war against the Guarani. In this process, the 'Chiriguano' narrative was politically useful, with reports of many 'Chané' slaves held by the Guarani likely exaggerated, apocryphal, or referring to peoples of varying Chaco or other groups. 'Chané' itself means 'people' or 'accompaniers' in the Arawak Tsané language of Mato Grosso, and is a term repeated frequently in colonial accounts all the way from Buenos Aires to La Paz. The evidence for a distinct 'Chané' people or language is thin and there are no traces of Arawak in contemporary or historic Bolivian Guarani.

While further work on Guarani migrations and dialect differences is needed, the Chiriguano thesis of Arawak-Guarani fusion is unconvincing. It replicates colonial narratives aimed at delegitimating Guarani claims to rightful occupation on the Andean front and has in fact been revived today as a way of questioning Guarani claims to land (now rich in natural gas). The evidence for a distinct Chané language, despite Nordenskiold's fragmentary samples – is also unconvincing. Ongoing research, for which I appreciate the insights of Sasha Aikhenvald, Wolf Dietrich, and Ilda de Souza, among many other readers of the bulletin who responded, suggests a more complex history of Arawak-Guarani interactions. This rethinking of the Guarani-Arawak history bears on understandings both of Guarani migrations and those of the southernmost Arawak languages of South America. I would appreciate any more exchange on this question as I hope to publish these findings soon.

-Bret Gustafson,
Washington University in St Louis
gustafson@wustl.edu

### 269.2 A REMINISCENCE OF MORRIS SWADESH

In Chinese academic tradition, which honors Confucius as the 'teacher of teachers', it is highly significant to recognize that one is the "grand-student" of a particular well-known or revered professor. I have always considered myself especially fortunate in being able to count myself a grand-student of Edward Sapir through having had the opportunity to study with three of his distinguished students: Harry Hoijer at UCLA, Norman McQuown at the University of Chicago, and Morris Swadesh at the Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia (ENAH) in Mexico.

Whatever I inherited of Sapir's influence from these three great scholars came indirectly through their teaching and not from any particular reference to Sapir, as I do not recall any of them mentioning Sapir in any of their classes, or even informally in casual conversations. The opportunity to study with Hoijer came as a result of a year-long Woodrow Wilson Fellowship to study Anthropology at UCLA, while my more abbreviated study with McQuown came in his course on Classical Nahuatl during the LSA Linguistics Institute at the University of Chicago. Thanks to an E.D. Farmer International Fellowship from the University of Texas, I had the exceptional good fortune to study at the ENAH in Mexico City at its old location at Moneda 13, (now the site of the Museo de las Culturas) near the Zócalo. At that time, courses were taught by the leading anthropologists, archeologists, and linguists in Mexico, and the M.A. degree it conferred was the top professional degree for most anthropologists in Mexico (the public defenses of completed theses would make most PhD dissertation examinations today pale by comparison). Swadesh held a faculty appointment there, and I had the rare opportunity to take a course with him on glottochronology and lexicostatistics, as well as interact informally with him on other occasions.

I was somehow aware (I'm not sure from what source) that Swadesh was living in Mexico because he had been forced to leave his position at City College of New York during the height of the McCarthy era due to his supposed communist sympathies. At this time, the students at the Escuela were generally quite radicalized, and regularly showed films from Cuba and Iron Curtain countries (though none of this affected personal relations with US students at the school, which were very friendly and accepting). I expected to find Swadesh to be rigidly politicized, and anticipated politically-charged lectures to a receptive audience, or at the least, dogmatic arguments supporting his glottochronological method.

Much to my surprise, he was a very low-key and gentle person, displaying a soft sense of humor in his lectures, which dealt with general principles of historical linguistics, including those impacting glottochronology, and with proposed linguistic groupings. At no time did he even make an effort to defend his own proposals for lexicostatistics, which had aroused such vocal opposition in many quarters. About the strongest comment I ever heard him make was in response to an expression of doubt on my part that a couple of words containing [m] from two distantly separated languages could be related, when he said "There is no law which says that an [m] must change every ten thousand years." Though his lectures and

discussion were stimulating and interesting, unfortunately he never actually taught the procedures for using his 100- and 200-word lists and calculating times of divergence, things I had hoped to learn in the course. While he never said so, perhaps he felt that this technical information could be acquired from reading. Nevertheless, I did gain a permanent appreciation of some of the perils and potentials of long-range comparisons.

Later, after completing my PhD, I spent three years in Ankara, Turkey, with the Georgetown University English Language Program, and was able to interview speakers from a number of different Turkic languages, using his "Swadesh lists" as the basis for data collection. Subsequently, at one point after I had returned to the University of Texas as an assistant professor, Swadesh visited briefly and gave a lecture to the UT Linguistics Club. Spotting me in the audience, he was kind enough to interpolate in his prepared talk a reference to my work on Coahuilteco, contextualizing it for the others present in relation to Sapir's "Hokan-Coahuiltecan" classification. I have always been grateful to him for this kind gesture to a junior faculty member whose work was largely unknown to others in the institution.

Sadly, following Swadesh's untimely death in 1967, I was able to make use of my Turkic data to contribute to a memorial issue of IJAL dedicated to his memory (Troike 1969). While glottochronology occupied only a small portion of the broad panoply of his canvas, unfortunately Swadesh is primarily associated in the minds of most linguists with this controversial topic. I was happy to be able to demonstrate that the calculations for times of separation for most of the Turkic languages coincided almost exactly with known historical data for times of separation. (A student of mine later confirmed, in an M.A. thesis (Randal 1966), that the calculations also work well in a test case analysis of 400 years of change between 16th and 20th Century Quechua).

Inasmuch as Swadesh never spoke of it, I was not aware until years later that he had been a pioneer in the application of linguistics to the development of literacy materials in an indigenous language, namely Tarascan, even initiating a newspaper in Tarascan. Given the great interest in this topic at present, and the involvement of so many linguists in this field, perhaps some fund or award or other means should be established to recognize and commemorate his ground-breaking contributions to the effort to maintain and strengthen Native American languages. This could become the legacy for which he deservedly might become best known.

-Rudolph C. Troike

University of Arizona

rtroike@email.arizona.edu

# References:

Randal, Marjorie MacEachin. Quechua and Aymara: control cases and application of glottochronology for two South American Indian languages. M.A. thesis, University of Texas at Austin, 1966.

Troike, Rudolph C. "The Glottochronology of Six Turkic Languages," International Journal of American Linguistics, 35:2 (1969), 183-191.

### 269.3 CALL FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS

The ATHAPBASCKAN-L mailing list is a relatively new list devoted to the collegial discussion of Athabaskan languages and their distant relatives. It supersedes the now defunct ATHLANG-L. It is hosted by The LINGUIST List, and is relatively low traffic with only a few messages per week. Posts consist of article and book notices, conference announcements, knowledge requests, and general discussion.

People with an interest in the language family are encouraged to subscribe to the list at the address below.

Subscription Form:

http://linguistlist.org/lists/join-list.cfm?List=3D7960

Archive:

http://lloyd.emich.edu/archives/athapbasckan-l.html

James Crippen

ATHAPBASCKAN-L List Manager icrippen@gmail.com

## 269.4 MEDIA WATCH

Some readers may know that indigenous New Guinea research subjects have sued New Yorker magazine and Professor Jared Diamond (UCLA) for apparent misuse of their ethnographic narratives, and misconstruing decades old blood-feuds. The charge is made that publications' led to outrage, endangering some community members, putting them in harm's way. (Google this one!).

Here is another report, this one, coming from Mexico. This story is excerpted from El Enemigo Común <a href="http://elenemigocomun.net/">http://elenemigocomun.net/</a>, written by Saulo Araujo, January 22, 2009. A U.S. scholúar is under fire for failed informed consent disclosures made prior to detailed research of Zapotec geography, topography, and toponymy.

"Zapotec Indigenous People in Mexico Demand Transparency from U.S. Scholar"

The Union of Organizations of the Sierra Juarez of Oaxaca (UNOSJO) - a longtime partner of Grassroots International based in Mexico - denounced a recently conducted study in the Zapotec region by U.S. geography scholar Peter Herlihy. Prof. Herlihy failed to mention that he received funding from the Foreign Military Studies Office of the U.S. Armed Forces. The failure to obtain full, free and prior informed consent is a violation of the rights of indigenous communities as codified in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by the United Nations in 2007. In addition, UNOSJO fears that this in-depth geographical mapping of indigenous communities may be used in some harmful manner by the military.

According to UNOSJO, University of Kansas geography professor Peter Herlihy approached local communities of the Sierra Juarez, Oaxaca, Mexico to collect information for his project and declined to fully disclose his purpose or his funding sources. In addition to this failure to fully inform indigenous communities of the nature of the study, Mr. Herlihy's team

took advantage of the good-faith of the Zapotec indigenous communities to undertake a study that appears to be of no benefit to the local people.

http://elenemigocomun.net/2059

Read UNOSJO's full statement http://elenemigocomun.net/2057

Original Story: "The Road To Hell" http://elenemigocomun.net/1368

269.5 NEW MEMBERS/NEW ADDRESSES

EMAIL UPDATES

Boyle, John jpboyle at NEIU.edu Lovick, Olga olga at lithophile.com

NEW MEMBERS

Hansen, Magnus Pharoa magnuspharoa at gmail.com Lukaniec, Megan m.lukaniec at yahoo.com McIvor, Onowa omcivor at uvic.ca

Patte, Marie-France

Sutton, Logan ldsutton at unm.edu Thompson, Chad ThompsoC at ipfw.edu

269.6 CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Please share your ideas and concerns with our scholarly community of linguists. Send letters to the editor at: ksrolph@stanford.edu

269.7 OBITUARIES

Richard Allsopp, Creole lexicographer, 1923-2009

Via the Society for Caribbean <a href="http://www.scl-online.net/srrallsopp.html">http://www.scl-online.net/srrallsopp.html</a> Linguistics (click on the link for a lengthy biography) comes news of the passing of the linguist and lexicographer Richard Allsopp. He died on June 4 in Barbados at the age of 86. A native of Guyana, Allsopp made signal contributions to the study of Caribbean creoles. He is perhaps best known as the editor of the Dictionary <a href="http://books.google.com/books?id=3DPmvSk13sIcOC">http://books.google.com/books?id=3DPmvSk13sIcOC</a> of Caribbean English Usage (1996), a monumental lexicographical project more than 25 years in the making.

Excerpted here is a passage from Language, "Book Notices" by Michael Aceto, Univ. of Puerto Rico 1998, 74: 412-413.

This dictionary (hereafter referred to as DCE) is a groundbreaking publication derived from fieldwork and approximately one thousand bibliographic sources. It presents extensive data on English spoken in the Anglophone West Indies (including the Bahamas, Belize, and Guyana) and is certain to become a valuable resource in the fields of both creole and English studies. Allsopp should be congratulated for finishing what must have seemed a daunting project when begun more than 25 years ago.

Willard

<http://glossographia.wordpress.com/2009/06/08/obituary-willard-walker/>
Walker, expert Cherokee syllabary scholar, 1927-2009

Dr. Willard Walker, professor emeritus of anthropology at Wesleyan University passed away at the age of 82. Walker's publications attempted to piece together the historical and sociocultural contexts of Sequoyah, and his invention of the script that expresses a syllable rather than single phonemes. Dr. Walker also touched on the structure of Cherokee numerals.

A dedicated Americanist, Walker also developed thought on Zuni cultural and linguistic features, tactical operations by the U.S. Military during WWII using various North American languages, and research in proto-Algonquian. He was also an ardent reviewer, contributing his views to journals, especially the American Indian Quarterly, the IJAL, and American Anthropologist.

### SOME WILLARD WALKER

### AMERICAN INDIAN LANGUAGES' PUBLICATIONS

1965 Taxonomic Structure and the Pursuit of Meaning. Southwestern Journal of Anthropology, 21: 265-275.

1966 Inflectional Class and Taxonomic Structure in Zuni. IJAL, 32: 217-227.

1969 Notes on native writing systems and the design of native literacy programs. Anthropological Linguistics, 11: 148-166.

1972 Toward the Sound Pattern of Zuni. IJAL, 38: 240-259.

1974 The Winnebago Syllabary and the Generative Model. Anthropological Linguistics, 16: 393-414.

1980 Incidental Intelligence on the Cryptographic Use of Muskogee Creek in World War II Tactical Operations by the United States Army. IJAL, 46:144-145.

More on the Cryptographic Use of Native American Languages in Tactical Operations by United States Armed Forces. IJAL, Vol. 49:93-97.

1984 The Design of Native Literacy Programs and How Literacy Came to the Cherokees. Anthropological Linguistics, 66: 161-169.

1984 Literacy, Wampums, the Gúdabuk, and How Indians in the Far Northeast Read. Anthropological Linguistics, 26: 42-52.

1985 The Roles of Samuel A. Worcester and Elias Boudinot in the Emergence of a Printed Cherokee Syllabic Literature. IJAL, 51: 610-612.

(With James Sarbaugh)

1993 The Early History of the Cherokee Syllabary. Ethnohistory, 40:70-94.

2000 The Comanche Code Talkers of World War II. IJAL, 66: 563-564.

269.8 CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Invitation to study for the Ph.D. James Cook University—Australia

Applications are invited, from suitably qualified students, to enter the PhD program of the Language and Culture Research Group within the Cairns Institute of James Cook University Australia. Supervision will be provided by Professors Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and R. M. W. Dixon

Our PhD candidates undertake extensive fieldwork on a previously undescribed (or scarcely described) language and write a comprehensive grammar of it for their dissertation. They are expected to work on a language which is still actively spoken, and to establish a field situation within a community in which it is the first language. Their first fieldtrip lasts for about nine months. After completing a first draft of the grammar, back in Cairns, they undertake a second fieldtrip of two to three months. Fieldwork methodology centres on the collection, transcription and analysis of texts, together with participant observation, and — at a later stage — judicious grammatical elicitation in the language under description (not through the lingua franca of the country). Our main priority areas are the languages of tropical Amazonia and the Papuan and Austronesian languages of New Guinea. However, we do not exclude applicants who have an established interest in languages from other areas (which need not necessarily lie within the tropics).

PhDs in Australian universities generally involve no coursework, just a substantial dissertation. Candidates must thus have had a thorough coursework training before embarking on this PhD program. This should have included courses on morphology, syntax, semantics, and phonology/phonetics, taught from a non-formalist perspective. We place emphasis on work that has a sound empirical basis but also shows a firm theoretical orientation (in terms of general typological theory, or what has recently come to be called basic linguistic theory).

The Cairns Institute is a world centre for advanced study relating to the tropics. Professor Alexandra (Sasha) Aikhenvald is Research Leader for People and Societies of the Tropics. Together with Professor R. M. W. Dixon, she heads the Language and Culture Research Group, which includes Research Fellows and a growing number of doctoral students. In addition, senior scholars from across the world opt to spend their sabbatical in the Cairns Institute.

The LCRG has strong links with anthropologists and archaeologists, with scholars working on environmental issues, and with the School of Indigenous Australian Studies, all within James Cook University.

The scholarship will be at the standard James Cook University rate, Australian \$20,427 pa. Students coming from overseas are liable for a tuition fee; but this may be waived in the case of a student of high merit. A small relocation allowance may be provided on taking up the scholarship. In addition, an appropriate allowance will be made to cover fieldwork expenses. The scholarship is for three years (with the possibility of a six month extension). The deadline for application by international students (starting in 2010) is 31 August 2009; the deadline for students with Australian and New Zealand passports is 31 October 2009. The academic year in Australia commences about 1st March. Successful applicants would take up their PhD scholarships between January and June 2010.

The application procedures for international students can be found at: http://www.jcu.edu.au/prospective/studyoptions/postgraduate/JCUDEV\_002585.html

<https://mail.jcu.edu.au/wm/mail/fetch.html?urlid=3Dg17649a622625e763bea6
550b63a46295bkihep9lal&url=3Dhttp%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcu.edu.au%2Fprospective%2Fstudy
options%2Fpostgraduate%2FJCUDEV\_002585.html> . The 2010 Scholarship application
form for international students can be found at:
http://www.jcu.edu.au/grs/scholarships/index.htm
<https://mail.jcu.edu.au/wm/mail/fetch.html?urlid=3Dg17649a622625e763bea6
550b63a46295bkihep9lal&url=3Dhttp%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcu.edu.au%2Fgrs%2Fscholarships%
2Findex.htm> .

Prospective applicants are invited, in the first place, to get in touch with Professor Aikhenvald at sasha.aikhenvald@jcu.edu.au, providing details of their background, qualifications, and interests (including a curriculum vitae).

269.9 NEW PUBLICATIONS

Ahtna Place Names Lists, 2nd edition revised

2008, Alaska Native Language Center

by James Kari

Professor of Linguistics, Emeritus, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Ahtna is the Athabascan language of the Copper River drainage in Southcentral Alaska. The 2nd edition of Ahtna Place Names Lists is now available in a limited edition of 350 copies. With over 2200 place names in drainage-based sections within and beyond the 35,000 sq. mi. language area, Ahtna has the most comprehensive geographic name data set for any Alaska Native language.

The 33-page introduction entitled "Ahtna Athabascan Place Names as Shared Knowledge" summarizes the documentary sources on Ahtna geographic names and the core elements of Ahtna and Athabascan geographic naming. These elements-name content, name structure, name distribution and name networks-have promoted functional travel, strategic land use, shared boundaries, and multilingualism with other Athabascan groups. For Ahtna we can marvel at the strict purity, orderliness, symmetry, and functionality of the geography. This is a shared, memorized, strongly confirmed geographic system that is congruent across Athabascan language and dialect boundaries. Over 89% of the Ahtna place names are fully analyzable and an astounding 98% are fully-to-partially analyzable. Most of the place names have naturalistic structure and content, with a mix of cultural activities and metaphors, all of which facilitate memorization and efficient foot-travel through and beyond Ahtna territory. Since the Ahtna geographic system is representative of Northern Athabascan languages, the Ahtna place names network can serve as primary data for discussions on the role of geography in the prehistory of Athabascan, Na-Dene and Dene-Yeniseian.

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