

## SSILA BULLETIN NUMBER 275: JUNE 2011

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The SSILA Bulletin is an Information Service for SSILA Members.

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-->> -- Correspondence should be directed to the Editor -- <<--

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### 275.0 SSILA BUSINESS – ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

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

Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon, January 5-8, 2012

Call for Papers, Posters, and Organized Sessions

**Deadline for abstracts: August 1, 2011**

The annual winter meeting of SSILA will be held jointly with the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America in Portland, Oregon, at the Hilton Portland & Executive Tower, January 5-8, 2012. Information about the hotel and location can be found at the LSA website ([www.lsadc.org](http://www.lsadc.org)), and participants will be able to pre-register for the meeting and reserve hotel rooms on-line after July 1.

#### Call for Papers

SSILA welcomes abstracts for papers, posters, and organized sessions that present original research focusing on the linguistic study of the indigenous languages of the Americas.

#### Abstract Submission

The **deadline** for receipt of all abstracts and session proposals is midnight (PST) **August 1st**.

Abstracts should be submitted electronically, using the electronic submission website EasyChair. Consult the SSILA website for detailed instructions. Also, e-mail or hard-copy submissions will be accepted if arrangements are made in advance with the SSILA Executive Secretary (ivy at ivydoak dot com). Abstracts may be submitted in either English or Spanish.

**The EasyChair submission page instructions are posted below, the EasyChair URL is: <https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ssila2012>**

Abstracts must conform to the guidelines below.

### **General Requirements**

1. All authors must be members of SSILA. See the SSILA website for information about membership and renewal. 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 to the SSILA Executive Secretary. (Note: *Membership in LSA is not required for participation in SSILA sessions.*)
2. Any member may submit one single-author abstract and one multi-author abstract OR two multi-author abstracts.
3. After an abstract has been submitted, no changes of author, title, or wording of the abstract, other than those due to typographical errors, are permitted .
4. Papers or posters must be delivered as projected in the abstract or represent bona fide developments of the same research.
5. Papers must not appear in print before the meeting.
6. Handouts, if any, are not to be submitted with abstracts but should be available at the meeting for those listening to the presentation.
7. All presenters of individual papers or posters and all participants in organized sessions must register for the meeting.
8. Authors who must withdraw from the program should inform the SSILA Executive Secretary as soon as possible.

### **Abstract Format**

1. Abstracts should be uploaded as a file in PDF format to the abstract submittal form on the EasyChair website.
2. The abstract, including examples if needed, should be no more than one typed page (11pt or 12pt font, single spaced, with 1-inch margins); a second page may be used for references. Abstracts longer than one page will be rejected without being evaluated.

3. At the top of the abstract, give a title that is not more than one 7-inch typed line and that clearly indicates the topic of the paper.
4. Abstracts will be reviewed anonymously. Do not include your name on 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. Of course, it may be necessary to refer to your own work in the third person in order to appropriately situate the research.
5. Abstracts which do not conform to these format guidelines will not be considered.

### **Abstract Contents**

Papers or posters 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.

Abstracts are more often 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.

A suggested outline for abstracts is as follows:

1. State the problem or research question raised by prior work, with specific reference to relevant prior research.
2. Give a clear indication of the nature and source of your data (primary fieldwork, archival research, secondary sources).
3. State the main point or argument of the proposed presentation.
4. Regardless of the subfield, cite sufficient data, and explain why and how they support the main point or argument. For examples in languages other than English, provide word-by-word glosses and underline the portions of the examples which are critical to the argument.
5. State the relevance of your ideas to past work or to the future development of the field. 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.
6. State the contribution to linguistic research made by the analysis.
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.

The LSA guidelines for abstract contents may be helpful, and members who are unfamiliar with abstract style may wish to consult the two model abstracts (one “good”, the other “bad”) that are posted on the LSA website (<http://www.lsadc.org/info/abstract-models.cfm>).

## Categories of Presentation

Authors are required to indicate the preferred category of their presentation at the time of submitting the abstract. The program committee will try to accommodate this preference as space and time allow.

*20-Minute Papers.* The bulk of the program will consist of 20-minute papers, with 10 additional minutes for discussion. Guidelines for preparing abstracts for these papers appear above.

*Posters.* Depending on subject and/or content, it may be more appropriate to submit an abstract to the poster session for visual presentation rather than to a 20-minute paper session. In general, the sorts of papers which are most effective as posters are those in which the major conclusions become evident from the thoughtful examination of charts and graphs, rather than those which require the audience to follow a sustained chain of verbal argumentation. Therefore, authors will want to make points in narrative form as brief as possible. A poster should be able to stand alone—that is, be understandable even if the author is not present. Abstracts for posters should follow the same guidelines as those for papers. SSILA poster sessions share space with LSA posters.

*Organized Sessions.* SSILA encourages submission 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; or (4) sessions of any other kind with a clear, specific, and coherent rationale.

The organizer(s) of such sessions should notify the program chair (shawpa at interchange dot ubc dot ca) of their intent to submit a proposal at the earliest possible date, but **no later than July 1st**, including a general statement of the purpose and structure of the session. A full proposal must be submitted to the program chair by **August 1st** and must include: (1) a session abstract outlining the purpose, motivation, length (maximum: 3 hours), and justification for the session; (2) names of all participants, including discussants, and titles of papers; and (3) 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 20-minute paper + 10-minute discussion format.

All participants in organized sessions should submit an abstract of their paper following the submission instructions. Should the organized session not be accepted, the abstracts will be considered instead for the general session.

## 275.1 SSILA BUSINESS – ONLINE EASYCHAIR SUBMISSION

### Submitting Abstracts Using EasyChair

#### Abstracts

Submissions for the SSILA 2012 Annual Meeting require **two abstracts**:

**Short Abstract** This abstract should be no more than 100 words, and will be used for publication in the meeting handbook. In **EasyChair**, you will paste this abstract into the “Abstract” box.

**Long Abstract** This abstract is the one that will be evaluated for inclusion in the meeting program. The long abstract should be a pdf file. In **EasyChair**, you will select the pdf file containing your abstract to upload at the “Upload Paper” prompt.

This year we are limiting submissions to one page per abstract (11pt or 12pt, single spaced, with 1-inch margins). Any necessary references should appear on a second page.

### **Detailed instructions**

If you have not used EasyChair before, detailed instructions follow.

The submission process requires two stages:

- Get your own EasyChair account
- Submit your abstract(s)

### **Creating an account in EasyChair:**

- Go to the EasyChair site: [www.easychair.org](http://www.easychair.org)
- Click “sign up for an account” and follow the instructions for entry into the system  
Step 1: Type in the two word sequence you see on the screen and click on “continue”.  
Step 2: Enter your name and e-mail address and click “continue”
- Check your e-mail: You will receive a message from EasyChair.
- Click the link in the message you get from EasyChair.
- Enter your personal information; all starred fields are required.
- Click the button at the bottom to submit your information.
- Make a note of your user name and password for future reference.

NOTE: The password you set must be at least 8 characters or you will get an error message.

### **Submitting your abstracts:**

Go to the SSILA Summer 2011 submission page:

<https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ssila2012>

Log in using the username and password you just established.

Click "New Submission". On the page that appears, you will need to provide correspondence information, identify the author(s), title, and category of the proposed paper, and submit your short abstract and long abstract.

### **Address for Correspondence:**

Provide your postal address just in case we cannot reach you electronically.

### **Authors:**

Enter the information requested about the author(s):

- For yourself, you can click the link at the top of the author box to enter the information from your account profile into the form.
- For co-authors, type in their information.
- If there are more than three authors, select [Click here to add more authors](#).

Use the ‘corresponding author’ checkboxes to select which author(s) will get e-mail from the EasyChair system and the Program Committee.

### **Title, Abstract and Other Information**

- Enter the **Title** of the paper; this must be not more than one 7-inch typed line.
- Enter the prepublication (short) **Abstract**. If your paper is accepted, this short abstract will appear in the Meeting Handbook. Cut and paste the abstract into the text box provided. Maximum length is 100 words.
- [If your short abstract requires special characters, please also send it as a PDF file to the SSILA Executive Secretary at ivy at ivydoak dot com.]
- Enter the **keywords** (at least 2, up to 5) that apply to your paper. Please include the subareas to which your paper belongs.
- Under **Topics**, select the main field of the paper (to be used by the program committee to group papers).

### **Upload paper [long abstract]**

- The long abstract, written according to the guidelines described in the Call for Papers, must be uploaded here.
- Use PDF format.
- Use the browse button to select your abstract document.
- Click **Submit Paper**

**Logout** by selecting “Sign out” in the top menu bar.

### **Questions?**

Please contact: ivy at ivydoak dot com if you have any questions about or difficulty with your abstract submission.

## **275.2 CORRESPONDENCE**

Here is some information on a recent publication on an indigenous language of the Americas.

### Reference

Rose, Françoise. 2011. Grammaire de l'émérillon teko, une langue tupi-guarani de Guyane française, Langues et Sociétés d'Amérique traditionnelle 10, Louvain: Peeters.

### Summary

Over the last two decades, Amazonian linguistics has greatly expanded. Many languages have recently been described and are providing typologists with new data. Within this dynamic current, this book presents a first description of the Grammar of Emérillon Teko, a Tupi-Guarani language of French Guiana. Emérillon is an endangered Amazonian language with an oral tradition. Spontaneous texts recorded from speakers in the field constitute the corpus used for this study. The analysis was conducted within a functional-typological approach. It aims at comparing the Emérillon language, on the one hand, with recent typological studies and, on the other, with studies of the other Tupi-Guarani languages. The study focuses on morphology and syntax, from nominal phrases to complex sentences, with other areas such as phonology and discourse being also considered. In a typological perspective, most interesting are the cases of a hierarchical cross-referencing system, still little discussed in the typological literature, possessive nominal predicates using verbal morphology, and gerund

constructions being at the origin of verb serialization. In a comparative perspective, this language seems to be an innovative member of the Tupi-Guarani family, for instance with the loss of the absolutive cross-referencing system in dependent clauses. Finally, in an areal perspective, the Emérillon language constitutes by a number of traits a representative member of Amazonian languages.

Further information

[http://www.peeters-leuven.be/boekoverz\\_print.asp?nr=8380](http://www.peeters-leuven.be/boekoverz_print.asp?nr=8380)

The grammar is written in French. Its price is 58 euros.

Thank you.

Very best,

Françoise ROSE

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### **275.3 OBITUARY – ALICE SCHLICHTER SHEPHERD**

#### **IN MEMORY OF ALICE SCHLICHTER SHEPHERD**

Leanne Hinton

Alice Shepherd (nee Schlichter), died March 17, 2011, after several years of battling cancer. Dr. Shepherd was an expert in California Indian languages, working especially closely with Yuki, Wappo, and Wintu. She grew up in southern Germany, and immigrated to the US in the early 1970s, where she lived ever since. She received her BA, MA and Ph.D. from the Linguistics Department at the University of California at Berkeley; her dissertation was *The Yukian Language Family* (1985).

A very private person, Dr. Shepherd was not drawn to an academic career or in being in the public eye. Instead, her “day job” was in business writing, and she maintained an active independent scholarly career on the side. These two parallel lives are summarized in her own professional self-description, written for the business world:

Alice Shepherd, Ph.D. has 15 years of experience as a ghostwriter, business-to-business journalist and marketing communications writer. She has ghostwritten two books on career planning and executive coaching, and hundreds of trade magazine articles covering diverse industries and disciplines including: healthcare, medical devices, training and development, e-learning, education, banking, financial services, aviation, IT, insurance, risk management, manufacturing, hospitality, food/beverage, telecom, consulting, real estate, safety, facilities, engineering, human factors engineering, exhibiting, law, retail, transportation, supply chain, disaster recovery/business

continuity, science and nonprofit. Prior to her writing career, she was employed in management positions at the University of California and a private college.

Shepherd holds B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley. She is the author of four books and 15 scientific journal articles on topics of language analysis. Her background in linguistics has provided her with excellent listening skills, the ability to grasp and assimilate the jargons of different industries, and a sensitivity to language that helps her write in a client's preferred style and voice. She is both detail-oriented and a big-picture thinker, and provides prompt, dependable and proactive client service.

Working under the mentorship of Professors Wallace Chafe and Jesse Sawyer, Alice was already actively publishing as a student in the 1970's and '80's. She completed a Yuki vocabulary as her master's thesis in 1978, and published an article on Wintu internal variation the next year in IJAL (Shepherd 1979). This was followed by several other publications on Wintu (see her list of publications) before she finished her dissertation on Yukian in 1985. As a student, she also helped found the Linguistics Department's *Survey Reports* series, and was the head editor on two of those reports. She published her own *Wintu Dictionary* as Report Number 2 (1981b). She continued her work on all three of these languages – Wappo, Yuki and Wintu – throughout her years at Berkeley and beyond, with her last scholarly monograph being a culmination of years of work on Wintun languages, *Proto-Wintun* (2005). Her publications on Wappo, Yuki and Wintu - which include works on historical linguistics, dialectology, folklore and mythology, special forms of speech, phonology, morphology and lexicography - are all important additions to the understanding of California Indian languages, and are consulted regularly by current scholars (see e.g. Victor Golla's soon to be published UCPL volume, *California Indian Languages*, where her work is cited extensively.)

When her mentor Dr. Jesse Sawyer died suddenly, Dr. Shepherd took it upon herself to complete and publish some of the articles he had been working on, again as one of the Survey reports. (Sawyer 1991). This may have been the first of her "ghost-writings" that she referred to in her self-description, and the other might have been the book *In my own words* (McKibben, 1991). Dr. Shepherd had a very close relationship to the talented Wintu speaker and singer Grace McKibben, who entrusted Alice with her vast knowledge of Wintu language, song and culture. *In my own words* owes much to Dr. Shepherd's transcriptions and sensitive editing job from the years of recordings that she had made with Mrs. McKibben. Dr. Shepherd's willingness to put herself in the background in the case of both these books is typical of her modesty.

Besides her publications, Shepherd left behind many recordings and fieldnotes, along with many unpublished manuscripts from her student career. Her recordings are archived at the Berkeley Language Center at the University of California at Berkeley, and can be found through the Survey of California and Other Indian Languages' website (soon to be supplanted by the California Language Archive website). Some of her unpublished student papers are archived at the Survey as well. She was working in her later years on a volume of Grace McKibben's songs, and also left behind a complete manuscript on the world's religions – showing the astonishing breadth of her interests.

In the last several years of her life, Dr. Shepherd's generosity of spirit was expressed in her assistance to the Nomlaki tribe on the Wintu language. Nomlaki Tribal linguist Cody Pata wrote this appreciation:



Alice Shepherd's works involving the documentation, study, and preservation of California Indian languages will forever continue to influence and inspire the culture and language revitalization efforts of the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians. Prior to her relationship with our tribe, Alice's extensive recordings and writings on Wintun languages helped to guide the processes through which we managed and maintained our dialect of Nomlaki Wintun.

Upon a long-anticipated introduction, Alice's immediate warmth and generosity in sharing her knowledge, encouragement, and advice further allowed our language program to evolve into its current state. At the present time, the entire enrolled population of the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians has been exposed to increased levels of Nomlaki language through active revitalization efforts.

It was with great sorrow that our tribe received the news of Alice's passing on March 17th, 2011. Her gifts of publications and files to our tribe will forever be featured amongst our tribal resources. Her life's-work will continue to be a cherished source of wisdom from which both current and future Nomlaki speakers will draw.

On behalf of the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians, we extend our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Alice Shepherd. We are grateful to you all for having shared this wonderful woman with us. Please know that we will continue to honor her life through the language which she has helped us to restore. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sincerely,  
The Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians

#### LINGUISTIC PUBLICATIONS OF ALICE SCHLICHTER SHEPHERD

Elmendorf, William W., and Alice Shepherd. 1999. Another Look at Wappo-Yuki Loans. AL 41.2 :209–229.

Hinton, Leanne, and Alice Shepherd. 1998. Layers of Meaning in a Wintu Doctor Song. In *The Life of Language: Papers in Linguistics in Honor of William Bright*, edited by Jane Hill, P. J. Mistry, and Lyle Campbell, 271–280. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.

McKibben, Grace. 1991. *In my own words: Stories, Songs and Memories of Grace McKibben*. Heyday Books. (Alice Shepherd, Forward).

Sawyer, Jesse O. 1991. *Wappo Studies*. Edited by Alice Shepherd, with annotations by William W. Elmendorf. Survey of California and Other Indian Languages, Report 7. Berkeley: Department of Linguistics, University of California.

Sawyer, Jesse O., and Alice Schlichter. 1984. *Yuki Vocabulary*. UC-PL 101.

Schlichter, Alice. 1978. English-Yuki vocabulary. M.A. thesis, University of California, Berkeley.

- \_\_\_\_\_. 1979. Wintu Internal Variation. *IJAL* 45:236–244.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1980. English and Spanish Loanwords in Wintu. In *American Indian and Indoeuropean Studies: Papers in Honor of Madison S. Beeler*, edited by Kathryn A. Klar, Margaret Langdon, and Shirley Silver, 221–227. The Hague: Mouton.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1981a. Notes on the Wintu Shamanistic Jargon. In *Survey Reports 1981*, edited by Alice Schlichter, Wallace L. Chafe, and Leanne Hinton, 95–130. Survey of California and Other Indian Languages, Report 1. Department of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley. (Reprinted in Bean 1992.)
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- \_\_\_\_\_, Wallace L. Chafe and Leanne Hinton, eds. *Studies in Mesoamerican linguistics*. Survey of California and Other Indian Languages, Report 4. Department of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley.
- Shepherd, Alice. 1989. *Wintu Texts*. UC-PL 117.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 2005. *Proto-Wintun*. UC-PL 137. (Available online at [repositories.cdlib.org/ucpress/](http://repositories.cdlib.org/ucpress/).)

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## 275.4 MEDIA WATCH

### **Isolated Amazonian Tribe, whose Language is Unknown, Filmed from the Air**

Film footage of a remote Amazon Rainforest tribe can be seen on the *BBC News Latin America and the Caribbean* website posted below. Footage posted by the BBC in February of 2011, is said to have been obtained from 1 kilometer in the air, using high intensity, stabilized zoom lens.

Jose Carlos Meirelles, of Funai, said his government agency needs proof of the existence of "uncontacted" Indian communities in Brazil due to the threat posed by illegal logging and mining. They are known as "uncontacted" because they have indirectly limited dealings with the outside world.

The world finds it incredible that these people exist in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Little is known of their way of life, and their language is unknown. Meirelles commented, "Their future doesn't depend on them, it depends on us, our conscience. If illegal loggers contact these people, they'll shoot them. It's important for humanity that these people exist. They're the last free people on the planet."

Please see the footage at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-12360013>

## 275.5      **UPDATES**

### **Updated E-mail Address:**

Geoffrey Kimball	nindojibwew AT gmail DOT com
Virginia (Wilkins) Hinders	virginia DOT hinders AT lionbridge DOT com
Bret Gustafson	gustafson02 AT post DOT harvard DOT edu

### **New Members:**

Grant Aiton	aiton DOT grant AT gmail DOT com
Eric Campbell	ecampbell AT mail DOT utexas DOT edu
Monty Hill	monty DOT c DOT hill AT gmail DOT com
Jo Johnson	jej32 AT cornell DOT edu
Richard Sandoval	richard DOT sandoval AT colorado DOT edu
Dibella Wdzieczny	wdzencz AT gmail DOT com
Alex Trueman	alex AT email DOT arizona DOT edu
Joshua Berson	jberson AT mpiwg-berlin DOT mpg DOT de