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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163.0  SSILA BUSINESS

Website fully operational again, at last; new version coming
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Ardis Eschenberg, SSILA's website manager, is happy to announce that
the SSILA website is once again fully operational. As many of you
know, the databases at the site were off-line for several months while
we desperately tried to find out why the search routines weren't
working. The databases are now fully accessible again -- for reasons
just as mysterious as their original disabling.

However, none of the databases has been updated in over a year, so
the Directory in particular should be used with caution for the next
few weeks. Early in May we plan to move to a new website, which is now
being installed (and updated) on the SUNY Buffalo server. The new site
will continue to have the address <www.ssila.org>.
SSILA Annual Meeting: Call for session proposals

The 2002-03 SSILA Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 77th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America in Atlanta, Georgia, from Thursday January 2 through Sunday January 5, 2003. The Call for Papers will be distributed in the early summer, in both electronic and paper form. Proposals for special thematic sessions are solicited at this time.

Proposers should submit a short session abstract (150 words would be sufficient) and a tentative list of participants and their paper topics to the SSILA Program Committee before June 15, 2002. Abstracts for individual papers should not be submitted now.

Thematic sessions may be of variable length, up to 3 hours, and may include introductions and discussions as well as substantive presentations. If the organizer(s) will consider additional papers on the session theme, the session (if accepted by the Program Committee) will be announced in the Call for Papers and prospective participants asked to contact the session organizer(s).

The Program Committee would be especially interested in receiving session proposals on (1) the archiving and dissemination of documentation, including web-based projects; and (2) the production of digital dictionaries and other computer-based tools for language learners.

Proposals should be sent (by e-mail or in hard copy) to:

SSILA Program Committee
PO Box 555
Arcata, CA 95518
(ssila@ssila.org)

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163.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Robert W. Young's 90th birthday

From Alyse Neundorf (aneundorf@gallup.unm.edu) 15 Apr 2002:

Dr. Robert W. Young, author of Navajo language dictionaries and an outstanding Navajo language linguist will be having his (90th) birthday on May 12, 2002. Dr. Young is indeed a living legend and deserves our attention. If you would like to attend Dr. Young's birthday party, e-mail <ossy@aol.com> for more information. If you would like to wish Dr. Young a happy birthday, e-mail your message to the same address soon.

--Alyse Neundorf

Albuquerque, New Mexico

(aneundorf@gallup.unm.edu)
Passamaquoddy translation

In 1980 I completed Thirteen Moons, a twenty poem sequence based on the life of Father Sebastian Rale, Jesuit missionary to the Norrigwock Indians from 1694 to 1724. The text includes some prose extracts from Rale's letters.


A new edition of the poems will be issued in 2002, combining all three languages. David Wolfe of Wolfe Editions, Portland, ME, has designed an elegant triptych, letter press version in which three-fold pages will open to present all three versions of the text. With the exception of minor changes in the prose introduction and the substitution of one word in one poem the text is unchanged.

We plan a small number of hand bound copies (25 at $175 each) which we hope will be attractive to collectors and defray some of the expense of the project. This promises to be a fine example of book art.

The paperback run will be offered to libraries and other non-profit institutions at cost ($20 to $25 each), and if that is prohibitive the Cider Press will donate copies and The Cider Press will absorb the cost. Paperback copies, which will be more expensive than most poetry books of this size, will be offered to local book stores on consignment.

--Robert M.

Chute
Press
85 Echo Cove Lane, Poland Spring, ME
04274
(vrchute@aol.com / 207-998-4338)

Requesting your assistance

From Akira Y. Yamamoto (akira@ku.edu) 16 Apr 2002:
Discovery Channel, the world's leading non-fiction entertainment channel dedicated to helping people explore the world, will form a promotional partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) aimed at generating awareness for endangered languages and cultural heritage. To this end, Discovery Channel plans to produce short films of up to 2 minutes in length, each related to language preservation and the value of languages both as a means of communication and expression of cultural identity.

UNESCO/Discovery Channel need to have 2 to 4 examples of endangered language communities in each of the countries listed below. We are asked to provide such examples of endangered languages to be filmed. They want examples:

1. that will be illustrative, in order to appeal to the general public
2. that have accessible contact persons
3. that will not create any political problem with the concerned government
4. that may include spoken, written, or sign language
5. and where the language community is trying to maintain, vitalize or revitalize their languages.

The geographical areas they are looking for are:

- Great Britain/UK/Ireland
- Western Europe/Nordic
- Eastern Europe/Baltics
- Middle East/Turkey/Africa
- Taiwan
- Malaysia
- Korea
- China
- Argentina
- Mexico
- Venezuela

Could anyone help identify such endangered languages or language communities?

--Akira Yamamoto
University of Kansas

(akira@ku.edu)

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Dakota books available
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I am in the process of disposing of books and papers from my personal library, with a view to assuring their availability to future scholars.
Among these are two publications that I would like to give to a scholar who is working on Dakota, or to a library that would welcome them. They are:

Memoirs of the National Academy of Sciences, Volume XXIII, Second Memoir, entitled DAKOTA GRAMMAR, by Franz Boas & Ella Deloria (GPO 1941)

ENGLISH-DAKOTA DICTIONARY, by John P. Williamson. Missionary of the Presbyterian Church, publ. by the Pioneer Press, Yankton, South Dakota (1938)

If you are interested in these, please write me at the address below.

--Robert W. Young
2929 Indiana NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110-3425

163.2 INTENSIVE NAVAJO COURSES THIS SUMMER AT UNM IN GALLUP

From Alyse Neundorf (aneundorf@gallup.unm.edu) 9 Apr 2002:

Two courses of Intensive Navajo Language will be taught at the University of New Mexico, Gallup campus, June 3-28, 2002. For more information e-mail Alyse Neundorf (aneundorf@gallup.unm.edu) or call 505/863-7676. For registration contact UNM: 505/863-7524.

163.3 UPCOMING MEETINGS

* Athabascan Languages Conference (Fairbanks, June 16-18)

From Gary Holton (Gary.Holton@uaf.edu) 17 Apr 2002:

I am pleased to announce a tentative schedule for the 2002 Athabascan Languages Conference, to be held June 16-18 at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Registration and housing information can be found on the conference website at:

http://www.uaf.edu/anlc/alc

Applications are also being accepted for a limited number of travel support awards. Application deadline is May 1. Information is included in the registration packet available on the website. If you need additional information, please e-mail ANLC at <fyanlc@uaf.edu> or call 907/474-7884.
Sunday, June 16
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(1:00-5:00)
Gordon Bussell & Leanne Hinton, TBA
Valerie Wood, "Moving beyond colors and numbers: Teaching Dene at the university level"
Kenneth Frank & Craig Mischler, "Gwich'in Scrabble: A language learning game"
Sharon Hargus, "Negation in Kwadacha (Ft. Ware) Sekani"
Lindsey Newbold, "Plurals and the Seriative Prefix in Navajo"
Rachel Sussman & Joyce McDonough, "Referentiality and Aspect in the Navajo disjunct"
Kathy Kitcheyan, TBA
Barbara Ross & Jeanette Dementi, "Partnership in Athabascan Language Preservation"
Jeff Leer, "Paradigm construction in Athabaskan"
Jocelyn Ahlers, "Grammaticalization and Language Loss"
Willem de Reuse, "Tonto Apache and its position within Apachean"

(5:15-6:15, plenary session)
Michael Krauss, TBA

(6:15-8:00)
Reception

Monday, June 17
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(9:00-12:15)
Rosa Mantla, Teresa Mantla & Leslie Saxon, TBA
Cheryl McLean, Jeannette Poyton, Leda Jules & Anne Ranigler, TBA
Siri Tuttle, "Prosody of Incorporating Verbs in Ahtna Athabaskan"
Suzanne Gessner, "Prosody in Dakelh: A Comparison of Two Dialects"
Alice Taff, "Using the telephone as a community language learning center: Deg Xinag (Ingalik) example"
Margaret Workman, Jo-Anne Johnson & Linda Harvey, "YNLC Teacher Training Programs for residents of Yukon, NWT, BC and Alaska"
Stanley Morris, TBA
Ted Fernald, "Restriction, Saturation, and Classificatory Verbs"
Sally Rice, "Motion and manner conflation patterns in the Dene Suline verb"
Susan Paskvan, TBA

(1:30-3:00)
Cecilia Boyd, Dogrib Language Committee
William Firth, Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute
George Holland, TBA
James Kari, "Dena'inaq' Titaztun: Some Observations About Fish Terms in Athabascan Languages"
Jordan Lachler, "Early Jicarilla Apache Texts"
Olga Mueller, "Cohesion in Chiricahua Apache Narratives"

(3:15-5:00, plenary session)
Roundtable on community language programs, led by students from UAF
Denaqenage' Career Ladder Program

(5:00-5:30)
Business Meeting

Tuesday, June 18
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Workshop on Athabascan Lexicography

(9:00-12:15)
Keren Rice & Leslie Saxon, "Dictionaries and their audiences"
Bill Poser, "Making Athabaskan Dictionaries Usable"
Kathy Sikorski, "Community-based Lexicography"
Melissa Axelrod, Sean M. Burke, Taimi Ames Clark, Jule Gsmez de
Garcma, Jordan Lachler, Candace Maher, Matilda Martinez, Maureen
Olson & Mrs. W. Phone, "Telelexicography: Writing a Jicarilla
Apache Dictionary Over the Web"
John Ritter, Doug Hitch & Andri Bourcier, "Lexical documentation,
philology and multimedia web design"
Alice Taff, "Producing the Deg Xinag (Ingalik) Learners' Dictionary"

(1:30-3:30)
Joyce McDonough, "Tutorial on the structure of the Young and Morgan
grammars"
Rick Thoman, "Tanacross Learner's Dictionary"
Cory R C Sheedy, "Representing Athapaskan Lexica in MS Access"
Siri Tuttle & See-Young Cho, "Text to dictionary: corpus linguistics
in dictionary production"

(3:45-5:30)
Roundtable discussion

(7:00-10:00)
Banquet: Chena River Convention Center

* Friends of Uto-Aztecan  (Mexico City, June 27-28)
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From Jose Luis Moctezuma (jmoctezuma.dl.cnan@inah.gob.mx) 05 March
2002:

This year the Friends of Uto-Aztecan Working Conference's annual
meeting
is being organized by Josi Luis Moctezuma and Ignacio Guzman-
Betancourt,
of the Department of Linguistics, INAH. The meeting will be held on
June 27-28 at the Museo Nacional de Antropologia, in Mexico City. The
place was chosen because this year we are celebrating the three
centuries
of the printing of Father Natal Lombardo's _Arte de la lengua teguima
vulgarmente llamada opata_, of which a new edition has been prepared by
Dr. Guzman-Betancourt, that we hope will be presented on this occasion.
Also, participants at the conference may be interested in visiting the
renewed wings of the Museum, as well as many other sites of interest
that exist in the city and surrounding area.
If you plan to attend this year's FUAC meeting, send a title by April 26 to: Josi Luis Moctezuma-Zamarron (jmoctezuma.cnan.dl@inah.gob.mx, or vaquero@rtn.uson.mx), or Ignacio Guzman-Betancourt (ignasi@terra.com.mx, or guzbet@hotmail.com). Mailing address: Museo Nacional de Antropologia, Direccisn de Ling|mstica, Paseo de la Reforma y Gandhi S/N, 11560 Mexico City, Mexico. Phone & Fax: (01) (52-55) 55 53 05 27.

Housing information will be provided later.

163.4 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

* ABC News story on Dying Languages

On April 8, ABC News reporter Michael S. James filed a long and well-researched story on language endangerment. The internet version (with links to other stories, as well as to sound files) can be found at:

abcnews.go.com/sections/world/DailyNews/endangered_languages.html

Entitled "Tongue-Ties: Linguists and Native Speakers Fight to Preserve Dying Languages," James' story focuses on several specific languages from around the world. Among the experts interviewed are Peter Austin, Aaron Broadwell, Doug Whalen, Steven Bird, Helen Dry, and Inee Yang Slaughter.

* News story on Montana languages

From Steven Bird (sb@unagi.cis.upenn.edu) 15 Apr 2002:

The text of an excellent media story on endangered languages in Montana ("Revitalizing native tongues", by Karen Ivanova, Great Falls Tribune, April 14) can be accessed online at:


* Aboriginal Canada Portal

The Aboriginal Canada Portal site is a joint project of the Government of Canada and several Native organizations, including the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapirisat, and the Mitis National Council, among others. The URL for the homepage is:

www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/abdt/interface/interface2.nsf/engdoc/0.html

The "Language, Heritage and Culture" page has links to a number of
language-related sites maintained by the government, such as "Cree Hand Signals" (Canadian Digital Collection); "Writing in Inuktitut: An Historical Perspective" (Nat'l Library of Canada); and a report that explores which of Canada's Aboriginal languages are flourishing and which are in danger of disappearing (Statistics Canada). There are also some links to non-governmental sites, such as the AFN's Language Secretariat.

* First Voices

The First Peoples' Cultural Foundation (based in Victoria, British Columbia) is developing an online resource to enable Aboriginal communities in Canada to digitally archive their languages. The "First Voices" website is currently being beta tested and can be visited at:

http://www.fpcf.ca/resources/First%20Voices/default.htm

--Peter Brand
First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Cultural Council
Victoria, BC, Canada
(pbrand@mac.com) or (peter@fpcf.ca)

* Finding Our Talk

From Paul M. Rickard (rickbell@sympatico.ca) 11 Apr 2002:

The website for "Finding our Talk"-- a TV series on APTN (Aboriginal Peoples Television Network) about the state of Aboriginal languages in Canada -- is finally up. Season one is on-line, and season two to follow soon. The URL is:

http://www.mushkeg.ca

We are also trying to get the website up in Cree, Mohawk and French. Check site for updates in coming months.

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163.5 HOMEPAGES

[In preparation for a new section of the SSILA Membership Directory, we are collecting the addresses of the homepages maintained by SSILA members. If you would like your homepage address to be added to this list, please send it to <golla@ssila.org>. We will publish addresses as they come in -- the addresses received since the last Bulletin are noted below. The cumulative list will be available soon at the SSILA website. --VG]
Armagost, James ........ http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~armag/
Brand, Peter ............ http://www.FirstVoices.com
Comrie, Bernard .......... http://email.eva.mpg.de/~comrie2/
Drechsel, Emanuel J. ..... http://www2.hawaii.edu/libst/eman.htm
D|rr, Michael ........... http://home.snafu.de/duerr/
Hardman, M. J. .......... http://grove.ufl.edu/~hardman/
Karttunen, Frances ......

Macaulay, Monica ....... http://ling.wisc.edu/~macaulay/monica.html

http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/lrc/general/facultyhomes/frances.html

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163.6  E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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

Brand, Peter ............peter@fpcc.ca
Culy, Chris .............culy@ai.sri.com
Francis, Hartwell .......hartwell.francis@colorado.edu
Hohnheit, Charlotte W. ...klahowyaAK@aol.com
Wichmann, Sxren ..........soerenw@hum.ku.dk

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