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SSILA BUSINESS

Results of the 1982 SSILA election are:
Kenneth C. Hill (U of Michigan) has been elected Vice President/President-Elect;
Marianne Mithun (SUNY Albany) has been elected to the Executive Committee (through 1985); and Victor Golla has been re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. The other officers in 1983 will be: M. Dale Kinkade (UBC), President; Ives Goddard (Smithsonian), Past President; Harriet E. Manelis Klein (Montclair State) and Kenneth W. Whistler (UCB), members of the Executive Committee.

The annual Business Meeting of the Society will be held in the Caucus Room of the Washington Hilton, Tuesday, December 7, 1982, from noon to 1 p.m. The agenda will be distributed during the CAIL sessions.

LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY IN THE AAA

There will be a meeting on Sunday, December 5, from noon to 1:30 p.m., in the Monroe-East room of the Washington Hilton, to discuss the future role of Linguistic Anthropology in the American Anthropological Association. Jane H. Hill, who is currently a member of the Executive Board of the AAA, will chair the meeting. She has sent copies of the following letter to linguistic anthropologists/anthropologists throughout the country:

I don't know how many of you have had an opportunity to read the October 1982 Anthropology Newsletter. In it, a major plan for the reorganization of the American Anthropological Association is outlined. The reasons for the proposal are reviewed in the article "Adapting to Survive", on p. 4 of the Newsletter. The proposal suggests that currently independent societies, affiliated in many different ways with the AAA, become sections, divisions, and interest groups within a reorganized American Anthropological Association. The problem for anthropological linguists is that we currently have no such independent society. The purpose of the meeting announced above is for all of us to meet, find out who we are, and discover what our common interests for organizational clout and intellectual directions may be, in the event of a reorganization of the AAA along the lines described in the Newsletter. In order that as wide a range of viewpoints as possible be represented at the meeting, I hope that all of you who receive this announcement will attend, and will inform friends and colleagues of the meeting. Thank you all in advance for your help, and I hope to see you in Washington. (PS: If you will not be able to come, but have ideas you wish to share, written communications are welcome: my address is 1704 Shadford Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.)
CORRESPONDENCE

Before the Senate Judiciary Committee is an amendment known as the Mathias Amendment. It is attached to a bill which exempts individuals from copyright liability if a video recording is done for private use and not commercial gain (I don't know the name of the larger bill). The amendment provides for the levying of a royalty on blank video cassettes and recorders. This is fine, but audio cassettes and recorders have also been included in the amendment's wording. While this royalty is primarily directed at home-tapers (who the record industry says are ruining their business) it will also affect field linguists. The royalty (which some estimates have placed as high as $4.00 per cassette) would be funnelled into the record industry. The question for linguists is, do we want to pay Warner Brothers for the rights to record the last speakers of dying languages? The answer should be obvious, but it is important that those who are professionally involved in linguistics let their Senators know how they would be affected by the Mathias amendment. As far as I know, the bill is still in the Judiciary Committee of the Senate. The sponsor of the bill to which the amendment is appended is Sen. Dennis DeConcini (R-NM). For more details (the place where I read it, at least) see Rolling Stone, 16 September 1982, pp.59-67.

--John E. McLaughlin, U of Kansas

How Not to Write a Comparative Article:

1. Ignore irregularities. They're not important and they were only put there to try our faith.
2. Ignore morphophonemics. Bloomfield showed that they only work in Menominee.
3. Don't do any internal reconstruction. It's just likely to confuse the reader.
4. Attribute all secondary developments to the proto-language. This solves the problem of those hard-to-locate conditioning factors.
5. Don't posit any unexpected sound changes. They only work in Arapaho.
6. Don't try to segment out grammatical elements. Probably none of your readers knows the grammar of the language anyway.
7. Posit as many doublets in the proto-language as possible. It will make it a lot easier to find exact phonological matches in the daughter languages.
8. Make your article as long as possible. It will impress your readers and it will discourage any would-be critics from writing a refutation.

--Howard Berman, U of Chicago

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Muskogean/Southeastern Newsletter to start

Robert Rankin (D of Linguistics, U of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045) is starting a newsletter to cover linguistic work on Muskogean and other Southeastern languages. He asks interested persons to submit bibliography (articles published, dissertations and theses completed, papers read at meetings, etc.), short notes and reviews, or any other material they consider appropriate for publication in the first issue. He anticipates a yearly publication—something like the Siouan and Caddoan Linguistics Newsletter. The first issue will be sent out at no charge to scholars active in the field; thereafter there will be a small charge, depending on expenses. At least at the outset, coverage will be restricted to linguistic topics. The languages covered will include the Muskogean genetic group, the Gulf isolates, Yuchi, the Florida isolates, and Catawban, as well as Siouan, Algonquian and Iroquoian to the extent that they are represented in the Southeast and share southeastern features.

NW Coast Bibliography

Guy Buchholtzer (D of Anthropology and Sociology, UBC, Vancouver) is still looking for recent (post-1970) items in anthropology and linguistics for inclusion in a comprehensive bibliography of NW Coast Indian cultures (Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, Wakashan, Coast Salish). Besides published material, he is interested in hearing of manuscripts, theses, maps, museum catalogues, etc.

Phillips Fund Grants

The American Philosophical Society announces the availability of Phillips Fund Grants for research in American Indian anthropological linguistics and ethnohistory. These grants
are intended for such extra costs as travel, tapes or films, and informants' fees. They are not made for projects in archaeology, ethnography, psycholinguistics, or the preparation of pedagogical material. Preference is given to younger scholars, including graduate students. Address inquiries to: APS, 104 S 5th St., Philadelphia, PA 19104. Deadline for applications is March 15, 1983.

American Indian Studies Postdoctoral Fellowships at UCLA

The Institute of American Cultures at UCLA, in conjunction with the American Indian Studies Center, has available a limited number of postdoctoral fellowships for the 1983-84 academic year. Support is available in two categories. Those who have recently obtained the Ph.D. are invited to apply for awards that range from $18,500 to $21,500 depending on rank and experience. Senior scholars are invited to apply for awards to supplement the sabbatical salaries provided by their own institutions. Additional support may be available to both categories of grantees for specific research. The acceptance of support carries with it the commitment to participate in the teaching of research program of the Center. (The UCLA American Indian Studies Center, organized as a research unit within the University in 1971, seeks to coordinate educational, research, and action-oriented programs designed to meet the needs of American Indian students at UCLA and American Indian communities generally. The Center publishes the American Indian Culture and Research Journal, and sponsors a wide variety of lectures, symposia, conferences, and workshops.) The deadline for application is December 31, 1982. Applications and further information may be obtained from Prof. Charlotte Heth, Director, AISC, 3220 Campbell Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024. (213)-825-7315.

Garland Monographs going out of print

Garland Publishing, Inc., has announced that the set of 10 dissertations published several years ago as Garland Studies in American Indian Linguistics will soon go out of print. Meanwhile, Garland is offering them at 50% off the list price. The series includes:

- Paula F. Einaudi, A Grammar of Biloxi
- Louamma Furbee-Losee, The Correct Language, Tojolabal
- Douglas R. Parks, A Grammar of Pawnee
- David S. Rood, Wichita Grammar
- Larry Gorbet, A Grammar of Diegueño Nominals
- James N. Kari, Navajo Verb Prefix Morphology
- Martha B. Kendall, Selected Problems in Yavapai Syntax
- Pamela Munro, Topics in Mojave Syntax
- H. Stephen Straight, The Acquisition of Maya Phonology
- Marianne Mithun, A Grammar of Tuscarora

The sale price is $21 per volume, or $195 for the entire set. On prepaid orders Garland pays postage and handling. Orders from outside

Bloomfield's Menominee Lexicon available for the asking


JCGBA suspends publication of linguistics supplement on a regular basis

The Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology, which for the past several years has published an annual supplement, Papers in Linguistics, devoted to studies of California and Great Basin Indian languages, has announced that it will be discontinued, at least on a regular basis. The journal may publish further issues of Papers in Linguistics on an occasional basis, if sufficient material becomes available to warrant publication.

Linguistics at the Algonquian Conference


American Indian Sessions at the Mid-America Linguistics Conference

The 17th annual Mid-America Linguistics Conference, held at the U of Kansas, Lawrence, October 22-23, 1982, featured two sessions of American Indian papers:


II (Chair, Robert Rankin) -- Mary R. Haas, "Noun Derivation in Creek: With Notes on Some Other Southeastern Languages"; Emanuel Drechsel, "The Question of the Lingua Franca Creek"; Amelia R. Bell, "Performative Effectiveness of Textual Cohesive Structures in Creek 'Long Talks'"; William D. Davies, "Temporal Conditioning in Choctaw Switch Reference Marking"; Geoffrey Kimball, "Verb Pluralization in Koasati"; T. Dale Nicklas, "Choctaw Final h and Certain Vowel Alternations in Muskogean".

Applied Linguistics at U of Alaska

The U of Alaska, Fairbanks, has recently instituted a curriculum in Applied Linguistics. The program is designed to give students, most of whom are expected to be Alaska Natives, technical training in linguistics sufficient
to do documentary field work on Alaskan Native languages. Students will also be trained in the preparation of teaching materials, and given the historical and political background necessary to appreciate the context in which language retention efforts are taking place in Alaska. The Applied Linguistics Program is one of several programs in Native education offered by the U of Alaska. For further information, contact: Ron Scollon, Alaska Native Programs, U of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

Workshop and Advanced Seminar in Maya Glyphs

The 7th Workshop on Maya Hieroglyphic Writing will be held at the U of Texas, Austin, March 25-27, 1983, under the sponsorship of the Institute of Latin American Studies. The workshop, conducted by Linda Schele, is an intensive introduction to recent developments in understanding and deciphering the Maya glyphs. To benefit from the workshop, a background in pre-Hispanic Maya culture and calendrics is necessary, but not a prior knowledge of the glyphs. A special Advanced Seminar will be held at Texas on January 10-14. This seminar, which will also be conducted by Schele, will concentrate on the Maya script. Participants will be expected to go much more thoroughly into the functioning of the writing system and to do actual glyph decipherment and research work themselves. Potential participants in the Advanced Seminar must demonstrate an understanding of the basic nature of the Maya writing system and of the functioning of the glyphs, and be ready to do further work. To receive further information when it becomes available, write to Nancy P. Troie, Inst for Latin American Studies, U of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

American Indian Quarterly

The American Indian Quarterly has recently been acquired by the Native American Studies Program at the U of California, Berkeley. The Quarterly is a journal of Anthropology, History, Literature, and Folklore, with a focus on a multi-disciplinary approach. In addition to articles, discussion of current research, and coverage of major issues in Native American affairs, the journal features an extensive reviews section, covering books, records, and film. The Quarterly welcomes articles for publication in all areas of Native American Studies. Subscriptions are $15/year (individual) or $35/year (institutional). Send articles or subscription orders to: Managing Editor, AIQ, Native American Studies Program, 3415 Dwinelle Hall, U of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.
REGIONAL NETWORKS

[Additions, updates and special announcements only. A full directory of regional conferences, newsletters, journals and special publication series will be run in the February Newsletter.]

ATHABASKAN/ESKIMO-ALEUT

--Athabaskan Languages Conference. The Alaska Native Language Center will host an Athabaskan Languages Conference at the U of Alaska, Fairbanks, May 24-27, 1983. For further information: Ruth Ridley or James Kari, ANLC, U of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

PLAINS/SOUTHEAST


--Muskogeans/Southeastern Newsletter. First issue now being prepared. Contact the editor: Robert L. Rankin, D of Linguistics, U of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045. [See announcement above, p. 2.]

UTO-AZTECAN

--Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics. Spring 1983 issue to focus on Nemic languages. [See announcement above, p. 3.]

MAYAN

--Taller Maya/Mayan Languages Conference. The Taller Maya VI was held July 12-16, 1982, in San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas. Plans are going ahead for a Taller Maya VII to be held in the summer of 1984, possibly in Yucatan. Organizer: Thomas C. Smith-Stark, Carretera Cuernavaca 5313, Chimalcayotl, Tlalpan, D.F., Mexico.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Dictionary of the Moses-Columbia Language. Compiled by M. Dale Kinkade, with assistance from members of the Colville Tribe. $10 postpaid. Order from: Mike Somday, Colville Confederated Tribes, P.O. Box 150, Nespelem, WA 99155. Make checks payable to "Colville Confederated Tribes".


Maya Glyphs: The Verbs. Linda Schele. U of Texas Press, 1982. 439 pp. $35. [A comprehensive catalogue of deciphered verbal phrases in Maya hieroglyphics, organized according to verbal affix patterns; extensive notes, and a summary of methodology.]


When it Rains: Papago and Pima Poetry. Ed. by Ofelia Zepeda. U of Arizona Press, 1982. 88pp. $4.50 paper/$8.95 cloth. [Papago and Pima texts with English translations, products of a 1980 workshop in Albuquerque in which Indian language teachers were encouraged to write down "spontaneous thoughts" in their native language. This is the 7th volume in the Suntracks series, edited at the American Indian Studies Program and the D of English, U of Arizona.]


Recent American Indian titles in SIL-PL:


Order from: Dallas Center Book Store, SIL, 7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd., Dallas, TX 75236. A complete catalogue of all SIL publications is available.

The Invisible Culture: Communication in Classroom and Community on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Susan Urmston Phillips. Longman, Inc. (1560 Broadway, NYC 10036), Research on Teaching Monograph Series, 1983. 147 pp. [Patterns of verbal and non-verbal communication among Anglo and Indian schoolchildren. Phillips argues that Indian children organize verbal and non-verbal information in ways that are in conflict with common patterns of classroom communication.]

SELAF Publications in Amerindian Ethnolinguistics. Several monographs on South American Indian languages are available under the imprint of SELAF (Société d'Etudes Linguistiques et Anthropologiques de France). These include:

La pratique linguistique des Indiens Trumai. Aurore Becquelin-Monod. 275 pp. 77FF/$24. [Upper Xingu, Brazil]


Le parler quechua d'Ulto. Gerald Taylor. 110 pp. 44FF/$17. [Lowland Quechua dialect from the province of Luya, Peru.]

La langue des Andoke. Jon Landaburu. 350 pp. 115FF/$35. [Colombian Amazon.]

La langue wayapi. Françoise Grenand. 117 pp. [Tupi-Guarani, French Guiana]

Also available from SELAF is Epigraphia maya y lingüística mayancense, by Daniel Cazes (66FF/$22), a bibliography of work on Mayan glyphs, calendrics, and descriptive and historical linguistics. Orders for SELAF books should be addressed to Prof. B. Pottier, 31 rue Gay-Lussac, 75005 Paris, France. Checks should be made out to "A.E.A."

IN CURRENT PERIODICALS

American Antiquity [Society for American Archaeology, 1703 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington DC 20009]

47.3 (July 1982):

Robert L. Bettenger and Martin A. Baumhoff, "The Numic Spread: Great Basin Cultures in Competition" (485-503) [The "puzzling" spread of Numic speaking hunter-gatherers into the Great Basin after AD 1300 is explained by important differences in adaptation between Pre-Numic and Numic groups.]

Anthropology and Education Quarterly [Council on Anthropology and Education, 1703 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009]

13.1 (Spring 1982):

Margaret Wilhite, "Socioeconomic Factors in Bilingualism in Two Guatemalan Indian Communities" (147-160) [Cakchiquel]

Current Anthropology [U of Chicago Press, 5801 S Ellis Av, Chicago, IL 60637]

23.5 (October 1982):

Elizabeth Tooker, "More on Morgan's Nonmental Mind" (589-591) [Lewis Henry Morgan as a philologist]

International Journal of American Linguistics [U of Chicago Press, 5801 S Ellis Av, Chicago, IL 60637]

48.4 (October 1982):
J. Peter Denny, "Semantics of the Inuktut (Eskimo) Spatial Deictics" (359-384)
Lawrence D. Kaplan, "Consonant Alternation in Inupiaq Eskimo" (385-393)
Paul Proulx, "The Origin of the Absolute Verbs of the Algonquian Independent Order" (394-411)
Howard Berman, "Two Phonological Innovations in Ritwan" (412-420)
Anthony Mattina, "The Colville-Okanagan Transitive System" (421-435)
John S. Robertson, "The History of the Absolutive Second-Person Pronoun from Common Mayan to Modern Tzotzil" (436-443)
Irving W. Miller, "S Palute and Numic Final Features" (444-449)
Bruce Mannheim, "A Note on 'Inclusive/Exclusive' in 16th Century Peru" (450-459)
Emanuel J. Drechsel and T. Haunani Makuakane, "Hawaiian Loanwords in Two Native American Pidgins" (460-467)
Paul Proulx, "Proto-Algonquian *k in Cheyenne" (467-471)
Gregory C. Richter, "Highland Chontal Morphology: Some New Perspectives" (472-476)

Journal of Mayan Linguistics [D of Anthro, U of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242]

3.2 (Fall 1982):
Marshall Durbin and Fernando Ojeda, "Patient Deixis in Yucatec Maya" (3-23)
Larry L. Richman, "An Examination of Adjectival Forms in the Cakchiquel Language" (24-32)
John Fought, "A Note on Voice and Ergativity in Chorti" (33-37) [Criticism of Dayley's treatment of Chorti in JNL 2(2):44-6]
Jon P. Dayley, "A Hard Fought Repartee" (38-52) [A response to Fought]

La linguistique [Société internationale de linguistique fonctionnelle, 45 rue des Ecoles, 75005 Paris]
18.1 (1982):
Jacqueline Lindenfeld, "Langues en contact: le Yaqui face à l'Espagnol" (111-127)

Orbis [Centre International de Dialectologie Générale, Blijde-Inkomststraat 21, Louvain, Belgium]
28.1 (1979):
R. Bonnerjeea, "Some Probable Phonological Connections Between Ural-Altaic and Eskimo-Aleut" (27-44) [Part I of this study appeared in Orbis 24:251-75, 1975.]

COMPUTER USERS CORNER

[The response to my note in the September Newsletter concerning the growing importance of computers in American Indian linguistics was overwhelmingly enthusiastic. There was a clear mandate from the membership for a "Computer Users Corner", which is herewith inaugurated. Two colleagues have kindly offered their services as corresponding editors for future columns: Elizabeth Edwards (D of Anthropology, DH-05, U of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195), and Dermot Ronan Collis (Centre Internationale de Recherche sur le Bilinguisme, Universite Laval, Quebec, Canada G1K 7P4). Scholars who are experimenting with computer-aided research techniques; and who would like to report on their progress in future "Computer Users Corners", should communicate with Drs. Edwards or Collis, or directly with me if it is more convenient. --V.G.]

Annual Symposium on Amerindian Research and Informatics

For the past 2 years Guy P. Buchholtzer (CNRS, Paris and UBC, Vancouver) has been the organizer of an annual symposium on "Amerindian Research and Informatics" at the CESCE/Canadian Ethnology Society annual meetings (held usually during the second week of May). He writes:

The 1982 symposium (the second of this kind) was held in Vancouver, May 10th. The first part of the session was given over to the presentation and discussion of 4 papers [see below]. In the second part there was a discussion of the future organization of the symposium and of the usefulness of creating in Canada a central clearinghouse for data bases and software appropriate to Amerindian and Inuit research.

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The papers that were delivered were:

(1) John D. Nichols (W Ontario U and Brandon U), "Using a Data Base Management System in American Indian Lexicography". (Nichols demonstrated the usefulness of traditional data-processing systems--without special software--for establishing a data base for an Amerindian dictionary. Nichols works on the Ojibwa of Big Trout Lake in NW Ontario. Programs used: DFL on a DEC-10.)

(2) Laurence C. Thompson and Robert W. Hsu (U of Hawaii), "Computer Processing of the Thompson Salish Dictionary". (Thompson's dictionary of Thompson-Salish, 10 years in the making, remains the most striking and complete example of the use of computers in Amerindian linguistics. Programs are written in Spibol (SNOBOL-4) on an IBM-370 system. Use of a special Terak terminal allows data to be entered, sorted, and printed in the original transcription.) [For a more extensive discussion of Larry Thompson's work, see Computer-aided Lexicography at the U of Hawaii, below.--V.C.]

(3) Guy Bucholtzer (CNRS/UBC), "Classification, Analysis of Content, and Archiving of Ethnographic Information: A Computerized Procedure". (A procedure for classifying the content of texts or other ethnographic data through the use of key-words. The program is written in Spibol (SNOBOL4) for AMDAHL and IBM-370/168.)

(4) Davis W. Zimmerly (NPM, Ottawa), "Stability and Trim Characteristics of Native Watercraft: A Computerized Study". (A study of kayak types from the Arctic, illustrating the use of computers in museological work. The program was written in FORTRAN IV.)

An edited version of the proceedings will be published by the National Museum of Man, Ottawa (Mercury Series), probably in the spring of 1983. The next symposium in this series is planned for the CES meetings at McMaster U, Hamilton, Ontario, May 7-10, 1983. People interested in participating should contact me as soon as possible, with an 80-word abstract. (Address: Guy P. Bucholtzer, D of Sociology and Anthropology, UBC, Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 2B2)

PTP--A Text Processing Language for Personal Computers

PTP (the Programmable Text Processor) is a high level programming language designed explicitly for use by linguists on microcomputers. It was developed initially for use by SIL linguists on portable 8080-based microcomputers, for text-data processing in the field. PTP was created in 1976 by SIL-member Gary Simons, who was at that time working in Papua-New Guinea, when the general purpose programming language available for his field micro-computer proved ill-suited for text processing. In 1979 PTP was implemented for the PDP-11 by Stephen McConnel of the Georgia Institute of Technology, and it has also been implemented for 6502 machines (Apple) by CompuSystems of S Carolina.

Because PTP was originally written for the personal micro-computer, two of its prominent characteristics are compactness and interaction. PTP resides in less than 4 kilobytes of memory in its current 8080 implementation (ans approximately 8 kilobytes in the PDP-11 implementation), and there is virtually no overhead on text storage. As an interpretive language, PTP not only allows for interactive programs, but also for interactive program development and debugging.

The PTP Programmer's Reference Manual, by Gary Simons and R. C. Woods (1979), available from STL (7509 W Camp Wisdom Rd, Dallas, TX 75236), gives a complete description of the language, including sample programs and programming hints. For a briefer, informal description of PTP and its uses, see "PTP--A Text Processing Language for Personal Computers", by R. Howell, S. McConnel, and G. Simons, in Notes on Linguistics 22:4-9, April 1982 (this is an SIL publication, available also from the above address). PTP is currently available for three families of computers: the 8080 (including 8085 and Z-80), the 6502 (Apple), and the PDP-11. The 8080 and 6502 implementations are available commercially from CompuSystems of S Carolina, P.O. Box 5144, Columbia, SC (Attn: Ramond Howell). [Rudy Troike, U of Illinois, informs us that a field-test version of PTP is also available for the TRS Model II.--V.C.]

Computer-aided Lexicography at the U of Hawaii

Larry and Terry Thompson, in collaboration with Bob Hsu, have been working for several years on dictionaries of Salishan languages as part of a more general project in computer-aided
lexicography in the D of Linguistics, U of Hawaii (Honolulu, HI 96822). 30 dictionaries have been processed to date by the project, of which 5 have been Salishan: Colville, Klallam, Spokane, Thompson, and Tillamook.

Bob Hsu, who is an expert programmer as well as a linguist, has done most of the programming (using SNOBOL4, and its fast-running implementation, Spitbol, on machines of the IBM S/360 and 370 family). A 5-page memo, describing the project and the programming philosophy Hsu uses, is available from Hsu ("Computer-aided Compilation of Natural Language Dictionaries at the U of Hawaii: A Sketch", August 1982).

In response to inquiries from this column, Hsu writes:

I am currently winding up an NSF grant to further develop and package the dictionary software. I am about to submit a proposal for an extension, in order to go and install these programs at a number of other institutions that have expressed an interest in them.

As for micro-computers: we use them, but in a rather trivial, though extremely useful, way. We are simply using them as word processors for entering and editing our dictionary materials and other linguistic data. For any real processing of the data we send it to the main computer on campus via telephone lines or computer tape.

The micro-computers used in the Hawaii project are Terak 8510A's. Larry Thompson writes us of his personal experiences with the Terak:

We (Terry and I) now have a Terak 8510A at home (in the fall of '79 we decided we needed one more than a new car). It uses 8" floppy discs and UCSD Pascal software. As a computer it will do a lot of things that we don't know how to make it do. We have been too busy using it as a word processor to learn how to make it do more sophisticated things, and anyway the larger things we need to do for our dictionaries and grammars are better done on the U's big machine: many of the shuffling operations we need are simply too big for any micro-computer. We take our discs to the office for further work, including printout.

On the big computer we use Bob Hsu's programming. Bob's dictionary programs are extremely flexible and very efficient, and he keeps working away at improving them. We've also done quite a bit with concordances in order to extract recurrent details from texts and the like. Given this need, it was important for us to find the best input device for getting our materials to where the big computer can do what we want it to.

The big advantage to the Terak and the UCSD programming for it is that it allows the operator to create his own character sets—i.e., you can design symbols for display on the screen just as you like them, so long as you don't need more component dots than the space for each character allows. It's possible to get the UCSD software for micro-computers that are a lot less expensive than the Terak (the Apple, for instance); but it seems to work best on the Terak.** It's not exactly straightforward, though, to get all these characters printed via a printer... [See next item for a discussion of printers.—V.G.]

Printers: Daisy-wheels vs. Dot-Matrix

Bob Hsu (see preceding item) has compiled a very useful critical survey of the printers currently on the market (including daisy-wheel printers, dot-matrix printers, and others), assessing their merits and drawbacks from the perspective of the linguist and his typical need for "non-standard" characters. Any linguist thinking of investing in a micro-computer and printer for use in technical linguistic work should read Hsu's report. For a copy of the latest edition of "Inexpensive Hard Copy for Linguists" write Hsu at: D of Linguistics, U of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822.

Larry Thompson writes of his preference for a Sanders dot-matrix printer:

Until this year our printout machine was a Diablo daisy-wheel printer. It had some limitations. There is an IPA daisy wheel manufactured by Camwill, Inc., here in Honolulu (an adaptation of their IBM

**Bob Hsu comments: Apple II has a soft font capability when augmented with the appropriate CRT controller board. Apple III has this capability built in. The resolution is, however, inferior to the Terak.

* The Terak 8510A costs about $6,000 with an educational discount. Terak Corp., 14151 N 76th St, Scottsdale, AZ 85260.
Selectric element for the same purpose). It's o.k., but it's just that—phonetic characters—with no way to type ordinary English without changing wheels. You have to change them manually, and that's a good deal fussier than changing a selectric ball. For other special characters you have to use a custom-made daisy wheel. The cost of designing special wheels skyrocketed about 4 years ago. For our present (Salish dictionary) project we had planned to design a wheel for NW languages to be produced by Camwill. The estimate at the time of our proposal was $2,000; a year later Tony Mattina (U of Montana) got an estimate of over $4,000, and we gather it's even more now. 

In the fall of 1981 we were able to use grant money to buy a Sanders Media 12/7 dot-matrix printer, which is a lot more versatile. It retails for $4,800, and we were able to get one for $3,000. Tony Mattina has put money into having a font developed by the Sanders company that provides most special phonetic characters (it's called the "Salish" font but it's much broader than that). This can now be bought for $225. The machine provides space for 2 or 3 other fonts at the same time, and it's also possible to get an extension board to load still more character sets. The result is that you can do something approximating printing. The Sanders can be programmed to change fonts automatically within lines, to boldface material, to underscore, and to justify right margins. And the company offers a fair number of type styles. That sort of thing makes daisy-wheel printers look pretty obsolete. There are, admittedly, some technical problems. It's a somewhat delicate machine; the ribbon sometimes gives trouble, sometimes the line spacing doesn't work properly, etc. We've heard from other people that their Sanders machines sometimes just don't operate.

Bob Hsu is on the lookout for a dot-matrix machine that will permit the user to program his own character sets. (In the case of the Sanders you have to buy the pre-programmed chips from the company.) There are such things on the market, but in all cases Bob has found the resolution of the characters is poor—there aren't enough dots and the result is ragged. But there will probably be such a machine sometime in the future.

Lloyd B. Anderson (316 A St SE, Washington DC 20003) comments:

I don't think dot-matrix printers are yet adequate for photo-offset publication. The best set-up so far is a Terak, where you can design your own characters on the video screen, linked to the twin-track Qume printer with 2 daisy wheels (192 characters). But neither software to drive this combination, nor just the right character wheels for linguists, yet exist. The Library of Congress folks, who use the Terak, have only a small number of things pre-programmed.

Experiences with a TRS Model II

Rudolph C. Troike (Director, Office of Multicultural Bilingual Education, U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL 61820) writes:

We (my wife, Muriel Saville-Troike and I) now have a TRS Model II (64k) micro-computer at home, and I now have the complete Coahuit-teco text of Garcia's Manual on diskette, in both a "philological" and a "linguistic" version. Muriel is starting to put some of Sapir's Navajo texts on the micro-computer also.

Since the Model II has an interface program (called TERMINAL) which allows transmission of data to and from the University mainframe, we can download data originally entered on the mainframe to the Model II for off-line analysis or editing (or simply for storage), or we can transmit data (e.g., texts) entered on the Model II to the mainframe for processing in order to utilize programs and storage capacities not available on the micro-computer.

The word-processing program on the Model II, which is excellent, allows global searches for defined strings—useful for analysis, editing, and simple frequency computations—while the statistical software program will do various statistical calculations and produce histograms. We have not yet even begun to tap the potentials of the machine, in part because we have not yet learned to do our own programming.

A major advantage of the TRS Model II, which has 8" diskettes, over most other micro-computers (which have 5 1/4" diskettes) is that it permits storage and manipulation of much more data—obviously an important consideration for linguists. It can be
expanded to 256k internal memory, and in the process modified to use 16-bit words and take additional terminals. A hard disk now available gives over 8 million bytes of additional RAM storage.

It was Rudy who told us about STIL's text-processing language, PTP (see the item on p. 9 above). Rudy is eager to try the new implementation of PTP for the TRS Model 17, and will report back to us when he has. He is also interested in learning more about the index and concordance system developed for micro-computers by Bible Research, Inc., of Austin Texas. While presently tied to the Bible text, they plan to develop it into a system that can be used with any text.

A Standard Set of Linguistic Characters for Daisy-wheel Printers

Lloyd B. Anderson (316 A St SE, Washington DC 20003) thinks it is time that linguists came to an agreement on a font of linguistic characters (including accents and diacritics) which could be standardized by the computer industry. He writes:

I have worked on the possibilities and needs of a standard character set for the different sizes of daisy-wheels now used. I have a version of the list for 124-character wheels, and am working on one for twin-track (96 x 2 = 192)-character wheels.

What I hope to develop is a standard alphabet, not just for Amerindian languages but for use world-wide: an international phonemic alphabet, distinct in purpose from the IPA, adequate for the phonemic transcription of most languages with clear, flexible notations. If we linguists get our act together, and can agree on a set of symbols, we can more readily influence the industry—which currently is geared to business uses—to produce things for us on more than a custom-made basis.

Andy will send a copy of his provisional list of characters to anyone requesting it, and welcomes comments.

Inuktutut (Eskimo) Syllabic-Orthography Word Processor

Bob Johnson of Kirk Computer Systems, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada, has modified word processing programs to operate on Inuktutut syllabic text. The Intertec Superbrain (a small, business computer) has been modified to allow display of syllabics on the screen. The text is entered on a readaddressable keyboard in syllabics and can be modified and edited as on any word processor. A daisy wheel has been custom-made for Inuktutut syllabics, to allow typewriter-like output. The computer can also be connected to larger computers, to other Superbrain computers to form a network, and possibly to typesetters.

Many problems exist. The cost of each machine is high ($6,000 to $10,000 range), and the typeface on the print wheel needs improvement. For further information contact Kirk Computer Systems, Box 1976, Yellowknife, NWT, XOE 1HO; phone (403) 873-6484.

Micro-Computer with Cree-Ojibway Syllabic Display

Prof. J. Deines of the Faculty of Education, Brandon U, Manitoba, has created Cree-Ojibway syllabic displays on a very small computer, the Commodore VIC-20 ($450 Canadian). No syllabic printouts have been made, but it seems possible with a dot-matrix system. Experimentation with such a printing system is planned at Brandon. Members of the Native Studies Department (Art Blue, Paul Voorhis, and John Nichols) are working with John Rice and students in Physics on instructional materials in syllabic literacy. For further information contact: John Nichols, D of Native Studies, Brandon U, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 6A9.

MICROSCOPE/1 and Bilingual Education

Dermot Ronan Collis (U Laval, Centre Internationale de Recherche sur le Bilinguisme, Québec, Canada G1K 7P4) writes:

I would like to mention a particular type of software for micro-computers. Called MICROSCOPE/1, it was developed by Prof. Ste-Marie of Laval U's Educational Technology Dept from his earlier SCOPE, written for third generation computers. This is a set of programs written in a specially developed text processing language called LEGATO. It is at present available only in French, but an English version will be ready soon. These programs enable a person who knows his subject to write a good interactive course in it. Because it uses natural language it takes virtually no time to learn. It is also possible to contemplate Amerindian and Eskimo versions of MICROSCOPE/1, which should prove valuable in bilingual education.
Short Notes

--Ron Scollon (Program in Applied Linguistics, U of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99701) is working on "getting character sets developed on a Videx 80 character board, so we can use a word processor running on an Apple computer to do language work (on Alaska Native languages). We've got Tlingit operational, Athabaskan is next, then Inupiaq."

--Elizabeth Edwards (U of Anthropology, U of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195) has "had the experience of writing a concordance of Haida data on the large computer system at the U of Washington."

--Dave Henry (Box 21, Old Pinchbeck, RR 1, Williams Lake, BC, V2G 2P1) has been developing literacy materials on Chilcotin, Carrier, and Shuswap using a CBM 4032 computer.

SSILA welcomes applications for membership from all those who are interested in the scholarly study of the languages of the native peoples of North, Central, and South America. Dues are $3.00 per year. Checks or money orders should be made payable to "SSILA" and sent to the Secretary-Treasurer: Victor Colla, Department of Anthropology, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052, USA.