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

NEWSLETTER VI:4

December 1987-January 1988

Volume 6, Number 4

CONTENTS

SSILA Business .............................................. 1
Obituary .............................................. 2
Correspondence .............................................. 3
News and Announcements ......................... 3
News from Regional Groups ............................. 5
Recent Publications .................................. 6
In Current Periodicals ................................ 8
Recent Dissertations .................................. 10
Computer Users’ Corner .................................. 11
Regional Networks ....................................... 14

SSILA BUSINESS

Results of the 1987 Election

A total of 97 ballots were received by the announced deadline. Elected were: Colette G. Craig (Vice President for 1988 and President-Elect for 1989); Wick R. Miller (Member-at-large of the Executive Committee, 1988-90); Victor Golla (Secretary-Treasurer, 1988); and Margaret Langdon (Member of the Nominating Committee, 1988-90).

Minutes of the 1987 Business Meeting

The 1987 Business Meeting was held on Friday afternoon, November 20, at the Chicago Marriott, during the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Approximately 100 members were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm by the President, Eric Hamp. The Secretary-Treasurer, Victor Golla, then delivered a report on the previous year’s activities. Income for the period from Dec. 1, 1986 to Nov. 20, 1987 (from all sources) was $3,926.35, of which $436.00 represented contributions. Expenditures during the same period totalled $3,399.98, so that there was an excess of income over expenditures of $526.37. The cash balance on the Society’s books on December 1, 1986 was $1,024.83, and on Nov. 20, 1987 it was $1,551.20. The expenditures for the reporting year can be broken down as follows:

- Printing and copying ................................ $1,316.33
- Postage .............................................. 1,233.68
- Supplies ............................................. 222.09
- Wages .................................................. 273.75
- Computer services .................................. 107.00
- Bank charges ........................................ 72.94
- Telephone ........................................... 8.39
- AAA Special Event Fee .............................. 100.00
- Miscellaneous ...................................... 65.80

Total .................................................. 3,399.98

The Society’s membership continues to grow. The most recent issue of the Newsletter (October 1987) was distributed to 530 addresses, of whom approximately 480 were individual members of the Society. This is an increase of about 40 over the 1986 figures. The October Newsletter was mailed to 452 addresses in the US, Canada, and Mexico; to 31 addresses in Central and South America; to 37 addresses in Europe; and to 10 addresses in Australia or Asia.

The President then announced the results of the 1987 election and congratulated the newly-elected or reelected officers of the Society: Colette G. Craig (Vice President/President-Elect); Wick R. Miller (Member-at-large of the Executive Committee); Victor Golla (Secretary-Treasurer, 1988); and Margaret Langdon (Member of the Nominating Committee).

The President then presented a resolution from the Executive Committee regarding the establishment of a SSILA Award. After considerable discussion and the adoption of several amendments, the resolution was unanimously approved in the following wording:

RESOLVED, that this Society will take steps to establish an award, to be called the “SSILA Award,” to be presented annually, or less frequently, to the author or authors of a recently completed work of monograph length that, in the Society's judgment, contributes significantly to the body of substantive knowledge of the indigenous languages of the Americas.

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the meeting also voted to place the implementation of the resolution in the hands of a committee composed of Wallace Chafe (Chair), Louanna Furbee, and Catherine Callaghan. This committee will present its recommendations to the 1988 Business Meeting.
The President then called for New Business and announcements.

Nora England spoke appreciatively about the Conference on Native American Languages and Grammatical Typology, held at the U. of Chicago last April. With its sharper focus and more leisurely pace, she found it a useful supplement to the CAIL. She urged members of the Society to consider the possibility of organizing future meetings of this sort, preferably in conjunction with a regional linguistics conference (as was done at Chicago) or a similar meeting. A discussion ensued, and it was proposed that SSILA appoint a committee to coordinate arrangements for supplementary meetings. The President referred the matter to the incoming President, Louanna Furbee, for action.

Ken Hale briefly addressed the meeting on behalf of LaVerne Masseysva Jeanne, who is proposing the establishment of a Native American Language Center (see News and Announcements below). Dr. Jeanne is seeking financial support for this project and hopes to have the Society’s endorsement. After considerable discussion it was moved that the Executive Committee be empowered to draw up a letter to Dr. Jeanne indicating the Society’s agreement, in principle, with the aims of her project. This motion was passed unanimously.

Lloyd Anderson called the Society’s attention to initiatives now under way to standardize computer character-codes. Such standardization, particularly with respect to phonetic characters of common occurrence, is especially urgent in Americanist work.

Colette Craig spoke briefly about the informal group of Linguists For Nicaragua, with which she is associated, and introduced two Nicaraguan linguists who were present at the meeting, Alejandro Aviles and Danilo Salamanca. (See also News and Announcements.)

No further business or announcements being heard, the President invited the incoming President, Louanna Furbee, to the podium and presented her with the gavel.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Mouton Book Offer Renewed for 1988

Mouton de Gruyter will continue to offer individual SSILA members deep discounts on a selection of their publications on American Indian languages and allied topics. Two 1987 publications are being added to the list: A Grammar of Limbu, by George van Driem (Mouton Grammar Library 4), a description of a Tibeto-Burman language of E Nepal and Sikkim; and Transitivity and Discourse Continuity in Chamorro Narratives, by Ann M. Coorenman (Empirical Approaches to Language Typology 4), a functional analysis based on a large corpus of narrative texts in an ergative Austronesian language. The list prices on these volumes are DM 148 and DM 98, respectively; SSILA members may purchase them for $25 (US) each. To take advantage of this offer (or to obtain other Mouton de Gruyter publications available at discount), orders must be placed on the special form distributed to SSILA members with this issue of the Newsletter.

Membership Directory

The much-delayed 2nd edition of the SSILA Membership Directory will be distributed to members in a special February mailing, together with information and abstract forms for the 1988 Conference on American Indian Languages.

Contributors to SSILA: 1987

During 1987, contributions totalling $459 were received from 44 members of the Society. To be thanked for their generosity are:

Albert Bickford
Aaron Broadwell
Barbara Burnaby
Catherine A. Callaghan
Colette G. Craig
Robert A. Croese
Scott DeLanney
Stephen R. Elliott
Michael K. Foster
Paul S. Frank
David H. French
Louanna Furbee
Irving Glick
K. Guessner
Kenneth Hale
Harry Harm
Nicholas A. Hopkins
Philip G. Howard
William Jacobsen, Jr.
Eloise Jelinek
Roy Jones
Brian Joseph

Larry Kaplan
Victoria Kaplan-Patterson
Michael Krauss
Pat Kwachka
Margaret Langdon
Toby C. S. Langen
Floyd Lounsbury
Edna MacLean
Tom Markey
Laura Martin
Karen Michelson
Sally Midgette
Denny Moore
Robert Oswalt
Jürgen Pinnow
Keren Rice
Bruce Rigby
Michael Silverstein
W. Wiesler
Anthony C. Woodbury
Hanni J. Woodbury
Akira Yamamoto

OBITUARY

Fang-Kuei Li (1902-1987)

Fang-Kuei Li, Professor Emeritus at the Universities of Washington and Hawaii, died in California on August 21, 1987, following a stroke. Born in Canton, he prepared in Peking for study in the United States. After receiving a BA from the U of Michigan in 1926 he went to the U of Chicago, intending to do graduate work in comparative Indo-European under Carl Darling Buck. He there encountered Edward Sapir, who quickly pursued him to take up the study of American Indian languages. Accompanying Sapir on his field trip to the Hupa in the summer of 1927, he carried out independent work on two other California Athabaskan languages, Mattole and Wailaki. The Mattole material formed the basis of his dissertation (1929). He subsequently carried out pioneering field research on Canadian Athabaskan (Chipewyan in 1928 and Hare
in 1929), and later worked on Eyak. On returning to China in 1929, he applied his training in both historical and field linguistics to Chinese dialectology and to the study of unwritten minority languages. One of his major projects was the comparative study of Thai dialects in China and Thailand. After returning to the United States in 1946, Li taught at Harvard and Yale, and in 1949 accepted a permanent position at the U of Washington. Following his retirement from Washington in 1969, he taught for several additional years at the U of Hawaii. In addition to his many academic accomplishments, Li was a talented artist in both Chinese brush painting and in Western watercolors. He also played the Chinese flute and enjoyed singing and teaching Kunqu, the musical drama of the Ming dynasty. (Based in part on the obituary in the Anthropology Newsletter, December 1987, by Lindy Li Mark.)

CORRESPONDENCE

January 12, 1988

Dear SSILA Members:

I am hoping to interest a sufficient number of people in the role of direct quotation in discourse to warrant a session on this topic at the 1988 Conference on American Indian Languages (Phoenix, November 16-20). If any of you would like to give a paper on quoted speech, I'd appreciate it if you'd contact me in the next few weeks, so that we can get something organized before the deadline for submissions.

Laura Martin
D of Modern Languages
Cleveland State U
Cleveland, OH 44115
(216)-687-4659

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Native American Language Center Proposed

LaVerne Masayesva Jeanne is seeking funding for a center devoted to the documentation and teaching of the linguistic traditions of contemporary Native American communities. Ken Hale presented an outline of Dr. Jeanne's proposal to the SSILA Business Meeting in November, from which the following is excerpted.

Although the Native languages of North America have been studied for well over 200 years, and while they have contributed to the growth and vitality of American linguistics, the number of language scholars who are native speakers of these languages remains small. The Language Center proposed here has as one of its primary goals the establishment of a facility in which talented speakers of Native American languages can be given positions which will enable them to develop and pursue careers in the study and teaching of these languages, on the analogy of faculty positions in a college or university.

The permanent staff of the Center will have responsibility not only for pursuing the research activities corresponding to their particular interests, but also of using their capabilities in the service of the language communities they represent and of the educational community generally. Such services will, of course, include the traditional work of language scholarship, such as the preparation of grammars, dictionaries, pedagogical materials, literacy materials, compilations of traditional narratives, and so on. In addition, however, the staff will be available to teach and help organize linguistic workshops and training sessions as these are needed in the relevant communities.

A visiting scholar component is intended for people who wish to engage in work on their native languages but who do not wish to reside at the Center for a prolonged period. Typically, such scholars will have a particular purpose in mind, such as the acquisition of a skill or the completion of a project. The visitor category will also be used for non-Indian scholars who will work at the Center in a teaching capacity or as researchers in a cooperative arrangement with members of the permanent staff.

In addition to the linguistic research and documentation carried out by the permanent and visiting staff, a variety of other activities will be sponsored by the Center, including: Summer Institutes devoted to Native American linguistics; Conferences on topics of importance; Language courses; Practical courses (e.g., dictionary making, use of computers, etc.); Maintenance of a resource library and research facilities, including language laboratory and computer center; Publications (e.g., text collections, dictionaries, grammars, and textbooks); and Training of speakers of Native American languages in theoretical and practical linguistics.

For further information, contact: LaVerne Masayesva Jeanne, 888 Keele Dr, Reno, NV 89509 (702-329-1914); or D of Anthropology, U of Nevada-Reno (702-784-6883).

Linguists For Nicaragua

Linguists For Nicaragua is an ad hoc international organization of linguists and language educators that stands in solidarity with the people and revolution of Nicaragua. It provides technical and material aid to several language-related programs and institutions in that country. One of LFN's major projects has been the establishment of linguistics and education workshops for personnel of the Ministry of Education's Bilingual-Bicultural Programs in Miskitu, Nicaraguan English, and Sumu for non-Spanish-speaking children on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast. The work of LFN has recently been consolidated within the Center for the Practical Study of the Languages of Nicaragua. The goals of the Center are to train community linguists and to develop practical linguistic work in Nicaragua on the languages of Nicaragua. For further information, write: LFN c/o Wayne O'Neil, Room 20D-210, MIT, Cambridge, MA 02139 USA.
Map Project

Geoffrey Gamble (D of Anthropology, Washington State U) reported to the Conference on American Indian Languages in Chicago last month on the current state of plans to publish a new map of North American Indian languages:

At the combined Hokan/Penutian/Uto-Aztecan meetings this summer in Salt Lake City, Ken Whistler brought together a large group of us to discuss the updating of a linguistic map of North America to supersede the 1968 Voegelin map. I volunteered (perhaps “was drafted” is the more accurate term) to locate a possible publisher, cartographer, and funding source. Here are the results of my scouting so far.

—The Washington State U Press has expressed interest in the project. They indicated that by using a 4-color process they could print a map with as many colors as needed. They also indicated that there would be no problem with printing on both sides of the map. They estimated printing costs at $3,000 for an initial run of 3,000 maps.

—I contacted two cartographic services. The lower quoted price was from a service at the U of Idaho that specializes in maps. Depending on the level of detail we require, their price would run from $8,000 to $12,000. This outfit is completely computerized and would be able to tie in to the UC computer network, allowing us to take advantage of the computerized data that Ken and others are assembling.

—It appears that the project will carry a total price tag of about $25,000 to $30,000, when you factor in the other anticipated expenses (phone, mailing, computer time, etc.). I met with Blanche Premo of NEH to discuss the project, and she indicated that the Endowment would be interested in helping to fund some of the project. We will need to get grant applications started to several agencies, and should begin planning.

Native American Language Issues Institute

The 8th annual International Native American Language Issues Institute will be held in Tempe, Arizona, June 8-11, 1988. The NALI Institute is a forum in which native educators and others can address concerns and exchange ideas on language education and related issues. A formal call for papers will be mailed in late January. For further information, contact Kathryn S. Begaye, Indian Education Unit, Arizona Dept. of Education, 1535 West Jefferson St, Phoenix, AZ 85007 (602-255-4391); or the NALI Office, PO Box 963, Chocow, OK 73020 (405-769-4650).

Papers at Pacific Linguistics Conference


Arawakan Linguistics Symposium

As announced in the October 1987 issue of the Newsletter, Mary Ruth Wise, Nancy Hickerson, and Elsa Vílchez are organizing a symposium on Arawakan linguistics for the 1988 International Congress of Americanists (Amsterdam, July 4-8). Anyone interested in taking part in this symposium should send the organizers an abstract (150 words or fewer) by February 1, 1988. Their addresses are: Mary Ruth Wise, Casilla 2492, Lima 100, Peru; Nancy Hickerson, D of Anthropology, Texas Tech U, Box 4549, Lubbock, TX 79409, USA; and Elsa Vílchez, Instituto de Linguística Aplicada CILA, Av Nicholás de Pierola 1222, Parque Universitario, Lima, Peru.

South American Indian Languages Documentation Project at UC-Berkeley

The following is excerpted from a paper by Brent Berlin, Terrence Kaufman, and David W. Miller that was read at the AAA meetings, November 22, 1987.

Research is currently underway at the U of California, Berkeley, to develop a massive computer database on the indigenous languages of South America. Recent plans are to tie this database to a digitized map of South American Indian languages that will ultimately allow scholars to examine spatial patterns in linguistic data. The project is partially supported by grants from NEH (Research Tools) and NSF (Linguistics).

Senior personnel for the project (South American Indian Languages Documentation Project - SAILDP) are Brent Berlin and Terrence Kaufman (US coordinators) and Aryan Rodrigues and Nuesa Carson (South American coordinators). Ultimately, the project hopes to enlist the support of all practicing linguists working on the Indian languages of the region.

The SAIL database is being built on information drawn from two primary sources. The first includes linguistic data collected from an in-depth survey of the published literature on South American Indian languages, especially the extensive work carried out since the mid-1950's. The second source of data will come from the active collaboration of specialists who have carried out fieldwork on the native languages of South America. In order to collect extensive standardized grammatical and lexical materials, a comparative linguistic survey instrument has been developed. This questionnaire, and the database that will result from it, is divided
into three components: (1) vital statistics on each language (including number of speakers, present and past locations, number and specific locations of sub-groups, degrees of bilingualism, etc.); (2) a diagnostic vocabulary of 1895 words, designed specifically for South America; and (3) a detailed grammatical questionnaire that allows for the recording of basic phonological, morphological, and syntactic data on a large number of significant linguistic features. The grammatical questionnaire follows closely the kinds of queries found in Derbyshire and Pullum’s Handbook of Amazonian Indian Languages, which in turn is based on Smith and Comrie’s Lingua Descriptive Studies questionnaire.

The methodology for completing the comparative linguistic survey is complex but workable. First, trained graduate students in linguistics, using the most complete sources that can be obtained from extensive bibliographic searches, fill out as completely as possible initial diagnostic vocabulary lists for each language. Data is currently being entered on Macintosh computers using the software application OverVUE (Provue, Inc.) as the database manager. (The data files are now in the process of being converted for use with Fourth Dimension and Hypercard.) Where the grammatical data available for a particular language appear to be sufficiently rich, the grammatical questionnaire is also filled out, using Microsoft Word as the word-processor. The second step in the data collection process is to contact those linguistic specialists who have detailed knowledge of each language and to invite their cooperation in finishing the partially completed questionnaires. In those cases where the published grammatical information is slight, the field linguist will be responsible for completing the entire grammatical questionnaire. Finally, when completed, the finished files become part of the permanent SAILDP database for use by, and distribution to, the international scholarly community.

The complete survey instrument is being distributed either as hard copy or on floppy disks in MS-DOS or Macintosh formats. Thus far, preliminary vocabulary files have been completed for approximately 30 languages, most of them located in western Amazonia.

While the SAILDP database will be of great value in making available to the international scholarly community a wealth of linguistic data on the native languages of South America, the coordinators of the project believe that one of its most exciting potentials lies in the use of computers to explore geographical patterns in the distribution of linguistic data. Since the beginning of the pilot project, Berlin and Kaufman have been searching for a software application that will tie the developing lexical and grammatical database to a digitized map of the Indian languages of South America and that would allow one to search the database for linguistic patterns that have cultural historical importance. Recently, William Geoghegan, of the IBM Scientific Center in Palo Alto, California, advised Berlin and Kaufman of the geographical mapping work of David W. Miller (Carnegie Mellon), who has developed a program that he calls the Great American History Machine, or GAHM. GAHM runs on the distributed computing system called Andrew, developed as part of a collaborative venture between Carnegie Mellon and IBM. The program runs on advanced function workstations such as IBM RT's, Microvaxes, or Sun 3/50s. Andrew includes a user interface built on top of Berkeley UNIX 4.2 and has a very sophisticated window manager with mouse-driven point-and-click and pop-up menu capabilities.

The program permits one to explore interactively the distributions of highly complex data on computer-generated maps. Miller’s own particular application for GAHM allows him to examine geographical distributional characteristics of numerical data encoded in US Census materials from 1840 to the present. After consultation with Miller about the particular needs of SAILDP, it became clear an extension of the capabilities of GAHM would be ideal for the long-term goals of the South America project, and generally for many other linguistic-culture historical problems.

This extension has tentatively been named SAPIR (for South American Prehistoric Inference Resource) in recognition of the great linguist’s statement of principles on the use of linguistic evidence for developing time perspective in historical reconstruction. When fully operational, SAPIR will allow the user to view, in technical linguistic orthography, the native terms for any concept, or selection of concepts, in the diagnostic vocabulary and display these at their appropriate locations on a digitized map of South America (e.g. all of the terms for “rain” and “water” in the languages of the Carib and Tupian families). When properly coded, a similar areal representation can be obtained as well for any number of grammatical features (e.g. distribution of constituent orders in the transitive verb phrase, ergative systems, nasalized vowels, or pronoun systems). Ultimately, it may be possible to tie SAPIR in to an even more massive ethnographic database, incorporating HRAF-like data on physical and biological environment, subsistence, technology, social organization, health, and other cultural variables that will eventually allow for the production of a modern electronic version of the Handbook of South American Indians. (For further technical details on SAPIR see Computer Users' Corner below.)

NEWS FROM REGIONAL GROUPS

Inuit Studies

- The 6th Inuit Studies Conference will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, October 17-20, 1988. The general theme of the conference will be "Unity and Divergence: Similarities and Differences in Inuit Cultures, Societies and Languages." For further information contact: Jens Dahl, Institute of Eskimoology, Fiolstraede 10, 1171 Copenhagen K, Denmark (tel: 01-91-21-66). Proposals for papers and symposia should be received before August 1, 1988. Registration fees are $75 (US) regular, and $15 (US) students.

- The journal, Études/Inuit Studies, continues to publish linguistic articles (see In Current Periodicals). For further information on the journal, contact the editor, F. Therien, Département d’anthropologie, Université Laval, Québec, Canada G1K 7P4. In 1986, the Association Inuksiuutit Ka-
timajjiiit (D’anthropologie, U Laval, Québec, Canada G1K 7P4) launched a series of Inuit Studies Occasional Papers. The first in this series is Étude phonologique d’un dialecte inuit canadien, by Jean-Marie Massenet (150 pp., $16 CDN). It is the first extensive phonological analysis (using generative theory) of a Canadian dialect of Inuktitut (E Hudson Bay dialect). Also, the Centre d’Études nordiques (again at U Laval) published in 1986, as #49 of its Norðicana collection, a multilingual dictionary and compendium of morphological paradigms of the E Greenlandic (Ammassalik) Inuit dialect (Tunumiiit oraasiat, by Pierre Robbe and Louis-Jacques Dorais, 1986, 265 pp. $25 CDN). It is the first modern study in print on this peculiar dialect, and it may be of use both to people interested in learning the dialect and to those involved in comparative dialectology.

• Louis-Jacques Dorais has recently prepared a short (43 pp.) report entitled Inuit Bilingualism and Diglossia. It discusses the preliminary results of research on the differential use of Inuktitut, English and French among schoolchildren (ages 9 to 16) in 5 Canadian Inuit communities (3 in the NWT and 2 in Arctic Quebec). He has a few copies left and will send them, free of charge, to anyone interested. Write him at: Département d’anthropologie, Université Laval, Québec, Canada G1K 7P4.

Far Western Languages

• The next Hokan-Penutian Workshop will meet at the U of Oregon, Eugene, on June 16 to 18, 1988. For further information contact Scott DeLancey, Linguistics, U of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403. An invitation has been extended for the 1989 Workshop to meet in Tucson, in connection with the LSA Summer Institute. This would no doubt require a meeting later in the summer than has been customary. Potential participants with strong preferences in this matter (particularly those who will not be attending the 1988 Workshop) should communicate their views to Margaret Langdon or Scott DeLancey.

Mayanist News

• The IX Taller Maya was held in Antigua Guatemala, June 22-26, 1987. It included formal presentations and working sessions on: (a) life and death of Mayan languages; (b) the Academy of Mayan Languages; (c) glyphs; (d) loanwords; (e) a Mayan database; (f) Mayan writers and actors; (g) dialectology and standardization; (h) instruction and linguistics; (i) cognitive domains; (j) written and oral texts; (k) formatting texts; and (l) computer applications. The next Taller will be held in the summer of 1988, in Mexico if a site is available there, otherwise in Guatemala.

• Laura Martin was the organizer of a week-long K’inál Winik, a festival of Maya art, language, and culture, October 19-25, 1987, at Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio. The festival began with a visit by Robert Laughlin and three associates of the Chiapas Writers’ Cooperative. The writers presented puppet performances, skits, and traditional dances, and Laughlin lectured on the interrelationship of cultural values, language, and history in the Chiapas highlands. This was followed by a Working Conference on Mayan Text and Discourse (Oct. 21-23). Participants included Robert Laughlin, Judith Maxwell, Linda Schele, Jill Brody, Laura Martin, Jack DuBois, Tom Larsen, Andy Hofling, Colette Craig, Ava Berenstein, Nicholas Hopkins, Kathryn Josserand, Robin Quizar, and Terrence Kaufman. K’inál Winik concluded with a Maya Hieroglyph Weekend (Oct. 24-25) conducted by Linda Schele, who presented materials on glyphic decipherment with special attention to the Tablet of the 96 Glyphs from Palenque.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS


The Art of Nahuaíl Speech: The Bancroft Dialogues. Edited with a preliminary study by Frances Karttunen and James Lockhart. UCLA Latin American Center, 1987. 232 pp. $16.50. [The Bancroft Dialogues are a collection of conversations and speeches composed in a flowery but colloquial Nahuaíl by a native speaker, probably in the late 16th century, to serve Spanish ecclesiastics as an introduction to the commonplaces of polite speech. In the present publication the text is printed with a full reproduction of diacritics. An idiomatic English translation appears on facing pages, and a more literal translation is presented separately as an aid to learners. The substantial introductory essay discusses the origin of the document, goes into questions of usage and idiom, and provides extensive commentary on the phonological and morphological implications of the diacritics. Order from: UCLA Latin American Center, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1447. Add $1.25 for postage; California orders add 6% sales tax (L.A. County orders, 6.5%). Make checks payable to “Regents of UC”.]

Diccionario Elemental Rama. Colette G. Craig, et al. Centro de Investigación y Documentación de la Costa Atlántica (CIDCA), 1987. 109 pp. $10. [The first publication of the Center for the Practical Study of the Languages of Nicaragua, established jointly by CIDCA and Linguists for Nicaragua (an international ad hoc organization providing aid to language-related programs and institutions in Nicaragua). Rama is a Macro-Chibchan language spoken by a small group near Bluefields, on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. The dictionary is trilingual (Rama-English-Spanish) and has introductions in both English and Spanish. Order from: Linguists for Nicaragua, c/o Wayne O'Neil, Room 20D-210, MIT, Cambridge, MA 02139.]

Morfología del Quechua de Pacararas. Willem F. H. Adelaar. U Nacional Mayor de San Marcos [Peru], 1987. 108 pp. No price indicated. [A synopsis of the phonology and morphology of Pacararas Quechua, a moribund dialect that appears to be intermediate between the “Quechua I” dialects of Central Peru and the “Quechua II” spoken elsewhere in the Andes. Order from: Instituto de Investigaciones Lingüísticas, Facultad de Letras y Ciencias Humanas, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Ciudad Universitaria, Lima, Peru.]


Teaching the Indian Child: A Bilingual/Multicultural Approach. Edited by Jon Reyhner. Eastern Montana College, 1987. 280 pp. No price indicated. [Information for teachers of Native American students on bilingual education, the history of Indian education, curriculum, oral literature, and allied topics. The editor is Coordinator of the Title VII Indian Bilingual Teacher Training Program at E Montana College. Order from: Dr. Jon Reyhner, Division of Elementary & Secondary Education, E Montana College, Billings, MT 59101.]


IN CURRENT PERIODICALS

Anthropological Linguistics [D of Anthropology, Rawles Hall 108, Indiana U, Bloomington, IN 47405]

28.2 (Summer 1986):
Michael P. Closs, “Orthographic Conventions in Maya Writing: The Rule of Phonetic Complementation” (229-252) [A survey of the orthographic conventions that have so far been recognized in Mayan writing, with a proposal for a new one.]
28.3 (Fall 1986):
James L.Armagost, “Three Exceptions to Vowel Devoicing in Comanche” (255-266)
Bruce Mannheim, “The Language of Reciprocity in Southern Peruvian Quechua” (267-274) [Among S Peruvian Quechua speakers, symmetric reciprocity is a pervasive theme in everyday social practices, social etiquette, grammatical categories, and in the organization of the lexicon.]
Brian Stross, “Some Observations on T585 (Quincux) of the Maya Script” (283-312) [It is conceivable that both the form and the sound-value of the Mayan quincux glyph was borrowed from Zapotecans.]

Current Anthropology [U of Chicago Press, Journals Division, PO Box 37005, Chicago, IL 60637]

27.1 (February 1986):
Cecil H. Brown, “The Growth of Ethnobiological Nomenclature” (1-19) [Critical evaluation of Berlin’s general principles of folk biological classification and nomenclature in view of recent evidence from hunter-gatherer groups.]

27.5 (December 1986):

28.1 (February 1987):
Eric Hamp and Sydney M. Lamb, “On the Settlement of the Americas: The Linguistic Evidence” (101-102) [Two additional comments on Greenberg et al., Hamp’s mildly con and Lamb’s enthusiastically pro.]

28.3 (June 1987):
Ruth Gruhn, “On the Settlement of the Americas: South American Evidence for an Expanded Time Frame” [with reply from C. G. Turner II] (363-365) [Recent archaeological data from S America indicate that at least 35,000 years must be allowed for the settlement of the Americas; the time frame suggested by Greenberg et al. is thus too compressed.]

28.5 (December 1987):
CA Book Review of Joseph H. Greenberg’s Language in the Americas (647-667) [Author’s précis, followed by comments from Wallace Chafe, Regina Darnell, Ives Goddard, Victor Golla, Dell Hymes, Richard A. Rogers, and J. David Sapir.]

International Journal of American Linguistics [U of Chicago Press, Journals Division, PO Box 37005, Chicago, IL 60637]

53.4 (October 1987):
Robert D. Van Valin, Jr., “The Role of Government in the Grammar of Head-Marking Languages” (371-397) [In Lakhota, a “head-marking” language (Nichols 1986), the concept of “government” appears to be quite irrelevant. Since head-marking patterns are common, and may be the favored type universally, linguistic theories based mainly on data from “dependent-marking” languages, such as Indo-European, may be seriously deficient.]
Stephen A. Marlett and Velma B. Pickett, “The Syllable Structure and Aspect Morphology of Isthmus Zapotec” (398-422) [A reappraisal of Isthmus Zapotec phonology, based on P’s earlier work and using the insights of Lexical Phonology.]
John S. Robertson, “The Common Beginning and Evolution of the Tense-Aspect System of Tzotzil and Tzeltal Mayan” (423-444) [The evolution of tense-aspect systems in the Tzeltalan group of Mayan languages is best explained by using the principle of markedness reversal.]
Alice W. Hopkins, “Vowel Dominance in Mohawk” (445-459) [Vowel syncope at morpheme boundaries in Mohawk can be accounted for by a rule based on a scale of vowel “strength.”]
Lydia T. Black, “Iurii A. Kreinovich (1906-1985)” (460-461) [Obituary of a distinguished Soviet specialist in Paleoasiatic languages.]
Scott DeLancey, “Klamath and Wintu Pronouns” (461-464) [Striking similarities between forms in the pronominal paradigms of Klamath and Wintu bolster the Penutian hypothesis.]

Language [LSA, 1325 18th St NW, Suite 211, Washington, DC 20036-6501]

63.4 (December 1987):
Anthony C. Woodbury, “Meaningful Phonological Processes” (685-740) [Certain phenomena in Yupik Eskimo are best described by optional prosody-modifying phonological rules which, when applied to a word or prosodic phrase, add linguistically significant meaning. This undermines the view that phonology is universally a purely formal, interpretive component of grammar.]
Doris L. Payne, “Information Structuring in Papago Narrative Discourse” (783-804) [Word order in Papago is best accounted for by pragmatic principles, and no particular order of syntactic roles should be taken as basic.]
John W. Du Bois, “The Discourse Base of Ergativity” (805-855) [Information flow in Sacapultec Maya discourse is isomorphic with the grammatical pattern of “ergativity”, indicating that linguistics must look beyond the domain of grammar for a theoretically satisfactory explanation of the phenomenon.]
Linguistic Inquiry [MIT Press, 55 Hayward St., Cambridge, MA 02142]

18.3 (Summer 1987):
Alan Price, "Planes and Copying" (491-509) [Reply to Steriade’s challenge to autosegmental analyses that separate vowels from consonants, with special attention to Yukuts data.]

Linguistics [Mouton de Gruyter, 200 Saw Mill River Rd., Hawthorne, NY 10532]

25.3 (1987):
Joseph F. Foster and Charles A. Hofling, "Word Order, Case, and Agreement" (475-499) [The interdependency of these features, both within particular languages and universally. The 30-language sample includes American Indian languages: Kiowa, Quechua, Guarani, Maya, and Papago.]

Winak: Boletín Intercultural [U Mariano Gálvez, Interior Finca El Zapote, 3a Avenida 9-00, zona 2, Guatemala, Guatemala]

3.2 (September 1987):
Julia Becker Richards and Michael F. Richards, “Notas Sobre La Escritura de Cakchiquel con Referencia Especial al Caso de La /w/” (74-98) [Reasons for writing phonemic /w/ with the grapheme W in Cakchiquel.]

Nevielle Stiles, “Tendencias Puristas entre Los Hablantes de las Lenguas Mayas de Guatemala” (99-122) [Neologisms in place of loans from Spanish.]

María Teresa de Stiles, “En Torno a Las Vocales Largas y a Las Vocales Glotalizadas en Ixil de Chajul” (124-137) [The phonological sources of phonetically long vowels in Ixil, and in Mayan generally.]

RECENT DISSERTATIONS


Da Mota, Clarice Novaes Ph.D., U of Texas-Austin, 1987. As Jurema Told Us: Kariri-Shoko and Shoko Mode of Utilization of Medicinal Plants in the Context of Modern Northeastern Brazil. 403 pp. [The traditional Karari-Shoko relate to plants as spiritual beings, naming them according to a classification which establishes relationships with social categories. DAI 48(5):1244-A.] [Order # DA 8717395]


Godfrey, Thomas J. Ph.D., U of Texas-Austin, 1981. Grammatical Categories For Spatial Reference in the Western Mam Dialect of Tacaná. 228 pp. [Emphasis on semantics and surface-level syntax and morphology. The specific focus is on grammatical categories or word classes that typically specify a location or direction in space. DAI 48(5):1189-A.] [Order # DA 8717585]

Howard, Ray E. Ph.D., U of New Mexico, 1987. Navajo Bilingual Education in Action, a Qualitative Study of Teachers at a BIA Boardertown School. 290 pp. [Attitudes and methods of teachers at one Indian boarding school, located near but not on the Navajo reservation. DAI 48(5):1174-A.] [Order # DA 8718487]


MacLaury, Robert E. Ph.D., UC-Berkeley, 1986. Color in Mesoamerica, Vol. I: A Theory of Composite Categorization. 504 pp. [Many Indian languages of Mesoamerica categorize 2 or 3 of the "pure" colors (red, yellow, green, blue, white, black) under a single name. This is best explained by hypotheses built up from perceptual and cognitive axioms, reinforcing Berlin and Kay’s hypothesis of universal color category evolution. Based on data from 900 speakers of 166 Mesoamerican languages. DAI 48(6):1487-A.] [Order # DA 8718073]

Miller, David R. Ph.D., Indiana U, 1987. Montana Assiniboine Identity: A Cultural Account of an American Indian Ethnicity. 357 pp. [An investigation of the process of cultural renewal being attempted by a group of Assiniboine innovators who “seek to redefine and re dedicate themselves to a traditionalism that is as much of their own making as it utilizes ideas from earlier generations.” Based on ethnohistorical research, language study, and fieldwork. DAI 48(5):1247-A.] [Order # DA 8717766]

Pet, Willem J.A. Ph.D., Cornell, 1987. Lokono Dian, the Arawak Language of Suriname: A Sketch of its Grammatical Structure and Lexicon. 398 pp. [A "general, bottom-up sketch" of an Arawakan language, covering phonology, morphology, syntax, and discourse, to which is added a test of the applicability of current linguistic theories (especially GB syntax) to Arawak
syntactic and semantic. DAI 48(4):916-A. [Order # DA 8708901]

Copies of most dissertations abstracted in DAI are available in microform or xerox format from University Microfilms International, PO Box 1764, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Microform copies are $18 each, xerox (paper-bound) copies are $28 each (to academic addresses in the US or Canada). Orders and inquiries may be made by telephoning UMI’s toll-free numbers: (800)-521-3042 (most of US); (800)-343-5299 (Canada); from Michigan, Alaska, and Hawaii call collect: (313)-761-4700.

COMPUTER USERS’ CORNER

More on -ware

• Several readers have sent in examples of the recent productivity of -ware in computer-talk. To the items mentioned in the last issue (courseware, fontware, vaporware) can now be added: dribbleware, “software that is marketed piecemeal”; firmware, “software built into a chip, such as the plug-in fonts used with certain types of printers”; freeware, “software distributed free of charge”; shareware, “software distributed free of charge, but registration with a fee entitles one to support, updates, documentation, etc.”; ransomware, “software distributed free of charge, but unusable without documentation that costs at least $70”; safeware, “a computer insurance company”; and wetware, “the human brain, possibly the whole nervous system.” (Thanks to Andy Anderson, David French, Harry Harm, Ken Hill, Gillian Story, and Brian Teaman. Send more!)

Font Kit for the Apple IIE

• Clay Slate (Box 701, Navajo Community College, Tsaile, AZ 86556) is part of a team that has developed a hardware kit that will allow an Apple IIE to display, manipulate, and print in non-English fonts, including the Navajo practical orthography and the Cyrillic alphabet. He writes:

This is a ROM solution, with which one toggles back and forth between using the keyboard and the monitor chips which came originally on the mother board of the IIE, and the chips which we have burned (which are mounted on our printed circuit board, stowed under the keyboard). Included software loads the printer’s RAM with the alternate font. We can create a new font in a day or two (as we have recently done for Hopi) by burning chips for it.

The major advantage to this solution is that it works with such simple word-processors as Applewriter or Appleworks, and with databases such as that included in Appleworks (which alphabetizes, among its many features). This allows even children to word-process the language (which we have occurring as early as the third grade level on the Navajo Reservation). Since the Apple IIE is the most popular machine in public schools, any of you who are in communities that have school children working in non-English orthographies may be able to use this kit to advantage. We have had this running for about a year, and it is extremely reliable.

The major disadvantage is that the design of the font is restricted to a small dot-matrix. In a language such as Navajo, which has risers and descenders in its popular orthography, the hooks we put descending from nasal vowels are but one dot. They are readable, and useful for most purposes, but not good enough for publishing. We are working to get these ASCII files up on other machines, however, when it is desirable to publish materials.

If you are interested, send me your alphabet, in order, with some annotation as to relative frequency of individual elements (if necessary), so that we can locate them at optimal places on your keyboard. Kits cost $220 each. (My take is 30 bucks, which I will gladly return to you. We are spending about $100 per kit on construction. The other two guys I’m working with, who are not linguists, have barely broken even.)

Software Openness

• Bob Hsu (D of Linguistics, U of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822; Bitnet address: T119920@UHCCMV) has sent us a long essay on the “openness” of software to imported files. Like everything Bob writes, it’s worth printing in full:

Openness is a property of programs that is often given too little notice, or overlooked entirely. To some of us it is at least as important as power, speed, ease of use, cost, and so forth.

It arises, for example, when one needs to import a large file, such as one containing a dictionary or a transcribed text, into a word-processor. Now, most word-processors can import “plain ASCII” text unaided, without introducing much distortion. But in order to import font shifts, non-standard characters, formatting information, etc. (all of which I will loosely term “format coding”) a special program needs to be written. The ease with which this can be done depends in large part on the complexity of the format coding scheme of the target word-processor, and on whether a description of the scheme is readily available. A straightforward scheme, and/or a published description of it, make the word-processor more “open” to exchange of files with the outside.

Such documentation is rarely available however, so the user is often required to decipher the coding scheme. For WordStar, most of this information is on the surface in the form of “dot commands” and the rest is relatively easy to decipher from examining an appropriate test file in internal (hex or binary) form. Certain programs such as Word Perfect and XyWrite have a “reveal codes” command, but in the case of Word Perfect the format codes so revealed are only mnemonic abbreviations, and to find the actual codes one must
still resort to something like a hex dump. [Later: A letter to Word Perfect Corporation, however, has brought a complete list of codes with brief explanations.] WORD’s coding scheme is more obscure than the others, resulting in an even more “closed” program. XyWrite appears to be quite open in this sense, using only “readable” format coding.

Instead of publishing its coding scheme, a word-processor could provide programs to convert text between its own scheme and some public scheme, so that users could import and export via the public standard. Many word-processors now do this, under pressure from large corporations which use a variety of different word-processors. The standard specified by those corporations is IBM’s Document Content Architecture (DCA), an IBM mainframe-oriented product. Unfortunately this “standard” is not only complex but open to interpretation. WORD and Word Perfect’s converters, for instance, apparently do not reflect the same interpretation. XyWrite’s converter will be accompanied by a document clarifying its interpretation. See p. 186 of PC Magazine, vol. 6, no. 2 (June 23, 1987) for a review of the current situation. (That issue also reviews several programs that convert directly between some of the popular word-processors.) I have not been able to find any description of DCA except IBM’s own document (IBM, Document Content Architecture: Revisable-Form-Text Reference, Order No. SC23-0758-1, 1986), which is available only through IBM sales representatives and is couched in the jargon of IBM mainframe manuals. Nevertheless, a standard such as the DCA does hold some promise of opening up word-processors, though indirectly, to the outside world. An additional advantage of this approach is that it insulates the user from changes in internal coding conventions that often accompany upgrades of these programs.

Although the general lack of openness is perhaps not inconsistent with the traditional concerns of word-processors, namely to help the user type in documents and print them out, linguists need to process words in a broader context. For students of language generally, text files can hold not only documents for communication (letters, articles, books, etc.) but also the very objects of study (word-lists, field notes, transcribed texts, etc.). The same facilities that have made word-processors so useful for handling written communications are valuable for working with these research materials: search, replace, cut-and-paste, compare (e.g. with multiple windows), manipulate format, print, etc. However by the time the linguist needs such facilities, the files to be manipulated are often already in existence, possibly having been generated by other programs, bequeathed by colleagues, accumulated over years (or decades) on a succession of now-obsolete machines, etc. Furthermore, the output from manipulation by the word-processor is often not destined at all for printing but rather for use by other programs. In general, a word-processor will be only one of many programs involved in a project. For a word-processor to be useful in such a project, it is clearly essential that the format coding conventions be openly accessible.

Another aspect of openness that is of interest to linguists is the availability of “non-standard” characters—for example the 128 upper ASCII (extended ASCII) characters on the PC-compatible class of machines. As is well known, the IBM PC assigns to these character positions certain letters and symbols used in European orthographies, box-drawing, and mathematics and commerce. WordStar however preempts these positions by using the eighth bit as a flag for various formatting purposes. Most other programs, such as WORD, Word Perfect, XyWrite, and Leading Edge Word Processor (LEWP), do permit extended ASCII characters in text.

WORD, however, has taken a curious step backward in version 3.1 when working with the Hercules Graphics Card Plus. This board (see this column in the October 1986 and March 1987 issues of the Newsletter) is one of a small number of PC-compatible video boards (which includes the Hercules InColor and Mylex Envision II—Quadrum’s QuadVue is no longer made—plus the EGAs) that allow the user to design character shapes for display on the screen in place of the built-in IBM set. The upper ASCII slots can thus be used for IPA and other symbols. As expected, most word-processors that allow upper ASCII values in text also display the Hercules user-loaded character shapes. WORD 3.0 does this only in its faster, “text”, display mode (invoked with the /C switch on the command line), but reverts to the standard font in the slower, “graphics”, mode, in which it actually draws each letter dot-by-dot on the screen (allowing it to render italics and other effects not available in text mode). However WORD 3.1, which purports actually to “support” the Hercules Plus card, overrides the user-loaded characters even in the text mode. When it detects the H-Plus card, WORD 3.1 loads its own font of standard, italics, etc. into the “48K Ramfont” (so that it can render such effects as underscored italic superscripts in the fast text mode), replacing any characters loaded by the user in the 4K Ramfont. Any attempt to reload the user’s font during a WORD session has no effect. By not allowing users’ fonts as an option, WORD 3.1 has closed off a very useful capability that Hercules had provided. [Thanks are due Pam Cahn for developing the information about WORD reported here. She also discovered that Microsoft’s customer support staff were themselves surprised to learn of this limitation of WORD 3.1, they too believing that “supporting” the Hercules Plus board meant allowing users’ fonts. The latest version, 4.0, has not corrected this.]

These are two manifestations of openness that could affect linguists. To summarize by overstating the case: many programs are designed (understandably, though not excusably) as if each were the center of the universe, indeed as though it WERE the universe—requiring one to relinquish,
upon entry, everything in the outside world. In return for this
sacrifice, some programs promise to satisfy all the needs of
a given class of users. Regardless of whether that promise
can be fulfilled, I believe that users would still prefer not to
feel locked into, or out of, a program for what seem to be only
technical reasons.

The degree of openness is of course only one of many
variables that a software developer must balance. An
increase in power or speed may, for instance, have to be
bought at the cost of decreased openness. For linguistic use
however, certain aspects of openness need to be weighted at
least as heavily as the qualities normally given great promi-
nence in reviews and descriptions of software. (October 7,
1987).

More on SAPIR

- Brent Berlin and Terrence Kaufman (SAILDP, D of
Anthropology, U of
California, Berkeley, CA 94720) are developing an interactive data-
base-graphics protocol linking their South American Indian language
database to a digitized map (see News and Announcements above).
They described some of the technical details of this South American
Prehistoric Inference Resource (SAPIR) in a paper delivered at the
AAA in November, from which the following paragraphs are extracted:

While much remains to be worked out, we are proceeding to
develop SAPIR as follows. First, a video scanned image of
our map of the current distribution of SA Indian languages
(prepared at a scale of 1:5 million by SAILDP research
assistant Manuel Lizarraide) will be produced using a stan-
dard IBM PC scanner. This scanned image will then be
digitized using a drawing editor that has been developed for
use with GAHM. Areas representing each language (many
of which may be discontinuous) will be shown as primitive
polygons in this digitized form. Rivers, mountain ranges,
country boundaries, and other geographic features will also
be digitized. These features can be toggled on and off at
the user’s discretion so as to maximize ease of viewing in certain
contexts.

SAPIR will enable the user to access, augment, and edit each
of the three SAILDP primary databases, but in its early form
our efforts will be directed toward working with the lexical
vocabulary, i.e., with the list of approximately 1900 con-
cepts for each of the approximately 350 SA Indian languages
for which we ultimately hope to obtain data. The primitive
polygons representing each language will be associated with
one of these corresponding lexical data files.

Users will examine concepts in the database through a scrol-
able, hierarchical list. One will be able to treat the entire
database of 350 languages as a single large file, or subsec-
tions of it. Let us say that one were interested in develop-
ing hypotheses on the internal diversification of Arawakan, a
widely distributed linguistic family of about 80 languages.
First, one would select “Arawakan”, and then begin with one

of the major categories in the lexical vocabulary, e.g.,
substances, earth forms and directions, plants, animals,
kin terms. When the major category “animals” is selected,
the concepts for all of the animals included in this section of
the vocabulary would be assessed.

At this stage, the user might click on the concept “collared
peccary” and see the words for collared peccary, in technical
linguistic orthography, displayed at their appropriate loca-
tions on the map of S America. Zooming capabilities will be
provided to allow the user to clearly view terms for concepts
in highly congested areas of the map, such as NW Amazon-as,
the Upper Purús, and areas in and around the Xingu
National Park.

SAPIR will also have a split-screen capability with two
panes that will allow one to compare maps of different
regions of S America. For example, one will be able to view
in one pane an area north of the Amazon, displaying the
words for, say, cross-cousins in the languages of the Carib
family, and gradually move the second pane down the Rio
Negro, up the Amazon, and eastward through Brazil in
search of words that look similar to those observed in the first
pane.

Having made the provisional assessment that two or more
terms for some concept, or set of concepts, appear to be
similar, the user will then want to link those forms as the first
step in building a set of what we are now calling “derived
polygons”, i.e., polygons of language areas thought by the
linguist to represent a higher-order taxonomic unit by virtue
of their sharing numerous words for the same concepts.
SAPIR will allow the user to specify similarities (“link-
ages”) found between two or more terms for the same (or
similar) concepts, (e.g. similar terms for “collared peccary”
in n number of languages, and so on for all or part of the
lexical vocabulary). The linguist’s similarity judgments can
vary from total similarity (when the terms are identical or
cognate) through slightly similar, to distantly similar. These
judgments can then be stored as a set of entries that can be
retrieved, altered, and displayed.

Several different types of linkage displays may be appro-
priate for different settings. SAPIR will have one type of
display during actual interactive specification of linkages.
This type will probably involve split-screen capabilities to
avoid the obscuring of information on the current lexical
display. During the interactive specification of linkages, the
user will be able to annotate particular linkages (i.e., why
does the linguist think these terms are similar, which ones
look like potential cognates and which may be loans) and
these annotations will be stored in the database.

Other modes for viewing the results of a completed process
of linkage specification will include lines for tying the
centroids of language areas to one another and shading
patterns to distinguish each cluster of linked language areas.
Furthermore, SAPIR will include a mode for displaying the combined linkage results for any number of concepts, providing an automated way of displaying the strength of similarity association among two or more language areas. In this mode, lines of different widths between the centroids of different language areas will be used to represent how many times each pair of language areas was linked for the lexical displays under study.

The answers that must be developed to account for the geographic patterns revealed by the linkages that SAPIR allows the user to establish must, of course, be provided by the linguistic investigator, who must explain to what extent the noted similarities are due to genetic, areal, or typological factors. These easily produced distribution maps will, however, allow one to quickly make empirical generalizations and form hypotheses that might best account for the distribution of linguistic facts as they relate to the linguistic and culture history of the region.

REGIONAL NETWORKS

A directory of regional or language-family conferences, newsletters, journals, and special publication series. Corrections and additions are solicited.

CANADA

Networks. Newsletter of the Special Interest Group on Language Development, TESL Canada. Articles and reviews of interest to teachers in Canadian Native language programs. $10 (Can)/year, checks made out to “TESL Canada”. Write: Editor, Networks, Language Development in Native Education, TESL Canada, 408-1181 Portage Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 0T3.

ATHABASKAN/ESKIMO-ALEUT


Athabaskan News. Newsletter for Athabaskan linguists and teachers. $4/year, further donations welcome. Editor: Pat Moore, c/o General Delivery, Ross River, Yukon, YOB 1S0.

ANLC Publications. Teaching and research publications on Inupiaq and Yupik Eskimo, Alaskan Athabaskan languages, Eyak, Tlingit, and Haida. Write for list: Alaska Native Language Center, Box 900111, U of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775.

Inuit Studies Conference. Linguistics and anthropology. Next meeting: Copenhagen, October 17-20, 1988. Contact: Jens Dahl, Institute of Eskimology, Fiolstraede 10, 1171 Copenhagen K, Denmark. (See News From Regional Groups, this issue.)

Études/Inuit/Studies. Interdisciplinary journal devoted to the study of Inuit (Eskimo) societies, traditional or contemporary, from Siberia to Greenland. Linguistic papers are frequently published. Two issues/year, sometimes supplements. Editor: E. Therien, Dept d’anthropologie, U Laval, Quebec, Canada G1K 7P4.

ALGONQUIAN/IROQUOIAN


Papers of the Algonquian Conference. The papers of the 6th Algonquian Conference (1974) were published by the National Museum of Man, Ottawa; papers of the 7th and all subsequent conferences have been published by Carleton U Press. For prices and availability write: William Cowan, D of Linguistics, Carleton U, Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B6.


NORTHWEST


CALIFORNIA/OREGON


PLAINS/SOUTHEAST


Muskogean/Southeastern Newsletter. $3/year (individuals), $5/year (institutions). Editor: George A. Broadwell, D of Linguistics, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024.
SOUTHWEST/MEXICO


Nahuat Newsletter. Editor: Brad Huber, D of Anthropology, U of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

Tanoan Conference. Linguistics; includes Kiowa. Meets annually in the summer, usually at the U of New Mexico. Contact: Paul V. Kroskrity, D of Anthropology, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Tlatocan. Journal, specializing in texts in Mexican indigenous languages. Contact: Karen Dakin, Instituto de Investigaciones Filolóxicas, UNAM, 04510 Mexico DF.

MAYAN

Mayan Languages Conference (Taller de Lingüística Maya). Meets in late June or early July in alternate years, sometimes annually. Next meeting: Mexico (site not yet chosen), 1988. Contact: Nora England, D of Anthropology, U of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242.


Workshop on Maya Hieroglyphic Writing. Meets annually, in February or March, at the U of Texas, Austin. Contact: Nancy P. Troika, Maya Meetings, PO Box 5645, Austin, TX 78763 (tel. 512-471-6292).


Winak: Boletín Intercultural. Journal of Guatemalan linguistics and anthropology. $6 (US)/year ($15 to institutions). Editor: Neville Stiles, U Mariano Gámez, Finca El Zapote, #a Avenida 9-00, zona 2, Guatemala, Guatemala.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Linguists For Nicaragua. Ad-hoc organization providing technical and material aid to language-related programs in Nicaragua. For information: LFN, Wayne O'Neil, Room 20D-210, MIT, Cambridge, MA 02139. (See News and Announcements, this issue.)


SOUTH AMERICA


The Ayamara Foundation. President: Lucy T. Briggs. Assists literacy programs in Peru and Bolivia. Membership $20/year (students $10). Address: Box 12127, University Station, Gainesville, FL 32604.

Boletín de Lingüística. Venezuelan journal, publishing papers on indigenous languages and on Spanish. $5 (US)/year (2 issues). Contact: Jorge C. Mosonyi or Victor Rojo A., Apdo Postal 47631, Caracas 1041-A, Caracas, Venezuela.

South American Indian Languages Documentation Project. Computer database for the indigenous languages of S America (see News and Announcements, this issue). Contact: Brent Berlin, SAILDP, D of Anthropology, UC-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720.

GENERAL LATIN AMERICA

Latin American Indian Literature Association (LAILA/ALILA), Newsletter, annual symposium. Contact: Dr Mary H. Preuss, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA 15010.

Latin American Indian Literatures Journal. Texts and commentaries, other papers, on indigenous literatures. $15/year (2 issues) ($25 to institutions). Editor: Mary H. Preuss, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA 15010.

International Congress of Americanists. Meets every 3 years. Most meetings have several sessions on linguistic topics, usually focusing on C and S American languages. Next meeting: Amsterdam, July 4-8, 1988.


SIL Publications in Linguistics. Grammars, dictionaries, and other materials on numerous American Indian languages, particularly C and S American languages, prepared by members of the Summer Institute of Linguistics. For a catalogue, write: SIL Bookstore, 7500 W Camp Wisdom Rd, Dallas, TX 75236.

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