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SSILA BUSINESS

Results of the 1988 Election

117 ballots were received before the announced deadline for the 1988 SSILA election. Elected were: Florence M. Voegelin, Vice-President (1989) and President-Elect for 1990; Victor Golla, Secretary-Treasurer (1989); Robert L. Rankin, Member-At-Large of the Executive Committee (1989-1991); and Lucy T. Briggs, Member of the Nominating Committee (1989-1991).

Minutes of the SSILA Business Meeting, Phoenix, November 18, 1988

The Secretary-Treasurer (Victor Golla) respectfully submits the following minutes of the 1988 Business Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by the President, Louanna Furbee, at 5:35 pm, in the Navajo-A room of the Phoenix Sheraton. Approximately 100 members were in attendance.

The Secretary-Treasurer, Victor Golla, presented a brief report on the Society’s finances for the period Nov. 20, 1987 to Nov. 18, 1988.

Balance as of Nov. 20, 1987.................................. $1,439.89
Income for 1987-88:
Membership dues........................................ 3,646.79
Newsletter subscriptions................................ 217.82
Sale of back issues...................................... 68.00
Contributions.......................................... 516.50
Total income............................................ 4,449.11

Expenses for 1987-88:
Printing/mailing of Newsletter.......................... 3,446.67
Printing/mailing of Directory........................... 803.03
Fee for Annual Meeting room........................... 100.00
Miscellaneous expenses................................. 169.97
Total expenses........................................ 4,519.67
Surplus/(Deficit) for 1987-88.............................. (70.56)
Balance as of Nov. 18, 1988............................... 1,319.33

The Secretary-Treasurer also reported that the current membership of the Society is 521, an increase of 41 since November 1987. Approximately 560 copies of the latest (October 1988) Newsletter were mailed.

The President then announced the results of the 1988 election and congratulated the newly elected or re-elected officers: Florence M. Voegelin (Vice President/President-Elect); Robert L. Rankin (Member-at-large of the Executive Committee); Victor Golla (Secretary-Treasurer); and Lucy T. Briggs (Member of the Nominating Committee). She also thanked the outgoing officers, Eric P. Hamp (Past President), Jane Hill (Member-at-large of the Executive Committee), and Brent Galloway (Chair of the 1988 Nominating Committee).

The President then called on Wallace Chafe, chair of the Committee on the SSILA Award (instituted by the Society at its 1987 meeting), to deliver the Committee’s report.

The SSILA Award Committee (Wallace Chafe [Chair], Catherine Callaghan, and Louanna Furbee) considered the following points and made the indicated recommendations to the Executive Committee:

1. Advertising the award. We should announce its availability in the SSILA Newsletter, IIJAL, the LSA Bulletin, the Anthropology Newsletter, and the various regional or language-family newsletters. The Secretary-Treasurer should be responsible for placing these announcements in a timely fashion.
2. **Kinds of candidates.** The award should be restricted to people without tenured faculty positions, and open to unaffiliated scholars.

3. **Nature of the work.** It should be a monograph, long article, or other substantial unpublished work that significantly contributes to our knowledge of the indigenous languages of the Americas, and which the selection committee considers to be of appropriate current interest.

4. **Choosing the winner.** The selection should be made by the Executive Committee, under the chairmanship of the immediate past president.

5. **Nature of the award.** This should be an impressive looking document, together with help in publishing (see 6). No monetary award is recommended.

6. **Help with publishing.** The Society should, if possible, establish a relationship with a scholarly press for the regular publication of SSILA Award manuscripts.

7. **Frequency of the award.** The award should be given once a year, with the stipulation that years may be skipped if no deserving candidate is available.

8. **The name of the award.** It should be called "The SSILA Award."

The President thanked Chafe, noting that the Executive Committee had accepted the report and would be moving forward shortly with its implementation. Some discussion followed. The Committee was asked if they intended dissertations to be eligible, and it was indicated that they did. The process of nomination was queried, and the Committee said that they had no formal process in mind: a manuscript could be suggested by another scholar, or the author could submit it. The submission process would be spelled out in the announcement that will be published in the *SSILA Newsletter* and elsewhere.

The President then read a report from Eloise Jelinek, chair of the Committee on Alternative Meeting Sites:

The Committee on Alternative Meeting Sites for SSILA (Eloise Jelinek [Chair], Nora England, Dale Kinkade, and Victor Golla) recommends that the Society sponsor or co-sponsor an annual meeting in addition to the AAA-CAIL sessions, and that this meeting take place in the spring or summer in connection with the meeting of some other group. It recommends that our special meeting in Tucson, July 1-2, 1989, in conjunction with the Linguistic Institute, be considered the inaugural meeting in this series. It suggests that proposals be solicited from organizers of regional and special-interest meetings for meetings beginning in 1990.

The President added that a proposal had already been received for 1990, from the organizers of the Pacific Linguistics Conference at the U. of Oregon for a joint meeting with SSILA in May. Discussion then ensued. Some concern was voiced from the floor about the need to ensure SSILA’s role in the selection of papers and the organization of sessions at these “shared” meetings. It was suggested that the Executive Committee each time formally delegate screening and organizing responsibilities to a local committee, with specific instructions as to the Society’s preferences. One member urged that the Executive Committee strongly discourage concurrent sessions. Following this discussion, it was moved and seconded that the Committee’s report be accepted, and the motion passed unanimously.

The President then presented to the meeting the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the Society establish a Travel Award. The purpose of the SSILA Travel Award is to enable one or more scholars from countries with exchange problems, or needy students from North America, to attend the Conference on American Indian Languages. The Executive Committee proposes that contributions to a special Travel Award fund be solicited on dues notices, beginning in 1989, and that the Secretary-Treasurer report annually on the size of this fund. To implement the award during this coming year, the Executive Committee proposes setting aside $500 from the 1989 budget, with an ad-hoc committee both to administer the 1989 award and to recommend to the 1989 Business Meeting a permanent structure for administering the award in future years.

A number of questions were raised about the 1989 procedure. How would the availability of the award be announced and candidates identified? How many awards would be made with the $500 allocated? Would the presentation of a paper be required of recipients of the award? When would the award be made? The President addressed several of these issues on behalf of the Executive Committee, but indicated that such matters were properly the responsibility of the ad-hoc committee. She then nominated Doris Payne to be the chair of the Committee on the Travel Award, and nominated two members, Jill Brody and Pat Kwachka. Further nominations were solicited from the floor, and Tom Smith-Stark and Terry Kaufman were nominated. The nominations were closed and the committee of five was elected unanimously. The Executive Committee’s recommendation for the establishment of a Travel Award, placing its implementation in the hands of the newly-designated committee, was then put to a vote and unanimously approved.

The President then recognized Wick Miller, who spoke briefly about unconfirmed news that has reached a number of members of the Society about an alarming change in policy at NEH [see the lead article in *News and Announcements* below for more recent information on this matter - Ed.]. There may be little or no NEH support in the future for work on languages that lack a substantial number of speakers and a written literature — criteria that exclude virtually all American Indian languages. Miller, speaking on behalf of the Executive Committee, called for quick action, beginning with a determined effort to discover the facts behind the rumors, followed if necessary by vigorous lobbying, preferably in concert with other scholarly societies. This prompted a lengthy discussion during which various actions were suggested to the Executive Committee. At the conclusion of the discussion it was moved and seconded that the Society empower the Executive Committee to discover the facts in this situation, communicate them to the membership (via the *SSILA Newsletter* and other media), and take any steps it deems appropriate to urge NEH to maintain, if not increase, its current level of support for scholarly work in American Indian linguistics. The motion passed unanimously.

The President then introduced Mary Tait, Univ. of Edinburgh, the section editor for the indigenous languages of the Americas for the *Atlas of World Languages*, scheduled for publication in 1990 by Routledge/Croom Helm. Tait outlined the history of the project and discussed the proposed relationship between the *Atlas* and the SSILA North American Indian Languages map. Following Tait, Ken Whistler spoke briefly about the current state of the North America map and of decisions that remain to be made regarding language names and genetic groupings. Cathy O’Connor, who is acting as the informal liaison between the Croom Helm editors and SSILA, discussed the broad range of data that the *Atlas* hopes to obtain from SSILA. Terry Kaufman announced that he and Brent Berlin (and, informally, the South American Indian
Several short announcements were made: Wallace Chafe called the attention of SSILA to the recently inaugurated graduate program in linguistics at UC-Santa Barbara, which will place heavy emphasis on American Indian languages, fieldwork, and discourse studies [for details see News and Announcements below]. Jack Du Bois announced a conference on Mayan Hieroglyphic Writing at Santa Barbara, February 17-19 [for details see News from Regional Groups: Mayan below]. Brent Galloway spoke briefly about the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College at the Univ. of Regina, where an Indian-administered Dept. of Linguistics is offering courses on Cree, Ojibwa, and general linguistics.

The agenda completed, President Furbee turned the gavel over to the incoming President, Colette Craig. Craig led the meeting in a round of applause for the retiring President. She then spoke of her general plans for the upcoming year, stressing her belief in the need to develop strategies for incorporating indigenous peoples into the academic world and the scholarly community. Such projects as the SSILA Travel Award should be only the first step in this direction. She used her remaining time to make an appeal on behalf of the CIDCA project in Nicaragua, whose facilities at Bluefields were recently destroyed by Hurricane Joan [see News and Announcements for details].

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Summer Meeting of SSILA

SSILA is organizing a two-day conference on American Indian languages to be held July 1-2, 1989, as part of the activities of the 1989 Linguistic Institute at the Univ. of Arizona, Tucson. This meeting inaugurates what is planned to be an annual spring or summer convening of SSILA, supplementing (but not replacing) the Conference on American Indian Languages at the AAA in November or December. Where possible, the spring/summer meeting will be held in conjunction with another major conference or event. Besides meeting in July 1989 at the Linguistic Institute, plans are being made for SSILA to meet in May 1990 with the Pacific Linguistics Conference in Oregon, and in July 1991 as part of the International Congress of Americanists in New Orleans.

The Program Committee for the 1989 SSILA Summer Meeting invites short abstracts for papers on any topic in American Indian linguistics, although it is recommended that technical papers on Uto-Aztecan, Hokan, Penutian, or Athabaskan languages be submitted to the meetings of those groups. Particularly welcome are papers for a proposed major session on Methods and Results in the Study of Deep Genetic Relationships Among American Indian Languages. Where possible, 30 minutes will be allowed for each presentation. Proposals for sessions of up to 1 1/2 hours are also welcomed. Session proposers should submit (1) a session abstract, outlining the theme and scope of the session; (2) a proposed session program, listing participants and the lengths of their presentations (which may be of variable length); and (3) short abstracts of all papers proposed. All materials should reach the Program Committee no later than Friday, February 17, 1989. Address all correspondence to: Eloise Jelinek, Dept. of Linguistics, Douglass Bldg. East 200, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

SSILA Award

Beginning in 1989, SSILA will present an annual award to the author of the unpublished monograph, long article, or other substantial work that, in the opinion of the Society, most significantly contributes to our knowledge of the indigenous languages of the Americas. Although the award will carry no stipend, the Society will strive to make arrangements for publication of the winning manuscript. Scholars with or without academic affiliation are encouraged to submit manuscripts, but holders of tenured faculty positions are ineligible. The awardee will be selected by the Executive Committee of the Society under the chairmanship of the immediate Past President. Submissions for the 1989 award should be made by October 1, 1989, and should be sent to Prof. Louanna Furbee, SSILA, Dept. of Anthropology, 210 Switzer Hall, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211. A clean copy of the manuscript should be submitted, together with a short cover letter explaining the circumstances of the work. All manuscripts will be returned.

Donations to SSILA during 1988

46 members of the Society donated a total of $516.50 to the Society during the past 12 months. With thanks to all, they are:

Elizabeth Bowman  Pat Kwachka
Aaron Broadwell  Margaret Langdon
Barbara Burnaby  Toby C. S. Langen
Catherine A. Callaghan  Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort
James M. Crawford  Floyd Lounsbury
Robert & Marcia Croese  Peter Masson
Scott DeLancey  Ronald Mayo
Stephen Ray Elliott  Karin Michelson
Michael K. Foster  Sally Midgette
Louanna Furbee  Carol C. Mock
Geoffrey Gamble  Pamela Munro
Irving Glick  Robert Oswalt
Victor Golla  Ann M. Renker
K. Guessner  Keren D. Rice
Nicholas Hopkins  Bruce Rigsby
William H. Jacobsen, Jr  John T. Ritter
Eloise Jelinek  Ross Saunders
Brian D. Joseph  Michael Silverstein
Kathryn Josserand  Lucille Watahomigie
Terrence Kaufman  W. Wieser
M. Dale Kinkade  Anthony C. Woodbury
Sheldon Klein  Akira Yamamoto
Michael Krauss  Philip D. Young
CORRESPONDENCE

Change of Address

August 22, 1988

Dear Colleagues:

May I ask you to update my address since I moved to Lvov? I have been elected the Chairman of the Dept. of Foreign Languages at the Lvov Leso-Technical Institute. Lvov is an old city (founded in 1256) that is today one of the major industrial and cultural centers of the Ukrainian SSR.

Yuri Tambovtsev
Lvov-57, ul. Pushkin, 103
Lvov Leso-Technical Institute
Dept. of Foreign Languages

Our Error!

October 19, 1988

Dear Editor:

In the “News and Announcements” section of the September SSILA Newsletter you mentioned that an SSILA meeting is to be held at the Linguistic Institute in Arizona this coming summer, then referred the reader to the “SSILA Business” section for further information. But there was no discussion of a summer meeting in the “SSILA Business” section! What’s the story?

Paulcena M. Seeber
RFD 4 Box 530
Bangor, ME 04401

[The Editor regrets this oversight. Actually, he has an excuse. The Executive Committee was slow in formalizing plans for the July 1-2 meeting in Tucson, and only now (December) is it possible to give details. See the announcement in this issue’s “SSILA Business” section and the separate abstract form.]

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEH Funding of American Indian Linguistics

There has been some concern in recent months that the US National Endowment for the Humanities is planning to cut back on its support of scholarly work in American Indian languages and literatures. Expressions of this concern were voiced at the SSILA meeting in Phoenix [see Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting above] and the Executive Committee was directed to discover and publicize the facts of the situation as soon as possible. During the past few weeks the Editor has been in touch with Margaret Reynolds of the Linguistic Society of America and with John Hammer of the National Humanities Alliance, who have been monitoring NEH activities quite closely. The word from these well-informed people is assuring. While some objections have been raised within NEH to the support of American Indian linguistics, very little of substance seems to have changed. Reynolds has prepared a memorandum on recent NEH developments, of which the following is a synopsis:

Since the establishment of NEH, its staff and the Presidentially appointed National Council on the Humanities have been concerned with the significance of the scholarly research projects that the agency supports. In the summer of 1987 the staff prepared a discussion paper, at the request of the Council’s Committee on Research, focusing on the definition of the humanities, broad vs. narrow research, questions of significance, audiences for NEH research, and the specific matter of support for Native American languages. The Research Committee took up these issues during a meeting in Philadelphia in August 1987, and a vigorous discussion ensued. On the matter of support for work on Native American languages, opinion was clearly divided. Some members of the committee were reluctant to have NEH continue to support projects such as dictionaries of American Indian languages, where so few speakers were involved and where there was no written literature. Other members argued that the preservation of vanishing oral literatures for the benefit of future scholars was clearly worthy of support and was furthermore a “now or never” matter. After the discussion the Research Committee asked NEH staff to draft a new set of guidelines that would require applicants to address significance of proposed work and the audience to which the work is addressed. This language was presented to the NEH Council at its November 1987 meeting, and the following paragraph was approved for publication in the 1988 guidelines for the Division of Research Programs:

Virtually everything human beings have done or said provides food for thought; nothing human is alien to the thoughtful person. Yet not everything done or said is equally deserving of thought or study, let alone equally deserving of study at public expense. In the evaluation of proposals for research in the humanities submitted to the Division of Research Programs, questions of importance or significance necessarily arise; and answers to these questions—the “so what?” questions — play a role in funding decisions. To help evaluators assess these matters, applicants are asked to answer the following: 1. Why do you believe this work is important? 2. What difference will the results make, and to whom?

This is the only change that seems to have resulted from the Research Committee’s 1987 discussion. NEH staff on 23 November 1988 confirmed this to be the case.

US Senate Passes Resolution on Native American Languages

On Sept. 15, toward the end of the last session of the 100th Congress, Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) introduced a joint resolution (S. J. Res. 397) that would put the Senate and House on record as favoring “the preservation, protection, and promotion of the rights of indigenous Americans to use, practice and
develop Native American languages.” The resolution was referred to the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, which reported it out favorably on Sept. 21; it was passed by the Senate on Sept. 28 and sent to the House of Representatives. Congress adjourned before House action could be taken, but it is expected that this or a similar resolution will be reintroduced in 1989. The full text is as follows:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That—

(1) it shall be the policy of the United States to preserve, protect, and promote the rights of indigenous Americans, including Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Native Pacific Islanders, to use, practice, and develop Native American languages, including the right to use Native American languages as the media of instruction in State and Federal institutions of compulsory education and as the official language in their traditional territories;

(2) the Federal Government supports the granting of proficiency in an indigenous language the same academic credit as proficiency in a foreign language; and

(3) the Federal Government strongly recommends that all institutions of elementary, secondary, and higher education include indigenous languages in the curriculum in the same manner as foreign languages are and that competency in the indigenous language be granted the same full academic credit.

The wording is based on two resolutions adopted at the 8th Annual International Native American Language Issues Institute (NALII), held last June in Tempe, Arizona. The NALII participants urged Congress to make a clear statement of federal policy regarding the rights of indigenous Americans to practice their cultures, choose their own lifestyles, and maintain the traditional languages in which cultures, heritages, and identities are transmitted.

Final Lineup of Meetings at Linguistic Institute

The addition of a Workshop on Philological Linguistics & Native American Languages (June 27) brings to seven the number of special meetings on American Indian linguistics scheduled for the last week of June and the first week of July as part of the 1989 Linguistic Institute. The centerpieces of this series of events will be a special summer meeting of SSILA [see SSILA Business above]. Also scheduled are meetings of Athabaskan, Uto-Aztecan, and Hokan-Penutian specialists, a workshop on texts, and a conference on Hopi studies. The full roster is:


- June 28. Workshop on Text Archiving. Organizer: Doris Bartholomew, SIL, P.O. Box 8987 CRB, Tucson, AZ 85738.


Michigan Hosts Conference on Long-Range Comparisons

An International Symposium on Language and Prehistory, focusing on long-range linguistic comparisons and deep reconstruction and highlighting recent Soviet work in this area, was held at the Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, on November 8-12, 1988. Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Conference brought together over 40 scholars, many of them from the Soviet Union, to discuss deep genetic hypotheses such as Nostratic, Sino-Caucasian, Dene-Caucasian, and Greenberg’s “Amerind”, and such allied topics as the interrelationship of historical linguistics, archaeology, and physical anthropology. The papers specifically dealing with American Indian languages included: S. Nikolaev (Moscow), “On the Sino-Caucasian Character of Na-Dene”; Merritt Ruhlen (Palo Alto), “Amerind”; Mary Ritchie Key (UC-Irvine), “South American Indian Languages: State of Research”; and Alexis Manaster-Ramer (Wayne State), “Reconstruction of Uto-Aztecan.” Among the discussants was Eric Hamp (Chicago), Past-President of SSILA. For further information on the Conference proceedings, and possible publication plans, contact: Vitalij Shevoroshkin, 1133 Michigan Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104; or Harold Fleming, 69 High Street, Rockport, MA 01966.

Symposium on Texts in Indigenous Languages of Latin America

An major interdisciplinary symposium, Textos ‘auténticos’ en lenguas indígenas latinoamericanas entre comunicación intercultural e identidad étnica, was held in Berlin, November 30 to December 3, 1988, under the sponsorship of the Ibero-Americanisches Institut. The goal of the symposium was to explore problems of documentation, analysis, and interpretation of “authentic” (as opposed to “artificial”, e.g., missionary) texts in Central and South American languages. Papers scheduled to be delivered included: Nicolai Grube & Ortwin Smailius, “Maya Xoc y Maya Thon” [written vs. oral texts in Quintana Roo, Mexico]; Gérard Taylor, “Los purun machu” [analysis of a Quechua narrative]; Bruno Illius, “Lenguaje indirecto como medio de estilo directo del habla entre los Shipibo-Conibo (Perú)”; Helga-Maria Miram, “Problemas que ofrece la traducción de los documentos mayas post-cortesianos”; Ramón Arzápalo, “El texto maya como problema de interpretación...

American Indian Linguistics at LSA


American Indian Language Sessions at Oregon Conference in May

The Pacific Linguistics Conference, to be held at the Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, May 19-24, 1989, will feature a Parasession on American Indian languages. Further information will appear in the March issue of the Newsletter. Contact: T. Givón, Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403.

Language Samples Requested for Finnish Science Center

Frances Karttunen (Linguistics Research Center, U. of Texas) has passed along the following request:
The Heureka Science Center, a popular science museum that is about to open just north of Helsinki, Finland, will feature a permanent exhibit on the languages of the world. The centerpiece of the exhibit will be a large globe linked to individual stations via computer. At the stations, visitors will be able to pick up a telephone headset, point to a spot on the globe, and hear a short text spoken by a person who lives in that geographical area. A transcription of the text will appear simultaneously on a screen at the station. An earlier exhibit of this type, focusing only on Finno-Ugric languages, has been incorporated into the Heureka Center’s globe. Western European languages are also well represented. However, for the Western Hemisphere the Center currently has samples only of regional Spanish and English. They would appreciate recorded samples of indigenous New World languages.

If readers of the SSILA Newsletter would like to contribute to this exhibit by providing samples of American Indian languages, here is how to do it: Work up an Indian language version of the text below, record it (or have an informant record it) on a standard cassette, and attach a label identifying kielk (“language”), puhujan nimi (“speaker’s name”), kotiseutu (“home region”), and maa (“country”). Include a copy of a phonetic or phonemic transcription with interlinear translation, and mail to: Finnish Science Center Foundation, Kielotie 7A, 01300 Vantaa, Finland.

The text to be translated and recorded is as follows:

Hello! I am (NAME) and I speak (LANGUAGE). Do you know the numbers in (LANGUAGE)? The first of them are: one, two, three, four, five.

I hope that you travel here someday. Then I will show you our culture. Perhaps you will meet my family, my father, my mother, my sisters and my brothers.

The traveler also sees what our climate is like: how the sun shines, how it rains, how long our days and nights are.

(This basic text was devised by Mikko Korhonen, Professor of Finno-Ugric Studies, and Fred Karlsson, Professor of General Linguistics, at Helsinki University. All the speech samples in the exhibit will have this content. Naturally, the text may need to be tailored to the language or the speaker. Someone whose parents are no longer living or who has no sisters or brothers may be unwilling to render the text exactly as it is here, and greetings often have a more literal content than “hello.” If your recorded text differs somewhat from the model, please include a literal English translation as well as a transcription.)

Swann can be contacted at: Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, The Cooper Union, Cooper Square, New York, NY 10003.

New UC-Santa Barbara Graduate Program Emphasizes American Indian Languages

The Department of Linguistics at the University of California, Santa Barbara, has recently begun offering graduate degrees. The program is strongly “functional” in its theoretical approach, emphasizing the study of language as a contextualized social and cognitive activity. Students are encouraged to seek both breadth and depth in their understanding of a wide sample of languages, and American Indian languages play a major role in this approach. Of a full-time faculty of seven, three are specialists in American Indian languages — Wallace Chafe (Iroquoian, Siouan-Caddoan), Marianne Mithun (Iroquoian and Pomo), and John Du Bois (Mayan) — and two others (Charles Li and Sandra Thompson) have carried out significant research on a California Indian language (Wappo). Applications are now being accepted from students wishing to enter the program in the Fall Quarter of 1989; the application deadline is January 31, 1989. For further information write: Graduate Secretary, Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.

Collection of Essays on Translation Proposed

Brian Swann, the editor of two previous volumes of essays on Native American literature (Smoothing The Ground and Recovering The Word, the latter with Arnold Krupat), is now proposing a collection of essays on the translation of Native American literature. He writes:

I think the time is ripe for an interdisciplinary volume that concentrates on translation, throughout the Americas—North, Central, and South. The Univ. of Nebraska Press has expressed strong interest in such a collection. While the book would not be intended primarily for the general reader, I would prefer the essays not to be esoteric and overly “specialized.” I would be happy if, in addition to scholars in Native American Studies and related fields, college teachers were able to use this book. I would be grateful to hear from anyone who might be interested in contributing an essay. The deadline will be Christmas, 1989. Contributions should be of a reasonable length (preferably not over 30 pages), double-spaced, and conforming to the MLA style. A Suggested Reading list or a bibliographical note should be appended.

Special Appeal for CIDCA

In October a hurricane hit Nicaragua, devastating the Atlantic Coast town of Bluefields and many surrounding communities. Among the many buildings badly damaged was the Bluefields office of CIDCA. CIDCA (the Center for Research and Documentation of the Atlantic Coast) is an autonomous organization that carries out linguistic, ethno-historical, and anthropological research on the Rama, Sumu, Miskitu Indians and Creole English speakers, with an emphasis on community development and bilingual education. CIDCA is appealing for help to rebuild its office and to resume its activities. Donations will be used to rebuild the office, replenish its library, and repair damaged equipment. Checks should be made out to “CHRLA-CIDCA”
and sent to: Council for Human Rights in Latin America, 511 E.
12th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401.

NEWS FROM REGIONAL GROUPS

Athabaskan

- The *Journal of Navajo Education*, published 3 times a year, invites readers to become regular subscribers. Since 1983 the *Journal* has published the views of teachers, administrators, and researchers working in Navajo schools, as well as the voices of Navajo children and parents. Now, under the new editorship of Daniel McLaughlin, it promises to expand, to include more and different sections, to network people on and off the Navajo Reservation, and to speak directly to those individuals, in whatever capacity, who strive to understand the wide social, political, historical, and cultural dimensions of Navajo schooling. The subscription rate is $12 for one year, payable to the *Journal of Navajo Education*, P.O. Box 159, Rock Point, AZ 86545.

- The 3rd annual *Navajo Studies Conference* was held Nov. 2-5, 1988, at the Navajo Community College, Tsaile, Arizona. Over 200 people attended. A significant number of the more than 50 presentations dealt with Navajo linguistics or language teaching, or with other Athabaskan languages. These included: Clay Slate, "The Future of Navajo Language Post-Secondary Education"; Jim Kari, "Notes on the History of the Ahtna Dictionary"; Alice Neundorf, "A Compensatory Process in Semantic Recategorization of Navajo and English" [data from court transcripts]; Jane M. Christian, "Looking Toward a Navajo Comparison with Northern Dene Time, Space and Motion Concepts"; Clay Slate, "Navajo Dictionary Work at Navajo Community College"; Andrew Wiget, "The Navajo Way: Reconstructing the Historical Development of Navajo Religion" [comparative linguistic and cultural data]; Alice Neundorf, "Decentering Process Interpreting Between Navajo & English and English & Navajo"; Rex Lee Jim & Daniel McLaughlin, "Beyond Vernacular Print: A Model for the Development of Navajo Literature"; and Susan H. Foster, "Why the Navajo Are Not and Cannot Be Semilingual." For further information on the proceedings contact: Clay Slate, P.O. Box 701, Navajo Community College, Tsaile, AZ 86556.

- The Hupa Tribe of northwestern California recently received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the preparation of a full reference dictionary of the Hupa language. The project—which also involves setting up a Tribal Archives—is being administered by Marcellene Norton, the Tribal education director, with Victor Golla the senior linguistic consultant. Ken Whistler is the computer consultant, and the plan calls for using "4th Dimension" database software with a Macintosh II or SE. The project will circulate a progress report this spring. To be placed on the mailing list, write: Victor Golla, Hupa Dictionary Project, Center for Community Development, Humboldt State Univ., Arcata, CA 95521.

Northwest Notes


Next year's Salish Conference will take place on August 17-19 and will be hosted by the Steilacoom Indian Tribe. For information, write: Nile Thompson, P.O. Box 88419, Steilacoom, WA 98388 (phone: 1-206-584-1308).

Far Western Languages

- The 4th Annual California Indian Conference took place at UC-Berkeley, November 4-6, 1988. Several of the presentations were on language-related topics. These included: Leanne Hinton & Jean Perry, "Ishi's Tales"; John P. Marr, recollecting his years as an assistant to J. P. Harrington; Geoffrey L. Gamble, "The Origin of Basket Designs—A Modern Yokuts Myth?"; Alice Anderton, "Recent Research on the Kitanemuk Language"; Catherine A. Callaghan, "Practical Orthography for Indian Languages"; Jean Perry, "Linguistic Differences and Similarities in NW California: Sapir-Whorf Revisited"; and Victor Golla, "The Origin of the Hupa Flower Dance: A Philological Perspective." The 1989 Conference will be held during the first weekend in October at Humboldt State University, Arcata. For further information contact: Victor Golla, Center for Community Development, Humboldt State Univ., Arcata, CA 95521 (707-826-3711).

Siouan

- Sinte Gleska College, a tribally chartered school on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota, is sponsoring a Lakota Summer Institute, June 12-30, 1989. The Institute, a "non-traditional method of sharing traditional values," will focus on music, medicine, and art. Activities will include lectures, field trips, guest speakers, sweats and community activities. Sessions are in one-week groupings. Tuition is $200 per week or $550 for the entire 3 weeks. For further information write: Doris Leader Charge or Cheryl Crazy Bull, Sinte Gleska College, P.O. Box 490, Rosebud, ND 57570.

Pueblo Southwest

- Southern Methodist University is offering a one week Workshop in Ethnobotany at its Fort Burgwin Research Center near Taos, NM, July 30-August 5, 1989. The Workshop will be conducted by Richard I. Ford (Univ. of Michigan) and will include lectures on ethnobotanical theory, plant ecology and systematics, Southwestern plant history, and Pueblo ethnobotany. There will be field trips to Picuris Pueblo, one of the two Tiwa-speaking pueblos in the N. Rio Grande area. Tuition is $320, and room & board $240. For further information write: Patricia Crown, Dept. of Anthropology, Southern Methodist Univ., Dallas, TX 75275.

Mayan News

- The Mayan Linguistics Newsletter is now being edited by Susan Knowles-Berry and will be published quarterly. Subscriptions are $3 per year ($3.50 foreign, $5.50 foreign airmail). Please make checks payable to the editor. Send payments, news, and information to Susan Knowles-Berry, 9125-164th Street East, Puyallup, WA 98373.

- During the 1988 X Taller Maya in San Cristobal de las Casas an organizing commission for the 1989 X Taller was formed, consisting of Narcisco Cojti, Ruben Coti, Martin Chacach, Manuel Lopez, Fortunato Pablo, Ruperto Montejo, Eleuterio Gongora, Laura Martin, and Nora England. The commission has already met several times to plan the 1989 Taller, which promises to be full and very interesting. The Taller will be held on June 19-23, at the Universidad Rafael Landivar, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, and will be under the local sponsorship of PRODIPMA (Programa de Desarrollo Integral de la Poblacion Maya). There is a very strong Guatemalan interest in the Taller, and the organizers expect many participants and papers. Eight sessions have been proposed so far: Grammatical Terminology in Mayan Languages (Ruperto Montejo); Word Order in Languages of the K'iche' Branch (Jose Obisbo Rodriguez Guajan); Historical Relations Among Mayan Languages (Nora England); Mayan Literature; Issues in Language Standardization (Narcisco Cojti); Reading Strategies in Mayan Languages (Laura Martin); Linguistic Viability (Robert Brown & Susan Garzon); and a Short Course in Mayan Grammar (Judie Maxwell). The organizers would like to have all topics and suggestions for sessions in hand by the end of January. The Taller is designed to provide a forum for the discussion of any aspect of Mayan languages and linguistics, and anyone who wishes to contribute to one of the already proposed sessions is more than welcome to do so. Ideas, contributions, promises and semi-promises should be sent to the program organizer, Narcisco Cojti (CIRMA, Apartado 336, 03901 Antigua, Guatemala, tel: 502-9-320-126), or to either of the U.S. contact people: Laura Martin (Anthropology, Cleveland State Univ., Cleveland, OH 44115, tel: 216-687-2404) and Nora England (Anthropology, Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242, tel: 319-335-0533; after January 1: PLFM, Apartado 237, 03901 Antigua, Guatemala, tel: 502-9-320-780).

- An interdisciplinary conference on The Language of Maya Hieroglyphs is being planned for the weekend of February 17-19, 1989, at the Univ. of California, Santa Barbara. The aim of the conference will be to identify research problems in glyph research that would benefit from collaboration among Mayanist linguists, archaeologists, and art historians, and to overcome the traditional isolation of these specialties. It is hoped that an integrative "state-of-the-art" report on the language of Maya hieroglyphs will issue from the conference proceedings. Invited participants include Maricela Ayala, Victoria Bricker, Lyle Campbell, John Du Bois, Virginia Fields, Nicholas Hopkins, Stephen Houston, Kathryn Josserand, John Justeson, Terrence Kaufman, Floyd Lounsbury, Martha Macri, Judith Maxwell, and Dorie Reents-Budet. In addition, there will be evening lectures by George Stuart and Linda Schele. Registration is limited, and anyone wishing to participate should contact the organizers before January 10. A tax-deductible contribution of $25 towards registration materials is requested. For further information write: Anabel
South America

- Dan Everett (Univ. of Pittsburgh) is planning to edit a collection of papers on Amazonian Phonologies, which would include papers on topics ranging from “complete” descriptions of phonological systems to papers focused on a particular topic or topics of personal interest to the researcher. Everett’s goal is to get beyond the “list of curiosities” stage in Amazonian work and to assemble systematic studies of the major phonological features/processes of these languages in a form accessible to phonologists internationally. He writes:

Amazonian languages continue to be among the least known languages in the world. Encouragingly, there has been a lot of effort in recent years, through publications, conferences, and other professional outlets, to remedy this situation. Still, most of these deal almost exclusively with synchronic or diachronic morphosyntax or discourse features, to the exclusion of phonology and phonetics. This is especially lamentable since the little that we do know about Amazonian phonological systems is very intriguing indeed. For example, Tupi-Guarani languages have provided multilinear phonology with the strongest example in the literature that Reduplication involves mapping from a segmental melody to a VC-skeleton. Some Arawakan languages and Piraha (Murun), at least, seem to require reference to the syllable onset for their respective stress placement rules (attested otherwise to my knowledge only in Australian languages and vestiges of diachronic processes in Spanish and perhaps Portuguese). Cayuwa and Piraha clearly manifest ternary phonological constituents, again almost unattested elsewhere. In Yagua, Cliticization must occur in the syntax, even to clitics which undergo otherwise word-internal Vowel Harmony, presenting what might turn out to be an unanswerable counterexample to so-called “Lexical Phonology.”

Everett invites Amazonian specialists to make suggestions about the scope or organization of the volume, and to submit papers. He has prepared an outline for the description of phonological systems, which he will send to potential contributors. The “ideal” contribution would be a careful attempt to address the questions raised in the outline, and should probably average about 100 typescript pages (double-spaced). If the response is good enough, Everett hopes to have the volume ready for the press by next summer. Contact him at: Dept. of General Linguistics, Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

- A recent festschrift, Continuity and Identity in Native America: Essays in Honor of Benedikt Hartmann, edited by M. Jansen, P. van der Loo and R. Manning (E.J. Brill, Leiden, 1988), contains a paper by Willem F.H. Adelaar, “Search for the Culli Language” (111-130). Culli is an extinct (?) non Quechua language of northern highland Peru, attested in two short wordlists and (as Adelaar points out) in toponymy. Adelaar thinks there is a possibility that this once-important language may still be spoken somewhere in the rugged hinterland.

REVIEW AND COMMENT

[The Newsletter welcomes occasional reviews, discussions of topical issues, short essays, and similar pieces, which will be published as space allows.]

An Autodidact’s Reflections on The Navajo Language
Piotr Klapkowski

I can think of very few language monographs that leave one so speechless as The Navajo Language, a Grammar and Colloquial
Dictionary, by Robert W. Young and William Morgan, Sr. (2nd edition, Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1987). On my first encounter with it, in 1985, I rushed an order to the publisher, only to learn that it had already gone out of print (the first edition came out in 1980). A long and vain search followed. Four years later, the revised edition is at last lying before me.

The following remarks are the reflections of an autodidact, not a review from a specialist. Living in Norway in a somewhat involuntary isolation from the academic world, I am trying to learn Navajo with neither a teacher nor any direct contact with the language. My interest, at least for the time being, is in learning the language for its own sake and not for comparative or theoretical purposes. The latter would probably be an easier task.

To actually learn a language in isolation from it means being both limited and conditioned by the materials available. I have used, and been influenced, by Irvy Goosens’s Navajo Made Easier, Father Berard Haile’s A Manual of Navajo Grammar, and, of course, the first edition (henceforth FE) of The Navajo Language. Now I have — and treasure — the revised edition (henceforth RE).

The first impression one gets of the revised edition is of a much thinner, streamlined volume, much better bound than FE (not a trifle in the case of a dictionary). This apparent thinness is due to two reasons: a lighter paper and the resetting of the entire first part of the work — the Grammar — in double columns. FE, with its nearly 1560 pages, seems at first much larger than RE with its “mere” 1521 pages, but on closer examination it becomes clear that the 2-column arrangement means that the amount of information in the Grammar has practically been doubled. On average, about two and a half FE pages are compressed into one RE page.

Both FE and RE begin with a moving dedication to Chief Albert Sandoval, which gives the giant book a distinctly human touch. One wishes that such emotions were expressed more often. The only similar tributes I can think of are those that R. M. W. Dixon paid to his Australian helpers in his grammars of Dyirbal (1972) and Yidjin (1977).

The Preface to RE briefly summarizes the main differences between the two editions. Following the Preface is the first major improvement on FE — a detailed list of References (pp. x-xi). Having no access to a specialist library I am grateful indeed for this addition. For all its breathtaking thoroughness, The Navajo Language is a description of the language, not a comprehensive handbook.

The opening descriptive section, “The Phonemes of Navajo” (FE pp. xvii–xxvii, RE pp. xii–xvii), remains unchanged. The Grammar itself is thoroughly revised and rewritten, and, as mentioned above, much expanded. (It seems very unlikely that any future description of Navajo can add anything substantial to RE.) The differences between it and FE begin with the very arrangement: RE has many more chapters and sub-chapters, allowing for much greater clarity of presentation. Some purely graphic clarity, however, has been lost due to the text being reset in so compact a guise. The many long lists in which The Navajo Language abounds often lack the clear spacings of FE. A device such as boldfacing the chapter, section, and sub-section headings and numbers could have resulted in easier orientation on very densely printed pages.

Comments on specific sections of the Grammar follow:

RE p. 7 repeats the FE passage on English and Spanish loanwords in Navajo, based on a study conducted in 1971. By 1987, however, both a new generation of Navajo children has grown up and the pressure of English on Navajo has intensified. Sixteen years later, the authors should certainly have been able to update the 1971 study. At least a relevant footnote would have been most welcome.

The first paragraphs of the chapter on “Numerals” (FE p. 31, RE p. 11) are a good example of how FE was rewritten to make the discussion clearer.

The note on “Descriptive Adjectivals” (FE p. 36) is missing in RE. I can imagine that someone innocent of the peculiarities of Athabaskan might search in vain through the relevant chapter, looking for the equivalent of English “adjectives.” A reference to the chapter on “Neuter Verbs” (FE p. 36) ought to have been left, I think, or else a note referring to Appendix VII added, thus helping those whose only guide is the book itself.

RE p. 17 brings a note of caution concerning the assigning of English meanings to Navajo enclitics. In the long list of enclitics that follows, the main entries have now been numbered. This both facilitates finding items and gives the list a more structured character.

The discussion of “Postpositions” (FE pp. 73-89, RE pp. 26-36) is another good example of how RE rewrites and improves upon its predecessor.

The “Verb” part of the Grammar has been rewritten so extensively that it is in fact an entirely new work. The RE description of the verb is organized into “Morphology” (pp. 37-140) and “Grammar” (pp. 140-205), a major improvement on what we had in FE. RE also adds a large number of tables, charts, paradigms, and frequently uses new and better illustrative examples. All of this makes the book more handy to the autodidact. There is, however, one point — admittedly, a technicality — that I’d like to quibble over. FE pp. 99-106 introduces and defines all the basic components of the Navajo verbal system, followed by the chart of “Verb Prefix Positions” (p. 107). RE has the chart first (split into two, “Disjunct” and “Conjunct” verb prefixes [pp. 37-38], allowing both for more detail and greater clarity), followed by the extensively rewritten chapter on “Verb Prefixes” with copious examples (pp. 39-139), while a general discussion of the verb as a whole appears only after the discussion of the prefixes (RE p. 140). The FE approach of introducing and explaining all the “labels” first, and only then going into details, seems more logical to me.

As one primarily interested in learning the language and not merely its structure, FE always seemed to me to end somehow inconclusively, in mid-air, the puzzle still unassailed. RE’s most important new feature, from my point of view, is the entirely new chapter on “Word Order” (pp. 205-205b), which includes a short text with an analytical and a free translation. I feel certain that I was not the only user of The Navajo Language to breathe a sigh of relief on seeing these pages. Although one might wish the text were longer, or that there were more than one, any demonstration of how Navajo functions in narrative, as a connected medium, is better than none. These three pages form both a logical rounding up, and a practical application, of all that the Grammar has discussed.

The second part of the volume — the Navajo-English dictionary, its supplement, and the English-Navajo dictionary — is nearly identical in the two editions.
One’s overall impression of RE will, of course, depend on one’s needs and interests. For theoretical and general studies, RE is a mine of information not likely ever to be surpassed or even seriously challenged. For those whose purpose is to actually learn the language, RE provides all-important help in its paradigms, charts, classifications, systematizations — not to forget its three priceless pages on word order. Nevertheless The Navajo Language is still a descriptive study, not a textbook. The best textbook for Navajo at present is Irvy W. Goossen’s Navajo Made Easier (latest edition Northland Press, Flagstaff, AZ, 1986). It has the advantage of being both easily available and having accompanying cassettes (although their existence is not mentioned in the book itself, leaving their discovery to chance). In addition, an impressive array of teaching materials on Navajo can be obtained from the Native American Materials Development Center (407 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104), some of which any learner (and most of all, an autodidact) would find indispensible, including a dictionary specially prepared for students.

To end this note, I would like to thank Robert W. Young and William Morgan, Sr., for giving us what they too modestly call in their Preface “a foundation for future research in this fascinating language.” What a foundation!

[Piotr Kliafovszki holds a doctorate in General Linguistics from Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland. A specialist in Tibetan and Central Asian languages, he now is a part-time teacher of Polish to refugee children in Norway. The study of American Indian languages, particularly Navajo and Fuegan, has been his lifelong avocation.]

THE BOOK EXCHANGE

- Ruth Bradley Holmes (author of Beginning Cherokee) writes: “A store with which I have always had good luck is Canyon Records and Indian Arts (4143 N. 16th St., Phoenix, AZ 85016). The owner, Mr. Bob Nuss, carries a wide variety of solidly Indian things, from ethnological bulletins, ritual songs, current Indian music combos, to fluff. He finds things on request and has a brochure.”

- The American Museum of Natural History still has a few copies available of some older linguistic and ethnographic monographs at very reasonable prices. These include:


Order from: Publications, Dept. of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York, NY 10024-5192. There are no mailing charges.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Coast Salish Essays. Wayne Suttles. Univ. of Washington Press and Talonbooks (Vancouver), 1987. 320 pp. $14.95 (paper). [16 essays, most (but not all) previously published, covering three decades of S.’s work on the Salishan cultures of the Puget Sound area. The book is divided into 4 sections: “Models of Historic Social Systems,” “Knowledge, Belief and Art in Historic Culture,” “Adaptation and Survival through the European Invasion,” and “Inferences about Prehistory.” Although all of the papers reflect S.’s thorough knowledge of a few Coast Salishan languages, it is two of the papers in the last section that will most interest linguists. In one of these, “Northwest Coast Linguistic History — A View From the Coast” (published here for the first time), S. persuasively argues for the relevance of linguistic taxonomy to theories of Northwest Coast prehistory. In the other, “Linguistic Means for Anthropological Ends on the Northwest Coast” (first published in 1965), S. makes it plain that field work in American Indian communities is foolhardy without a deep understanding of ethnolinguistic context. S. concludes this essay with a dour reflection on anthropological linguistics in the late 20th century: “I have been shocked by the naïveté... shown by some recent graduate work and by what seems like an increasing distance... between the foci of [linguistics and anthropology]. I am beginning to suspect that we cannot recruit appropriate people within existing academic structures, that we will get inadequate study of Native languages and cultures only if we can remove this study from both disciplines and establish it as an independent field within the humanities.” Whatever the prospects for an institutional revival of the Boasian paradigm, some of the best recent work in the tradition is on display in this splendid book. Order from: U. of Washington Press, P.O. Box C-50096, Seattle, WA 98105; or from Talonbooks, 201-1019 E. Cordova, Vancouver, BC CANADA V6A 1M8.]

taught at the U. of Illinois by Donald W. Lathrap and Rudolph C. Troike.” Lathrap, Troike, and the other participants in this fruitful (although somewhat sceptically received) experiment in interdisciplinary communication felt that “an archaeologist who attempts to reconstruct past migration and settlement without taking into account the data base made available by historical linguistics is committing a grave error of omission.” All of the papers deal with New World topics. Contents include: David L. Brown, “Marshall Durbin: Archaeo-Linguist” (1-3); Donald W. Lathrap & Rudolph C. Troike, “Relationships Between Linguistic and Archaeological Data in the New World” (4-22); Michael J. P. Nichols, “Old California Uto-Aztecan” (23-46); David L. Shaul, “Esselen Linguistic Prehistory” (47-58); William Shipley, “Penutian Among the Ruins: A Personal Assessment” (59-63); Kenneth W. Whistler, “Pomo Prehistory: A Case for Archaeological Linguistics” (64-98); Donald W. Lathrap & Rudolph C. Troike, “California Historical Linguistics & Archaeology” (99-157); Rosemary A. Joyce, “Ceramic Traditions and Linguistic Groups of Prehistoric Honduras” (158-186); Robert McK. Bird, David L. Brown, & Marshall E. Durbin, “Quechua and Maize: Mirrors of C. American Culture History” (187-240); William H. Isbell, “Andean Linguistics and Culture History: An Examination of Competing Interpretations” (241-258); and Donald W. Lathrap & Rudolph C. Troike, “Epilogue” (259-269). Order from: SAS, D. of Anthropology, U. of Illinois, 109 Davenport Hall, 607 S. Matthews Ave., Urbana, IL 61801.]

Vocabulario Preliminar del Ulwa (Sumu Meridional). Compiled by Ken Hale and Abanel Lacayo Blanco. CIDCA and MIT, 1988. 114 pp. No fixed price. [A quadrilingual dictionary of the Misumalpan language of the community of Karawala, on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua. Ulwa forms are glossed in Spanish, Miskito, and English, and there are Spanish, Miskito, and English indices. Several verb paradigms are given in Appendix I, and Appendix II contains a brief discussion of the relationship of Ulwa to Northern Sumu along with a 100-item comparative wordlist. Order from: Council for Human Rights in Latin America, 511 E. 12th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401. Orders should be accompanied by a donation (any amount) to CHRLA-CIDCA.]

Native Ethnography: A Mexican Indian Describes His Culture. H. Russell Bernard & Jesus Salinas Pedrera. Sage Publications, 1989. 576 pp. $65 ($59.95 prepaid). [P., a native speaker of Nahnu (Otomi), describes his own culture in his traditional language, using an orthography devised by B. For his part, B. provides both a translation and extensive annotations. This may not be the collaboration in the “Hunt/Boas” style it is billed as, but it is nonetheless an innovative departure in ethnography and poses interesting questions about the function of literacy in a “small” language. Order from: Sage Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 5084, Newbury Park, CA 91359. Add $1.50 for shipping and handling. Individual orders must be prepaid.]

Ethnologue: Languages of the World. 11th Edition. Edited by Barbara F. Grimes. Summer Institute of Linguistics, 1988. 758 pp. $22 (paper)/$35 (cloth). [The 1988 edition of this indispensable reference work contains entries for 6170 known or reported languages (a net gain of 725 since the 1984 edition), and is especially thorough in its coverage of American Indian languages. Each language entry contains information on alternate names, number of speakers, geographical location, dialects, genetic affiliation, multilingualism of speakers, demographics, sociolinguistic particulars, and basic typological facts. The status of Bible translation is also indicated. Since the entries are grouped by continent and country, a supplementary Ethnologue Index (408 pp., $10), which is organized strictly alphabetically, is very useful. Order from: Academic Book Center, SIL, 7500 West Camp Wisdom Road, Dallas, TX 75236 (214-709-2400). Add $3 per book for US postage, $4.50 per book Foreign
postage. Texas residents must add 8% tax. Libraries, bookstores, educational institutions, and SIL members are offered a 20% discount.

Outstanding Dissertations in Linguistics (4th Series)

Garland Publishing has announced the appearance of 22 new titles in its series of Outstanding Dissertations in Linguistics, edited by Jorge Hankamer. Three of these focus on American Indian languages:

Underspecification in Yawelmani Phonology and Morphology. Diana B. Archangeli. 288 pp. $45. [Ph.D., MIT, 1984.]

Object and Absolutive in Halkomelem, Salish. Donna B. Gerds. 296 pp. $47. [Ph.D., UC-San Diego, 1982.]

The Lexical Phonology of Sekani. Sharon Hargus. 368 pp. $58. [Ph.D., UCLA, 1985.]

Order from: Garland Publishing, Dept. HBD, 136 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. Orders from individuals must be prepaid (prices include postage). Orders from Japan must be addressed to United Publishers Service, Tokyo.


Biographical Directory of Anthropologists Born Before 1920. Edited by Thomas L. Mann. Library-Anthropology Resource Group, Garland Publishing, 1988. 268 pp. $47. [Short biographical summaries and citations to fuller biographical materials for more than 1000 scholars from all subfields of anthropology, including many linguists. Here is where you can look up T. T. Waterman’s date of birth, or find out where the obituary of H. W. Henshaw was published. Order from: Garland Publishing, 136 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. Orders from individuals must be prepaid (prices include postage).]

IN CURRENT PERIODICALS


90.3 (September 1988):
David A. Freidel & Linda Schele, “Kingship in the Late Preclassic Maya Lowlands: The Instruments and Places of Ritual Power” (547-567) [Analysis of hieroglyphic texts and accompanying images from the Classic period (AD 200-900) documents the presence of a central & pervasive institution of kingship, ahaw. This institution was most likely an innovation of the protoliterate Late Preclassic (350 BC-AD 100).]

Annual Review of Anthropology [Annual Reviews Inc., 4139 El Camino Way, P.O. Box 10139, Palo Alto, CA 94303-0897]

17 (1988):
Bernard Comrie, “Linguistic Typology” (145-159) [C. organizes this comprehensive survey by “tradition”: Greenbergian (word order typology; semantic typology; head/dependent marking); Generative (pro-drop parameter; configurationality); and European (UNITYP-Cologne; structural typology-Leningrad).]

Greg Urban & Joel Sherzer, “The Linguistic Anthropology of Native South America” (283-307) [S. America, U. & S. write, “has lately been humming and buzzing with linguistic anthropological research.” They survey recent work in discourse, structural description, typology, genetic relationships, and language contact.]

Mark Kaiser & V. Shevoroshkin, “Nostratic” (309-329) [A sympathetic treatment of the work of the Soviet linguists who subsume Indo-European in a “macro-family” that also includes Afro-Asiatic, Kartvelian, Uralic, Altaic, and Dravidian. Recent work linking this “Nostratic” group to Eskimo-Aleut and Eyak-Athabaskan is noted.]

Anthropological Linguistics [D. of Anthropology, Rawles Hall 110, Indiana U., Bloomington, IN 47405]

29.3 (Fall 1987) [appeared Dec. 1988]:
Richard W. Lungstrum, “Two Paradigms for Hailing in Kekchi (Mayan) in Pueblo Viejo, Belize” (286-296) [Linguistic and social aspects of greeting encounters and related exchanges.]

Función [Apdo. Postal 1-1379, CP 44101, Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico]

2.1 (Abril 1987):
José Luis Iturroz Leza et al, “Individuación en huichol. III: Las series sufijales” (154-163) [Huichol suffixes analyzed in a
model based on hierarchies of paradigms ordered according to "pragmaticity" and "predicativity".

2.2 (Agosto 1987):
Fernando Leal Carretero & Xitikame Ramírez de la Cruz, "De la interacción entre las dimensiones de individuación y participación en huichol. I: Relaciones gramaticales" (197-238) [A "thorough criticism" of Conrie's "Grammatical Relations in Huichol" in Syntax and Semantics 15, 1982.]
José Luis Iurrioiz de la Cruz, "De la gramática particular del huichol a la tipología: Una contribución a la morfología operacional" (239-296) [A general typological characterization of Huichol based on a functional analysis.]

Indiana [Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut PK, Potsdamer Strasse 37, D-1000 Berlin 30, W Germany]

11 (1987):
Thomas S. Barthel, "Deciphering Teothuacan Writing" (9-18)
Michael Durr, "A Preliminary Reconstruction of the Proto-Mixtec Tonal System" (19-62)
Willem F. H. Adelaar, "Aymarismos en el quechua de Puno" (223-232)
Xavier Albó, "Problemática lingüística y meta-lingüística de un alfabeto quechua: Una reciente experiencia boliviana" (233-262)
Rodolfo Cerrón-Palomo, "La flexión de persona y número en el protoquechua" (263-276)
Sabine Dedenbach-Salazar Sáenz & Peter Masson, "Los sufijos en el quechua ayacuchano: Esbozo de una sistemática didáctica y analítica" (277-320)
Roswith Hartmann, "Narraciones quechua recogidas por Max Uhle a principios del siglo XX" (321-386)
Ruth Moya, "Educación bilingüe en el Ecuador: Retos y alternativas" (387-407)

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

54.4 (October 1988)
Karen M. Booker, "The Loss of Preconsonantal *k in Creek/Seminole" (371-386) [In Creek & Seminole, PM preconsonantal *k is retained only in syllables that were originally penultimate. Some of these syllables have become final as a result of a syllable contraction that Creek/Seminole shares with Alabama, Koasati, Hitchiti, and Mikasuki. These developments support Haas' 1941 subgrouping.]
Geoffrey Kimball, "An Apalachee Vocabulary" (387-398) [Phonemic interpretations and English glosses for the surviving lexical data on an extinct Muskogean language.]
Heather K. Hardy & Timothy R. Monler, "Imperfective Gemination in Alabama" (399-415) [A type of imperfective aspect is marked in Alabama (E. Muskogean) verbs by accentuation of the penultimate syllable and gemination of either the C onset or the V peak. The apparently wide-ranging semantics of this morphological process can be accounted for by recognizing an aspectual parameter of "totality."]
Wayne Harbert & William Pet, "Movement and Adjunct Morphology in Arawak and Other Languages" (416-435) ["Dummy verbs" occur in Arawak (Arawakan of Surinam and Guyana) when certain constituents, but not others, are fronted in WH-Movement constructions. The "Empty Category Principle", as recently reformulated by Chomsky, nicely explains this phenomenon.]
Catherine A. Callaghan, "Karkin Revisited" (436-452) [Recently available data on Costanoan languages allow the language attested in Arroyo's brief "Karkin" word list to be more accurately placed.]
Robert E. Moore, "Lexicalization versus Lexical Loss in Wasco-Wishram Language Obsolescence" (453-468) [For contemporary speakers and semi-speakers of Wasco the language is objectified as a collection of "words", which are treated as objects of value. The act of speaking Wasco has thus become a type of wealth display.]
Katherine Turner, "Lexically Conditioned Vowel Elision in Antoniaño Salinan" (469) [The occurrence of -e- following t- in the 3rd person possessed forms of Antoniaño Salinan nouns cannot be fully accounted for by phonological rules.]


15.1-2 (1983-84) [appeared 1988]:
Special issue: "Archaeology and Linguistics", ed. by Ann M. Mester & Colin McEwan. [For details, see Recent Publications above.]

Language [Linguistic Society of America, 1325 18th St NW, Suite 211, Washington, DC 20036]

64.3 (Sept. 1988):
Lyle Campbell, Review Article: Language in the Americas, by Joseph H. Greenberg (591-615) [Greenberg's book "has a detrimental impact on the field; its classification should not be accepted; the record should be set straight."]

Lingua [Elsevier Science Publishers, B.V., Journals Dept., P.O. Box 211, 1000 AE Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS]

76.1 (September 1988):
William D. Davies, "The Case Against Functional Control" (1-20) [Bresnan's theory of control within Lexical-Functional Grammar is challenged by data from 3 typologically distinct cases, most importantly Imbabura Quechua.]
Winak: Boletín Intercultural  [U Mariano Gálvez, Interior Finca El Zapote, 3a Avenida 9-00, zona 2, Guatemala, Guatemala]

4.2 (Sept. 1988):
Neville Stiles y Agustín Estrada Monroy, “Ordenanzas de la Cofradía” (67-84) [A 17th Century text in Nahuatl and Spanish. The Nahuatl section is photographically reproduced.]
Israel Choy Ajquejay, “El Palo Volador y el Tecotzen” (85-92) [Etnographic account of a Cakchiquel festival.]
David F. Oltrogge, “Términos de Parentesco y La Hipótesis Cakchiquel” (93-102) [An ethnohistorical study of Quiché kinship terminology gives support to DuBois’ “Cakchiquel Hypothesis.”]

RECENT DISSERTATIONS


Anderson, Starla H. Ed.D., U of British Columbia, 1987. The Discourse Performance of Native Indian Students: A Case Study with Implications for Academic Instruction. [A study of the oral and written discourse of a small sample of underachieving urban high school students from Native backgrounds. Contrary to findings in non-Native populations, these students were more at ease with written performance than oral performance. DAI 49(5): 1078-A.] [Not available from UMI; inquire of UBC Library]


Houston, Stephen D. Ph.D., Yale U, 1987. The Inscriptions and Monumental Art of Dos Pilas, Guatemala: A Study of Classic Maya History and Politics. 521 pp. [The glyph texts on the 68 monuments at the Dos Pilas site are noteworthy for the light they shed on the fragmented political situation of the Late Classic period. In addition to discussing their historical and political implications, the provides an excess of the texts and places them in their epigraphic context. DAI 49(4): 859-A.] [Order # DAI 8810625]

Howell, Kenneth J. Ph.D., Indiana U, 1987. The Post-Bloomfieldians and the Generativists: A Study in the History of American Linguistics. 335 pp. [An investigation, in a “Kuhnian” framework, of the continuities and discontinuities between Post-Bloomfieldians (e.g. Hockett and Householder) and Generativists (e.g. Chomsky and Halle). The former, it is argued, provided the conceptual-methodological foundation on which the latter built; there was no major “Gestalt-switch” in the research paradigm. DAI 49(4): 805-A.] [Order # DAI 8809831]

Midgette, Sarah D. Ph.D., U of New Mexico, 1987. The Navajo Progressive in Discourse Context: A Study in Temporal Semantics. 322 pp. [A study of possible relationships between the inflectional system of the Navajo verb and the cognitive domain of temporal perception. M. investigates the ways in which the Progressive Mode adjusts the conventionalized meaning of a verb lexeme to function in different discourse contexts. She concludes that the Navajo verb system lacks subjective (deictic) orientation and is more precise than English in marking the “durativity” of a situation. DAI 49(3): 495-A.] [Order # DAI 8808136]


[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). Postage extra. 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.]

LEARNING AIDS

A list of published and “semi-published” teaching materials and tapes for American Indian languages was published in the September 1988 SSILA Newsletter. The following additions and updates have been received since then.

Cherokee

An introductory textbook for Oklahoma Cherokee, Beginning Cherokee, by Ruth Bradley Holmes and Betty Sharp Smith, is published by the Univ. of Oklahoma Press (2nd ed., 1977, 332 pp., $15.95). It has 27 lessons, and exercises in the Cherokee syllabary. Separately available are 184 minutes of cassette tapes containing all the Cherokee words, phrases and songs that appear in the first 16 lessons of the textbook, spoken by Betty Sharp Smith. These should be ordered directly from Ruth Bradley Holmes (1431 Valley Road, Bartlesville, OK 74003). Prices are $12 for a regular set, $14 for a deluxe set, shipping included. Regular and deluxe tapes are identical, but the regular set is packed in boxes suitable for storage with other cassette tapes, while the deluxe set is packed in an album suitable for storage with books on a shelf. Mrs. Holmes will also sell a copy of Beginning Cherokee with a regular set of tapes for a combined price of $26, shipping included. Other Cherokee
materials, including a tribally sponsored dictionary compiled by W. Pulte and D. Feeling ($16.95) are available from The Cherokee Gift Shop, Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465. They also have a hymnbook and New Testament entirely in Cherokee (approx $5 each), and some Cherokee gospel music tapes.

Choctaw

Learning materials on both Mississippi and Oklahoma Choctaw (Muskogean) are available from the Choctaw Museum in Philadelphia, Mississippi. These include Chahta Anompa, an introduction to Choctaw, by Todd Downing ($4); a 60-minute cassette with transcript, Chahta Language Lesson 1, With Tape ($10); a reprinting of Cyrus Byington’s Choctaw Language Dictionary ($15); and several videotape productions in 3/4” and VHS formats (send self-addressed stamped envelope for list of available subjects). Add $2.50 for postage and handling to each order. Order from: Choctaw Museum, Route 7, Box 31, Philadelphia, MS 39350. Make check payable to “Choctaw Museum.”

Hupa

A Short Practical Grammar of Hupa, by Victor Golla ($17), a cassette tape of The Sounds of Hupa ($4), and Hupa Stories, Conversations and Anecdotes, with accompanying cassette tape ($10), are available from Victor Golla, Dept. of Ethnic Studies, Humboldt State Univ., Arcata, CA 95521. Prices include US/Canada and foreign surface postage; foreign airmail will be billed.

Lushootseed

CORRECTION. The address from which Lushootseed (Coast Salish) materials are available is: Daybreak Star Press, P.O. Box 99100, Seattle, WA 98199.

Naskapi

A Practical Grammar of the Naskapi Indian Language, by Lana Martens & Carol Chase (SIL), is available on request from NAB, Box 188, Eastlake, CO 80614. The grammar, 44 pages in length, was prepared for the Schefferville (Quebec) Band of Naskapis. Photocopies will be made at cost. Call for information: 303-452-9211.

COMPUTER USERS’ CORNER

Interlinear Text Processing, Part 1: IT

- The IT system is a software package developed by Gary Simons of SIL “to give linguists, literary scholars, anthropologists, translators, and others a tool for developing a corpus of annotated interlinear text.” Preliminary versions were user-tested beginning early in 1986, and Simons conducted workshops in IT at the U. of Oregon, Rice U., the U. of Oklahoma, and the North America Branch of SIL. The system is now commercially available in MS-DOS, and a Macintosh version is promised within a couple of months. (See below for ordering information). The comments here apply only to the MS-DOS version, since I’ve not yet had a chance to review the Mac version. (When I do I’ll publish an update.)

The basic components of the IT package are a Text Formatter, a Text Editor, and a Lexical Database File. The Text Formatter (itprep) prepares a text for annotation by defining the units of analysis (clauses, sentences, verses, whatever) and by setting up a schema for annotating these units. IT lets you vary the annotation schema considerably. Up to 14 “aligning” annotation fields can be created, and up to 8 “freeform” fields, each of these being a separate interlinear. An aligning field matches up, element by element (i.e., morpheme by morpheme, word by word, etc.), with a “base” field, either the primary text line or another annotation field, which is what you need for glosses, grammatical analyses, etc. A freeform field does not have this one-to-one matching and is appropriate for comments and free translations. For most uses, of course, only a handful of annotation fields are necessary (I can think of few texts that require much more than a morphemic analysis, a morpheme-by-morpheme gloss, and a free translation), but it is nice to know the capability is there if more elaborate annotation should ever be necessary. Song texts, for example, might have a special rhythmic or melodic annotation field, and texts representing 2 or more dialects might have a diasystem field.

The Text Editor (it) is ingeniously designed to expedite the often tedious business of data entry and data retrieval. The Editor calls up an itprep-prepared text unit by unit and the analyst is led through the filling in of the annotation lines with a series of prompts. Unless instructed otherwise, the Editor treats the words of the basic text as the segments for aligned annotation. As each segment of an annotation is entered, IT maps the linkage with the base segment and files this in the Lexical Database. The analyst has the option of designating a new linkage as an “automatic” one, which means that the next time the Editor encounters the same base segment it will automatically supply the previous annotation after looking it up in the Lexical Database. Repeated use of this feature greatly speeds data entry on a long and repetitious text.

The Lexical Database is a freestanding component of the IT system. It may be searched, edited, augmented, and displayed independently from the Text Editor. It does not, however, have concordance capabilities, so far as I can discover, nor can it easily be printed out in dictionary format. Its primary function is to aid annotation.

The documentation for IT is linguist-friendly (as might be expected from SIL) and as readable as anything in this genre is. I found IT a relatively straightforward system to run, and someone with a bit of computer sophistication can design a “user interface” that will allow virtually anyone to handle routine analysis on a pre-formatted text. If anything, IT is too user-friendly. The system locks the analyst into a specific mode of text processing and data storing that, however useful it might be
For some material, will almost certainly prove awkward for other sorts of material. What IT does, however, it does quite well, and anyone who needs to organize and standardize the analysis of a large corpus of text material should definitely look into it.

The MS-DOS version of IT is available from SIL (Academic Book Center, 7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd., Dallas, TX 75236; 214-709-2400) for $60. However, SIL would like to offer IT to SSILA members at a 20% discount (i.e. $48). Members who would like to take advantage of this offer should send their orders to me (VG) rather than directly to SIL. Add $5 for shipping and handling ($7 foreign surface, $11 airmail to Canada/Mexico/C.America, $22 airmail elsewhere), and make the check out to “Summer Institute of Linguistics.” In ordering specify what disk format you want: 5.25” (360K) or 3.5” (720K). (Note: IT requires an IBM-PC or compatible with at least 128K.) The Macintosh version is being beta-tested and will be available for sale soon, although not directly from SIL. Interested Mac users should contact Linguist’s Software (P.O. Box 580, Edmonds, WA 98020-0580; 206-775-1130).

A user report on IT was sent in by Wayne Leman (SIL-NAB, Box 188, Eastlake, CO 80614), who works on Cheyenne:

I was first exposed to IT as a student under Talmy Givón and Scott DeLancey at the U. of Oregon. Gary Simons presented the program during a departmental workshop. Since I am also an SIL member I took special interest in IT, but did not attempt to learn it until I had my own MS-DOS computer. I also hesitated because the earlier versions of the program were a little difficult for the naive beginner (later versions were considerably more “user-friendly”), and because I was not sure that IT could handle the diacritics I use with Cheyenne. I am now beginning to use IT in my work, and here are some comments:

- The lexicon maintained by IT is adequate for glossing texts but is rather simple in terms of what a full-fledged lexicon would contain. (At present I keep my Cheyenne lexicon in totally separate files, but the ideal is that IT — or probably its successors — will be able to pull data out of existing files.) In order to allow speedy access, the lexicon is stored in binary format, readable by computer but not accessible by standard word processing programs. It can increase to as large as 1 Megabyte of data, which for the kind of data maintained by IT would be a very complete lexicon. IT can also access data in more than one lexical file, should size considerations require a file to be split.

- I have only 3 lines of information so far in my Cheyenne IT text files (the phonemic text line, an analysis line, and a gloss line), but I could have many more lines if I needed them. I could, for instance, have comment lines for ethnographic information, syntactic information, etc.

- I use diacritics found in the standard IBM Extended Character Set found on any normal IBM or IBM-compatible computer, even those without special video cards. I did not have to purchase a special video card or a character design program. I do, however, use a simple keyboard intercept program called Keyswap, also designed by SIL, which enables me to access the screen diacritics with simple two-character keystrokes — much faster than using a table to look up the value of the Extended Characters and then typing them in with the 3-number code for each character. In essence, Keyswap allows me to treat certain symbols on my keyboard as “dead keys”. Within Keyswap I am allowed a number of keyboards, easily switched. I have one for Cheyenne symbols, another for Greek, a third for French, etc. Keyswap works within IT or within a number of word processing programs, including WordStar, Microsoft Word, and Quick Edit.

Keyswap is available from JAARS, International Computer Services, Box 248, Waxhaw, NC 28173.

Do I recommend the use of IT? Absolutely. For those linguists using a computer on which IT runs (MS-DOS and Macintosh, so far) the program not only easily aligns the appropriate sets of data, but it quickly maintains a lexicon. The more one uses the program and builds up a lexicon, the faster the job of glossing further texts becomes. Once a gloss is entered for a morpheme, whenever the program encounters this morpheme again it is ready to gloss it for you. For those morphemes for which there is only a single simple gloss, glossing can be automatic; the user sits back and watches as his work is done for him, zapped onto the screen without consultation and without pesky typos. Even when multiple glosses are possible, the program saves time, since it can store all possible glosses and then allow the user to select which one is appropriate in each instance.

Customizing Fonts with ProFont and Nota Bene

- Ives Goddard (NHB Rm, 85, MRC 100, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560; mnhans09@svmm.bitnet) sends the following report:

I am having great success with customizing and using linguistic characters, having finally managed to assemble software and hardware that actually work together. As a certifiable computer novice, other computer-naive linguists may be interested in what I am using. No specialized knowledge is required, and the system can be modified and added to at will. The font-editing software I use is The ProFont System, distributed by FontCenter (James Boemler), P.O. Box 6007, Lynnwood, WA 98036 (tel. 206-771-8366). The basic software is the ProFont Editor, and you also need a “Conversion” program for your particular printer. (The price quoted earlier this year was $300 + $100 for the conversion program.) Their catalogue gives all the possibilities. You need an IBM-PC, XT, AT, or a “clone” and a graphics card “of the ‘CGA’, ‘EGA’ or ‘Hercules’ type”; you also need “about 192K of FREE memory” and DOS version 2.0 or later (and, to restate my earlier point, you will be able to use this system even if you have only a vague understanding of sentences like this one). I use an IBM PS/2/80 (with external [added-on] 5.25” drive) and a Hewlett Packard LaserJet Series II printer. My word-processing software — which is great — is Nota Bene (Dragonfly Software, 285 West Broadway, Suite 600, New York, NY 10013-2204, tel. 212-334-0445; lists as $495, certified students $275 [also a discount if bought through MLA]). So far, I have customized the 10-point Times Roman font on HP’s soft font “AD” (a very attractive “near-type-set quality” proportional font with Times
Roman and Helvetica in all point sizes and print modes; order HP 33412AD for 5.25" disks, HP 33411AD for 3.5"), customized the keyboard assignments in *Nota Bene* (easy), and made a screen-display font using the Duke Language Toolkit (freeware; send two double-sided double-density 5.25" disks and a stamped self-addressed disk-mailer [e.g. mini Jiffy bag] to Humanities Computing Facility, 104 Languages Bldg, Duke U., Durham, NC 27706, tel. 919-684-3637 [this updates the ordering information in the reports in the SILA Newsletter 5(2):13, May 1986, and 5(3):13-14, Oct. 1986]).

In my case *Nota Bene* is really the key to making the system work, because with *Nota Bene* it is very easy for the non-specialist to make the modifications that allow (or facilitate) the use of a special font. Everything you need to do can be done by normal file-editing, with no technical knowledge needed, and the manuals cover it all. After the selection of *Nota Bene*, the key decision was the choice of the soft font (= a font on a disk). The ProFont Editor can only edit a soft font, not a cartridge font or the generic, factory-installed font. *Nota Bene* supports many Hewlett-Packard fonts, but not all of them. Thus the task became to choose an HP soft font from the ones that my word-processing software supported. This is important, because it means that I can simply use the ordinary *Nota Bene* printing commands to load my special font.

NB: The following remarks are not a substitute for reading the manuals. NB: Before you modify anything, first make a backup copy of everything.

New characters are created using the ProFont Editor. You begin your work in ProFont by “converting” the standard font you are going to modify (done with a simple command). IMPORTANT: After this conversion a menu of labels and values is displayed; write down all this information (or print it out using PrintScreen), since you will need to enter it into a similar table (changing the values in this second table as necessary) when the new font is “converted” back at the end of the process. (The conversion software does not read the correct values from the modified font, and the standard values and labels have to be specified in the new font for the word-processing software to use it correctly; I am assuming that the normal linguist’s modifications will not alter the font so drastically as to actually warrant different values.) The new characters can be created by combining a letter and an accent, flipping a letter or otherwise modifying it, or drawing it freehand. The software designer seems to have provided for a way to perform every operation you might think would be useful in order to easily modify, create, and multiply characters. The matrix of dots that forms the character corresponds exactly to what the HP printer uses (e.g., a lower case 10-point vowel is 20 dots high). For my new creations I enlarged printed characters on an office copier and used an overlay of graph paper ruled in tenths of an inch to work out the dot pattern; some might prefer drawing freehand with a mouse. IMPORTANT: Before exiting from the ProFont Editor, note down the “cell width” (not the “character width”) of each new character; this number, expressed in dots, is indicated in the “Status Block” that appears when the character is displayed in ProFont. When you save (“write”) a newly created character you assign to it an ASCII number that you select for it; you use this number, which is also given in the “Status Block,” to call up the character in ProFont. (The ASCII number is the underlying code for the character; for normal letters, etc., it is the same for all fonts, but for accented letters, etc., it will usually differ.) Before leaving ProFont, use the “Font Test” command to print out a ProFont chart (“FontCenter TEST Document”) of your new font; this specifies the ASCII number that ProFont uses for each character. In fact, before starting it is helpful to use this command to print out a chart of the standard font that you are planning to modify; this will show you which numbers are unused or used for symbols you don’t need. Remember: when you are in ProFont, you must use the ASCII numbers given on the ProFont charts of the fonts; these will often differ from the ASCII numbers on the *Nota Bene* charts of the same fonts (see next paragraph).

The next step is to modify the character table (a.k.a. substitution table). (Use the table that *Nota Bene* selects when you “designate” your printer [HP] font; e.g., HP2-SUB.PRN.) This is conceptually simple and easy to do in *Nota Bene*, but it can be confusing. Each line in this table has a character, an equals sign, and a second character or font-switching code, but what looks like an equation between characters really specifies the equivalence between two ASCII numbers. The first (left-hand) ASCII number is the one that *Nota Bene* uses, and the second (right-hand) ASCII number is the one in the font that you are printing with (and the one that ProFont uses). (But remember: both of these numbers are displayed on the screen as the corresponding IBM character. If you customize the way your new characters show up on the screen [see below] the left-hand column will display the correct character for each *Nota Bene* ASCII number, but the characters in the right-hand column will just be meaningless stand-ins for the ASCII numbers of your [and ProFont’s] font.) These “translations” between the two fonts have to be specified for the printer, because *Nota Bene* is set up to use a standard IBM extended character set (254 [or “256”] characters, including box pieces, etc.; *Nota Bene* manual p.B8-15-17; HP Series II manual p.A-3) but the AD soft font has the “Roman-8 Symbol Set” (international; lots of accents including accented capitals; but not ě; HP manual p.A-1). The PRINT-OTHER-CHART command in *Nota Bene* will give you a chart of your font that specifies the ASCII numbers that *Nota Bene* uses. The procedure I use for modifying the character table is this: Use the characters in the table that have blanks after the equals sign, or the characters you don’t need (box pieces, monetary abbreviations, math symbols). Enter the new characters (using the ASCII numbers on the ProFont chart [see preceding paragraph]) to the right of the equals sign after these unused characters (replacing the blank or the character or code already there; follow the format of the table and the manual). (To enter any character by its ASCII number, hold down SHIFT-ALT and enter the ASCII number on the number pad.) As long as you don’t use an ASCII number (in the left column) that has a special function in your software (see manual), it makes no difference which number you use with which character.

You also have to enter your new characters in the character width table. (Again, use the one that *Nota Bene* selects when you “designate” your printer; e.g., for HP’s AD font, HP-AD12.PRN.) Using the cell widths that you copied down when you created your characters in ProFont, enter each new character, by the ASCII number it has in *Nota Bene*, on the appropriate line in the table. If you don’t enter the new characters in the width table the software will not be able to calculate tab columns correctly; if there are wobbly columns on the *Nota Bene* chart (see preceding paragraph) the character to the left of the misaligned character is absent from the width table or has been incorrectly entered.

*Nota Bene* also makes it easy to “remap” your keyboard so that new characters can be easily used without having to resort to the ASCII numbers. Almost all the character keys on the Control, Control-Shift, Control-Alt, and Control-Shift-Alt keyboards can be used; you will probably want to retain some of the standard non-English letters, etc., on these keyboards, but you can rearrange them. You can arrange things in whatever patterns are mnemonically helpful. In the keyboard table after each key number in each state (Control, Control-Shift, etc.) enter
dialectologists and linguists for intensive discussion of their computer methods and ways to improve them. Participants will present brief summaries of their methods at 3 topical sessions (on Databases, Analytical Methods, and Display & Output). Microcomputers will be available to demonstrate software. Attendance will be by pre-registration only. For further information write: William A. Kretzschmar, Jr., Linguistic Atlas Project, Dept of English, Park Hall, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602 (404-542-2246).

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 Languages Conference. Meets irregularly at various locations. Last meeting: July 22-24, 1988, at the U of Alaska, Fairbanks. The 1989 meeting will be held on July 3, in conjunction with the Linguistic Institute in Tucson. Contact: Eloise Jelinek, D of Linguistics, U of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

Athabaskan News. Newsletter for Athabaskan linguists and teachers. $4/year, further donations welcome. Editor: Pat Moore, c/o General Delivery, Ross River, Yukon, Canada Y0B 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.


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 GIK 7P4.

ALGONQUIAN/IROQUOIAN


Papers of the Algionquan Conference. The papers of the 6th Algionquan 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, Ottawa. Volumes 7-17 are available at $15 each or $100 for the complete set; volume 18 (1986) is $20. Write: William Cowan, D of Linguistics, Carleton U, Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B6.

NORTHWEST


CALIFORNIA/ORIGINAL

California Indian Conference. Interdisciplinary. Meets annually in the fall. Last meeting: UC-Berkeley, Nov. 4-6, 1988 [see News from Regional Groups, this issue]. 1989 meeting: Humboldt State U, Arcata, first weekend in October. Contact: Victor Golla, Center for Community Development, Humboldt State U, Arcata, CA 95521.


PLAINS/SOUTHEAST

Conference on Siouan and Caddoan Languages. Linguistics. Next meeting: June 2-4, 1989, Regina, Saskatchewan. Contact: Terry Klokheid, Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, U of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4S 0A2.


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

SOUTHWEST/MEXICO

Uto-Aztec Working Conference (Friends of Uto-Aztec). Linguistics. Meets annually in the summer. Last meeting: U of Nevada-Reno, June 13-14, 1988. Contact: Kay Fowler or LaVerne Jeanne, D of Anthropology, U of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557. The 1989 meeting will be held on June 29-30 in conjunction with the Linguistic Institute, U of Arizona, Tucson.


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

MAYAN

Mayan Languages Conference (Taller de Linguistica Maya). Meets in late June or early July in alternate years, sometimes annually. Next meeting (XI Taller): Guatemala, June 19-23, 1989. Contact: Narcisco Coj (CIRMA, Apartado 336, 03901 Antigua, Guatemala), Laura Martin (Anthropology, Cleveland State U, Cleveland, OH 44115), or Nora Englund (Anthropology, U of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242; after January 1: PLFM, Apartado 237, 03901 Antigua, Guatemala).


Workshop on Maya Hieroglyphic Writing. Meets annually at the U of Texas, Austin. 1989 meeting (last in this format), March 9-18 [see News from Regional Groups, this issue]. Contact: Nancy P. Troike, Maya Meetings, PO Box 5645, Austin, TX 78763 (tel. 512-471-6292).

Mayan Linguistics Newsletter. $3/year ($3.50 foreign, $5.50 foreign airmail). Editor: Susan Knowles-Berry, 9125-164th St. E., Puyallup, WA 98373. Make checks payable to the editor.


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 202-210, MIT, Cambridge, MA 02139.


SOUTH AMERICA


The Aymara 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.

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


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/volume (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. Most recent meeting: Amsterdam, July 4-8, 1988. Next meeting: New Orleans, LA, 1991.


Ibero-Americanaisches Institut. German research institute concerned with the indigenous languages and cultures of Latin America; publishes a journal, Indiana. Contact: Ibero-Americanaisches Institut PK, Potsdamer Strasse 37, Postfach 1247, D-1000 Berlin 30, W GERMANY.

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, Academic Book Center, 7500 W Camp Wisdom Rd, Dallas, TX 75236.

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

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