

From: IN%"ssila@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU" 1-MAY-1996 09:01
To: IN%"ssila@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU"
CC:
Subj: SSILA Bulletin #34

Return-path: <ssila-request@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU>
Received: from donald.uoregon.edu (donald.uoregon.edu)
by CCIT.ARIZONA.EDU (PMDF V5.0-5 #2381)
id <O1146P5GY1WG94E17@CCIT.ARIZONA.EDU>; Wed, 01 May 1996 08:59:10 -0700 (MST)
Received: from darkwing.uoregon.edu (darkwing.uoregon.edu)
by OREGON.UOREGON.EDU (PMDF V5.0-5 #13764)
id <O1146POJSFQ08ZGAJL@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU> for
ssila-expand@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU; Wed, 01 May 1996 08:53:25 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from darkwing.uoregon.edu (darkwing.uoregon.edu)
by OREGON.UOREGON.EDU (PMDF V5.0-5 #13764)
id <O1146OZY57J48ZGT8J@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU> for ssila@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU; Wed,
01 May 1996 08:52:54 -0700 (PDT)
Received: (from delancey@localhost) by darkwing.uoregon.edu (8.7.3/8.7.1)
id IAA21739; Wed, 01 May 1996 08:52:44 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Wed, 01 May 1996 08:52:41 -0700 (PDT)
From: Scott DeLancey <delancey@darkwing.uoregon.edu>
Subject: SSILA Bulletin #34
To: ssila@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU
Reply-to: ssila@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU
Message-id: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960501085226.17480B-100000@darkwing.uoregon.edu>
X-Envelope-to: coliffitz, demers, hillk, jelineke, levers, msaville, mwillie,
penfield, rtroike, steele, wdereuse
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Comments: SSILA Bulletin

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

*** SSILA BULLETIN ***

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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--Correspondence should be directed to the Editor--

Number 34: May 1, 1996

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34.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Help Needed on Hocak (Winnebago)

>From Susan Steele (steele@uge.arizona.edu), 25 Apr 1996:

I just got a telephone call for help that might best be responded to, directly by SSILA members. Time is of the essence apparently. Here's the message:

Helene Lincoln, a native speaker of Winnebago (or Hocak), is working with her community in Wisconsin on language materials. She needs assistance in understanding Winnebago phonological processes and would like to hear from those who are knowledgeable in this regard. She can be reached at 1-800-492-5745 or at Rt. 1, Box 284, Tomah, Wisconsin 54660.

Johnson-O'Malley Conference

>From Paul Platero (pplater1@swarthmore.edu), 22 April 1996:

A conference on Johnson-O'Malley Programs will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota, May 12-15, 1996. This conference will be of interest to those seeking information on this and other federal Indian education programs, to those who want to learn more about Indian language issues in the classroom, and to anyone who wants to have the opportunity to meet and talk with Indian parents and student about JOM and general education matters affecting the Indian population. Those interested can find information on the web at:

<http://www.swarthmore.edu/SocSci/pplater1>

34.2 HOKAN-PENUTIAN WORKSHOP/HARRINGTON CONFERENCE AT BERKELEY

The 1996 Conference on Hokan and Penutian Languages will be held on Friday June 28 & Saturday June 29, 1996, in the Alumni House (Toll Room) on the UC-Berkeley campus. It will be immediately followed—in the same location—by the 1996 Working Conference on the Papers of J. P. Harrington, on Saturday June 29 & Sunday, June 30.

The conferences are being co-hosted by the Department of Linguistics at UC-Berkeley and the Department of Native American Studies at UC-Davis.

The Friday sessions will be entirely devoted to Hokan-Penutian papers. The Sunday sessions, similarly, will be devoted to presentations on the Harrington materials. The Saturday sessions, however, will be divided between the two topics depending on the number and nature of the paper proposals.

For the Hokan/Penutian Conference: please mail or e-mail a title and brief abstract of your paper to: Leanne Hinton, Dept. of Linguistics, UC-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720-2650 (hinton@violet.berkeley.edu).

For the J. P. Harrington Conference: please mail or e-mail a title and brief abstract of your paper to: Victor Golla, Dept. of Anthropology, UC-Davis, Davis, CA 95616 (vkgolla@ucdavis.edu).

* * *

The proceedings of the 1994 & 1995 Hokan-Penutian Workshops (held in Eugene in 1994 and in Albuquerque in 1995) have been published, and the volume is available for \$14 (postpaid) from the Survey of California and Other Indian Languages, Dept of Linguistics, UC-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720-2650. (Checks should be made out to "Regents of UC").

The contents of the volume include:

* Penutian Languages: Harold Crook, "On Nez Perce Nouns with Irregular Metrical Behavior or 'Why Grizzly Bear Has Horrible Stress'; Anthony P. Grant, "John Milhau's 1856 Hapís Coos Vocabularies: Coos Dialectology and Philology"; Marvin Kramer, "The Development of Head Marking in Eastern Miwokan: Implications for Contact with Proto-Yokuts"; Noel Rude, "The Sahaptian Inflectional Suffix Complex"; Marie-Lucie Tarpent, "Re-attaching Tsimshianic to Penutian."

* Hokan Languages: Pamela Munro, "Valence Arithmetic in the Tolkapaya Lexicon"; Margaret Langdon & William H. Jacobson, Jr., "Report on the Special Hokan Session in Albuquerque, July 1995."

* Appendices: (A) Hokan Bibliographies; (B) Pronominal Reference and Case Systems in Selected Hokan Languages; (C) Ser: Contribution to the Intercontinental Dictionary Series (Stephen A. Mariett & Mary B. Moser).

34.3 NEW DISTRIBUTOR OF HARRINGTON MICROFILM

As many SSILA members know, the microfilm edition of The Papers of John Peabody Harrington, in the Smithsonian Institution, 1907-1957, includes most of Harrington's linguistic notes, collected over a lifetime of work much of it spent as a field researcher for the Bureau of American Ethnology. Among the materials are precious attestations of a number of otherwise poorly documented Indian languages, especially in California and the Far West. Interest in the Harrington collection has grown as scholars have become aware of the extent and quality of the material, and its availability on microfilm has been especially helpful.

The microfilming of the collection was undertaken by Kraus International Publishers, who until now have also been the distributors of the material. Late last year, however, Kraus announced the termination of its scholarly microfilm division. The distribution rights to the JPH microfilm have now been transferred to:

Norman Ross Publications
330 West 58th Street
New York, NY 10019

tel: 212/765-8200
fax: 212/765-2393

We are happy to report that Ross is continuing to market the Harrington microfilm, as well as the Guides to the material prepared by Elaine Mills. Although they welcome inquiries from libraries and institutions interested in purchasing substantial portions of the 500-reel collection, they are making an effort to serve the needs of individual researchers as well. The microfilm is available at \$90 for a single reel, or \$70 per reel for orders of two or more. They will sell individual copies of the Guides where they have a sufficient stock, and in cases where they are down to their last 2 or 3 copies they will xerox the relevant pages for

researchers.

34.4 FOUNDATION FOR ENDANGERED LANGUAGES (UK)

The Foundation for Endangered Languages, which began its life at a meeting in London in January 1992, but was first publicised at the University of Bristol Seminar on the Conservation of Endangered Languages in April 1995, has now reached the stage of asking for subscriptions. These will most immediately support the production and distribution of the Newsletter (Iatiku) and the fees for formal incorporation of the Foundation as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee in the UK.

The current Committee members are: Nicholas Ostler (President), Andrew Woodfield (Secretary), Daniel Nettle (Treasurer), Stephen May (Publicity), and Christopher Moseley (Group Liaison). The Foundation is affiliated with the Philosophy Department at Bristol University.

The following Editorial is printed in the current (second) issue of Iatiku. (Iatiku is the mother goddess of the Acoma tribe of New Mexico, who caused people to speak different languages so that it would not be so easy for them to quarrel.)

This is the second issue of Iatiku, the first public expression of the Foundation for Endangered Languages. The Foundation is conceived as a free and independent association of those who are concerned at the loss of more and more of the world's languages...

Since the first issue of Iatiku appeared, on the 1st of May last year, the Foundation has elected its first officers, identified the range of languages with which it will first look to set up links, and agreed its Manifesto.

The Foundation will be constituted formally in the UK as a company limited by guarantee. This will enable us to act as a recognized charity. There is a draft Memorandum and Articles of Association available for members to inspect, and these will be the Foundation's constitution.

We aim to ally concerned linguists with the growing interest and compassion of the public at large, to give the cause of endangered languages as sharp a profile among monolinguals in the first world as among those whose own linguistic heritage is actually threatened.

Based initially in a corner of Europe, south-west England, where there is no surviving competition to the global weed of English (like other weeds, not without its charms), it is not involved directly in particular linguistic battles, but it is well placed for access to the world's Anglo-Saxon media. We are not an outgrowth of any one language's, or group of languages', struggle for recognition. At the same time, the presence of Celtic languages, in Wales and by conscious revival in Cornwall, is close enough for us to hear the din of real combat, and to witness the nurturing of real linguistic growth.

We have access to some of the best linguistic expertise in our part of Europe, and through global media to members all over the world. Yet we are an organization not just of linguists, but of concerned and knowledgeable citizens of the world. A major aim is to provide funds for recording lesser known members of world's stock of

languages.

But we also have a mission to explain and interpret to our neighbours what the pattern of those languages is like and how that pattern is changing, not always for the better. Through this we can hope to do something to influence that change, as well as to increase scholarly knowledge.

If you wish to support the Foundation for Endangered Languages, please contact Nicholas Ostler at: Batheaston Villa, 172 Bailbrook Lane, Bath BA1 7AA England (tel: +44-1225-85-2865; fax: +44-1225-85-9258; e-mail: mostler@chibcha.demon.co.uk).

34.5 MAYAN PAPERS INVITED FOR LASSO XXV IN BATON ROUGE

The 25th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest (LASSO XXV) will be held October 11-13 1996 at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Proposals for papers in any area of linguistics will be considered. Submissions are particularly encouraged in the areas of discourse analysis, languages and variation in Louisiana, and Mayan linguistics. Papers by graduate students are especially solicited and may be considered for the Helmut Esau Prize, a \$250 cash award made annually by LASSO.

The deadline for receipt of abstracts is June 15, 1996. Abstracts must be no longer than one page (ca. 250 words) and should be submitted by e-mail to <ditmg@ttacs1.ltu.edu>.

1996 dues must be paid by June 15 in order for your abstract to be considered. Annual membership dues for individuals are \$15 (or \$7.50 for students, retired persons, and those not employed). To pay dues or for additional information, contact: Garland D. Bills, Dept of Linguistics, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1196 (tel: 505/277-7416; fax: 505/277-6355; e-mail: gbills@unm.edu).

34.6 SSILA WEB SITE NEARING COMPLETION

A SSILA site on the World Wide Web is currently under construction on the Native American Studies server at UC-Davis, and can be previewed by web surfers who don't mind stepping around a little construction debris. The site will not be fully in operation until mid-May at the earliest. When complete, the site will provide web access to the SSILA Directory, the Learning Aids files for North American languages, and archives of all book notices, dissertation abstracts, and journal contents that have appeared in the SSILA Newsletter during the past 10 years.

Your Editor is in eternal debt to Martha Macri and Alexis Holden for their help on this project. The developers of the Hypertext-writing software PageMill deserve a lot of credit, too, for putting the construction of web pages within the grasp of the html-illiterate masses.

The URL for SSILA's web-site-in-the-making is:

<http://cougar.ucdavis.edu/nas/SSILA/SSILA.html>

Comments and suggestions should be sent to: <vkgolla@ucdavis.edu>.

34.7 NSF FUNDING FOR LINGUISTICS AND ANTHROPOLOGY THREATENED

[The following announcement (from Gary Chapman, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas, Austin) has been posted on various lists this past week. In case you've missed it, here it is once again.]

On April 24th, the Science Committee of the US House of Representatives voted to eliminate the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research Division of the National Science Foundation. While this program has never been large within NSF, it has always played an important role in the funding of social science research. SBER supports research in anthropology, psychology, geography, cognitive science, linguistics, the philosophy of science, economics, political science, and science and technology studies.

The National Science Board, the body that oversees NSF, issued a strong defense of NSF funding for social science last year. However, House Science Committee Chairman Robert Walker convinced his Republican colleagues on the committee that social science research is "not real science," as he put it in a speech a year ago, and thus the vote for the elimination of SBER.

It may be appropriate for social scientists to consider writing members of Congress or the President to express their opinions about this action on the part of the Science Committee.

34.8 CORRECTION IN ADDRESS FOR PUBLICATION ORDER (AGAIN)

We regret that we gave out an incorrect e-mail address for the National Indian Policy Center in SSILA Bulletin #33. The correct address is: <nipc@wis.circ.gwu.edu>. As previously announced, NIPC has recently published "Native Language Communities: A Descriptive Study of Two Community Efforts to Preserve Their Native Languages," by Christine P. Sims, and orders for this publication can be placed at the e-mail address above.

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

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