

**The Society for the Study of the
Indigenous Languages of the Americas**

SSILA BULLETIN

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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80.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Native Amercian oratory

- From Suzanne Cook (scook@uvic.ca) 1 Dec 1998:

I am in the process of hunting down examples of Native American oratory—the originals, their translations, and (linguistic) analyses—in hopes of finding enough data to proceed with my thesis on a discourse analysis of NA Oratory. I have been unsuccessful thus far. This could be due to the fact that I have been focusing my research on Salish speeches (ceremonial, past and present). Given their ban on recording many aspects of their oral traditions, there just may not be anything out there, but I haven't been able to unearth much in the other Northwest Coast languages either. Perhaps I've been looking in the wrong places, or overlooking others. If there is anyone who might be able to point me in a more productive direction, I'd be eternally grateful.

--Suzanne Cook
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(scook@uvic.ca)

Bears

- From Marie-Lucie Tarpent (mtarpent@msvu1.msvu.ca) 11 Dec 1998:

My daughter has become involved as an illustrator for a projected anthology of poems about bears to be published by a small press in California. They intend to include a list of names for bears in many languages, and since several of the poems in the book have been written by Native Americans they hope to include a number of Amerindian languages. I wonder if SSILA members might be willing to contribute accurate names? Below is the short list of the American Indian names they have gathered so far.

--Marie-Lucie Tarpent
Mount Saint Vincent University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
(mtarpent@msvu1.msvu.ca)

Blackfoot	Kyaio (black bear) nita kyaio 'real bear' (grizzly)
Cherokee	hyo na
Cree	Memekwesiw (spirit of the bear)
Navaho	atco naxeti (it may change into anything)
"Northwest"	ch tik tek "Those that go down to the sea" (polar)

Ojibwa anijinabe (human)
 wemukowe (menstrual initiation - going to be a bear)
 mukowe (menses seclusion - she is a bear)

Andean newsletter

- From Clodoando Soto (s-soto3@uiuc.edu) 4 Dec 1998:

Issue #22 of the "Correo de Linguistica Andina" is now being prepared. To achieve our objective of providing information as completely as possible, we would like to ask all Andeanist linguists to send us accounts of their recent work and publications, and any other information that might be useful to Linguistica Andina.

Please send us your contributions no later than January 15, either by e-mail or by regular mail. (If you have not sent us your current e-mail address, please let us know what it is.)

Also let us know if you would like to subscribe to Linguistica Andina.

--Clodoaldo Soto
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80.2 POSITION OPEN

Native American Educational Sociolinguistics at U of New Mexico

- From Garland Bills (gbills@unm.edu) 22 Dec 1998:

The University of New Mexico seeks an Assistant Professor in Native American Educational Sociolinguistics. The position will be a full-time, tenure track, joint appointment in the Dept. of Linguistics and Division of Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies, commencing August 16, 1999, pending budgetary approval. Responsibilities will include classroom teaching, mentoring of Native American and other students of educational linguistics, and community training and service.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Ph.D. in education, linguistics, or anthropology, with emphasis on language in education and language revitalization in Native American communities, by date of appointment. Established record of sociolinguistic fieldwork and/or community activity in language education in one or more Native American communities of New Mexico. Experience in grant proposal preparation. Native or native-like proficiency in a Native American language of New Mexico.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: Ability to teach sociolinguistics, language education, and applied linguistics as pertains to Native American languages of New Mexico. Access to Native American communities of New Mexico. Ability to assist local Native American communities in language revitalization efforts. Demonstrated success in grant proposal preparation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 19, 1999. Applications should contain a letter of application, vita, samples of papers or publications, and names of three referees who have been asked to send letters of recommendation directly to the search committee. Applications should be addressed to Alan Hudson, Educational Linguistics Search Committee, Department of Linguistics, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1196.

The University of New Mexico is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and educator.

(For further information, see the job announcement at the UNM website: <http://www.unm.edu/~linguist/job.html>, or call 505/277-6353.)

80.3 UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tribal Language Summit (Cheyenne River Reservation, Jan. 23)

80.4 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Sacagawea coin

This past spring, the public was invited to submit suggestions to the US Mint as to who or what image should appear on the obverse (heads) of the new \$1 coin. The reverse (tails) will be an eagle as set by statute, while the obverse was left to the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury. Among the criteria set by the Secretary was that the image be that of a woman, real or allegorical. The Mint received over 100 suggestions from the public, and in June a citizens' advisory committee met in Philadelphia to consider these suggestions and recommend a design. In July, Secretary Robert Rubin accepted the Committee's recommendation and announced that the new coin would bear the image of Lewis and Clark's Shoshone Indian guide, Sacagawea.

The Mint is now seeking actual designs for the new coin, and has invited twenty-three artists, including Mint sculptors and engravers, to submit obverse and reverse designs for the new coin. The artists were requested to be sensitive to cultural authenticity and to specifically avoid creating a representation of a classical European face in Native American headdress. Recently, the Mint narrowed the field to thirteen finalist designs based upon the extensive comments from the initial review. Now the Mint is seeking reactions from the public before making the final recommendations to the Secretary.

If you would like to see the finalist designs and make comments, visit the special website that the Mint has set up for this purpose:

http://www.usmint.gov/dollarcoin/finalist_home.cfm

Downloadable Inuktitut font

- From Michael Everson (everson@indigo.ie) 8 Dec 1998:

Inuktitut WorldScript Utilities for Macintosh have been released. This is one of a number of packages that will install WorldScript or Modified Roman software to enable you to work in a number of languages. The URL is:

http://www.indigo.ie/egt/earra_bog/apple

--Michael Everson
Everson Gunn Teoranta, Baile Atha Cliath, Ireland
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80.5 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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