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-- <<--

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135.1 CORRESPONDENCE

More on 'Cohunks"

>From Willard Walker (wbwalker@kynd.com) 23 Mar 2001:

Re: John Lord's query in Bulletin #133 and Carl Masthay's response in Bulletin #134, I wrote John Lord to say that Frank Siebert reconstructed the Powhatan word for Canada goose as /kaha.k/, pl. /kaha.kak/. (My period represents vowel length.) These words were recorded in the early 17th century by Capt. John Smith and Wm. Strachey as "kahauge" and "kahaugoc," respectively. See James Crawford, ed., _Studies in Southeastern Indian Languages_ (1975) p. 345, U. of GA Press. It may be worth noting that /a./ in the Southern New England languages is nasalized.

--Willard Walker Canaan, Maine (wbwalker@kynd.com)

135.2 POSITIONS OPEN

* Graduate fellowships at U of Alberta for 3-year project in Mexico

>From David Beck (<u>dbeck@ualberta.ca</u>) 6 Apr 2001:

The Department of Linguistics at the University of Alberta invites applications for two doctoral student research assistantship positions, beginning September 2001, on a 3-year field project to document an endangered Mexican indigenous language. The project will include work with consultants on site at the University of Alberta in the first year of the project (2001-2002) followed by an eight-month trip to the field in Mexico in January to August of 2003. Students will be expected to participate actively in the elicitation and archiving of data and the preparation of paper and electronic versions of a trilingual dictionary. Further details of the project can be found at:

http://www.ualberta.ca/~dbeck/UNTProj.html.

These assistantships are designed to provide talented Ph.D. student applicants with stable funding for the duration of their studies (including the fourth dissertation year after the expiration of the project) and to facilitate their involvement as junior colleagues in the academic life of the Department. Students will have the opportunity to present the results of individual research at conferences and, where appropriate, will be encouraged to publish their results in professional venues.

The assistantships will be at the rate of \$10,500 CDN per academic year (September to April). Candidates will be required to meet the entrance requirements for the University of Alberta's Ph.D. program in linguistics and will be assessed the normal PhD tuition fees which are currently \$3,200 CDN per academic year for Canadian students and \$5,900 CDN for non-Canadian students.

Preference will be given to applicants with a strong background in linguistics, preferably at the graduate level, and to those with some training in linguistic field methods. A good knowledge of typology and training in articulatory phonetics, as well as competence in Spanish,

would be an asset.

The deadline for application for these assistantships is May 15, 2001. The application should include: a) a letter that summarizes past experience and outlines the candidate's research interests and proposed area of study, b) unofficial university transcripts, c) an academic writing sample (a recent paper, thesis chapter, or article), and d) the names and email addresses of three referees.

Applications should be sent to David Beck, Department of Linguistics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2E7, CANADA (tel: 780-492-0807; fax: 780-492-0806; e-mail: dbeck@ualberta.ca)

135.3 UPCOMING MEETINGS

* Program for CLS-37 available (Chicago, April 19-21)

>From Sylvain Neuvel (sneuvel@uchicago.edu) 4 Apr 2001:

The conference program for the 37th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (in Chicago on April 19-21) is now available at the CLS website:

http://humanities.uchicago.edu/cls/conference.htm.

This year's conference features a parasession on Languages of the Arctic.

Information on registration, travel and accommodations are also available at the website.

The 5th International Conference of the Foundation for Endangered Languages will be held in Agadir, Morocco, September 21-24, 2001, with the theme "Endangered Languages and the Media."

Papers will explore the relationship between the globalization of the media and increased pressure on minority languages, pinpointing the processes and seeking tactics for coping with them: hoping, at the very least, to channel some of the power of the media for the good of small languages.

Among the questions to which we hope to find answers are:

- --what effect does the global availability of satellite broadcasting have on the world's smaller languages?
- --what is the meaning of a free press if some languages are denied a voice in it?
- --must the Internet inevitably exclude smaller languages from access to the electronic media, or is it ultimately a force for diversity?
- --is a big fashionable metropolitan language always the guarantee of commercial success in the music recording industry?
- --how can speakers of minority languages get access to training in journalism?
- --is it the state's responsibility to subsidize broadcasting in minority languages? Why?
- --what happens when emigrant communities abroad are better served by media in their new country than those from their old home?

We invite contributions not only from the academic disciplines of linguistics and media studies, but also from active practitioners in the field -- those with first-hand experience from which we can learn of the world's threatened languages and their struggle for survival and equal status with those of international communication in the ether and on the printed page.

Presentations will last twenty minutes each, with a further ten minutes for discussion. Authors will be expected to submit a written paper for publication in the Proceedings well in advance of the conference. All presentations should be accessible largely in English, but use of the languages of interest, for quotation or exemplification, may well be appropriate.

Abstracts should not exceed 500 words, and should be in English. Electronic submissions (by 10 April 2001) should be in plain ascii text e-mail message to < Chris_Moseley@mon.bbc.co.uk> giving the following details:

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# NAME : Name of first author
# TITLE: Title of the paper
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EMAIL: E-mail address of the first author # ADDR: Postal address of the first author

TEL: Telephone number of the first author, if any

FAX: Fax number of the first author

and in a separate section

ABSTR: Abstract of the paper

Paper abstracts (3 copies) should be sent, for delivery by 10 April 2001,

Christopher Moseley 2 Wanbourne Lane Nettlebed Oxfordshire RG9 5AH England

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Notification of Committee's decision will be made by May 14

135.4 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

* Index to IJAL ^^^^^^

>From william bright <William.Bright@Colorado.EDU> 3 Apr 2001:

The last cumulative index published for the *International Journal of American Linguistics* covered volumes 22 through 31, and appeared in vol. 32, no. 3 of the journal (1966). Starting in 1966, I have kept my own index files, one for author/title, the other for language/topic. I am now making them available on my personal website for general use. At present they cover volume 32 (1966) through volume 60 (1994); they will be updated at a later time. The URL is:

http://www.ncidc.org/bright

Look under 'Supplementary material'.

--William Bright Boulder, Colorado (william.bright@colorado.edu)

* 17th Century Island Carib Dictionary ^^^^^^

>From Duna Troiani (Duna.Troiani@vjf.cnrs.fr) 6 Apr 2001:

I have translated from French to Spanish an old dictionary, perhaps the only one, of an Antillian language in the 17th century: _Dictionnaire caraibe-francais_ (1665) by Father Raymond Breton. The Spanish title is _El caribe isleno del siglo XVII: Tratado sobre la lengua y la cultura de los Callinagos_ It's not a traditional paper edition, but a web edition. Anybody interested in this work can find it and download it without charge from:

http://www.sup-infor.com

I would be pleased if someone wanted to write a review.

--Duna Troiani CELIA-CNRS, BP8 - 7 rue Guy Moquet 94801 Villejuif, FRANCE (Duna.Troiani@vjf.cnrs.fr)

* North American Ethnonyms

Lexicographer Alan Hartley, an SSILA member in Minnesota, has compiled a number of entries on North American Indian ethnonyms for the Oxford English Dictionary. His article on "North American Ethnonymy" for the OED News can be read on-line at:

http://www.oed.com/public/news/9901 3.htm#ethno

Other information on Alan's OED work can be found at his homepage:

http://www.d.umn.edu/~ahartley/home_page.html

135.5 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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