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

\*\*\* SSILA BULLETIN \*\*\*

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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Number 148: October 10, 2001

KEN HALE

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#### KEN HALE

We regret to inform you that our dear colleague Ken Hale passed away on Monday morning, October 8. He died peacefully at his home, surrounded by family and friends. There will be no funeral; a memorial service will be scheduled later. Condolences may be sent to Sally Hale at 209 Waltham Street, Lexington, MA 02173. Ken's son says that he wants to thank the linguistics community for all the support that they have given to Ken and his family during his illness.

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### 148.0 SSILA BUSINESS

Preliminary program of the Annual Meeting (San Francisco, Jan. 4-6, 2002)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

Phonology: Prosody and Words (9:00-12:00).

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Papers: Colleen M. Fitzgerald, "Prosodic Variation as Constraint Re-ranking: Evidence from Tohono O'odham"; Matthew Gordon, "An acoustic investigation of stress in Hupa"; Leanne Hinton & Herb Luthin, "Stress and Syllable Weight in Yahi"; Lev Michael, "Sonority-Driven Stress in Nanti (Arawak)"; Marcia Haag & Durbin Feeling, "Interactions of Meter and Tone in Cherokee Nouns and Clitics"; Eugene Buckley, "Alsea metathesis and syllable structure"; Cathlin M. Davis, "Metathesis and Epenthesis in Sierra Miwok: Building Syllable Structure"; Juliette Blevins, "Prosodic Words in Yurok"; and John Stonham, "On the nature of the prosodic word in Nuuchahnulth."

Rethinking Older Analyses and Exploiting Older Sources (9:00-11:00).

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Papers: Anna Berge, "Poul Egede Wasn't Really Fluent in Greenlandic..."; William F. Weigel, "The Interaction of Theory and Description: The Yokuts Canon"; Wallace Chafe, "A 17th Century Seneca Dictionary"; Mary L. Clayton, "Evidence for a Nahuatl-speaking author in an early trilingual manuscript dictionary"; Yolanda Lastra & Martha C. Muntzel, "Colonial Toponyms from Guanajuato, Mexico"; and Natalie Operstein, "Spanish loans and the fortis/lenis contrast in early Zapotec."

Syntactic Morphology and Morphological Syntax (10:00-12:00).

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Papers: Ives Goddard, "Post-Syntactic Stem Derivation in Fox"; Marianne Mithun, "The Polysynthetic Riddle" [Mohawk]; David S. Rood, "Wichita Syntax?"; Paul D. Kroeber, "Position of subordinating and extraction morphology in Comox"; Masiel Matera, "Preposition Incorporation in Wayuunaiki (Arawak)"; and Raimundo Medina (U del Zulia, Venezuela): "The Locality of Verb Movement in Kari'na (Cariban)."

Historical Linguistics and Sociolinguistics (2:00-5:00).

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Papers: John A. Dunn, "Coast and Southern Tsimshian lexical items with significant phonological relationships to PIE roots"; Catherine A. Callaghan, 'Proto Sierra Miwok Case System"; Sidney da S. Facundes, "Arawak Internal Relationships in Southwestern Amazon"; Marie-Lucie Tarpent, "Alsea Words for Women: Cultural Implications of their Linguistic Forms"; Amy Miller, "Innovations in Yuma Personal Prefixation"; Eleanor Blain, "Future Marking in Cree"; Candace Maher, "Mother-in-law Language in the Jicarilla Apache Community"; Bill Poser, "Dakelh (Carrier) Babytalk"; and Yukihiro Yumitani, "Spanish Loanwords in Jemez Towa."

Special session: Denominal Verbs in the Languages of the Americas (2:00-5:00).

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Introduction: Donna Gerdts & Stephen Marlett. Papers:
Jason D. Haugen, "Denominal Verbs in Yaqui"; Kenneth C. Hill,
"Denominal Verbs in Hopi"; Willem de Reuse, "Denominal verbs
in Navajo and Western Apache"; Jerrold M. Sadock, "A Survey
of Denominal Verbs in Eskimo-Aleut"; Stephen Marlett,
"Denominal verbs in Seri"; Donna B. Gerdts & Thomas E.
Hukari, "Halkomelem Denominal Verbs"; Toshihide Nakayama,
"Denominal verbs in Nuuchahnulth"; and Jurgen Bohnemeyer,
"Activity nouns, unaccusativity, and argument marking in
Yukatekan."

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

Discourse (9:00-12:00).

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Papers: George Aaron Broadwell, "Preverbal positions and discourse functions in Zapotec"; David Mora-Marin, "The Preferred Argument Structure of Classic Lowland Mayan Texts"; Lachlan Duncan, "Constituent Word Ordering in Ch'orti' Discourse"; Jeffrey Rasch, "Subject vs. topic in expressions of cognition and emotion in Yaitepec Chatino"; Jean Mulder & Christina Eira, "Evidentiality and Verbal Art in Tsimshian (Sm'algyax)"; Gary Holton, "Clause-combining in Tanacross Athabascan"; Akiyo Maruyama, "Navajo 'ako: A Discourse Marker"; Petronila S. Tavares, "The organization of discourse information in Wayana historical narratives"; and Armik Mirzayan, "Information Structure in Lakhota Narratives."

Special session: Organizing American Indian Linguistics: A Session in Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of SSILA (9:00-12:00).

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Introduction: Victor Golla. Papers: Melissa Axelrod, Jule Gomez de Garcia & Jordan Lachler, "Developing a New Mexico Native Languages Center"; Juliette Blevins & Andrew Garrett, "Fieldwork and the Archives: The Yurok Language Project at Berkeley"; Victor Golla "Organizing the Transcription of American Indian Languages"; Kathryn A. Klar, "'A Serviceable System for Writing Indian Languages': Correspondence between Harrington and Sapir, 1910-1912"; and John D. Nichols "Where Did You Put My Language? Problems in North American Linguistic

Bibliography." The final segment will be reserved for reports on new projects and discussion.

SSILA annual business meeting (12:15-1:00)

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Classification and Lexical Semantics (2:00-4:20).

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Papers: Elena Benedicto, "The Verbal Classifier System (VCS) of Mayangna"; Laura Buszard-Welcher, "The Semantics of Yana Classificatory Verb Stems"; Connie Dickinson, "Predicate classification in Tsafiki"; Sean P. O'Neill, "Classificatory Semantics in Northwestern California"; Jack Martin, "Classifying location in Creek"; Mercedes Q. Hinkson, "The Semantics and Productivity of the Lexical Suffix \*wil in Ucwalmicwts (Lower Lillooet)"; and Luis Oquendo, "Realis or irrealis in the Japreria language/mind."

Grammatical Categories and Grammaticalization (2:00-4:20).

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Papers: Philip LeSourd, "Second-Position Particles in Maliseet-Passamaquoddy"; Tim Montler, "Categories in Straits Salishan"; Catherine Rudin, "Functional Heads, Directionality, and the Identity of Omaha-Ponca Constituents"; Tim Thornes, "Northern Paiute Postpositions"; Mary S. Linn, "Lexical Affixation in Euchee (Yuchi): A Missing Link"; Carolyn J. MacKay & Frank R. Trechsel, "Reciprocal /laa-/ in Totonacan"; and Sara Trechter, "The Value of -pi" [Siouan].

Phonetics (4:20-5:00).

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Papers: John H. Esling, Barry F. Carlson & Jimmy G. Harris, "A Laryngoscopic Phonetic Study of Nootka and Salish Glottal Stop, Glottalized Resonants, and Pharyngeals"; and Ian Maddieson & Pilar M. Valenzuela, "Phonetic aspects of Shipibo."

Special session: Papers from the Snake-Jaguar Project: the Project for the Documentation of the Languages of Meso-America (2:00-5:00).

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Introduction: Terry Kaufman & John Justeson. Papers: Rosemary Beam de Azcona, "A chain shift in Coatlan Zapotec"; Giulia R. M. Oliverio, "Verb stem alternations in Guichicovi Mixe"; Susan Smythe, "The Loss of Uvular Stops in Huehuetla Tepehua"; Thomas C. Smith Stark, "The use of theoretically possible roots as an elicitation technique: the case of Chichicapan Zapotec"; Richard A. Rhodes,

"Spanish in Sayula Popoluca"; Roberto Zavala, "Depictive Secondary Predicates in Olutec (Mixean)"; Troi Carleton & Michelle Moosally, "Lo7o as an instrumental, comitative, or conjunctive morpheme in Zenzontepec Chatino"; and Craig Hilts, "'This', "That', and 'Yonder' on Vowels in Atepec Zapotec."

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

Transitivity (9:00-10:20).

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Papers: Jose Alvarez, "Split intransitivity and serial verbs in Baniva of Guainia"; David Beck, "Person-hierarchies and the origin of asymmetries in Totonac verbal paradigms"; Lisa Conathan (UC-Berkeley): "Inverses in Northern California"; and Anna Hyun-Joo Do (Boston U): "Antipassive Constructions in Inuktitut."

Negation and Other Syntactic Processes (10:40-12:20).

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Papers: Ivy Doak, "Coeur d'Alene Negative Constructions"; Jane H. Hill, 'Cupeno Negative Sentences"; Marlene Socorro & Jose Alvarez, "Analisis comparativo de la construccion negativa en baniva y lenguas arahuacas cercanas" (A comparative analysis of the negative construction in Baniwa and closely related Arawakan languages); John Enrico, "Internally-headed Relative Clauses and Generalized Quantifiers" [Haida]; and Ana Sanchez, "Strategies of relativization in Yukpa (Cariban)."

Language Preservation & Revitalization (10:00-12:00).

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Papers: Dennis Holt , "Poetry in Pech and the Aesthetic Dimension of Language-Loss"; Chip Gerfen & Kelley Vance (U of North Carolina at Chapel Hill): "ka'u o - An Orthography and Picture Dictionary for Coatzospan Mixtec"; Jule Gomez de Garcia, Melissa Axelrod & Jordan Lachler, "The roles of literacy and collaboration in documenting Native American languages: A report from the Jicarilla Apache Dictionary Project"; Alice Taff & Donna Miller MacAlpine, "Producing the Deg Xinag (Ingalik Athabascan Dene) Learners' Dictionary"; Alice Taff & Beth Dementi Leonard, "A model for adult learners of indigenous languages" [Deg Xinag Athabascan]; and Brent Galloway, "Language Preservation and Revival: Passing the Torches For Upriver Halkomelem."

## Call for session chairs

Members who will be attending the meeting in any capacity are invited to volunteer to chair a session. Members of the Executive Committee can chair 5 of the 13 scheduled sessions, leaving 8 to be arranged. If you would like to volunteer, please send an e-mail to Victor Golla (golla@ssila.org) before October 20. Please indicate three sessions you would be willing to chair, in order of preference. If you like, you may chair the session in which you are scheduled to give a paper.

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#### 148.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Minority language software

>From Chuck Coker (chuckc@tyrell.com) 27 Sep 2001:

A week or so ago I posted a question on the Endangered Language List (copied in SSILA Bulletin #147) about computer software localization efforts. I have received a lot of replies from all over the world.

Based on the replies I've received so far, it appears that there is a lot of demand for localization for minority languages all over the world, from languages as small as one fluent speaker to languages with millions of speakers. I've received responses from all continents except Antarctica (if you're there, I'm waiting).

That leads me to my next question: What minority language software would vou like to see?

If properly designed from the beginning, software can be built that makes changing languages relatively easy. For example, it might take a lot of effort to write a word processor or an educational language-learning application in Serrano. Once that is done, however, making another version for Cahuilla would not be too difficult since all the "hard" work will have already been done. Basically, English (in my case) to Cahuilla text translations would have to be done, but after that I could recompile the application and it would be ready to go. (All of my experience so far is with left-to-right languages.)

I'm working on submitting a proposal to the owner of the company I work for to develop localized software for minority languages. Since we are a very small company, we could afford to take on projects such as this.

Larger companies will never develop minority language software due to the small markets.

So what I need to know for my proposal is:

- 1. What kind of software would you like to see in ~your~ language? Any kind, from a complete operating system to a simple text editor or database. The more detailed the description, the better it would be for my proposal.
- 2. What would you be willing to pay for the software applications that would be useful to you? I am asking at what price (if any) would you ~actually buy~ a product, not what you think a fair market value would be. For example, you would use it if it was free, but not if you had to spend money. (Please be honest here.)
- 3. What computer platforms do you use? For example, Windows NT, Mac OS X, Linux/KDE, etc.

If there is not enough market potential for even the very small company I work for to take on these jobs, I still might work on them on my own as time allows, just because I think languages are important.

--Chuck Coker Tyrell Software Corporation Laguna Hills, California (chuckc@tyrell.com)

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#### 148.2 POSITIONS OPEN

\* Interdisciplinary position in Expressive Culture & Diversity of the

Upper Midwest (U of Wisconsin-Madison)

>From Max Kade Institute (mki@mhub.facstaff.wisc.edu) 26 Sep 2001:

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has created a cluster of three interdisciplinary faculty positions concerned with the traditional expressive culture or folklore of the Upper Midwest's diverse peoples. Positions will be affiliated with the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures (<a href="www.wisc.edu/csumc">www.wisc.edu/csumc</a>), the Folklore Program (<a href="www.folklore.wisc.edu">www.folklore.wisc.edu</a>), and allied departments. The aim of the cluster

is to foster innovative, sophisticated, and collaborative research, teaching, and outreach. We welcome candidates with diverse theoretical orientations and topical foci. Areas of focus could include but are not limited to: the evolving practices of verbal, musical, customary, and material cultural expressions by several of the region's varied American Indian, African American, Asian American, European American, and Hispanic American peoples; their relationships to respective homelands and diasporas; and the documentation, maintenance, revival, representation, even invention of their "traditions" by activists, artists, educators, entrepreneurs, communities, and states.

Successful candidates will use the cluster structure as a catalyst for collaborative research; maintain their own independent research programs; advise students; teach at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; develop new courses if appropriate; participate in the governance of the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures and their respective departments, programs, colleges, and/or the University. Successful candidates will also be experienced in and committed to the presentation of cultural research to the public through such modes as school curricula, festivals, media productions, museum exhibits, technical assistance workshops, and community-oriented archives.

Appointments will be made at the level of assistant professor or a higher rank if qualifications warrant. The candidates' tenure homes will be established in one or more departments appropriate to his/her background.

Required: Ph.D. in a humanities discipline such as Folklore, Cultural Anthropology, Cultural Geography, Languages and Linguistics, Ethnic Studies, and Ethnomusicology. For a tenured position, a demonstrable record of excellence in research, teaching, and service is required.

Applications should include a CV and a statement describing research, teaching, and outreach interests, accomplishments, and direction, as related to the description above. Names and contact information for three references should also be included. Materials should be sent to:

James P. Leary and Joseph Salmons
Co-Directors, Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures
Max Kade Institute
University of Wisconsin-Madison
901 University Bay Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

Deadline to insure full consideration is November 15, 2001.

Unless confidentiality is requested in writing, information regarding the applicants must be released upon request. Finalists cannot be guaranteed confidentiality. The University of Wisconsin-Madison is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer.

The Department of Linguistics of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (Leipzig) seeks candidates for two doctoral and two postdoctoral fellowships in linguistics. The fellowships are for two years, in the case of the doctoral fellowships with the possibility of one or two six-month extensions. Candidates should be able to make contributions to the department's areas of research.

The Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology studies human diversity and human origins in a multidisciplinary perspective. The contribution of linguistics to this goal lies in the study of the history and prehistory of languages (and peoples) around the world (especially non-European languages), as well as the current diversity of human languages (linguistic fieldwork on little-described and endangered languages and language typology). The Department of Linguistics colaborrates with the Department of Evolutionary Genetics to compare the evidence from both fields for the prehistory of human populations. The largest current collaborative projects of the department are the Intercontinental Dictionary Series and the World Atlas of Language Structures. The latter project implies an interest in questions of areal typology, language contact and substratum effects. More information on these and other projects is available on the institute's website (see below).

Doctoral fellows should already have an MA in Linguistics or an equivalent qualification, and be either registered or qualified to register in a recognized doctoral program at a university or equivalent degree-awarding institution. A doctoral fellow will be expected to propose a thesis/ dissertation research topic that fits into the department's current foci. Regular participation in the department's talks, seminars and workshops is expected. The fellowship is available from 1 January 2002, but a later starting date may be negotiated.

Postdoctoral fellows are expected to come with a flexible research agenda that fits into the department's current foci. They should be ready to contribute to collaborative projects, and they will have the opportunity to propose collaborative projects themselves. Regular participation in the department's talks, seminars and workshops is expected. The fellowships are available from 1 January 2002, but a later starting date may be negotiated. Postdoctoral fellows must have their Ph.D. in hand before the starting date. There are no teaching obligations, but the opportunity for teaching in the linguistics program of the University of Leipzig exists.

Except for approved absences (e.g. fieldwork, conferences, vacation), the place of work is Leipzig. Good knowledge of English is required.

Applicants for either doctoral or postdoctoral fellowships are requested to send a C.V., statement of research interests, two letters of recommendation, and a sample of written work on a relevant topic to:

Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology Personnel Administration Prof. Dr. Bernard Comrie Inselstrasse 22 D-01403 Leipzig Germany

fax: +49 341 99 52 119 e-mail: comrie@eva.mpg.de

Please indicate clearly whether the application is for a doctoral or a postdoctoral fellow position. Deadline for receipt of applications is 31 October 2001.

The Institute's URL is: http://www.eva.mpg.de/

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#### 148.3 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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