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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150.0 SSILA BUSINESS

Memorial meeting for Ken Hale

Members who wish to take part in an SSILA memorial for Ken Hale that will be scheduled during the Annual Meeting in San Francisco should contact the Secretary (golla@ssila.org) before December 21. Members may also want to prepare short written tributes (including reminiscences) for publication in the January number of the SSILA Newsletter. These should be submitted (preferably by e-mail to the address above) no later than January 8.

A full-page obituary of Ken was published in _The Economist_, November 3-9, 2001 (p. 89).

Further program changes

The following two papers have been withdrawn from the Annual Meeting program: Anna Hyun-Joo Do & Shanley Allen, "Antipassive Constructions in Inuktitut"

Sidney da S. Facundes, "Arawak Internal Relationships in South-western Amazon"

150.1 CORRESPONDENCE

I am working on a research project into the interaction between traditional gender-based communication patterns and language shift. I have had difficulty locating references through the usual databases/channels and I was wondering if anyone was aware of work in this area.

Specifically, there may be evidence here in some Alaskan Athabascan communities that, as language shift occurs, it may overlay traditional male-female communication patterns, such that men are more likely to continue using the language with other men and speak English with women who are themselves Native speakers, and vice versa.

This research is only in its initial stages. Later this winter we will begin interviewing a few key elders, to begin to define/understand traditional Athabascan male-female patterns of interaction and to try and correlate these patterns with modern language usage -- to try, in short, to understand the gender-based patterns that language shift may be overlaying.

From there we plan to see how traditional patterns of interaction are being undermined or reinforced in the schools. After that we hope to figure out how to work with existing patterns (rather than against them) in order to improve language teaching specifically, and education in general.

Any help/references people can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Patrick E. Marlow Alaska Native Language Center Fairbanks, Alaska (ffpem@uaf.edu) Literature and endangered languages

From Dennis Holt (dionisio77@yahoo.com) 14 Nov 2001:

I am interested in information about the use of creative-writing workshops, poetry festivals, literary contests, and any other kind of literature-oriented events and activities in connection with attempts to revitalize endangered languages or to reverse language-shift.

Thank you for whatever information you may be able to provide.

--Dennis Holt Hamden, Connecticut (dionisio77@yahoo.com)

150.2 POSITION OPEN

* Linguistics position at Metropolitan State College, Denver

From Robin Quizar (quizarr@mscd.edu) 8 Nov 2001:

The Metropolitan State College of Denver is seeking a tenure track Assistant Professor of English/Language & Linguistics.

Responsibilities will include: Teaching four three-credit courses a semester, including freshman composition and the linguistics courses required for undergraduate English majors and for the language and linguistics minor emphasis in the department. Teaching evenings and/or weekends as needed. Pursuing appropriate professional-development and service activities. Advising students. Working with and be sensitive to the educational needs of a diverse urban population.

Required are: A doctorate (completed by July 1, 2002) in Linguistics, English, or a related field with a strong emphasis on language structure, analysis, and theory. Course work, training, or experience in teaching composition. Qualifications to teach undergraduate courses in general linguistics, history of the English language, semantics, sociolinguistics, anthropological linguistics, and psycholinguistics.

Preferred are: At least one year's teaching experience at the college level. The ability to apply current computer technology in teaching. At least one degree in English. Rank and salary will be commensurate with education and experience.

The appointment will begin in August 2002.

Applicant must send: A letter of application addressing the responsibilities and qualifications outlined above. A current resume. Evidence of successful teaching, including course syllabi, student and peer evaluations, and other relevant documents. Three recent letters of recommendation from people familiar with the applicant's work. Copies of all graduate and undergraduate transcripts (official transcripts will be required of finalists).

Send all application materials to:

William T. Hamilton, Ph.D., Chair Department of English, Campus Box 32 The Metropolitan State College of Denver P.O. Box 173362 Denver, CO 80217-3362 (hamiltow@mscd.edu)

Screening begins on December 1, 2001 and continues until interviews are scheduled.

Since opening its doors in 1965, Metropolitan State College of Denver has evolved into the largest public 4-year college in the nation and the third largest institution of higher education in Colorado. The College offers Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts, and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees, as well as an Individualized Degree Program. Metro State is committed to delivering a quality education to a diverse and talented student body of more than 17,000 students on a downtown, 175 acre campus shared with two other postsecondary institutions.

Visit the Metro State website at: http://www.mscd.edu

150.3 UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Linguistics department at the University of California, Santa Barbara announces its fifth annual Workshop on American Indigenous Languages (WAIL), which provides a forum for the discussion of theoretical and descriptive linguistic studies of indigenous languages of the Americas.

Anonymous abstracts are invited for talks on any topic in linguistics. Talks will be 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes for discussion. Individuals may submit abstracts for one single and one co-authored paper. Abstracts should be 500 words or less and can be submitted by hard copy or e-mail.

For hard copy submissions, please send five copies of your abstract and a 3x5 card with the following information: (1) name; (2) affiliation; (3) mailing address; (4) phone number; (5) email address; (6) title of yourpaper.

Send hard copy submissions to:

Workshop on American Indigenous Languages Department of Linguistics University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA 93106

E-mail submission is encouraged. Include the information from the 3x5 card (above) in the body of the e-mail message with the abstract as an attachment. Please limit your abstracts to the following formats: PDF, RTF, or Microsoft Word document.

Send e-mail submissions to:

wail@linguistics.ucsb.edu

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS is January 18, 2002. Notification of acceptance will be by e-mail by February 15, 2002.

For further information contact the conference coordinator at the e-mail address above or by telephone at 805/893-3776, or visit the WAIL website at

http://orgs.sa.ucsb.edu/nailsg/

Information about hotel accommodations will be posted on the web.

From Jo-Anne S. Ferreira (jo-anne@trinidad.net) 5 Nov 2001:

I'd like to let people know about the upcoming conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, which will be held at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, on 14-17 August 2002. Of possible interest to SSILA members is the keynote address by Prof. Mervyn Alleyne on Caribbean Indigenous Languages.

Some of the other events planned include special colloquia on Language Advising, Teaching English in Standard/Creole-speaking societies, and Linguistics and the Education system. There will also be sightseeing tours and local entertainment. For further details contact Dr. Valerie Youssef at <<u>libarts@carib-link.net</u>>.

150.4 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

* Cheyenne Language site moves

Our local ISP got changed so I had to change to a different server for my Cheyenne Language website. The address is now:

http://www.geocities.com/cheyenne_language

--Wayne Leman (http://www.geocities.com/wayne-leman)

* Mohawk software demo

From Monica Lamb (<u>msagentdesign@aol.com</u>) 3 Nov 2001:

I am originally from the St. Regis reservation and am re-learning my first language, Mohawk. I have not lived at St. Regis since I was a child, and do not have access to other Mohawk speakers. To help me to relearn the Mohawk language I developed voice/speech recognition software that allows me to speak or type, or click on an English word, using my computer microphone, keyboard, or mouse, and to immediately hear the Mohawk word or sentences spoken back to me and spelled for me, in real time. This also helps me to be able to instant message, chat, and e-mail to the few Mohawk speakers that I have been lucky to find online.

I have a demo for Windows viewers at:

http://www.buycny.com/msagent/mohawk.shtml

--Monica Lamb Saratoga Springs, NY (msagentdesign@aol.com)

150.5 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

The following additions or changes have been made to the SSILA mailing list since the last Bulletin:

Davidson, Jill(See Greer) Greer, Jill D.jgreer@mvip.net Higinio, H. P.arzu@us.ibm.com Sabino, Robinsabinro@auburn.edu Sheedy, Cory R. C.sheedy@ucalgary.ca Utens, Tamaracastle3@gte.net

Victor Golla, Secretary-Treasurer & Editor

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