

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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196.0 SSILA Business

- * Last call for papers: Boston meeting
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Members are reminded that the deadline for receipt of abstracts for the next SSILA annual meeting (Boston, January 8-11, 2004) is two weeks from today - Friday, September 5. The call for papers is repeated below.

SSILA's 2003-04 Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 78th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, from Thursday January 8 through Sunday January 11, 2004. In addition to SSILA, the LSA meeting will also host the annual meetings of the American Dialect Society, the North American Association for the History of the Language Sciences (NAAHoLS), and the Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics. SSILA registrants will be welcome to attend the sessions of any of

these groups, and vice versa.

The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Boston Hotel (39 Dalton St.), where a block of rooms has been reserved for meeting participants. A Reservation Request Form will be mailed to members with the July Newsletter. Reservation information can also be found in the June 2003 LSA Bulletin and at the LSA website (www.lsadc.org).

Submission of papers

Proposals for papers are invited from all members of SSILA in good standing (i.e., whose dues are paid through 2003). Proposals from non-members or from members in arrears will be reviewed only if accompanied by a membership application and/or 2003 dues (\$16). Papers may be co-authored with non-members, but the senior author (and the author delivering the paper, if different from the senior author) must be a member of SSILA.

Submissions must include an abstract of up to 250 words (150 or fewer will often suffice) for publication in the LSA Meeting Handbook. If the paper is to be delivered in Spanish, the abstract should be in Spanish but accompanied by an English translation. Submission by e-mail is encouraged, but if your abstract employs special fonts you should submit a hard copy of your abstract by mail.

In addition to the abstract, proposals must include:

- * Names of author(s) (if joint authorship, list the senior author first and also indicate who will deliver the paper)
- * Affiliation(s) (for the Meeting Handbook)
- * Mailing address (in Fall 2003)
- * Telephone/fax numbers
- * E-mail address
- * Exact title of paper
- * Three key words (identifying the subject of the paper)

All proposals must reach SSILA no later than Friday September 5, 2003. Proposals for SSILA papers must not be sent to the LSA. SSILA organizes its sessions separately from LSA sessions. Mail (or e-mail) all materials to:

2003 Program Committee, SSILA
P.O. Box 555
Arcata, California 95518-0555, USA
ssila@ssila.org

Papers are normally scheduled in 20-minute time slots (15 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for discussion). Papers may be delivered in either English or Spanish.

All meeting rooms will be equipped with microphones, an overhead projector, and a screen. Any additional equipment must be provided by the participant, in particular LCD projectors for PowerPoint presentations.

Preregistration

In order to be included on the SSILA program, participants must preregister for the meeting. This need not be done at the time the paper is submitted, but must be done before October 15, 2003. The SSILA preregistration fee is \$80 for regular members, \$65 for retired members, and \$35 for student or unemployed members. This amount includes the LSA advance registration fee plus an SSILA registration fee of \$10 (\$5 for students and others with reduced rates) to cover costs that SSILA must pay separately. If you preregister through SSILA, no further meeting registration fee is required, even if you are giving a paper in an LSA session. If you choose to preregister through LSA, payment of the \$10 (or \$5) SSILA fee directly to SSILA will be required before October 15, or your paper may be dropped from the SSILA program.

Special sessions

Three special thematic sessions have been proposed:

1. Markedness and the Lexical Classification of Property Concepts in the Languages of Mesoamerica. Organizer: David Beck, University of Alberta. (This session already has a full panel of participants.)
2. Zapotec Languages. Organizer: George Aaron Broadwell, SUNY Albany (g.broadwell@albany.edu). -- "Zapotec languages are spoken by as many as 250,000 people in Oaxaca, Mexico, and by large numbers of immigrants to other parts of Mexico and to the United States. Estimates by the Summer Institute of Linguistics suggest that there may be as many as fifty-four distinct languages in this family, most of which are endangered and understudied. The papers in this session explore the phonological and syntactic properties of seven of these languages. -- We would certainly have no objection to including papers on other Otomanguean or Oaxacan languages in this session, if there are any additional volunteered papers (e.g. on Mixtec, Chatino, Chontal, Otomi, etc.)."
3. The Expression of Path. Organizer: Colette Grinevald, ISH, U-Lyon, France (cgrineva@univ-lyon2.fr). -- "This is a session on the typological diversity of the expression of path in Amerindian languages, considering specifically the expression of the origin and the end point of a trajectory, and the grammatical means to express them (adpositions, relational nouns, preverbs and other verbal affixes, directionals, etc.) in relation to the lexical meaning of verbs. Included is a discussion of the elements of the path/trajec-tory categorized by the language, beyond those two points, like directionality and view point (or perspective). And following Slobin's work, there may also be a comparison of the expression of path of motion and path of vision if the language does both."

Members who wish their papers considered for inclusion in session 2 or 3 (session 1 has a full panel of participants) should contact the organizer, in addition to submitting a proposal to the SSILA Program Committee.

Participation guidelines

SSILA generally follows LSA guidelines regarding participation in the meeting: Any member may submit one paper proposal as sole author and a second as co-author, or two as co-author of each. In addition,

he or she may also be the organizer of a symposium or workshop.

Presentation of a paper (or other participation) in an SSILA session has no effect on an individual's eligibility to present a paper in an LSA session, or in a session of another organization meeting jointly with the LSA. Submissions will be separately reviewed by the various program committees. However, to minimize overlap with the SSILA sessions, the LSA program committee usually recommends that Field Reports/Endangered Languages papers on American Indian languages be submitted to SSILA rather than the LSA.

Program Committee

All submissions will be reviewed, and other decisions made regarding the structure of the meeting, by the 2003 SSILA Program Committee, a subcommittee of the 2003 Executive Committee, chaired by the President, Pamela Munro.

196.1 Correspondence

* Poster session on introductory courses at LSA meeting

From frawley (frawley@gwu.edu) 20 Aug 2003:

The LSA Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee is planning a special poster session highlighting introductory linguistics course at the Boston Annual Meeting. Members of the organizations meeting concurrently with the LSA -- ADS, ANS, NAAHoLS, SPCL and SSILA -- can contribute posters on undergraduate programs in their subject areas as well. Please contact William Frawley, Chair of the LSA Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee (212 Phillips Hall, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052, frawley@gwu.edu), if you have questions, need further information or wish submission guidelines. The deadline for receipt of all submissions is September 2.

--William Frawley
George Washington University
Washington, DC
(frawley@gwu.edu)

* Quechua and Aymara dictionaries available

From (Musicandes@aol.com) 27 Jul 2003:

I have recently brought back from Bolivia a limited number of Quechua-Castellano/Castellano-Quechua and Aymara-Castellano/Castellano-Aymara dictionaries and method books for sale on my website: www.musicandes.com. Perhaps some fellow SSILA members may be interested in them?

--Lynette Yetter

Los Angeles, CA
(Musicandes@aol.com)

* Address correction for Mashantucket conference
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From David Costa (pankihtamwa@earthlink.net) 23 Jul 2003:

Thanks for posting the notice for the Mashantucket conference ("Revi-
talizing Algonquian Languages," Feb.18-20, 2004; SSILA Bulletin #195.2).
However, I have discovered that the address given for obtaining a copy
of the registration form by e-mail is incorrect. Deborah Gregoire's
correct e-mail address is actually as follows:

DebGregoire@mptn.org

--Dave Costa
El Cerrito, CA
(pankihtamwa@earthlink.net)

196.2 Upcoming Meetings

* Friends of Uto-Aztecan (Ignacio, CO, July 14-16, 2004)
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From Tom Givon (tgivon@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU) 7 Aug 2003:

This is just to reconfirm that the dates for the 2004 FOUA meeting are
July 14-15-16 (Wed.-Thurs.-Fri.). We have secured the room for those
dates for 8 hours/day, reckoning on ca. 8 papers/day or a grand total of
ca. 25. I hope that will accommodate all interested parties. I will send
a reminder about lodging in December. And since it is a rural area,
those of you who can come by with a car (or rent at the airport...) will
probably enjoy it a bit more. Best, TG

* Syntax of the World's Languages (Leipzig, August 5-8, 2004)
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From Martin Haspelmath (haspelmath@eva.mpg.de) 23 Jul 2003:

An international conference on "Syntax of the World's Languages" (SWL 1)
will be held in Leipzig (Germany), 5-8 August 2004.

This conference will bring together researchers working on the syn-
tactic structure of less widely studied languages from a variety of
perspectives. Contributions are expected to be based on first-hand data
of individual languages or to adopt a broadly comparative perspective.
All major theoretical frameworks are equally welcome, as is work done
in analytical frameworks developed in typology or field linguistics.

Papers that adopt a diachronic/historical-comparative perspective or

that discuss language-contact effects are also welcome, as are papers dealing with morphological or semantic issues, as long as syntactic issues also play a major role.

Authors should not presuppose detailed knowledge of their theoretical framework, and the papers should focus on widely relevant theoretical issues, minimizing theory-internal argumentation. We recognize that questions raised by theoretical frameworks often lead to the discovery of interesting phenomena in lesser studied languages. However, the goal of applying a theoretical framework should be seen as subsidiary to the main purpose of the conference, that of enlarging our knowledge and understanding of the syntactic phenomena of the world's languages.

Invited speakers: Peter Austin (SOAS London), Maria Polinsky (UC San Diego), and Marianne Mithun (UC Santa Barbara).

Local organizers: Balthasar Bickel (U of Leipzig, bickel@uni-leipzig.de) and Martin Haspelmath (MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, haspelmath@eva.mpg.de).

Other members of the program committee: Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, Bernard Comrie, Donna Gerdts, Stephane Robert, and Jane Simpson.

Send your one-page abstract to Martin Haspelmath at the address below, either as a PDF-file by e-mail or as a hard copy, to arrive no later than December 15th, 2003. A second page may be attached to the abstract listing data. The abstract itself should contain no identification of the author. A separate sheet or the cover e-mail should contain the title of the abstract, the name(s) of the author(s), and one mailing address, with telephone, fax, and email address as available:

Martin Haspelmath
Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
Deutscher Platz 6
D-04103 Leipzig, GERMANY

e-mail: haspelmath@eva.mpg.de
fax: +49-341-3550 333

The time allotted for presentation and discussion is 40 minutes. Participants may not be involved in more than two abstracts, of which at most one may be single-authored. English is the preferred language at the conference.

The local organizers will convey their decision on acceptance of papers by January 31, 2004.

Conference URL: <http://email.eva.mpg.de/~haspelmt/SWL1.html>

196.3 Websites of Interest

* SIL-UND Work Papers online

From SIL-UND (ndsil@sil.org) 9 Aug 2003:

The Summer Institute of Linguistics at the University of North Dakota is pleased to announce the posting of three new volumes (vol. 45-47) of its Work Papers by its faculty and students. They are available online at the following URL:

<http://www.und.edu/dept/linguistics/wp/wphome.htm>

With these issues, we have completed the transition from paper to electronic publication and are no longer routinely printing any paper copies. Thus, all paid subscriptions and exchange agreements for paper copies are hereby cancelled. People who want paper copies for nonprofit use are welcome to print out individual articles themselves. Questions may be directed to ndsil@sil.org to the attention of the Work Papers editor.)

* California Indian Conference website

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A general website for the California Indian Conference has been established at San Francisco State University:

<http://bss.sfsu.edu/calstudies/cic/>

A history of the Conference (1985 - 2003) is part of the site. However, it is incomplete. The conference programs for the following years are lacking: 1988-89, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2002. If you can provide a copy of one or more of these missing programs, please contact Lee Davis at <davislee@sfsu.edu>.

196.4 Humor

* "General Motors Purchases Indian Languages"

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[From The Watley Review (<http://www.watleyreview.com/2003/072903-2.html>). If Watley's brand of humor attracts you, we urge you to browse their site. Among the other gems you'll find there are "Linguist Baffles Conference By Explaining Own Theory", "France Bans The Letter E", and "Army Creates Mac-Compatible Battalion" ("The Army announced today that it would be switching over a battalion in the 1st Infantry Division to operate entirely on the Macintosh OSX platform"). -- Ed.]

General Motors (GM) has announced the purchase of exclusive rights to the entire Algonquian language family, including such well-known tongues as Cheyenne, Cree, and Mohican, in a \$1.6 billion dollar deal.

"We are confident that this acquisition will benefit both the peoples who speak these languages and GM," said company spokesman Karl Hennessey. "This is truly a rare win-win situation."

GM acquired the languages in an apparent effort to secure the rights to potentially thousands of cool-sounding names for automobiles. With one of the least creative management structures in the automotive industry, GM has for years produced cars with increasingly lame names that have hurt sales.

"The problem is almost everything is getting used up," GM Vice Chairman Bob Lutz told Reuters recently. "If you have a good name, it can help. I've seen a lot of stupid names in my life." These would presumably include the 2003 Buick GoThing, the 2002 GM Pustule, and the 2003 Oldsmobile Scab.

By purchasing exclusive rights to an Amerindian language family which includes over 30 different languages, GM is hoping to counter similar efforts by competing companies such as DaimlerChrysler, which recently purchased Portuguese.

"The GM arrangement is very generous," said Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Secretary Gerald Howton. "It permits the tribes to continue using the languages free of charge through 2030, after which point, if there are any surviving native speakers, they can continue to use the language under attractive subscription terms." Any names which GM adopts as automobile names will be removed from eligibility, but GM has agreed to provide a list of no fewer than three synonyms for any word removed from circulation.

"This is incredibly insulting," said Powhatan tribal elder Mark Matoaka before scaring this reporter away with stern glances.

"The BIA will do everything it can to ensure that the funds from GM are distributed fairly and equitably," said Howton. "Our record speaks for itself."

196.5 E-mail Address Updates

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

Avshalom, Olivier..... olivien@comcast.net
Bohnemeyer, Juergen jb77@buffalo.edu
Parkerson, Ronny W. ronnypar@msn.com
Treichsel, Frank frtrechsel@bsu.edu
Tuttle, Siri ffsqtl@uaf.edu

When your e-mail address changes, please notify us (golla@ssila.org).

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