

*** SSILA BULLETIN ***

An Information Service for SSILA Members

Editor - Victor Golla (golla@ssila.org)
Associate Editor - Scott DeLancey (delancey@uoregon.edu)

-->> --Correspondence should be directed to the Editor-- <<--

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267.0 SSILA Business

* 2008 elections
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The ballot for the 2008 elections will soon be available at the SSILA website (www.ssila.org). Candidates are:

Vice-President and President-elect: Pat Shaw
Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee (3 years): Frank Trechsel
Member of the Nominating Committee (3 years): Doris Payne, Tim Montler

Please read the candidates' biographical notes, and then select one

candidate for each position. You can either print out and mail your Ballot (to SSILA, PO Box 1295, Denton, TX 76202), or cast your vote online. Please vote only once.

* Membership renewal
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Membership renewal notices are being sent to all members via e-mail. Please renew at the same time you vote. Payment can be made by check or credit card. Just print the form, fill it out, and mail it to SSILA, PO Box 1295, Denton, TX 76202, with your payment or credit information.

* Annual meeting
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The 2008-09 annual winter meeting of SSILA will be held jointly with the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America in San Francisco, at the Hilton San Francisco, January 8-11, 2009. The preliminary program is below. Information about the hotel and location can be found at the LSA website (www.lsadc.org). All meeting participants (regardless of whether they are LSA members) may use the LSA website to preregister for the meeting and reserve hotel rooms.

The schedule of SSILA sessions below is preliminary, but no major changes are anticipated. Updates will be posted at the SSILA website (www.ssila.org) if needed.

Thursday, 8 January

6:00-8:30 pm

1. LANGUAGE IN USE. Chair: Douglas Parks (Indiana U). Papers: (6:00) Bill Poser (UBC), "Writing BC native languages: Success by what measure?"; (6:30) Michal Brody (U Oriente), "Feature awareness in the graphetic strategies of Maaya/Spanish bilingual children"; (7:00) Susan Kalt (Roxbury CC), "Bilingual children's object and case marking in Cusco Quechua"; (7:30) Wesley Leonard (Miami Tribe), "On creating the 'Home' domain in Miami language reclamation"; and (8:00) Gabriela Perez Baez (U Buffalo), "Exporting language loss."

2. SYNTAX. Chair: George Aaron Broadwell (U Albany). Papers: (6:00) Carmen Jany (CSU-SB), "Clausal nominalization as relativization strategy in Chimariko"; (6:30) Tim Thornes (U Central Arkansas), "Detransitivity and relative clauses in Northern Paiute"; (7:00) Michael Barrie (U Ottawa), "On Wh-movement in Blackfoot: Evidence for feature strength"; (7:30) Mily Crevels (Radboud U Nijmegen), "That's the polar question in Itonama (Isolate; Bolivia)"; and (8:00) Scott AnderBois (UCSC), "Disjunction and polar questions in Yukatek Maya."

8:30 - 10:00 pm

* SSILA President's Meet and Greet Reception [The other LSA sister societies are invited.]

Friday, 9 January

9:00-11:30 am

3. PHONETICS & PHONOLOGY I. Chair: Karin Michelson (U Buffalo).
Papers: (9:00) Siri Tuttle (U Alaska-Fairbanks), "Acoustic correlates of stress in the Inland dialect of Dena'ina Athabascan"; (9:30) Elizabeth Kickham (U Oklahoma), "Muskogean tonogenesis: Reconstructing Proto-Muskogean glottal stop and tone"; (10:00) Julia Colleen Miller (U Washington), "The phonetics of tone in two dialects of Dane-zaa" (Athabaskan); (10:30) Melissa Frazier (UNC-Chapel Hill), "A moraic analysis of tone and glottalization in Yucatec Maya"; and (11:00) Sharon Hargus (U Washington), "A H+L% boundary tone in Athabaskan."

4. SEMANTICS. Chair: David Beck (U Alberta). Papers: (9:00) John Boyle (NE Illinois U), "The semantics of the active-stative pronominal systems in Siouan"; (9:30) Gale Gomez (Rhode Island C), "Not speaking of the dead: Euphemism and metonymy in Yanomae (Brazil)"; (10:00) Conor Quinn (MIT & U Southern Maine), "Semantic packaging and the manner/means constraint on Algonquian verbal stem structure"; (10:30) Timothy Henry (UC-SB), "From inalienable to indefinite in Ventureño Chumash"; and (11:00) Colette Grinevald (U Lyon), "Nominal classification systems in Mayan languages: A typological and family perspective."

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

* SSILA Presidential Address. Chair: Leslie Saxon (U Victoria). Donna Gerdtz (Simon Fraser U), "Women, fire, and not so dangerous things: Explorations in Halkomelem gender."

2:00-4:30 pm

5. SPACE & TIME. Chair: Harriet Klein (U Stony Brook). Papers: (2:00) Susan Smythe Kung (U Texas-Austin), "Expressing Space and Location in Huehuetla Tepehua" [Mary Haas Award Recipient]; (2:30) Rodrigo Romero Mendez (U Buffalo), "Spatial relations and path in Ayutla Mixe"; (3:00) Gary Holton (U Alaska), "Landscape and the ontology of places at the intersection of Athabascan and Eskimo-Aleut"; (3:30) Hein van der Voort (Radboud U Nijmegen), "Areal diffusion of fictive interaction: Future tense in Aikanã (isolate, Brazil)"; and (4:00) Carolyn O'Meara (U Buffalo), "The semantics of Seri ground phrases."

6. MORPHOLOGY & MORPHOSYNTAX. Chair: Timothy Montler (U North Texas). Papers: (2:00) Leslie Saxon (U Victoria), "Historical-comparative morphosyntax in Tlíchô Yatîi [Dogrib]"; (2:30) Elizabeth Bogal-Allbritten (Swarthmore), "The morphosyntax of Navajo comparatives and the degree argument"; (3:00) Doris Payne (U Oregon) & Kelsey Wilson (Rosetta Stone), "Yagua color terms and their morphosyntactic properties"; (3:30) Susan Steele (UCSC), "Luiseño stem classes"; and (4:00) Marianne Mithun (UCSB), "The potential value of defectiveness: Yup'ik and Mohawk inflectional gaps."

4:30-5:30 pm

* Annual Business Meeting & Presentation of the Mary Haas Award and the Ken Hale Prize.

Saturday, 10 January

9:00 am - 12:30 pm

7. MORPHOSYNTAX. Chair: Richard A. Rhodes (UC-Berkeley). Papers: (9:00) Alejandra Vidal (CONICET/UNAF), "Reciprocals in Pilagá"; (9:30) Fernando Zúñiga (U Zurich), "The applicatives of Mapudungun"; (10:00) Amy Dahlstrom (U Chicago), "'Second' objects with no first object: a typology of Meskwaki objects"; (10:30) Marine Vuillermet (CNRS/U Lyon), "Double perspective on the Ese Ejja absolutive construction: Historical reconstruction and synchronic readjustment"; (11:00) Amy Rose Deal (U Mass-Amherst), "Nez Perce verbs of speech and mental attitude"; (11:30) Pilar Valenzuela (Chapman U) & Lindsay Butler (U Arizona), "Argument encoding and valence-changing in Kawapanan"; and (12:00) Jean-Pierre Koenig & Karin Michelson (U Buffalo), "The structure of nominal expressions in Oneida."

8. ZAPOTEC. Chair: Pamela Munro (UCLA). Papers: (9:00) Laura Tejada (USC), "Vowel phonation in San Miguel Cajonos Zapotec"; (9:30) Juan José Bueno Holle (U Chicago), "Lexical tone in Isthmus Zapotec"; (10:00) George Aaron Broadwell (U Albany), John Foreman (Utica C) & Lee S. Bickmore (U Albany), "Floating H tones and the tonology of Macuilianguis Zapotec"; (10:30) Kevin Ryan (UCLA), "Released glottal stop and prosodic constituency in Matatlán Zapotec"; (11:00) Aaron Sonnenschein (CSU-LA), "Number systems in colonial Sierra Zapotec"; (11:30) Natalie Operstein (U Sonora/UCLA), "Verb classes in Zaniza (Papabuco) Zapotec"; and (12:00) George Aaron Broadwell (U Albany), "A movement paradox in Zapotec."

2:00-5:00 pm

9. INFLECTIONAL CONTRASTS IN THE LANGUAGES OF THE NORTHWEST COAST (Joint Session with LSA). Chair: Donna Gerdts (Simon Fraser U). Papers: David Beck (U Alberta), "Blurring Boundaries: Phrase-level Inflection and Word-level Syntax in the Pacific Northwest"; Suzanne Urbanczyk (U Victoria), "Form and Function in Salish and Wakashan Word Formation"; Lisa Matthewson (UBC), "Temporality in Supposedly Tenseless Languages"; Seth Cable (U Mass-Amherst), "Use of Subordinate Clauses as Matrix Utterances in the Pacific Northwest"; and Henry Davis (UBC), "Informational Structure and Inflection in NW Coast Languages."

10. HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS & ARCHIVAL RESEARCH. Chair: Bill Poser (UBC). Papers: (2:00) Marie-Lucie Tarpent (Mt St Vincent U), "What are Takelma's closest relatives?"; (2:30) Catherine A. Callaghan (Ohio State U), "Ancient i/a ablaut in Yokuts and Utian pronouns"; (3:00) Juliette Blevins (MPI-EVA), "More phonological innovations in Ritwan: Ejectives to aspirates in Wiyot"; and (3:30) Eugene Buckley (U Pennsylvania), "Glottalization in Alsea."

3:30-5:00 pm

11. PHONETICS & PHONOLOGY II (Poster Session)
Heriberto Avelino (UC Berkeley/U Toronto), "Diachronic phonology and dynamic optimization in Pame languages"; Sharon Hargus (U Washington) & Virginia Beavert (U Oregon), "Sahaptin intonational phonology"; Joyce McDonough (U Rochester), Jordan Lachler (Sealaska Heritage Inst) & Sally Rice (U Alberta), "Aspiration as phonation: An acoustic analysis of aspirated affricates in the Dene languages"; Donald Frantz (U Lethbridge) & Mizuki Miyashita (U Montana), "Measuring Blackfoot consonant length"; and Ryan Shosted (U Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), "Uvular variation in Q'anjob'al"

permission from the speakers of the affected languages to publish these books without their permission. And they have what are called intellectual property rights to their own languages. If they are willing for data from their language to be published, they want it published accurately, not inaccurately as Dr. Parker is doing. He simply has his computers churning out books for many languages (as well as other topics) without regard to accuracy. There may be action taken by tribal attorneys for some of the language groups which have had their intellectual property rights abused by Dr. Parker, both by lack of citation of his data sources and by the distorted descriptions of the languages he produces by his mass production program.

I have asked Amazon.com if they would be willing to suspend sales of Dr. Parker's books until tribal attorneys have an opportunity to review the copyright and intellectual property issues.

I am cc-ing Dr. Parker with this message. I have e-mailed him in the Recent past, as well, but he has not responded to any of my messages.

--Wayne Leman
Cheyenne tribal linguist

Wayne appended this postscript on August 5:

Since writing the above, I have discovered that there is a considerable amount of background information about Parker and his books already available on the internet. Especially relevant to my own concerns is Bill Poser's July 26 posting on the Language Log blog (and the many good comments it generated):

<http://languagelog ldc.upenn.edu/nll/?p=3D407>

--a New York Times article:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/14/business/media/14link.html>

--a short posting on the Print Media Matters blog:

<http://fryskbiz.blogspot.com/2008/05/philip-parker-author-of-86000-books.html>

--a profile on the INSEAD site, where Parker is listed as a professor:

<http://www.insead.edu/facultyresearch/faculty/profiles/pparker/>

--the Wikipedia article on him:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_M._Parker

--another of Parker's ventures, "Webster's Online Dictionary with Multilingual Thesaurus Translation":

<http://www.websters-online-dictionary.com/>

[To these your editor would add a 10-minute YouTube video demonstrating "Long Tail", Parker's "automated content authorship" software (patented, he is quick to say). God help us, it even generates desk references for physicians! (See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DSkS5PKHQphy>).

There are a number of other Parker videos on YouTube. Some fairly influential people take him very seriously. "Long Tail", coined in 2004 by the editor of Wired to describe the niche strategy of businesses such as Amazon.com or Netflix that sell a large number of unique items in

relatively small quantities, is apparently a very hot idea among the techno-libertarians. --VG]

267.2 Revitalizing Huron-Wendat: suggestions and advice?

From L-J Dorais (Louis-Jacques.Dorais at ant.ulaval.ca) 30 July 2008:

The community of Wendake, located just 15 kilometres north-west of Quebec City, is the only Huron-Wendat community in Canada. The overwhelming majority of its 3,200 members claim French as their first language, making them the only French-speaking nation within the Iroquoian linguistic family.

For several decades, the Huron-Wendat (also known as Hurons of Lorette) have recognized the cultural importance of teaching their traditional language. Unfortunately, due to a number of socioeconomic and historical factors, the Huron-Wendat language has not been spoken for over a century. At the end of the 1980s, many members of the Huron-Wendat community began to reclaim their traditional values and customs. During this cultural revival, it became more and more apparent that the revitalization of the Huron-Wendat language was essential to the renewal of national identity.

For this reason, a CURA (Community-University Research Alliance) program, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), was initiated through a close collaboration between the Huron-Wendat Nation and the Inter-University Centre for Aboriginal Studies and Research (CIERA) based at Laval University in Quebec City. The 5-year (2007-2012) Yawenda ("The Voice") program aims at:

- 1) Reconstructing the phonological, morpho-syntactic, and semantic structures of the Huron-Wendat language through the use of historical documents.
- 2) Producing pedagogical materials, including a grammar, a dictionary, and academic programs, in order to teach the Huron-Wendat language to children and adults of the community.
- 3) Training qualified teaching personnel capable of transmitting Huron-Wendat linguistic and cultural knowledge to other members of the community.

By its very nature, the program relies on the exchange of knowledge, resources, and skills between the academy, the community organizations of Wendake, the Huron-Wendat population in general, and other institutions dedicated to the preservation of First Nations languages and cultures. The objectives of the program cannot be reached without the active involvement and close collaboration of all interested parties. Academic participants provide--or acquire, in the case of students--the experience and technical expertise vital to the advancement of such a project. However, it is the community itself that is taking the lead in this program. It is teachers, scholars, and political leaders from the community, along with members of the Huron-Wendat Language Committee, who are working towards the revitalization of the Huron-Wendat language, through participating in the preparation of pedagogical materials, learning anew their ancestral language and being trained to teach it. Furthermore, the community of Wendake as a whole will take part in this project through either learning their native language or supporting language education to

their children and fellow community members. This research project will not only renew the centuries-old Huron-Wendat tradition of alliance and cooperation, but it will bring this tradition to a new level of intellectual collaboration profitable to all, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal alike.

Reviving a language which is not spoken at all is not a simple task. If other SSILA members have experience in--or can suggest references on -- techniques for producing pedagogical materials and training teachers in an Aboriginal language that nobody speaks, I would be most grateful to hear from them. I can be contacted at the address below.

-- Louis-Jacques Dorais
Departement d'anthropologie
Universite Laval
Quebec (Quebec) G1V 0A6, CANADA
(418) 656-2131 ext.7827
Louis-Jacques.Dorais at ant.ulaval.ca

267.3 Filming of 3rd "Finding Our Talk" Series Begins

From Paul M Rickard (okimah at mac.com) 12 August 2008:

Mushkeg Media Inc., a Montreal-based production company, is gearing up to begin production this fall of "Finding Our Talk 3", a new series of 13 documentaries on the state of aboriginal languages. The third season will explore innovative language recovery programs both within Canada and in the broader indigenous world. From September to December 2008, the production crew will be traveling to Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, Guatemala, Bolivia and Norway as well as to destinations within Canada to document stories of language preservation and restoration.

Indigenous people everywhere are fighting to beat the odds on language survival, and the series will discover the linguistic challenges and opportunities faced by individuals and their communities and explore current initiatives to maintain indigenous languages.

"Finding Our Talk" is produced by Mushkeg Media in association with APTN, the Aboriginal People's Television Network, a government-sponsored channel that is available on cable and satellite throughout Canada. Although not broadcast in the US, all episodes in the first two series can be purchased in both DVD and VHS formats. The first and second seasons are available on VHS in English, French, Cree or Mohawk versions. The DVD version is only in English at this time. Episodes are \$29.95 each, \$350.00 for each series (13 episodes) or \$650.00 for both (26 episodes), plus shipping and applicable taxes. (For ordering information, visit <http://www.mushkeg.ca>).

Mushkeg is also working in conjunction with Maori TV for a Maori version of the series.

267.4 Workshops and Symposia

* Workshop on Multi-Verb Constructions (MPI Nijmegen, 20 October 2008)
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From Pieter Muysken (p.muysken at let.ru.nl) 2 Oct 2008:

A one-day workshop on "Multi-verb constructions: a view from the Americas", organized by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (La Trobe University, Australia) and Pieter Muysken (Radboud University, Nijmegen), will take place at the MPI in Nijmegen on Monday 20 October 2008.

The focus of the workshop is on monoclausal multi-verb constructions such as: Serial verb constructions, understood as a sequence of verbs which act together as a single predicate, without any overt marker of coordination, subordination or syntactic dependency of any other sort; Auxiliary verb constructions; Light verb or support verb constructions, consisting of a non-verbal element (including ideophones and onomatopoeia) which combines with the verb to form a predicate; Converb constructions consisting of a dependent verb form and an inflected verb and acting as a single predicate; and Bipartite stems consisting of two morphemes, at least one of which cannot occur on its own.

Papers to be presented include: Katharina Haude, "Movima Phrasal Verbs"; Katja Hannß, "Multiverb Constructions as a Means of Complementation in Uchumataqu"; Loretta O'Connor, "Multiverb Constructions in Oaxaca Chontal"; Sebastian Drude, "Multi-verb Constructions in Aweti"; Tana Gottwald, "Argument Focus Structures of Páez"; and Pilar Valenzuela, "Multi-verb Predicates and Transitivity Harmony in Shipibo-Konibo."

For further information contact Alexandra Aikhenvald (a.y.aikhenvald at live.com).

* Arctic Indigenous Languages Symposium (Tromso, October 20-21)
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From Brad Martin (research.north@gmail.com) 6 August 2008:

The Government of Canada and the Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) will take leading roles in supporting and organizing an Arctic Indigenous Languages Symposium to be held in Tromso, Norway, on 20-21 October 2008. The Symposium is a project initiative of the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) and will be hosted by the Saami Council, Norway.

The broad goals of the symposium are to enhance and promote Arctic Indigenous languages and all the Arctic knowledge contained therein. Specific objectives include the following:

1. To share best practices from across the Arctic and elsewhere on enhancing and promoting Arctic Indigenous languages
2. To engage policy-makers and indigenous experts in discussion of the state of the languages and on revitalization strategies
3. To explore the role of language in understanding, maintaining, and increasing Arctic-specific knowledge
4. To investigate the many ways language is transmitted through cultural expressions, stories, and literature across the Arctic
5. To provide guidance and recommendations on circumpolar-wide language issues to the Arctic Council and indigenous peoples, as well as other bodies such as the Arctic states, UNESCO, UNPFII, legislative

of Colorado. August 2008. 519 pp. \$65 (hardback). [The definitive reference grammar of this Plains Algonquian language.]
http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0870819011/ref=3Dpe_snp_011

* The Lost Notebooks of Robert Burkitt, Maya Linguist: A Record of the Languages of Ancient Guatemala. Edited by Dr. John M. Weeks & Dr. Elin C. Danién. Edwin Mellen Press. June 2008. 659 pp. \$149.95. [The earliest reliable records of six Mayan languages.]
http://www.amazon.com/dp/product/0773450556/ref=3Dsr_1_1?ie=3DUTF8&s=3Dbooks&qid=3D1224399228&sr=3D1-1

267.7 E-Mail Address Updates

The following additions or changes have been made to the SSILA e-mail list since the last Bulletin. ("At" has been substituted for "@" to discourage the harvesting of addresses by spammers.)

Alboiu, Gabriela galboiu at yorku.ca
Avelino, Heriberto heriberto.avelino at gmail.com
Ball, Christopher christopher.ball at dartmouth.edu
Bogal-Allbritten, Elizabeth.. ebogala1 at swarthmore.edu
Borgia, Melissa meb46 at psu.edu
Bueno Halle, Juan Jose jjbh at uchicago.edu
Burgess, Maria mapnea at u.washington.edu
Chan, Eugene S.L. euslchan at yahoo.com
Collette, Vincent vcollette at hotmail.com
Crippen, James A. jcrippen at gmail.com
Denzer-King, Ryan ryan.denzer-king at umontana.edu
Fountain, Amy avf at u.arizona.edu
Giron, Jesús Mario jmgironh at gmail.com
Gordon, Bryan James linguista at gmail.com
Hartmann, Iren jhartmann at wisc.edu
Kondic, Ana skondic at hotmail.com
Lyon, John johnlyon at interchange.ubc.ca
McCarvel, Miranda mirandamccarvel at hotmail.com
Migliazza, Ernest emiglia at alice.it, emigliazza at yahoo.com
Miller, Julia Colleen jcmiller at u.washington.edu
Mullen, Kevin kmullin at linguist.umass.edu
Murray, Sarah semurray at rutgers.edu
Park, Indrek inpark at indiana.edu
Paskvan, Susan spaskvan at yksd.com
Romero-Mendez, Rodrigo rod.romero at gmail.com
Rosenblum, Daisy drosenblum at umail.ucsb.edu
Sammons, Olivia N. osammons at ou.com
Smith, Julianne julvis at yahoo.com
Tejada, Laura ltejada at usc.edu
Vuillermet, Marine marinevui at yahoo.fr
Wilkins, Virginia virginia.wilkins at lionbridge.com

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

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

Ivy Doak, Executive Secretary
P. O. Box 1295
Denton, Texas 76202

Victor Golla, Editor
P. O. Box 555
Arcata, California 95518-0555

tel: 707/826-4324 - e-mail: golla@ssila.org

Website: <http://www.ssila.org>

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SSILA also publishes a quarterly hard-copy Newsletter that contains book reviews, notices of journal articles and recent dissertations, and other news and commentary. The Newsletter and other publications of the Society are distributed only to members or to institutional subscribers.

SSILA welcomes applications for membership from anyone interested in the scholarly study of the languages of the native peoples of North, Central, and South America. Dues for 2008 are \$20 (US or Canadian) and may be paid in advance at the 2008 rate. Checks or money orders should be made payable to "SSILA" and sent to: SSILA, P.O. Box 1295, Denton, TX 76202. For further information, visit the SSILA website (<http://www.ssila.org>).
