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

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An Information Service for SSILA Members

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

Volume 28, Number 2

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SSILA BUSINESS

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

Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 6-9, 2011

Call for Papers, Posters, and Organized Sessions
Deadline for abstracts: August 1, 2010

The annual winter meeting of SSILA will be held jointly with the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, at the Hilton Pittsburgh, January 6-9, 2011. Information about the hotel and location can be found at the LSA website (www.lsadc.org), and participants will be able to preregister for the meeting and reserve hotel rooms on-line after July 1.

SSILA welcomes abstracts for papers, posters, and organized sessions that present original research focusing on the linguistic study of the indigenous languages of the Americas.

Abstract Submission

The **deadline** for receipt of all abstracts and session proposals is midnight (PST) **August 1st.**

Abstracts should be submitted electronically, using the electronic submission website EASY CHAIR. Consult the

SSILA website for details. Also e-mail or hard-copy submissions will be accepted if arrangements are made in advance with the SSILA Executive Secretary (ivy@ivydoak.com). Abstracts may be submitted in either English or Spanish.

Abstracts must conform to the guidelines below.

I. General Requirements

1. All authors must be members of SSILA. See the SSILA website for information about membership and renewal. The membership requirement may be waived for co-authors, or for participants in organized sessions, who are from disciplines other than those ordinarily represented by SSILA (linguistics and linguistic anthropology). Requests for waivers of membership must be made by a member of the Society to the SSILA Executive Secretary. (Note: Membership in LSA is not required for participation in SSILA sessions).
2. Any member may submit one single-author abstract and one multi-author abstract OR two multi-author abstracts.
3. After an abstract has been submitted, no changes of author, title, or wording of the abstract, other than those due to typographical errors, are permitted.
4. Papers or posters must be delivered as projected in the abstract or represent bona fide developments of the same research.
5. Papers must not appear in print before the meeting.
6. Handouts, if any, are not to be submitted with abstracts but should be available at the meeting for those listening to the presentation.
7. All presenters of individual papers or posters and all participants in organized sessions must register for the meeting.
8. Authors who must withdraw from the program should inform the SSILA Executive Secretary as soon as possible.

II. Abstract Format

1. Abstracts should be uploaded as a file, preferably in PDF format, to the abstract submittal form on the EASY CHAIR website.
2. The abstract, including examples if needed, should be no more than one typed page (11pt or 12pt font, single spaced, with 1-inch margins); a second page may be used for references. Abstracts that are longer than one page will be rejected without being evaluated.
3. At the top of the abstract, give a title that is not more than one 7-inch typed line and that clearly indicates the topic of the paper.
4. Abstracts will be reviewed anonymously. Do not include your name on the abstract. If you identify yourself in any way in the abstract (e.g. “In Smith (1992)...I”), the abstract will be rejected without being evaluated. Of course, it may be necessary to refer to your own work in the third person in order to appropriately situate the research.
5. Abstracts which do not conform to these format guidelines will not be considered.

III. Abstract Contents

Papers or posters whose main topic does not focus on the indigenous languages of the Americas will be rejected without further consideration by the Program Committee. The Program Committee requires further that the subject matter be linguistic, that the research presented include new findings or developments not published before the meeting, that the papers not be submitted with malicious or scurrilous intent, and that the abstract be coherent and in accord with these guidelines.

Abstracts are more often rejected because they omit crucial information rather than because of errors in what they include. The most important criterion is relevance to the understanding of indigenous languages of the Americas, but other factors are important too. It is important to present results so that they will be of interest to the whole SSILA (and larger) linguistic community, not just to those who work on the same language or language family that you do.

A suggested outline for abstracts is as follows:

1. State the problem or research question raised by prior work, with specific reference to relevant prior research.
2. Give a clear indication of the nature and source of your data (primary fieldwork, archival research, secondary sources).
3. State the main point or argument of the proposed presentation.
4. Regardless of the subfield, cite sufficient data, and explain why and how they support the main point or argument. For examples in languages other than English, provide word-by-word glosses and underline the portions of the examples which are critical to the argument.
5. State the relevance of your ideas to past work or to the future development of the field. Describe analyses in as much detail as possible. Avoid saying in effect "a solution to this problem will be presented". If you are taking a stand on a controversial issue, summarize the arguments that led you to your position.
6. State the contribution to linguistic research made by the analysis.
7. While citation in the text of the relevant literature is essential, a separate list of references at the end of the abstract is generally unnecessary.

The LSA guidelines for abstract contents may be helpful, and members who are unfamiliar with abstract style may wish to consult the two model abstracts (one “good”, the other “bad”) that are posted on the LSA website:
http://www.lsadc.org/info/abstract-models.cfm

IV. Categories of Presentation

Authors are required to indicate the preferred category of their presentation at the time of submitting the abstract. The

program committee will try to accommodate this preference as space and time allow.

20-Minute Papers. The bulk of the program will consist of 20-minute papers, with 10 additional minutes for discussion. Guidelines for preparing abstracts for these papers appear above.

Posters. Depending on subject and/or content, it may be more appropriate to submit an abstract to the poster session for visual presentation rather than to a 20-minute paper session. In general, the sorts of papers which are most effective as posters are those in which the major conclusions become evident from the thoughtful examination of charts and graphs, rather than those which require the audience to follow a sustained chain of verbal argumentation. Therefore, authors will want to make points in narrative form as brief as possible. A poster should be able to stand alone—that is, be understandable even if the author is not present. Abstracts for posters should follow the same guidelines as those for papers. SSILA poster sessions share space with LSA posters.

Organized Sessions. SSILA encourages submission of organized session proposals. Organized sessions typically involve more than one scholar and are expected to make a distinctive and creative contribution to the meeting. Proposals for organized sessions are NOT reviewed anonymously. These sessions may be: (1) *symposia* which include several presentations on a single topic; (2) *workshops* focused on a specific theme or issue; (3*) colloquia* which include a major presentation with one or more invited discussants; or (4) sessions of any other kind with a clear, specific, and coherent rationale.

The organizer(s) of such sessions should notify the program chair (rrhodes@berkeley.edu) of their intent to submit a proposal at the earliest possible date, but **no later than July 1st**, including a general statement of the purpose and structure of the session. A full proposal must be submitted to the program chair by **August 1st** and must include: (1) a session abstract outlining the purpose, motivation, length (maximum: 3 hours), and justification for the session; (2) names of all participants, including discussants, and titles of papers; and (3) a complete account, including timetable, of what each participant will do. Note that organized sessions, even when structured as symposia, do not have to follow the 20-minute paper + 10-minute discussion format.

All participants in organized sessions should submit an abstract of their paper following the submission instructions. Should the organized session not be accepted, the abstracts will be considered instead for the general session.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Facsimile of a Letter from:

Eugene Growlin Wolf Texter T84228
One Administration Road
Bridgewater, MA 02324-3230

RE: Language Books and Literature

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regards to locating several books for my own personal studies in my ancestry and to Walk on The Red Road.

1) CHEROKEE / ENGLISH DICTIONARY ENGLISH/TSALIGI TRANSLATION
2) CHEROKEE SYLLABARY / SEQUOIA'S ALPHABET
3) CHICHOMNI-PEMUNCHI DICTIONARY
4) ANCESTRAL ROLES OF THE CHICHOMNI-PEMUNCHI NATION (VIRGINIA)

I am requesting a list of references and learning aids that you may offer, and a list of dictionaries also.
Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter, I patiently await your response.

Miaqua Oyasin
All my relations

Growlin Wolf Texter T84228

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Dear SSILA Linguists,

It would be interesting to some of us members from small bands to know how successful your projects are from the Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance - Esther Martinez Initiative or other funded projects. Around our band, our language is gone. We would like to know more about how or if programs like this serve communities without active heritage language?

Name and band withheld by request

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Dear Colleagues,

Would you be willing to share some of your insights, successes, and challenges with federally-funded language projects? Your advice could benefit not only other linguists, but also groups who are not federally recognized, or whose organizational development is early stage (or should I say returning?). Please send your publishable correspondence to:
karenrolph at hotmail dot com

The Editor

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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear SSILA Editor:

I should have gotten back to you a few months ago, but I would like to send two announcements, one about the next Friends of Uto-Aztecan meeting. If you can include it in your next bulletin, we will very much appreciate it. I will send you another announcement about Tlalocan, the journal we publish in my institute that is dedicated to texts in the indigenous languages of Mexico or related languages in Central America and the US.

Thanks for your help.

Best,
Karen Dakin
dakin at unam dot mx

TALLER DE LOS AMIGOS DE LAS LENGUAS YUTOAZTECAS, 2010

El Taller de los Amigos de las Lenguas Yutoaztecas, tendrá lugar en la Capilla Elías Nandino del Ex-Convento del Carmen, en Guadalajara, México, los días 1, 2 y 3 de septiembre (miércoles, jueves y viernes), 2010.

El Ex-convento del Carmen es una linda construcción colonial del siglo XVII. Aunque está en el centro de Guadalajara, la capilla está aislada del ruido usual del tráfico. Tendremos acceso a una variedad de hoteles y restaurantes. Esperamos ver a todos allí.

Con el fin de saber de su intención de presentar una ponencia, por favor manden el título y resumen a Rosa Yáñez al correo electrónico: yanezrosales at gmail dot com digamos, antes del 25 de junio de 2010, para que después ella coordine el programa con Karen Dakin. De igual manera, nos gustaría invitarlos a que presenten libros, discos compactos, revistas, que hayan salido en los últimos dos años. Muy probablemente tendremos una sesión dedicada a hablar de los nuevos materiales que hemos publicado o apoyado.

En mensajes subsiguientes, les informaremos sobre hoteles, precios y aerolíneas. No duden en contactar a Rosa si necesitan información más específica sobre algo. Muchos saludos para todos, los esperamos con mucho gusto en Guadalajara.

Rosa Yáñez y Karen Dakin

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THE 2010 MEETING OF FRIENDS OF UTO-AZTECAN

The 2010 meeting of FOUA will take place in the Capilla Elías Nandino of the Ex-Convento del Carmen, in Guadalajara, México, September 1, 2, 3 (Wednesday-Thursday-Friday), 2010.

The Ex-Convento del Carmen is a beautiful colonial construction from the seventeenth century. Although it is located in the downtown area of Guadalajara, the *capilla* is somehow isolated from the usual noise of traffic. We will all have access to a variety of hotels and restaurants. We hope to see everybody there.

To let us know of your intention to give a paper, please send a title and brief abstract to Rosa Yáñez at: yanezrosales at gmail dot com. let's say by June 25th, 2010. She will then coordinate with Karen Dakin. We would also like to encourage the presentation of books, cd's, journals that have come out in the last two years. Very likely we will have one session dedicated to talking about the new materials we have published or contributed to in some capacity.

In following messages we will let you know about hotels, prices, and airlines. Do not hesitate in contacting Rosa if you require specific information about anything. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Guadalajara.

Rosa Yáñez and Karen Dakin

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Northern Paiute Field Methods: InField 2010, University of Oregon, July 2010

Northern Paiute represents the northwestern-most extension of the Uto-Aztecan language family. The language is highly endangered, with fewer than 400 fluent native speakers, and in most communities the number of speakers is in the dozens.

Language consultant-collaborators in this class will include teachers and activists from three different Northern Paiute speech communities. As a result, the class will be conducted both as an opportunity to help address the language preservation needs of those communities as well as a forum for developing traditional data-gathering, organizational, and analytical skills. This course in field methods will involve a problem solving approach that attempts to reconcile the needs of speech communities and linguists with interests in the language.

This is a unique opportunity to blend the needs of the language activist and the field worker in order to identify mutually benefitting outcomes. As an extension of the collaborative field experience advocated for in the "Blurring the lines" and "Life in the field" workshops, Northern Paiute Field Methods will be an intensive, four week experiment in the infusion of advocacy and empowerment to language documentation.

Organizer/instructor: In the summer of 1994, Tim Thornes volunteered to work with the last speaker of Yahooskin, an undocumented dialect of Northern Paiute, and together they produced a beginner's phrase book and ethno-historical study

for the Klamath Tribes of south-central Oregon. He has since worked with speakers of the *Wadateka'a* (Burns Paiute) and other area dialects from eastern Oregon and northern Nevada. In Burns, he co-founded a language preservation group called *Neme Apichaade Semenna* (People Speaking Together) and published weekly blurbs in the Tu Kwa Hone newsletter on the language while also working on his dissertation, "A Northern Paiute Grammar with Texts," which he defended in 2003. He has presented and published widely on aspects of Northern Paiute grammar and has served as an instructor with the Northwest Indian Languages Institute (NILI) and the University of Oregon's Summer Session in Language Documentation. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Linguistics in the Department of Writing at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway.

For more information on workshops and other field training opportunities, consult the InField website at:
http://logos.uoregon.edu/infield2010/home/index.php

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"All grammars leak." Edward Sapir

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PhD scholarships at the Cairns Institute, JCU, Australia

Come and work in an exotic location, investigating a language which has never been described!

Applications are invited, from suitably qualified students, to enter the PhD program of the Language and Culture Research Group within the Cairns Institute of James Cook University Australia. Supervision will be provided by Professors Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, R. M. W. Dixon, Dr Mark Post and Dr Anne Schwarz.

Our PhD candidates generally undertake extensive fieldwork on a previously undescribed (or scarcely described) language and write a comprehensive grammar of it for their dissertation. They are expected to work on a language which is still actively spoken, and to establish a field situation within a community in which it is the first language. Their first fieldtrip lasts for about nine months. After completing a first draft of the grammar, back in Cairns, they undertake a second fieldtrip of two to three months. Fieldwork methodology centres on the collection, transcription and analysis of texts, together with participant observation, and — at a later stage — judicious grammatical elicitation in the language under description (not through the lingua franca of the country). Our main priority areas are the languages of tropical Amazonia and the Papuan and Austronesian languages of New Guinea. However, we do not exclude applicants who have an established interest in languages from other areas (which need not necessarily lie within the tropics).

PhDs in Australian universities generally involve no coursework, just a substantial dissertation. Candidates must thus have had thorough coursework training before embarking on this PhD program. This should have included courses on morphology, syntax, semantics, and phonology/phonetics, taught from a non-formalist perspective. We place emphasis on work that has a sound empirical basis but also shows a firm theoretical orientation (in terms of general typological theory, or what has recently come to be called basic linguistic theory).

The Cairns Institute is a world centre for advanced study relating to the tropics. Professor Alexandra (Sasha) Aikhenvald is Research Leader for People and Societies of the Tropics. Together with Professor R. M. W. Dixon, she heads the Language and Culture Research Group, which includes Research Fellows and a growing number of doctoral students. In addition, senior scholars from across the world opt to spend their sabbatical in the Cairns Institute.

The LCRG has strong links with anthropologists and archaeologists, with scholars working on environmental issues, and with the School of Indigenous Australian Studies, all within James Cook University.

The scholarship will be at the standard James Cook University rate, Australian $20,427 pa. Students coming from overseas are liable for a tuition fee; but this may be waived in the case of a student of high merit. A small relocation allowance may be provided on taking up the scholarship. In addition, an appropriate allowance will be made to cover fieldwork expenses. The scholarship is for three years (with the possibility of a six month extension). The deadline for application by international students (starting in 2011) is 31 August 2010; the deadline for students with Australian and New Zealand passports is 31 October 2010. The academic year in Australia commences about 1st March. Successful applicants would take up their PhD scholarships between January and June 2011.

The application procedures for international students can be found at:

http://www.jcu.edu.au/prospective/studyoptions/postgraduate/JCUDEV_002585.html .
The 2010 Scholarship application form for international students can be found at:
http://www.jcu.edu.au/grs/scholarships/index.htm
Prospective applicants are invited, in the first place, to get in touch with Professor Aikhenvald at:
alexandra.aikhenvald@jcu.edu.au, providing details of their background, qualifications and interests (including curriculum vitae). Applicants are advised to send samples of their written work in linguistics (at least some of this should be in English).

Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, PhD, DLitt, FAHA
Professor and Research Leader (Peoples and Societies of the Tropics)
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16. Achinese (spoken in Aceh, western Sumatra): 32.
17. Mayan: 35.
18. Tungus (spoken in Siberia and northeastern China): 36.
19. Rhaeto-Romanic (spoken in parts of Switzerland): 39.
20. Ponapean (spoken on Pohnpei Island, Micronesia): 40.
21. Muskogee: 40.

http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/04/28/land-of-lonely-tongues/

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Voting in Lakota Raises Skepticism in South Dakota

Taken from *The Daily Republic*, May 2010
Bob Mercer

"State will spend thousands to aid Lakota speakers at voting booths"

PIERRE — Linda Lea Viken put it well the other day. We were talking about the many changes made during recent years for voting in South Dakota. The Rapid City lawyer and Democratic former legislator is a member of the state Board of Elections. "There's an old saying: Democracy isn't cheap," she observed.

Many of those improvements in the past decade can be traced to two events. The wrenching irregularities in Florida in 2000 not only gave our nation George W. Bush rather than Al Gore as president. They also triggered a demand for reform. Congress responded with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), providing money for states to modernize their voting processes and telling them what must be done.

The second event was the election eight years ago of Chris Nelson as South Dakota secretary of state. Among the assorted duties assigned to that constitution office is oversight of elections. For 13 years Nelson was state election supervisor before he won the top post in 2002.

There have been some legal challenges to South Dakota's system during his time in office. But Nelson, a Republican, has never been publicly accused of being unfair in his personal administration of elections during those 21 years.

Since 2002 he has pushed to meet the HAVA requirements on time or ahead of schedule. Through the use of technology and the Internet there have been major improvements for voters and election officials.

He's also been careful about putting the federal aid to its most efficient uses. That caution is a key reason why his office has been able to afford the new Central Election Reporting System that debuted in 2008.

Under HAVA, South Dakota has needed to make new special efforts to reach voters who are Lakota speakers. Those initiatives first took effect for the 2006 elections. And it's at this point where Linda Lea Viken and Chris Nelson differed the other day.

Nelson normally is nearly as careful with his public words as he is with taxpayers' dollars. He thinks the enormous efforts and the money spent for the Lakota services in 11 counties have proven to be unjustified for the return. And he hasn't been afraid to express his professional opinion about it.

The latest HAVA plan for the 2010 elections originally said that providing voters with the option of an audio interpretation in the Lakota language on the special voting machines for individuals with disabilities is "impractical." Viken asked that the sentence be removed. She has a different perspective through her professional work and her political involvement. Both she and her husband, U.S. District Judge Jeff Viken, have been ceremonially adopted into Lakota families. She noted for the board that the work to teach Lakota as a written language is spreading.

The difficulty arises because Lakota wasn't a written language. Generally tribal languages in the American West were only spoken. One result is that South Dakota doesn't provide voters with the option of a ballot in the Lakota language. The other result is that an oral Lakota translation, pre-recorded, is provided for voters instead. And that's where the costs come. Nelson has authorized counties for reimbursement for expenses related to Lakota language assistance.

Those include translation of election materials in an audio format, voting machine expenses, broadcasting election notices and information in Lakota, training interpreters in election procedures, providing interpreters at polling places, providing oversight of interpreters and the AutoMARK voting machines with the Lakota audio, providing interpreters for absentee voting, and paying for a coordinator for Lakota language requirements.

Lakota translations were provided for the first time in the 2006 elections. Nelson said the cost was $28,000. He said about 10 people used the translations, despite heavy promotion through Lakota language advertising on local radio stations. Nelson described the cost per voter for the Lakota audio placements as "simply ridiculous." He said the federal requirements "exceed common sense." The counties covered by the translation requirements include Day, Marshall, Roberts, Tripp, Mellette, Todd, Bennett, Shannon, Jackson, Dewey and Ziebach.

The translations cover everything that the voter gets to mark on the ballot, including candidates as well as every proposed constitutional amendment, referred law and initiated measure. One of the challenges with any spoken-only language is variations. While we refer to Lakota speakers in South Dakota, we have nine federally recognized tribes and traditional bands within those tribes.

Depending where you are in South Dakota, you can hear Dakota or Nakota or Lakota. Linguists describe these as Siouan languages and have identified 17 different languages within that general group. The federal Election Assistance Commission, which oversees the implementation of HAVA changes, recently published a voter's guide in Dakota language. It's part of the commission's effort to reach out to Spanish-, Asian- and native-speaking voters.

Nelson said the Dakota-language guide won't specifically help the majority of native-language speakers in South Dakota because they are Lakota. He said EAC officials didn't consult with his office on the Dakota guide or inquire about its advisability. From the perspective of Democrats, it's beneficial to remove possible barriers for native-speaking voters, because historically Democrats have done exceedingly well in voter registration and in winning votes in reservation counties of South Dakota.

Viken was the Democratic candidate for secretary of state in 1994. Her interest in assistance to Lakota-speaking voters seems genuine. Nelson is a candidate for the Republican nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives in the June 8 primary election. His interest in finding the best uses of the federal HAVA money, and his questioning the effectiveness of the spending on Lakota translations, seems genuine too.

What will be interesting come June 8 is whether South Dakota will need a secondary run-off election for the Republican nominations for governor and U.S. House. There are five candidates for governor and three for House. State law requires that a candidate get at least 35 percent of the primary vote to win the nomination. If that threshold isn't reached, the top two finishers head to a secondary election on June 29. And if that happens, new translations will need to be prepared and added to the voting machines in all 11 counties. That means translating, programming, testing and retesting, in a window of less than three weeks of time.

Could not locate URL, but I can attest to having seen it.
The Editor

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Otomí Grammar and Texts with CD

Gramática y Textos del Hñöñhö: Otomí de San Ildefonso Tultepec, Querétaro by Enrique L. Palancar.

Otomi is a family of about 10 different languages bearing a considerable amount of structural and lexical similarity. This is a first comprehensive grammar of an Otomi language (other previous works have mainly focused on morphological aspects from other varieties). This work came out of press in February 2010 and it comes in two volumes. A first volume is the grammar of the language spoken at the large village of San Ildefonsto Tultepec featuring phonology, a morphology and various aspects of its typical Oto-Manguean syntax. A second volume with an accompanying CD includes the edition and translation of twelve representative texts which are used in the grammar to illustrate different grammatical phenomena. The books are available for purchase on line at "Librerías Ghandi" (http://www.ghandi.com.mx/) or "Librerías el Sotano" (http://www.elsotano.com.mx/elsotano/). The author can be contacted at <epalancar at hotmail dot com>.

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Osage Dictionary Highlights Orthographic Contrasts

The following reference resource is now available: *Osage Dictionary*, University of Oklahoma Press: Norman, 2009 by the late Carolyn Quintero. The Osage language section contains full entries after the Osage, with sentences providing the contextual use of the word/ term/ prefix ~ suffix. Notes may follow providing further explanation or discussion of use. The English section is arranged much like Kenneth Miner's 1984 Winnebago Lexicon [Hochank], however, rather than a number to refer to the Winnebago entry gloss, the Osage dictionary provides an Osage word/ term/ prefix ~ suffix, which in turn the reader is able to locate in the Osage section for a fuller review of the word, its conjugation if it is a verb or use as a prefix ~ suffix.

Carolyn provided a thorough discussion of current Osage orthography and contrasts that with the orthography of the Frances LaFlesche's Osage Dictionary (1932) and that of the unpublished materials and vocabulary slips of James Owen Dorsey [1883]. Also included is a brief grammar sketch, but refers a fuller discussion to her "Osage Grammar," University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 2004.

This dictionary will serve as the most complete and exhaustive resource for the related Dhegiha language branch of the Siouan Languages, and particularly for the Osage Tribal Language Programs. It has been long awaited.

On a personal note, the work would have been enhanced had Carolyn and Robert Bristow both lived to see it in print and available for use by the present generations.

Jimm G. Goodtracks
Báxoje Jiwére Language Program
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White Cloud, Kansas 66094
785 595 3335
jgoodtracks at gmail dot com
Ríre hánwegi ich^é irégrat^a je?

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Cadernos de Etnolingüística presents a view of rare Brazilian Natural History compendia

Alguns comentários à Historia Naturalis Brasiliae, *por Mariana Françozo*

A obra rara Historia Naturalis Brasiliae, de Willem Piso e George Marcgrave, publicada pela prestigiosa oficina Elsevier em Amsterdam em 1648, continua sendo até hoje fonte importante para estudiosos de etnologia e etnolingüística sul-americanas, além das evidentes contribuições no campo das ciências naturais. Este artigo apresenta uma breve análise que situa o surgimento deste livro no contexto do domínio colonial holandês no Brasil bem como na conjuntura mais ampla da produção de conhecimento sobre o Novo Mundo no período moderno.

Mariana Françozo é graduada em Ciências Sociais (com ênfase em Antropologia) pela Universidade Estadual de Campinas (2001), mestre em Antropologia Social pela Unicamp (2004) e doutora em Ciências Sociais pela Unicamp (2009). Tem experiência na área de Antropologia, atuando principalmente nos seguintes temas: Antropologia da Cultura Material; História do Brasil Colonial (século XVII); História da Antropologia; Holandeses no Brasil.

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http://www.etnolinguistica.org/vol2:1

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The rare Latin work, *Naturalis Historia Brasiliae*, by Willem Piso and Georg Marcgrav, was published in 1648 by the prestigious publisher Elsevier. It remains today an important primary source-work for scholars of ethnology and ethnolinguistics in South America, along with the obvious contributions it made to the field of natural sciences.

This article presents a brief analysis that shows the appearance of this book in the context of Dutch colonial rule in Brazil and in the face of more extensive production of knowledge about the New World in the modern period.

The author, Mariana Françozo has a Ph.D. in Social Sciences (2009) from Unicamp. She focuses mainly on the Anthropology of Material Culture, the History of Anthropology, the History of Colonial Brazil (XVII century), and the Dutch in Brazil.

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http://www.etnolinguistica.org/vol2:1

Translated and modified by the Editor

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Scholars Demonstrate Siberian – North American Language Link

Prepublication Notice

Researchers at the University of Alaska Fairbanks announce the publication of *The Dene-Yeniseian Connection*, the unveiling of a far-reaching historical linguistic hypothesis. The 18 papers in this 369-page volume were presented at the February 2008 Dene-Yeniseian Symposium in Alaska or were solicited by the editors. The 67 page lead article by Edward J. Vajda (Western Washington University) presents extensive evidence for Dene-Yeniseian. This hypothesis argues for an ancient genealogical relationship between Ket, the only surviving member of the Yeniseian language family of Central Siberia, and the widespread North-American family of Na-Dene, which contains the Athabaskan languages, Eyak, and Tlingit. Ket has fewer than 100 speakers today, mostly older generation. The 1200 people of Ket nationality live in several isolated villages on the Yenisei River in a sparsely populated area about the size of Oregon. Accompanying Vajda's paper is primary data on Na-Dene historical phonology by Jeff Leer, along with critiques by several linguistic specialists and articles on a range of topics (archaeology, prehistory, ethnogeography, genetics, kinship, folklore) by experts in these fields.

The process of external scrutiny of Dene-Yeniseian continues with the publication of these papers. The evidence presented by Vajda is considerable, about 115 potential grammatical and lexical cognates plus he has identified numerous systematic sound correspondences. Among the more than ten grammatical affixes are several that mark tense and aspect, some prefixes than classify nouns, and there is a robust noun-forming instrumental suffix. Numerous cognates suggest shared lifeways in the far north (e.g., mosquito, birch, spruce hen), while others include abstract concepts (e.g., old age and shamanism).

Several authors have noted that traditional methods and standards of historical linguistic proof are being applied. According to Eric Hamp, the rapidity and decisiveness of this presentation of materials for Dene-Yeniseian are unprecedented for a proposed long-distant language relationship. If accepted by the broader academic community, Dene-Yeniseian would be the first substantiation of a language stock between Asia and North America. From its western Asian limits to its spread deep into North America, Dene-Yeniseian, would represent the farthest geographic distance for a pedestrian hunter-gather language stock. Dene-Yeniseian is prompting a wide range of opinions on the antiquity of the language link as well as on the original location of the ancestral population of speakers.

At the time of publication several prominent linguists including Eric Hamp, Bernard Comrie, Nicholas Evans, Victor Golla, and Johanna Nichols have expressed support for Vajda's hypothesis. Victor Golla (Humboldt State University) has written "…historical linguistics has scored a major triumph by demonstrating beyond a reasonable doubt the existence of Dene-Yeniseian, a language family with approximately the time depth of Indo-European…." Keren Rice (University of Toronto) writes: "This carefully designed volume provides the strongest evidence to date for a connection between the [Na-Dene] of North America and the Yeniseian language family of Siberia." Eric Hamp (University of Chicago) states: "This one volume of papers covers a broader range of comparisons and proposed reconstructions of the DY stock to a higher degree than one will find from the review of the accessible current literatures on any other language family or stock of comparable divergence... Dene-

Yeniseian will change the world." Archaeologist Don Dumond (University of Oregon) notes: "There is no question that Vajda's substantive linguistic paper, together with the supplementary chapters in this collection, constitutes a most significant breakthrough in terms of certain New World – Old World relationships."

The volume is a joint publication of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks Department of Anthropology and the Alaska Native Language Center and is co-edited by Prof. James Kari (linguist) and Prof. Ben Potter (archeologist), both of UAF. The volume will foster increased interaction among linguists, archaeologists, and geneticists in discussions of northern prehistory. It is expected that this volume will be stimulating to the indigenous peoples native to these northern regions as well as to the general public.

The Dene-Yeniseian Connection is now available for order. The first copies are expected to arrive in Fairbanks in the first week of June. The APUA is only available through the UAF Department of Anthropology and there is no discounted price for booksellers. For ordering information, see www.uaf.edu/anthro/apua/ ; for further links and maps on Dene-Yeniseian also see www.uaf.edu/anlc/dy.html

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Is anyone interested in reviewing this work? Please send email to: karenrolph at hotmail dot com.

The Editor

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Hess' Festschrift on grammars, jargon, and ethnobotany

The title is:
A Festschrift for Thomas M. Hess on the Occasion of His Seventieth Birthday, David Beck, Ed.

The description given by Tony Mattina is:
"Essays on the grammar of Salishan and Wakashan languages, and on Chinook Jargon and ethnobotany."

The book consists of an anlyzed text; six articles on grammatical topics ranging from wh-agreement to aspect and grammatical classes; three articles on such lexical topics as loanwords, diffusion, and kin terms; two articles on Wakashan with focus on Ditidaht and Southern Wakashan; and an ethnobotanical essay on soapberry.

Some information is posted at:
http://www.meltr.org/Publications/Volume21.htm

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Please send your letters, recommendations, problems, and announcements to the editor at: karenrolph at hotmail com.

The Editor

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RESEARCH FUNDING

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Next Application Deadline for Documenting Endangered Languages is September 15, 2010

Synopsis:

This multi-year funding partnership between the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports projects to develop and advance knowledge concerning endangered human languages. Made urgent by the imminent death of an estimated half of the 6000-7000 currently used human languages, this effort aims also to exploit advances in information technology. Funding will support fieldwork and other activities relevant to recording, documenting, and archiving endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples, and databases. Funding will be available in the form of one- to three-year project grants as well as fellowships for up to twelve months. At least half the available funding will be awarded to projects involving fieldwork.
The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) will participate in the partnership as a research host, a non-funding role.

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12816