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

Summer Meeting, Ann Arbor, Michigan, July 12 through 14, 2013

Call for Papers

Deadline for abstracts: April 1, 2013

The 2013 summer meeting of SSILA will be held jointly with the Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, July 12 through 14, 2013.

Information about Institute events, location, and accommodations is available here:
http://lsa2013.lsa.umich.edu

Call for Papers

SSILA welcomes abstracts for papers that present original research focusing on the linguistic study of the indigenous languages of the Americas.

The Program Committee will discuss and judge each abstract or proposal on the basis of their collective knowledge and, when appropriate, on reports from consultants. They will arrange each session, assemble the final program, and select session chairs. Emmon Bach, SSILA President, will chair the Program Committee for the Summer 2013 meeting.

Abstract Submission

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

Abstracts should be submitted electronically, using EasyChair, at this address:
https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ssilas13

Consult the SSILA website for detailed instructions for using EasyChair. Also, e-mail or hard-copy submissions will be accepted if arrangements are made in advance with the SSILA Executive Secretary at ssila2@gmail.com. Abstracts may be submitted in English or Spanish.

Abstracts must conform to the guidelines below.

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 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 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.

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 a bibliography and examples, if needed, should be no more than 500 words. All words in examples including glosses and numbers in tables, references, abbreviation explanations, and so on are counted in the 500 word limit. Abstracts longer than 500 words 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.

Abstract Contents

Papers 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.linguisticsociety.org/model-abstracts).

Categories of Presentation

Only papers will be scheduled at the Summer 2013 meeting.

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