

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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204.0 SSILA Business

* 2003 election results
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A total of 141 ballots were received by the announced deadline of December 31, 2003. The candidates elected were:

- Vice President (2004) and President-Elect for 2005 -- Anthony C. Woodbury
- Member of the Executive Committee (2004-06) -- Pamela Bunte
- Secretary-Treasurer (2004) -- Victor Golla
- Member of the Nominating Committee (2004-06) -- Willem de Reuse

* Hale Prize awarded to Toba project

The messages posted on the Yahoo Lexicography List that I announced in Bulletin #203 (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lexicographylist/>) are now being mirrored at the Linguist List site:

<http://listserv.linguistlist.org/archives/lexicography.html>

They are searchable there through the Multi List Search Engine:

<http://listserv.linguistlist.org:8080/mls/html/index.html>

So those of you who may not wish to get a Yahoo Profile can still access the message archives (and other features) on the Linguist List website. The LL mirrored messages are grouped by topic thread.

--Wayne Leman
Cheyenne linguist
(wayne_leman@sil.org)

* Mixe translator sought
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From Carmen Gonzalez (cgonzalez@metlang.com) 21 Jan 2004:

I am with Metropolitan Interpreters & Translators, a nationwide translation service mainly serving law enforcement agencies. (You can find information about us at our website, <http://www.metlang.com>). We currently have taped conversations that need to be translated from the Mexican language "Mixe" into English. I was told by the client that this particular dialect of Mixe is spoken in a small village called Tetontepec, in Oaxaca.

The translator does not have to be located in one of the cities where we maintain offices (New York, Los Angeles, and Miami). The tape can be sent via wav file or physically via FedEx.

If you are interested in helping us out, or know of someone who might be able to, please call me or Dan Grote at our toll free number (800) 421-0303. We can play a piece of the tape for you to listen to and see if you can understand the language.

Compensation for this project is negotiable. Thank you for your help.

--Carmen Gonzalez
Metropolitan Interpreters & Translators, Inc.
110 East 42nd Street, Suite 802
New York, NY 10017

204.2 ELF Calls for 2004 Proposals

From Endangered Language Fund (elf@haskins.yale.edu) 23 Jan 2004:

The Endangered Language Fund, which provides small grants for language maintenance and linguistic field work, is now requesting proposals for its 2004 round of grants.

The work most likely to be funded is that which serves both the native community and the field of linguistics. Work which has immediate applicability to one group and more distant application to the other will also be considered. Publishing subventions are a low priority, although they will be considered. Proposals can originate in any country. The language involved must be in danger of disappearing within a generation or two. Endangerment is understood to be a continuum, and the location on the continuum is one factor in ELF's funding decisions.

Eligible expenses include consultant fees, tapes, films, travel, etc. Overhead is not allowed. Grants are normally for one year periods, though extensions may be applied for. Grants in this round are expected to be less than \$4,000 in size, and to average about \$2,000.

There is no application form, but the information requested below should be provided in four copies.

(1) The first page should contain:

- title of the project
- name of language; country in which it is spoken
- name of primary researcher
- address (with phone and e-mail if possible)
- Social Security number (if US citizen)
- place and date of birth
- present position, education, and native language(s)
- previous experience and/or publications that are relevant.

The same information should be provided for collaborating researchers, if any. This information may continue onto a second page.

(2) Beginning on a separate page, provide a description of the project. This should normally take two pages, single spaced, but the maximum is five pages. Be detailed about the type of material that is to be collected and/or produced, and the value it will have to the native community (including relatives and descendants who do not speak the language) and to linguistic science. Give a brief description of the state of endangerment of the language in question.

(3) On a separate page, prepare an itemized budget that lists expected costs for the project. Estimates are acceptable, but they must be realistic. Please translate the amounts into US dollars. List other sources of support you are currently receiving or expect to receive and other applications that relate to the current one.

Two letters of support are recommended, but not required. Note that these letters, if sent separately, must arrive on or before the deadline (April 20th, 2004) in order to be considered. If more than two letters are sent, only the first two received will be read.

A researcher can be primary researcher on only one proposal.

Applications should be printed (on one side only) and ****four copies**** mailed to:

The Endangered Language Fund
Dept. of Linguistics
Yale University
P. O. Box 208366
New Haven, CT 06520-8366
USA

The street address for express mail services is:

The Endangered Language Fund
Department of Linguistics
370 Temple Street
Yale University
New Haven, CT 06511

Applications must be mailed in. No e-mail or fax applications will be accepted. Please note that regular mail, especially from abroad, can take up to four weeks.

Applications must be received by ****April 20th, 2004****. Decisions will be delivered by the end of May, 2004. Receipt of application will be made by e-mail if an email address is given. Otherwise, the applicant must include a self-addressed post-card in order to receive the acknowledgment.

If a grant is awarded, before receiving any funds university-based applicants must show that they have met the requirements of their university's human subjects' committee. Tribal- or other-based applicants must provide equivalent assurance that proper protocols are being used. If a grant is made and accepted, the recipient is required to provide the Endangered Language Fund with a short formal report of the project and to provide the Fund with copies of all audio and video recordings made with ELF funds, accompanying transcriptions, as well as publications resulting from materials obtained with the assistance of the grant.

If you have any questions, please write to the address above or e-mail <elf@haskins.yale.edu>. See also the ELF website:

<http://www.ling.yale.edu/~elf>

204.3 Call for Contributions: Global Source Book on Biocultural Diversity

From Ellen Woodley (ewoodley@uoguelph.ca) 23 Jan 2004:

Terralingua would like to collaborate with practitioners of biocultural diversity conservation to gather information for a Global Sourcebook on Biocultural Diversity. This publication, which will be available both in print and electronic format, will provide the biocultural diversity field with its first global source of information.

The loss of languages, cultural practices and indigenous ecological knowledge all reflect the breakdown in the relationship between humans and their environment. Seeking solutions for the sustainability of both human communities and the environment must recognize the link between cultural diversity and biological diversity. Terralingua invites you to work together with us to document information on bio-cultural diversity conservation on a global scale.

We are asking for your input in a survey of biocultural diversity projects, programs, and initiatives. The survey will be the basis of an inventory and classification of such activities around the world. Based on further collaboration and information gathering, some projects will be selected as "model" examples of projects that support biocultural diversity. These examples will specifically highlight local stories in the voices of the people involved. Discussion of "best practices" and "lessons learned" will offer guidance for future efforts at biocultural diversity maintenance and restoration.

The Source Book will benefit practitioners of biocultural diversity conservation by increasing the visibility of this newly emerging field and by developing a network of people actively involved in these issues. The survey form and further details are available on the Internet (at <http://www.terralingua.com>) or may be obtained by contacting Ellen Woodley (ewoodley@uoguelph.ca).

204.4 Foundation Supports Language Revitalization in Minnesota

The Grotto Foundation of Minneapolis, in partnership with community leaders and language activists, has made a long-term commitment to the revitalization and restoration of Minnesota's indigenous languages, in particular Ojibwe and Dakota, within Native families and communities. Resources will be used to seed and nurture viable community programs and initiatives that show promise in producing new Native language speakers; have potential for long-lasting family and community impact; and demonstrate the capacity to sustain language revitalization efforts beyond initial Grotto Foundation support.

Resources are targeted to the following priority areas:

- (1) Promising indigenous language revitalization models, including master-apprentice programs, immersion schools, language nests, community language societies or language support organizations, teacher training programs, and innovative new approaches.
- (2) Community planning initiatives, including research projects that prepare a Native community to produce new and younger Native language speakers.
- (3) Curriculum development projects in all areas of Native language instruction.
- (4) Collaborative efforts, information sharing, and technical assistance.

Eligible to apply are Federally recognized Indian tribes, colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, and community groups that have experience and commitment in service to Native Americans in the Minnesota region. Approximately \$300,000 is available on an annual basis, and grants will typically range from \$10,000 to \$50,000 for one year.

The next application deadline will be March 15, 2004.

For further information contact: Gabrielle Strong, Program Officer, Grotto Foundation, W-1050 First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota St, St. Paul, MN 55101-1312 (gstrong@grottofoundation.org; 763/277-3436). Visit the program webpage at:

http://www.grottofoundation.org/native_fset.html

204.5 Upcoming Meetings

* Intercommunication in Athabascan Revitalization (Tokyo, Feb. 16-18)

From Jeff Leer (ueha@aa.tufts.ac.jp) 22 Jan 2004:

A mini-conference on "The Role of Intercommunication in Athabascan Revitalization" will be held at the Research Institute for Languages & Cultures of Asia & Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, February 16-18, 2004. The organizers are Jeff Leer and Tokusu Kurebito, and the guest speaker will be Eric Hamp (U of Chicago), "Distant and Immediate Relations, Linguistic and Non-linguistic Statements." Other presentations will include:

Loren Bommelyn (Tolowa, Del Norte High School), "Revitalization of Tolowa language and culture"
Tasaku Tsunoda (U of Tokyo), "Language revitalization in Australia"
Linda Harvey (S Tutchone, Yukon Native Language Centre), "Language Revitalization in the Yukon Territory"
Toshihide Nakayama (ILCAA), "Language Revitalization in Nootka"
Bruce Starlight (Sarcee, Tsuut'ina Band), "Language revitalization on the Tsuut'ina Reserve"
Gary Donovan (U of Calgary), "Strategies for learner-initiated interactions in language acquisition"
Martha Austin (Navajo, Diné College), "Child language acquisition in Navajo" and "Navajo Code Talkers: a Linguistic View"
Tokusu Kurebito (ILCAA), "Language revitalization in Chukchi"
Eliza Jones (Koyukon, Alaska Native Language Center), "Aspectual dimensions of the seriative verb in Koyukon Athabascan"
Nobukatsu Minoura (Tokyo), "Wh-questions in some Athabascan languages"
Fibbie Tatti (S Slavey, Language Commissioner of the NWT), "Language maintenance and revitalization in the Northwest Territories"
Jeff Leer (Alaska Native Language Center & ILCAA), "Using gesture and sign to teach Athabascan languages."

Abstracts should be 450 words long. Abstracts may be submitted electronically, either in the body of an e-mail message (if they include no special characters) or as an e-mail attachment in Word, PDF, or RTF format, to:

encuentro@guaymas.uson.mx

If the abstract includes any special fonts, please specify them or send a hard copy of your abstract to the FAX number:

00-52-(662)-212-55-29

or by snail mail to:

VIII Encuentro
Dept. de Letras y Lingüística
Juan Ma. de Salvatierra # 33
Fracc. Los Arcos
Hermosillo, Sonora 83250
México

On a separate page from the abstract please provide the following information:

- (1) name
- (2) address
- (3) affiliation
- (4) telephone and FAX number
- (5) e-mail address
- (6) status (faculty/grad student/undergrad.student)

204.6 E-Mail Address Updates

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

Breinig, Jeane jeane.breinig@uas.alaska.edu
Camargo, Eliane camargo@vjf.cnrs.fr
English, Sarah sarahzeviaenglish@yahoo.ca
Fagan, David harper@waypt.com
Fedrigotti, Alberto fedrigotti@rocketmail.com
Martin, Laura ixiloom@yahoo.com [Jan.-June 2004]
Miyashita, Mizuki mizuki.miyashita@mso.umd.edu
Sky, Morgan katakynara@yahoo.com
Wyman, Leisy leisy@aol.com
Zúñiga, Fernando fernando.zuniga@bluewin.ch

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

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

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