

**The Society for the Study of the
Indigenous Languages of the Americas**

SSILA BULLETIN

An Information Service for SSILA Members

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Number 99: November 15, 1999

99.0 SSILA BUSINESS

Chairs needed for sessions at SSILA/LSA meeting

SSILA members are needed to chair sessions at the SSILA/LSA meeting in Chicago, January 7-8, 2000. Although several sessions will be chaired by members of the SSILA Executive Committee, the following five sessions still lack a chair:

I-B. Grammatical Relations and Valency (Friday Jan. 7, 9-10:40 am)

[Papers: Eun-Sook Kim, "The morphology and syntax of the -?at suffix in Nuu-chah-nulth"; Jeanette Sakel, "Passive in West Greenlandic"; Nubia Marlene Tobar Ortiz, "Causatives in Guajiro/Wayuunaiki (Arawakan)"; Frank R. Trechsel, "Obviation and voice in Southern Tiwa"; and Lucia A. Golluscio, "Valency, thematic roles and grammatical relations in Mapudungun."]

III-A. Semantic and Lexical Categories (Friday Jan. 7, 2-5 pm)

[Papers: Melissa Axelrod, "Categories and oppositions: Tense, aspect, and modality in Koyukon Athabaskan"; Antoine Guillaume, "Affixes of motion and direction in Cavinena"; Johannes Helmbrecht, "Nouns and Verbs in Hocak (Winnebago)"; Luis Oquendo, "The verbal system of the Japreria language"; J. Diego Quesada, "The categories of the Teribe verb"; Willem J. de Reuse, "Evidentials in Western Apache"; Pilar Valenzuela, "Case-marking and evidentials in Wariapano: a synchronic and diachronic account"; Veronica M. Grondona, "Possession in Mocovi"; and Alejandra Vidal, "Pilaga (Guaykuruan) as an active-stative system: semantic shift and lexicalization."]

III-B. Phonology (Friday Jan. 7, 2-5 pm)

[Papers: Arthur P. Sorensen, "Stress sandhi and the word in Tukano"; Tania Clemente de Souza, "Facts of Bakairi phonology: the voice feature"; Harold Crook, "Vowel hiatus in Nez Perce"; Marilia Faco Soares, "On the frontiers between pitch accent and tone in the indigenous languages of the Americas"; Jose Alvarez, "Syllable reduction and mora preservation in Kari'na, Cariban"; William J. Poser, "D-effect related phenomena in Southern Carrier"; Dirk Elzinga, "The representation of the Shoshoni accusative"; Sarah G. Thomason, "M(m) (m): degemination in Montana Salish?"; and Suzanne Urbanczyk, "The base(s) of Salish double reduplications."]

IV-B. Varia (Saturday Jan. 8, 9-10:40 am)

[Papers: Rocio Dominguez, "Quechua-Spanish codeswitching within the determinant phrase"; Jule Gomez de Garcia, "Codeswitching as a mental space builder in Kickapoo/English conversation"; Jordan Lachler, Jule Gomez de Garcia, Sean Burke & Melissa Axelrod, "Language rejuvenation strategies in the Jicarilla Apache community"; Joyce McDonough & MaryAnn Willie, "A feasibility study of Navajo word recognition"; and Marianne Mithun, "The evolution of an adjective category in Northern Iroquoian."]

V-A. Syntax II (Saturday Jan. 8, 2-4:20 pm)

[Papers: George Aaron Broadwell, “Second position clitics and clause structure in Zapotec”; Marcia Damaso Vieira, “On the nature of double verb constructions in Asurini do Trocara and Mbya Guarani”; Ardis Eschenberg, “Two kinds of ‘when’ in Omaha-Ponca”; Paul D. Kroeber, “Possessor focusing in Thompson River Salish”; Marcus Maia, “Wh-type constructions in Karaja”; Stephen A. Marlett, “Some facts about ‘all’ in Seri”; and Ray Stegeman, “Aspects of Akawaio (Kapon, Cariban) noun phrase syntax”.]

If you would like to chair one of these sessions, please contact the Secretary (golla@ssila.org) at your earliest convenience, but no later than Monday, November 22. If you wish, you may chair the session in which you are giving a paper. (For the full program, see the SSILA website.)

99.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Out-of-print monographs

- From Bruce Nevin (bnevin@cisco.com) 4 Nov 1999:

Regarding reprinting of out-of-print monographs in the UCPL and other series (SSILA Bulletin #98.1): What about scanning them and putting them on line? The first-order problem is that images get huge, and OCR can't handle strange characters and diacritics, but maybe there are ways of doing it that I don't know about. OCR would require only ordinary amounts of correction for ordinary text, and only examples and texts would be intensively wrong. Is this a project that could get funded?

Could we call them "endangered publications"?

~Bruce Nevin
Edgartown, Massachusetts
(bnevin@cisco.com)

Siebert estate

- From Ives Goddard (Goddard.Ives@NMNH.SI.EDU) 4 Nov 1999:

The text of the Maine Supreme Court decision regarding Frank Siebert's estate (October 29, 1999) is available on their website: <http://www.courts.state.me.us/mescopin.home.html>
What it means is another question.

~Ives Goddard
Smithsonian Institution
(goddard.ives@nmnh.si.edu)

Tzotzil class at UC Berkeley

- From Analiese M. Richard (analiese@uclink4.berkeley.edu) 10 Nov 1999:

This is to announce that graduate students from various departments at UC Berkeley are attempting to form a language class in the Tzotzil Mayan dialect. Tzotzil is the major indigenous language of the Chiapas Highlands of southern Mexico. The class will tentatively be taught at Berkeley in Spring 1999, by Professor Thor Anderson. We are now in the process of generating a preliminary enrollment list in order to procure funding for the class. Interested individuals should reply to this e-mail, or contact Annie Richard at (510) 885-9265. Also, please pass this message on to anyone you think might be interested. Thanks for your help.

~Annie Richard
Dept. of Anthropology, UC Berkeley
(analiese@uclink4.berkeley.edu)

Recognition for SSILA website -- twice

- From David Charbonneau (davcha@cs.wisc.edu) 5 Nov 1999:

Your site -- The Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA) -- has been chosen as a selection for the Scout Report for Social Sciences Nov. 2, 1999, the premier bi-weekly collection of useful Internet sites for discerning Internauts in the social sciences. Care is taken in the selection of items included in the Scout Report. Basic criteria include depth of content, author, information maintenance, and presentation. The content of each resource is briefly described.

If you would like to inform your colleagues and site users about the inclusion in the Scout Report for Social Sciences, we are providing a small icon for that purpose. The icon says "Scout Report for Social Sciences Selection" and a graphic of the icon is attached to this message. Also, you can provide a link to the Scout Report for Social Sciences home page, where your users can see the annotation for the site and the other selections for the week:

<http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/scout/report/socsci/>

The Scout Report for Social Sciences is a publication of the Internet Scout Project based at the University of Wisconsin - Madison.

~Internet Scout Project
(scout@cs.wisc.edu)

- From (webmaster@studyweb.com) 11 Nov 1999:

Congratulations!

Your website has been selected as a featured site in StudyWeb as one of the best educational resources on the Web by our researchers.

You will be able to view it in our Grammar & Composition:Languages:Native American:Native: Dictionaries section very soon.

StudyWeb is one of the Internet's premier sites for educational resources for students and teachers. Since 1996, our expert reviewers have scoured the Internet to select only the finest sites to be included in StudyWeb's listing of educational links. Each site in StudyWeb includes a detailed review describing its editorial and visual merits.

If you are unfamiliar with StudyWeb, please check us out at: <http://www.studyweb.com/>

We invite you to display the prestigious 'StudyWeb Excellence Award' icon, which is only offered to sites included in the StudyWeb directory.

~The StudyWeb Editing Team
(<http://www.studyweb.com>)

99.2 VW GRANTS: ADDRESS CORRECTION

In the October issue of the SSILA Newsletter, as well as in an earlier posting in the Bulletin, the e-mail address of Dr. Vera Szoelloesi-Brenig, contact person at the Volkswagen Foundation in Hanover for information on the foundation's grant program on endangered languages, was incorrectly given. Her correct address is: szoelloesi@volkswagen-stiftung.de Her telephone number is +49-511-8381-218.

The VW Foundation is currently soliciting applications for six 12-month pilot projects for documenting data from various language families which, for the most part, already exists. These pilot projects are expected to lead to 5-year main-phase projects that will focus on the field documentation of languages. Applications from outside Germany must demonstrate a collaborative relationship with an academic institution or individuals within Germany. (For the possibility of collaboration with the MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig see the letter on p. 2 of the October issue of the SSILA Newsletter.) Applications for pilot-phase grants are due on December 1, 1999.

99.3 POSITIONS OPEN

Northern Illinois University

- From Cecil H. Brown (chbrown@niu.edu) 4 Nov 1999:

Anthropology at Northern Illinois University anticipates making an assistant professor tenure track appointment for Fall 2000. Ph.D. in anthropology, linguistics, or cognitive science required at time of application. The successful candidate's teaching and research interests must emphasize cognitive aspects of linguistic anthropology, including (but not limited to) ethno-science, semantic analysis, language and culture, or language universals. Other requirements include evidence of proficiency in both teaching and research including refereed publications, and potential to establish and maintain an independent program of research. Application letter, three letters of recommendation, reprints or preprints, and official graduate coursework transcript should be sent to: Cognitive Studies Search Committee, Office of the Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Northern Illinois Univ., DeKalb, IL 60115.

For full consideration, the above materials should be received by Dec. 1, 1999. AA/EEO.

Binghamton University (SUNY)

- From Bob Herbert (warthog@binghamton.edu) 6 Nov 1999:

Binghamton University (SUNY) seeks an entry-level (Assistant Professor, tenure track) linguistic anthropologist. Applicants should have demonstrable expertise in linguistic anthropology; be able to contribute to our four-field undergraduate (BA/BS) and graduate (MA/PhD) programs in anthropology; and be able to teach introductory linguistics. Ph.D. at

time of appointment required; teaching experience preferred. Geographic area of specialization is open. Experience in empirically-based field anthropology is required, as is a capacity to conduct outstanding independent, funded research. A letter of application should address how the applicant's research program addresses central issues in linguistic anthropology (e.g. the relationship between language and context, linguistic ideologies, the role of language in the reproduction and transformation of social systems, etc.) as well as the department's curricula. (Consult our web page at <http://anthro.adm.binghamton.edu/>).

Preliminary interviews will be held at the AAA meetings. Applications received before December 1, 1999 will receive full consideration. Letter of application, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to: Robert K Herbert, Chair, Dept. of Anthropology, Binghamton University, PO Box 6000, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000. Binghamton University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

99.4 SSILA SPONSORS CHIEF ILLINIWEK RESOLUTIONS AT AAA & LSA MEETINGS

Members urged to support resolution at AAA

- From Frank R Trechsel (00ftrechsel@bsuvc.bsu.edu) 10 Nov 1999:

To all members of SSILA, the LSA and the AAA --As many of you know, members of SSILA are planning to introduce a resolution at the business meeting of the American Anthropological Association to condemn the use of Native American mascots by colleges and universities. This action follows passage of a similar resolution at the Annual Summer Meeting of SSILA held last July at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in conjunction with the LSA Summer Linguistic Institute (see the article by Brenda Farnell in Anthropology News [October, 1999, p. 16-17]). It is part of an on-going effort to educate the public of the deleterious effects of these mascots and to encourage their abandonment through peaceful protest. It is designed, specifically, to promote the retirement of "Chief Illiniwek", the sports mascot of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As viewers of the PBS documentary "In Whose Honor?" know, the "Chief" is one of the most offensive and demeaning caricatures of Native Americans sanctioned by a publicly-funded educational institution in the US. We wish to encourage all members of the AAA to attend the business meeting in Chicago and vote in favor the resolution.

Please contribute to the cause by passing this message along to your colleagues in this and other professional organizations.

Proposed AAA Resolution

Part A:

We, the members of the American Anthropological Association, call upon all educators and administrators of educational institutions to stop promoting the stereotypical representation of American Indian people through the use of sports mascots. The persistence of such officially sanctioned, stereotypical presentations humiliates American Indian people, trivializes the scholarship of anthropologists, undermines the learning environment for all students, and seriously compromises efforts to promote diversity on school and college campuses.

Part B:

We, the members of the American Anthropological Association, will cease to schedule Annual Meetings in the state of Illinois until such time as the administration and trustees of the University of Illinois, the flagship educational institution of the state, replace their 'Chief Illiniwek' symbol with one that does not promote inaccurate, anachronistic, and damaging stereotypes of Native American people, or indeed members of any minority group.

Similar resolutions are being planned for other national organizations which regularly schedule meetings in Chicago and Illinois. These include the Linguistic Society of America, the Modern Language Association, the American History Association and the American Sociological

Association. These organizations are looking to SSILA and the AAA for leadership on this issue so it is important to show support for the resolution. The goal is to evoke a strong reaction from the business interests in the state which, we imagine, would suffer from an organized boycott. Apparently, economic effects, not moral or educational considerations, are the only forces that the Governor, the state legislature, and the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois are sensitive to.

We regret the negative publicity that this action might engender for the University of Illinois. However, we are convinced that all other means of persuading the administration and Board of Trustees of the University to act on this issue have been exhausted, without effect. Since the administration has repeatedly chosen to ignore the expressed wishes of large segments of the faculty, students, and alumni of UIUC for dialogue, we feel that the proposed resolution represents one way that we, as scholars and academics, can promote positive, permanent change.

The immediate task is to ensure that enough members of the AAA attend the association's business meeting on Thursday evening (November 18th) to pass the resolution. Procedures call for a majority vote of a quorum of 250 members. If passed, the resolution will be sent to the full membership for a vote at the next general balloting. Please advise all interested parties of our intention to introduce the resolution at the AAA meeting and invite them to come and voice their concern.

~Frank R. Trechsel
Department of English, Ball State University
Muncie, Indiana
(00frtrechsel@bsuvc.bsu.edu)

Resolution and film screening at LSA

- From Sally Thomason (thomason@umich.edu) 12 Nov 1999:

The following resolution will be submitted on behalf of SSILA to the LSA Business Meeting, on Friday, Jan. 7, 5:00-6:30:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION ABOUT “CHIEF ILLINIWEK”

The Linguistic Society of America urges the administration and trustees of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to replace their ‘Chief Illiniwek’ symbol with one that does not promote inaccurate, anachronistic, and damaging stereotypes of Native American people, or indeed members of any minority group. The LSA will not return to the University of Illinois campus and, given that the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is an official state institution, will not schedule future conferences in the state of Illinois as long as this symbol exists.

Submitted by: Sarah G. Thomason
Professor of Linguistics
University of Michigan
and
Vice President/President Elect,
SSILA

I urge SSILA members to come to the business meeting to voice their views. Earlier that day (Friday, January 7, at 12:15 pm) SSILA will sponsor a special screening of the film “In Whose Honor?” -- a powerful documentary on the Indian mascot issue.

99.5 THE BOOK EXCHANGE

UC publications

- From Kathleen Dorette Shea (kdshea@falcon.cc.ukans.edu) 12 Nov 1999:

Re: Willem De Reuse's search (SSILA Bulletin #97) for a copy of Wick Miller's Acoma Grammar and Texts (UCPL 40, 1965). I don't know if this will help, but I've had good luck with Collins books in Seattle. They bought up a lot of the University of California publications dealing with Native American languages and cultures. I got some volumes on California Uto-Aztecan languages from them some time ago. They had sent me a catalogue with all their UC publications offerings. They deal in rare books but seem to specialize in Native America. Here's their address, e-mail address, and fax:

Louis Collins Books
1211 East Denny Way
Seattle, WA 98122
Tel: (206) 323-3999
Fax: (206) 323-8233
Website: www.collinsbooks.com/hannah/
E-mail: collinsbooks@halcyon.com

~Kathleen Shea
University of Kansas
(kdshea@falcon.cc.ukans.edu)

99.6 E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

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