



language legacies

NEWS FROM THE ENDANGERED LANGUAGE FUND

ELF 20th ANNIVERSARY

We are excited to announce ELF's upcoming 20th anniversary! 2016 marks 20 years of dedication to the documentation and revitalization of endangered languages. Stay tuned for details on next year's celebration!

LANGUAGE LEGACIES GRANTS AWARDED FOR 2015

The Endangered Language Fund is pleased to announce the 2015 awardees for our Language Legacies grants. The grants will support eleven projects in eight countries, including projects focused on teacher training, documentation, phonology, development of a writing system, fieldwork, and more.

Updates on the 2016 competition will be available on our website soon; see <http://www.endangeredlanguagefund.org/request.php>.

Misha Becker & Ben Frey
(University of North Carolina)

Language: Cherokee (ISO: chr)
Country: USA

"Enhancing Language Pedagogy and Community Language Use of North Carolina Cherokee"

The project has two objectives: to assist the teachers and administrators at the New Kituwah Academy immersion school with pedagogical and curricular needs, and to develop ways to encourage the use of spoken Cherokee in everyday situations in the larger community.

Mikhael Benjamin Dawoud
(Nissibin High School)

Language: Assyrian [Soreth] (ISO: aii)
Country: Iraq



NICHOLAS CARLSEN & EMILY WILK, SUMMER INTERNS, SEE P. 3

"Saving the Assyrian Language under ISIS Occupation"

Documentation will be carried out by recording 30 consultants telling about local folklore, personal histories, and the history of the region, providing vocabulary lists for salient cultural vocabulary, and singing regional music.

Emily Elfner
(University of British Columbia)

Language: Kwakwaka'wakw (ISO: kwk)
Country: Canada

"Documentation of Prosody and Intonation in Kwakwaka'wakw"

Working with speakers of the Alert Bay dialect of Kwakwaka'wakw, this project will document sentence-level prosody (pitch, rhythm, and loudness/intensity) and intonation. Structured elicitation and interactive conversation will be recorded, and will be used in the creation of pedagogical materials.

Tieraney Giron
(Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians)

Language: Southern Pomo (ISO: peq)
Country: USA

Save The Date!

*Tuesday, December 1st
is #Giving Tuesday!*

*Join us in celebrating
generosity and giving
thanks by making a
donation to ELF.*

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“Southern Pomo Language Project”

This project will make use of recorded materials and newly elicited language data from tribal elders who have some command of the language. It will produce a grammatical sketch and basic introduction to the phonology, a series of web-based lessons, a collection of audio recordings for use by learners, and a smart-phone-capable keyboard for the Southern Pomo alphabet.

Tomás Gómez López (CIESAS-Sureste)

Language: Tselal (ISO: tzh)

Country: Mexico

“Documentation of Common Vocabulary in Tselal of Villa de las Rosas”

The purpose of the project is to document the meanings and uses of 1,000 common vocabulary terms, to appear in a Tselal-Spanish dictionary. This will be the first documentation of this variant of Tselal.

Joseph Hall (Bates College)

Language: Passamaquoddy

(ISO: pqm)

Country: USA

“Mapping the Wabanaki Homeland of Western Maine”

With Passamaquoddy Tribal Historian Donald Soctomah’s participation, this project will complete a map of 145 Wabanaki place names in western Maine. Speakers will be consulted on the meanings of the names and the map will be available in print and web versions.

Keisha Josephs (University of Arizona)

Language: Lokono [Arawak] (ISO:arw)

Country: Guyana

“Conversational Lokono Documentation Training Project”

Training will be provided to a Lokono language teacher and other community members on documentation and revitalization technology. They will then work with the few remaining

monolingual speakers of the language, focusing on recording conversation and creating language teaching materials.

Daniel Kaufman (Endangered Language Alliance/Columbia University)

Languages: Mohongwe (ISO:

mhb) & Ikota (ISO: koq)

Country: Gabon

“Documentation of Mohongwe and Ikota Oral Literature”

With collaborating researcher Carly Jackson, the project will finalize and publish a previously recorded text collection in these closely related Bantu languages, and will also finalize basic descriptive materials for dissemination. Transcriptions will be verified and put into a practical orthography, and further elicitation will be done.



Mite Lingi (The Idu Language Development Committee)

Language: Idu Mishmi (ISO: clk)

Country: India

“Developing a Writing System for Idu Mishmi Language of Arunachal Pradesh, Roing, India”

A committee of the Idu Mishmi Cultural and Literary Society will conduct weekly meetings with local teachers, shamans, gaon buras, and village elders, and will collect word lists in order to determine the phonemic

contrasts of the language, and the best orthography to represent it. The wordlists will contribute to a trial primer.

Kristian Adi Putra (University of Arizona)

Language: Lampung (ISO: abl)

Country: Indonesia

“Lampung Language Revitalization Program Evaluation”

This project will assess the effectiveness of the Lampung language revitalization program. The results of the project will be used for improvement in the design of the program and for the formulation

of language planning and policies to support Lampung language revitalization.

Brendon Yoder
(University of California Santa Barbara)

Language: Abawiri (ISO: flh)
Country: Indonesia

“Ethnographic Documentation of the Abawiri Language of Papua, Indonesia”

Four weeks of fieldwork will be undertaken to provide initial documentation of Abawiri, including a wordlist and a phonological sketch to be used as the foundation for a community-based orthography.

THANK YOU TO OUR TWO SUMMER INTERNS

The ELF office in New Haven was bustling this summer with two volunteer interns, Emilie Wilk and Nicholas Carlsen.

Emilie, originally from Connecticut, is currently a linguistics student at Scripps College in California. She joined our team from the end of May until the end of July, contributing in particular to organizing and digitizing materials we have received over the years from our grantees. With her help, we were able to quickly and efficiently organize and preserve these valuable materials. (Read about her experience below).

Also from Connecticut, Nick joined us from June to August during his summer off from Carlton College in Minnesota, where he is currently a Linguistics major. He contributed to ELF by researching links between health and Native Languages and by pursuing grant opportunities for Healing Through Language (<http://www.healingthroughlanguage.org>).

Thank you to both Emilie and Nick for their important contributions!

(Interested in interning for ELF? We would love to hear from you! Contact us at: elf@yale.edu).

JOIN THE ELF ROYALTY CLUB!

Planning on publishing a book? Crown that achievement by donating your royalties to the ELF Royalty Club!

The ELF royal family so far includes:

Julie Tetel Andresen and **Phillip M. Carter**, for their forthcoming book *Languages in the World: How History, Culture, and Politics Shape Language* (<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1118531280.html>).

Claire Bowern, for her two 2015 books, *Learner's Guide to Bardi* (<https://leanpub.com/BardiLearnersGuide>) and *Learner's Guide to Yan-nhanju* (<https://leanpub.com/YanNhangulLearnersGuide>).

Floyd G. Lounsbury and **Bryan Gick**, for *The Oneida Creation Story* (2000).

Johanna Nichols, for her 1992 book *Linguistic Diversity in Space and Time*.

Thank you to all!

#GIVING TUESDAY

In the spirit of ThanksGIVING, join us as we participate in #Giving Tuesday, a day dedicated to giving thanks and giving back!

On Tuesday, December 1st, consider giving to ELF and become part of this global celebration of generosity. (See: <http://tinyurl.com/ELF-GivingTuesday>)

“I was looking for an opportunity to explore some of the practical applications of linguistics when I contacted the Endangered Language Fund about an internship. My time at ELF allowed me just that. Over the course of the summer, I worked on several different projects, including digitizing and organizing 18 years’ worth of content from various projects, as well as updating and coordinating databases. For me, one of the most interesting things to see was the different types of materials produced from the grants. These ranged from pure linguistic data, like field notes and word lists, to more cultural materials, like photos and videos, to fully published content, like books, documentaries, and board games. Seeing the diverse ways people are working on preserving languages, as well as being able to see the cultures of the people speaking those languages was truly a fascinating and invaluable experience. It has allowed me to think about how my academic interests can overlap with cultural work and opened my eyes to a lot of the issues and challenges surrounding language revitalization.”

– Emilie Wilk, Intern (summer 2015)

LANGUAGE LEGACIES:

HANNAH KING

EDITOR

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THE NATIVE VOICES ENDOWMENT: A Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial Legacy

Some of the details of the founding of The Native Voices Endowment, described in our previous newsletter, were incorrectly reported. The endowment program was established by the National Council of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial, the Circle of Tribal Advisors (COTA) and the Missouri Historical Society with funds raised from the sale of the U.S. Mint's 2004 Lewis & Clark Commemorative Silver dollars. We apologize for the error.

Karen Goering, of the Missouri Historical Society, sent us some additional details: The minting of 500,000 Lewis & Clark Commemorative Silver Dollars was authorized by Congress and they were sold to benefit the work of the National Council of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial. A ten dollar surcharge was added to each commemorative silver dollar. These were the funds made available for bicentennial and lasting legacy activities. 50,000 of the 500,000 coins were packaged with American Indian traditionally made and decorated leather pouches, hand made by artisans of COTA member tribes. The special sets sold out in less than a week. Some of the proceeds from the sale of the special edition pouches also benefited tribal language projects.

ELF IS GOING GREEN

We need your e-mail address! This is the last year that ELF will be sending out a paper newsletter. To continue receiving the newsletter, you have two options:

1. Visit <http://www.endangeredlanguagefund.org>, fill in your email address below the heading, "e-newsletter," on the left side of the page, and click the "subscribe" button.

2. Alternatively, send us an e-mail at elf@yale.edu and let us know to add your e-mail address to our electronic newsletter list.

DONATE TODAY!

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