

The Committee for Endangered Languages & Their Preservation Panel:
Utilization of Archives in Endangered Language Research, Revitalization, & Documentation

The Use of Archives in Endangered Language Preservation

The State of the Art

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Welcome

- Archival research coming into its own
- Preservation, conversation increasingly about enduring value and use for a broad audience
- Taking stock of where we are, how people using archives
- Language archives have the potential to transform the way we do linguistics
- Understanding how people use archives will help us to make better archives

What's Ahead

- Linguistic archiving: History and state of the art
 - 1743–1991: *Early Archiving*
 - 1991–2006: *Documentation and Digitization*
 - 2000–2010: *How Should We Archive?*
 - 2010–Present: *Participatory Models*
- Preview: *This panel + poster session*

But First ... What Is an Archive?

“a trusted repository created and maintained by an institution with a demonstrated commitment to permanence and the long-term preservation of archived resources” (Johnson 2004: 143)

Early Archiving: 1743–1991

- Boasian documentation: archiving essential
 - But archive access pretty restricted
- Significant technological developments
- Important archives
- But no systematic, sustainable approach

Documentation, Digitization: 1991–2006

- Description vs. Documentation
- Rise of “documentation”: 3 factors
 - Language endangerment
 - Funds for documentary work
 - Digital developments
- Archiving = cornerstone of documentation

How Should We Archive?: 2000–2010

- Benefits of digital archiving
- Topics in “best practices”
 - Orgs/initiatives: E-MELD, DELAMAN, etc.
 - Archives old and new go digital
- Critical reactions

Participatory Models: 2010–Present

- “Participatory” catching on in linguistics
 - Community-oriented research
 - Indigenous empowerment
 - Social media
 - Archival sciences ahead of us
- Participatory models: benefits, proposals

The Future: Where Are We Going?

- More developments in best practices
 - More critical reactions
- Further exploration of participatory models
 - Critical reactions to those

Next: Panel + poster session

- Examine *utilization* of archives
 - Linguistic research, revitalization, documentation
- 5 talks, discussion + 11 posters, organized thematically
- Poster session: 9:00–10:30 AM on Sunday, Exhibit Hall

Theme 1: Integrating archived materials into linguistic (and other) research

- Presentation

1. *Managing uncertainty in archival linguistic research* - Justin Spence (UC Davis)

- Posters

1. *Grammar writing for Yuki and Chimariko based solely on archival material* - Carmen Jany (CSUSB) & Uldis Balodis (U Helsinki)

Theme 1: Integrating archived materials into linguistic (and other) research

- Posters (cont.)
 2. *Bringing archival materials together to expand the Karuk text corpus*
- Clare Sandy (UC Berkeley)
 3. *Relying on the past: Quests for knowledge using language archives*
- Lewis Lawyer, James Sarmiento & Lajos Szoboszlai (UC Davis)
 4. *Thinking outside the (archival) box: Innovative uses of Jules Henry's field notes* - Miranda Rectenwald (Washington U in St. Louis)

Theme 2 : Use of archives for sleeping languages

- Presentation

1. *aapisaataweeyankwi mahsinaakanenkonci: Reviving our Language from Documentation* - Daryl Baldwin (Miami U)

- Posters

1. *Using archival data to revitalize Wiyot* - Lynnika Butler (Wiyot Tribe)
2. *From archives to adult and child language learning: Reconstructing and revitalizing Wendat (Iroquoian)* - Megan Lukaniec (UCSB)

Theme 3: How are language communities using archives?

- Presentation:

1. *The Significance of Language Ideology and Culture in Endangered Language Archiving Practices* - Michael Shepard (U British Columbia)

- Posters:

1. *Oregon Tribal Archives Institute: Assessing tribal communities through archival education* - Natalia Fernandez (Oregon State U)
2. *Breath of Life: Revitalizing California's Native languages through archives* - Susan Gehr (Humboldt State U)

Theme 4: Archiving and accessibility

- Presentation:

1. *Archiving and Accessibility* - Jennifer O'Neal (U Oregon)

- Poster:

1. *Endangered language resources at the National Anthropological Archives: Scope, use, and collaborations* - Gina Rappaport (Smithsonian Institution)

Theme 5: How can researchers enhance and improve archival materials during their own research?

- Posters:
 - *Ethnography and metadata: Simple ways to capture the most*
- Mary Linn (Smithsonian Institution)
 - *How language researchers can enhance and improve archival materials: Suggestions from the Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America* - Susan Smythe Kung (AILLA)

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Thank you

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