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The Newsletter of the
Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea
and the
Society of Pidgins and Creoles in Melanesia
P.O. Box 418, Ukarumpa EHP 444 PAPUA NEW GUINEA

October 1995

1995 LSPNG AND SPCM CONFERENCES

The 1995 annual conferences were hosted by SIL at Ukarumpa on 28-30 June. The theme of the conferences was *Language and Communication in Development*. Papers with the following titles were presented:

Communicative Flexibility in Community Relations Work in Papua New Guinea's Natural Resources Development

Direct or Indirect?: Quotations in Apali

The Polysemic Functionality and Distribution of the Mussau *e*

The Marking of Core and Oblique Nominals in Kewapi

Syllable Structure in Kamano-Yagarua

Four Decades of Language Policy in PNG: The Move Towards the Vernacular

PNG Mix of Languages - Effect on the Attitudes Toward the Vernacular

The Pragmatics of Language use in PNG

There were also two poster presentations by the Summer Institute of Linguistics which included:

- Computer programs they have developed that are helpful in linguistic analysis and translation.
- A standardized font set of special characters for Papua New Guinea to allow easy exchange of computer data

- Three databases on PNG languages.
- Methods of training native language technicians in orthography development, grammar analysis and translation

1995 AGM

The annual general meeting of the Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea was held at the end of the 1995 conference on June 30th.

The meeting dealt with the following business: PNG Institute of Languages, scholarships, responsibilities of the Executive Committee, theme and venue of the 1996 and 1997 conferences, membership and subscription rates, and election of officers.

Copies of the minutes are available on request.

INSTITUTE OF PNG LANGUAGES

The Society endorsed the development of an Institute of PNG languages at the 1994 AGM. The focus of the Institute is to provide assistance to people asking for help in language related matters and as a central archive for language research materials. The Institute is to be located at the UPNG main campus. It is reported that development of the Institute is on hold because of lack of funds on the part of UPNG to develop this project.

PACIFIC AREA CONTACT LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION

At the *Second International Conference on Oceanic Linguistics* a special meeting was held on July 4, 1995 where it was decided to form the *Pacific Area Contact Linguistics Association* (P.A.C.L.A.). It is an informal association which will meet again at the next Oceanic Linguistics conference (It will be January 1997, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand).

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in the contact-induced languages of the Pacific area (Pidgins, Creoles, local variations of immigrant languages, and so on), and to anyone else living, working, or visiting in the area who may have an interest in such phenomena.

Membership and their newsletter can be obtained by contacting:

Jeff Siegel
Dept. of Ling.
Univ. of New England
Armidale NSW 2351 AUSTRALIA
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BOOK REVIEWS

We are interested in having books reviewed for LLM. You can do this by writing to Ana Kila, the review editor, at the address below and ask her to send you a book to be reviewed. If you do not request a specific book or topic she will send a copy of whatever is waiting to be reviewed. If you request a book that has not been sent to LLM to be reviewed, she will write the publisher to request the book and then send it to you.

Anna M. Kila
L.S.C. Dept
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PAPUA NEW GUINEA

DISTRIBUTION OF LLM

Work on volume 26 is running a little behind schedule. 26:1 should be back from the printer any day now. 26:2 should be finished by December. If there are any previous copies of LLM please that you have not received write to us at the address on the heading of this newsletter. We will see if we can solve the problem.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEW GUINEA LANGUAGES

The First International Conference on New Guinea Languages was held in Jayapura, Indonesia on 28 Aug - 2 Sept 1995. Its theme was *Contributions of Language and Linguistic Studies to Science and Their Impact on the Development of the People of Irian Jaya and Papua New Guinea*.

This was the inaugural meeting of linguists from PNG and Irian Jaya. It was attended by a core of 70 linguists with 28 presentations (excluding official speeches). The president of LSPNG represented our organization at the conference. The next conference is to be organized by UNPG in PNG at Goroka in 1997. This conference will likely become one of the key conferences on the linguistic calendar.

LSPNG & SPCM 1996 AND 1997 CONFERENCES

Our 1996 conference will be held in Madang on June 13-15. It will not have a Papuan or Pidgin and Creoles focus, but will be a general conference.

For 1997 we will join the *Second International Conference on New Guinea Languages* in Goroka.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Two scholarships of K700 each were granted to two UPNG students so they could present papers on their own languages at the *First International Conference on New Guinea Languages* in Jayapura, Indonesia. One of these students had received a scholarship from us in 1994 to carry out his research.

Any money donated for scholarships can be mailed to the Secretary/Treasurer at the Ukarumpa address.

We have a limited amount of money for scholarships to help with linguistic research and literacy development in Melanesian languages. If interested write for an application.