

# Hebou 36

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

November 1996

## 1996 LSPNG & SPCM Conference

The conference was held at the Coastwatcher's Hotel in Madang on June 13 & 14. There was no set theme for the conference; papers were presented on the following topics:

- The comparative study of Eastern Highlands languages
- Active/middle voice systems in Motuna
- Preliminary study on Engan reverse language
- Switch reference and control in Apali
- A syntactic feature of PNG English
- More on Arapesh noun clauses
- Serial clauses in Olo
- Medial verbs in Gahuku

## 1996 Annual General Meeting

The 1996 AGM was held on June 14 in conjunction with the conference. Full minutes of the conference are available from the secretary/treasurer upon request. The members of the executive for 1996-7 are: President -- Dicks Thomas (UPNG), President-elect -- Otto Nekitel (UPNG), Secretary/treasurer -- Carl Whitehead (SIL-PNG), LLM editor -- Kevin Ford (UPNG), Review editor -- Ana Kila (Unitech), Members-at-large -- Philip Tama (UPNG) & Liisa Järvinen (SIL-PNG).

Motions were passed to (i) extend the term of office for the President from one year to two in order to provide better continuity, and (ii) to instruct the President and Secretary/treasurer to "pursue constitutional methods of reducing the executive committee to consist of only the President, Secretary/treasurer and LLM editor."

The meeting also approved an executive committee proposal to establish a trust fund of K10,000 with the interest to be used annually for scholarships or grants. Gifts received from the membership for scholarships would be added to the interest amount. In years when no scholarship applications are received, the money for that year "MAY be given as a grant to an established government or NGO research organisation working on Melanesian soil." (No applications had been received so no scholarship funds were dispersed at this meeting.)

Finally, the membership fees for the society were adjusted to PNGK 15, Aus\$ 20 and US\$ 20 per year. This will result in all members contributing approximately the same amount to general expenses once bank charges and postage rates have been deducted. These rates will take effect beginning in 1997.

## LLM schedule

Both issues of volume 26 (for 1995) were mailed out in February this year so you should have received both by now. Due to changes in personnel and computer programmes being used, volume 27 is delayed. The first issue is now in the hands of the layout personnel and should be

going to print in December. The second issue should not be far behind. Submissions for inclusion in subsequent volumes should be sent to LLM Editor (K Ford), UPNG Box 320, University PO, PNG.

### **Reviews for LLM**

The review editor is currently holding the following volumes for review:

Ger P Reesink ed. *Topics in descriptive Austronesian linguistics* .

Midori Osumi *Tinrin grammar* . Oceanic Linguistic Special Publication No.25 (Tinrin is a language of S New Caledonia.)

T Crawley, J Lynch, J Siegel & J Piau *The design of language*.

To receive any of the above for review, please contact Ana Kila, Unitech PMB, Lae, PNG. If you know of other books or volumes which you would like to review for *LLM* inform Ms Kila of the author, title and publisher and she will try to obtain them for you.

### **Future LSPNG & SPCM Conferences and AGMs**

For 1997 the societies' conference will be held in conjunction with the Second International Conference on New Guinea Languages and Linguistics which is being organised by the UPNG. Accordingly PNGK 500 has been contributed to help with the organisation of that conference. The AGM will be held at that time. See below for further details about the conference.

The 1998 conference and AGM will be held in Port Moresby.

### **Second International Conference on New Guinea Languages and Linguistics**

This conference will be held at the Bird of Paradise Hotel in Goroka, PNG, from **24 to 26 September** 1997. Please note that this is a change from the dates reported in *Hebou* 35.

The theme is:

*Contributions of language and linguistic studies to science and their impact on the development of the people of Papua New Guinea and the people of the Indonesian Province of Irian Jaya.*

The topics are: Theoretical linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Functional linguistics and education, and Language planning, development and maintenance.

Abstracts of papers to be presented should be submitted no later than February 1997. For further information contact: SICNGLL coordinator, Dicks Thomas, UPNG Box 320, University PO, PNG. Phone 326-7174. Fax 326-7187.

### **16th International Congress of Linguists**

This conference, organised by the Société de Linguistique de Paris, under the auspices of the Permanent International Committee of Linguists, will be held in Paris, July 20-25, 1997. The deadline for the submission of papers has passed but information about attending can be obtained from CIL 16 - Bernard Caron - CNRS-LLACAN, 4ter route des Gardes, F-92190 Meudon, France. Phone (33-1) 45 07 50 21. Fax (33-1) 45 07 51 12. E-mail cil 16@cns-belleuve.fr.

A copy of the general information brochure giving further details about the conference is available at Ukarumpa, UPNG and Unitech.