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Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea CONFERENCE 2023

Theme:
Celebrating the diversity of indigenous knowledge in
language in IDIL 2022-2032

Hosted by SIL-PNG in Ukarumpa, Eastern Highlands Province
September 27-28, 2023

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2022-2032 | INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF
Indigenous Languages

Call for Abstracts

The 55th Conference of the Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea, themed “Celebrating the diversity of indigenous knowledge in language in IDIL 2022-2032” will take place on 27-28 September 2023, in person (not virtual), hosted by SIL-PNG, Ukarumpa, Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea.

The Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea was founded at a meeting of University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) staff and students on 11 October 1967, with the aim of promoting the languages of Papua New Guinea through research and advocacy of literacy and language education. LSPNG achievements in these and many other areas of Papuan, Austronesian and general linguistics have raised the visibility and awareness of Papua New Guinea on the world stage. Going back over half a century, the archives of our online journal, Language & Linguistics in Melanesia (LLM) at www.langlxmlanesia.com, are an invaluable resource for linguists, anthropologists, and education specialists - nationally and all over the world.

LSPNG 55 will be part of the vision of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032. Papua New Guinea is rapidly transforming into a modern multilingual and multicultural nation, united in its desire for social progress, justice and prosperity. There are fears, however, that the colourful tapestry of its indigenous languages and cultures may fade, diluted by the unstoppable socio-economic integration and the national English-based education system. Linguists have worked on hundreds of previously unwritten indigenous languages, breathing new life into them through orthography development, descriptions of their structures, and the promotion of vernacular literacy in remote communities. Working with the last remaining speakers of many endangered languages, they have preserved for posterity a record of these languages that may no longer be spoken by the end of this century.

This conference seeks to bring together researchers from PNG and around the world, creating a unique opportunity for a face-to-face exchange of ideas on how best to promote Tok Ples languages and cultures of the South Pacific region, while also meeting the demands of the 21st century. ‘Unity in Diversity,’ the long-celebrated ideology of the Independence era in PNG, will again be the focus of our discussions. How can the linguistic diversity and cultural knowledge of Papua New Guinea survive the leveling convergence of human cultures in our Global Village?

Therefore, we are calling for papers that deal with Papuan and Austronesian languages spoken in Papua New Guinea, including Tok Pisin. While papers on any subject dealing with relevant topics in general and applied linguistics, or any of the subfields of linguistics, literacy and language use are welcome, preference will be given to those pertaining to the promotion and preservation of the indigenous languages of the region.

Abstract Submission

We invite abstracts for 20-minute presentations followed by 10 minutes of interaction.

Abstracts (maximum 400 words) should be no more than one A4 page in length, including references and

examples. They should be anonymous and set in a minimum of 12 pt font. They should be in Word format and the file name should start with LSPNG2023, followed by an underscore and then the first author's surname, e.g. LSPNG2023_surname. After renaming the abstracts, they will be peer-reviewed by members of the program committee.

Abstracts must be submitted electronically as an attachment and sent to ld-linguistics_png@sil.org.

Abstract content

A few suggestions:

1. Your choice of title will help us group your paper with others, to form thematically cohesive sessions; please make sure the title clearly reflects the essence of your presentation.
2. State the main point or argument of your presentation.
3. Summarize the significance of your research.

Deadline for abstract submission

28 July 2023. Submitting authors will be notified of abstract acceptance within three business days of the abstract submission deadline.

Conference Proceedings will be published on *Language & Linguistics in Melanesia* website www.langlxmelanesia.com. LLM uses the Unified Stylesheet for Linguistic Journals, available for download at www.langlxmelanesia.com under the 'Instructions to Authors' tab.

Registration fee

No conference fees will be collected this year due to logistical reasons.

Programme

The Conference program will be posted on the LLM website by mid-September, 2023.

published by the LSPNG 2023 Organizing Committee

31 May 2023
