

ALL TIMES ARE IN MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME (UTC-7:00)

	Session A	Session B
Saturday, 17 January 2026		
9:00 AM	<p>Mayan Special Session Session Chair: Raina Heaton</p> <p><i>Pedro Mateo Pedro</i> “Production patterns of ejectives in two Mayan languages: Q'anjob'al and Itzaj”</p>	<p>Phonology Session Chair: Myke Brinkerhoff</p> <p><i>Analia Gutiérrez</i> “Untangling the role of glottal stop in Maká (Mataguayan)” WITHDRAWN</p>
9:30 AM	<p><i>Florian Ertz, Robin Hollenbach, Stavros Skopeteas</i> “Number and Definiteness in Yucatec Maya: The grammar of reference in a language contact situation”</p>	<p><i>Maksymilian Dąbkowski</i> “A'ingae nasality always floats”</p>
10:00 AM	<p><i>David F. Mora Marín</i> “A Quantitative Approach to Grammatical Constraints in Mayan Spelling Conventions”</p>	<p><i>Kristina Balykova</i> “Hiatus resolution at morphological boundaries in Guató”</p>
10:30-11:00 am	BREAK	
11:00 AM	<p>Morphosyntax Session Chair: Raina Heaton</p> <p><i>Tyler Lee-Wynant, Line Mikkelsen, Grethe Schmidt, Ellen Thrane</i> “Case and agreement in Kalaallisut non-finite constructions”</p>	<p>Discourse I Session Chair: Susan Smythe Kung</p> <p><i>Elisabeth Verhoeven</i> “Optional ergative marking in Cabécar: Insights from a corpus study”</p>

11:30 AM	<p><i>John Lyon</i> “Stacking Sentential Aspects in Nsyilxcn”</p>	<p><i>Anaís Almendra, Arianna Bisazza, Claudio Gutierrez, Felipe Hasler</i> “Rol de la información lingüística en el procesamiento con LLM del mapudungun”</p>
12:00 PM	<p><i>Martin Renard</i> “Referent Realization in Kanien’kéha: Documentation, Analysis, and Activation”</p>	<p><i>Jorge Emilio Rosés Labrada, Fabián Leonardo Malaver Chaparro</i> “Purpose clauses in Sáliba (Jodï-Sáliban): A corpus study”</p>
12:30-2 PM	LUNCH BREAK	
2:00 PM	<p>Typology Session Chair: Jaime Pérez González</p> <p><i>Adan Francisco Pascual, Ruperto Montejo Esteban, Marco Antonio Antonio Mateo, Filiberto Patal Majzul, Antonio Moises Toma Cruz, Mario Marroquín Peliz, Johanna Liseth Mendoza Solís, Nikte' María Juliana Sis Iboy, Pedro Mateo Pedro, and Suzi Lima</i> “Numeral Classifier Constructions in Mayan Languages: A Cross-Linguistic Perspective”</p>	<p>Historical & Comparative I Session Chair: Jorge Emilio Rosés Labrada</p> <p><i>Felipe Hasler, Joaquín Vásquez, Midori Asato</i> “Aproximaciones a la relación histórica entre el millcayac y el allentiac (familia huarpe)”</p>
2:30 PM	<p><i>Skye Anderson</i> “Switch reference, sentential coordination & pro-verbs in Nisenan: Implications for typology”</p>	<p><i>Antonia Gallardo</i> “Distribución geográfica y estrategias de formación de palabras en la toponimia indígena de Chiloé”</p>
3:00-3:30 PM	BREAK	

3:30-5:00 PM	<p><u>Special Session on Indigenous Signed Languages: Some ethical issues in signed language research</u></p> <p>Dr. Lina Hou (UCSB) and Dr. Melanie McKay-Cody (University of Arizona) Session chair: Pattie Epps</p>	
	Session A	Session B
<p>Sunday, 18 January 2026</p>		
<p>9:00 AM</p> <p>9:30 AM</p> <p>10:00 AM</p>	<p>NSF Special Presentation on Funding</p> <p><i>Rachel M. Theodore & Wilson de Lima Silva</i> <u>“Navigating the dynamic federal funding landscape”</u></p> <p>Revitalization I Session Chair: Wilson de Lima Silva</p> <p><i>Iara Mantenuto, Félix Cortés, Fernando Severino, Brianda Aide Santiago Suárez</i> <u>“Language Revitalization through Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Video journalism”</u></p>	<p>Historical & Comparative II Session Chair: Rosa Vallejos-Yopán</p> <p><i>Jeffrey Bourns</i> <u>“The Deverbal Origins of Cherokee Adjectives”</u></p> <p><i>Jens E. L. Van Gysel, Josefina Bittar</i> <u>“Strategies for predicating borrowed adjectives in Paraguayan Guarani and Sanapaná”</u></p> <p><i>The Chickasaw Nation Language Preservation Division</i> <u>“Historical Linguistics as Community-Focused Work: the Collins-Gatschet Manuscripts”</u></p>
10:30-11:00 AM	<p>BREAK</p>	
11:00	<p>Revitalization II Session Chair: Pedro Mateo Pedro</p> <p><i>Katarzyna I. Wojtylak</i></p>	<p>Discourse II Session Chair: Karol Obert</p> <p><i>Camila Antonia García Toledo, Joaquin Fernando</i></p>

<p>11:30</p> <p>12:00</p>	<p>“The power of many: Bottom-up revitalization and linguistic plurality among the Caquetá–Putumayo peoples of the Colombian Amazon”</p> <p><i>Shenia Arcos Álvaro, Carol Rose Little</i> “Translating legal terms into Indigenous Languages: A Ch’ol case study/ La traducción de términos jurídicos a lenguas indígenas: un estudio de Ch’ol”</p> <p><i>Ingrid Sub Cuc, Stephen Eyman, Magda Sotz</i> “K’ak’ak’ Tzib: a Pedagogy for New Indigenous Literacies for Kaqchikel Maya Speakers”</p>	<p><i>Vásquez Pérez</i> “Incorporación nominal en ckunsa, allentiac y millcayac”</p> <p><i>Mariana I. Calderón-Corona</i> “Sincretismo de voz y voz pasiva en el zapoteco de San Pablo Güilá”</p> <p><i>Eva-Maria Roessler, Jan David Hauck</i> “On Trilingual Speech, Language Mixing and the Emergence of a Fused Lect: Conventionalizing Verbal Negation in Guaraché (*Eastern Paraguay)” WITHDRAWN</p>
<p>12:30-2 PM</p>	<p>LUNCH BREAK</p>	
<p>2:00 PM</p> <p>2:30 PM</p> <p>3:00 PM</p>	<p>Revitalization III Session Chair: Jaime Pérez González</p> <p><i>Jacqueline Brixey</i> “Choctaw Speech Recognizers for Language Revitalization”</p> <p><i>Tyler Lee-Wynant</i> “Revitalizing Northern Pomo questions from documentation”</p> <p><i>Zoe Brown</i></p>	<p>Discourse III Session Chair: Pattie Epps</p> <p><i>Amalia SKILTON, Rosa VALLEJOS-YOPÁN, Marin ALEMÁN, Logan BALLOU, Nick UNDERWOOD, Naomi SHIN</i> “Joint attention matters more than space to demonstrative use in Ticuna and Secoya”</p> <p><i>Candy Milagros Angulo Pando</i> “Sistema de concordancia de participante en la lengua amahuaca (Pano, Perú)”</p> <p><i>Chad Howe</i></p>

	“Building Capacity for Root-Word Method in Ojibwemowin”	“Placeholder or hesitation marker? na in Quechua-Spanish bilinguals”
3:30-4:00 PM	BREAK	
4:00-5:00 PM	BUSINESS MEETING	

ABSTRACTS

Hiatus resolution at morphological boundaries in Guató

Vowel encounters at morphological boundaries are a frequent phenomenon in Guató, given its predominant (C)V syllable structure and agglutinating nature. The language deals with such sequences in several ways: maintaining the hiatus, [d̥ɜ̃]-epenthesis, fusion of the vowels, deletion of one vowel, and glide formation. However, no general overview of these processes has been offered for Guató. I propose that [d̥ɜ̃]-epenthesis is the default treatment for vowel encounters. Other processes can be chosen to resolve or maintain a hiatus if triggered by specific conditions, such as tone, vowel quality, and sometimes the amount of phonological material before the vowel encounter.

Case and agreement in Kalaallisut non-finite constructions

We describe and analyze a periphrastic negation construction (PNC) in Kalaallisut (Inuit, Greenland), in which a negative auxiliary embeds a non-finite verb form. We compare it to a superficially similar control construction and show that the two in fact differ systematically in case and agreement properties. We attribute this to nominalization of the non-finite VP in control structures but not in the PNC. This study affirms and refines existing theories of case and agreement in the language and adds a data point to the class of languages with negative auxiliaries, which constitutes only 4% of the 1157 language WALS sample.

A Quantitative Approach to Grammatical Constraints in Mayan Spelling Conventions

This paper presents a quantitative study of grammatical constraints on spelling practices in Epigraphic Mayan, a logosyllabic script that represented Ch'olan-Tzeltalan and Yucatecan (Mayan) varieties. The paper tests Justeson's (1986, 1989) proposals for the diachronic development spelling practices with datasets compiled with the Maya Hieroglyphic Database (Looper and Macri 1991–2025). The results support Justeson's proposal that disambiguation (morphological, lexical) served as the initial stimulus for phonographic sign usage, followed by analogical extension of syllabograms to unambiguous contexts. The paper also analyzes constraints on the spelling of grammatical suffixing, with frequency- and efficiency-based implications according to suffix type and shape.

Purpose clauses in Sáliba (Jodí-Sáliban): A corpus study

This presentation focuses on the expression of “purpose” in Sáliba, a Jodí-Sáliban language spoken in present-day Colombia and Venezuela, based on connected speech data. In particular, we show that there is variability with respect to marking, subject co-referentiality, and position relative to the main clause. This presentation thus contributes to the description of Sáliba and to the typology of purpose clauses and has the potential to inform ongoing community-based language teaching efforts.

Rol de la información lingüística en el procesamiento con LLM del mapudungun

Este estudio explora qué tipo de información lingüística (diccionario, gramática o corpus anotado) del mapudungun, lengua de poco corpus, tiene mayor incidencia para mejorar el desempeño del LLM Gemini-2.5-Pro al segmentar y anotar morfológicamente la lengua. Se realizaron cinco experimentos con distinta información lingüística. Resultados preliminares indican que el uso combinado de recursos lingüísticos obtienen el mejor desempeño, en comparación con el uso de información aislada. La metodología propuesta contribuye a automatizar el análisis morfológico del mapudungun, y ofrece una herramienta que puede facilitar su enseñanza, aprendizaje y revitalización, y, potencialmente, también para otras lenguas indígenas de poco corpus.

Numeral Classifier Constructions in Mayan Languages: A Cross-Linguistic Perspective

This presentation contributes to the debate on numeral classifier languages by examining cross-linguistic variation in Mayan languages. We analyze data from Itzaj (Yucatecan); Awakateko, Ixil, and Mam (Mamean); Achi, Kaqchikel, and K'iche' (K'ichean); and Q'anjob'al and Popti' (Q'anjob'alan). Our findings show that K'ichean languages and Awakateko are best analyzed as non-classifier languages, while Itzaj, Q'anjob'al, and Popti' exhibit classifiers syntactically and semantically linked to numerals, following diagnostics from Little, Moroney & Royer (2022). We also explore the interaction between plural marking and classifiers in constructions with numerals.

The Deverbal Origins of Cherokee Adjectives

Among Iroquoian languages, only Cherokee possesses a distinct lexical category of adjectives. It has been asserted that adjectives are an innovation of Cherokee, yet such claims are based entirely on synchronic analyses of modern Cherokee, with no investigation of the early documentary record. The deverbal origins of the adjective class are discoverable in the earliest published Cherokee, where an incipient stage of adjective marking is strongly in evidence. It is moreover evident that the occurrence of such adjectives in predicative position gave rise to the superhigh accent that characterizes all Cherokee adjectives.

Aproximaciones a la relación histórica entre el millcayac y el allentiac (familia huarpe)

Esta investigación examina la relación histórica entre el millcayac y el allentiac (Huarpe: Cuyo, Argentina). No cuentan con estudio que evalúen sistemáticamente sus similitudes y divergencias estructurales en torno a su relación histórica. Basado en fuentes coloniales, se presenta un análisis comparado de tres dominios: tiempo gramatical, negación y voz pasiva, considerando su grado de estabilidad tipológica. Los dominios analizados presentan diferencias significativas entre sí, lo que podría indicar diferenciación genealógica. Se plantea que la divergencia se da, precisamente, en rasgos inestables pero en un marco de similitud estructural que permite inferir un origen común para las lenguas.

Switch reference, sentential coordination & pro-verbs in Nisenan: Implications for typology

Many languages of the Americas use switch-reference (SR) morphology to encode the semantic (non)identity of grammatical subject or topic across clauses in multiclausal utterances. In a typological survey of SR in North American languages, McKenzie (2015) found a categorical pattern: languages either use SR-marked conjunctions for sentential coordination or use SR-marked pro-verbs, possibly as a work-around for the lack of sentential coordination; languages do not use both structures. Here I will show that Nisenan, a Maiduan language undergoing revitalization from archival documentation, has both SR-marked sentential coordination and SR-marked pro-verbs. They can co-occur and play distinct roles in structuring discourse.

Production patterns of ejectives in two Mayan languages: Q'anjob'al and Itzaj

This presentation discusses the production of ejectives by children acquiring Q'anjob'al as their L1 and L2 learners of Itzaj, an endangered language. Studies exist on the phonetic properties of ejectives in Mayan languages (Bennett, Henderson, and Harvey, 2023), but few studies exist on how children acquire ejectives compared to L2 learners' ejectives. Children acquiring Q'anjob'al and L2 learners of Itzaj deglottalize ejectives. Children produce ejectives around the age of 3, L2 learners of Itzaj produce non-ejectives as ejectives. The results of this study can be informative for understanding the production of ejectives by L2 learners in a language revitalization context.

Joint attention matters more than space to demonstrative use in Ticuna and Secoya

In Ticuna (isolate) and Secoya (Tukanoan), demonstratives are described as combining multiple meaning components. These include joint attention – whether the addressee is already attending to the referent – as well as distance and visibility. We therefore use a production experiment to compare the impacts of joint attention vs. distance on demonstrative use in each language. Results show that when Ticuna and Secoya participants maintain attention on a previously mentioned referent, they use primarily addressee-proximal demonstratives – even in speaker-proximal physical space. In contrast, when participants call attention to discourse-new referents, demonstrative use varies more and is more closely related to referent distance.

The power of many: Bottom-up revitalization and linguistic plurality among the Caquetá–Putumayo peoples of the Colombian Amazon

This paper presents findings from community-led language revitalization among the Caquetá–Putumayo (C–P) peoples of the Colombian Amazon. Based on 2024 ethnographic fieldwork with six C–P groups, it highlights bottom-up initiatives—such as dialect preservation, oral history documentation, and decolonial literacy projects—led by elders, women, and youth. These efforts embed language in ritual, ecological practice, and education. I argue that C–P revitalization reflects a decentralized, relational model rooted in cultural sovereignty, challenging standardization as a necessary goal. Data include interviews, ritual recordings, and community materials, illustrating revitalization as lived practice, not institutional policy.

Stacking Sentential Aspects in Nsyilxcn

Nsyilxcn (a.k.a. Okanagan, ISO: 639-3 oka) is a Southern Interior Salish language spoken in south-central British Columbia, and the northern interior of Washington State. This paper examines sentential aspect in Nsyilxcn from a multi-layered perspective, in pursuit of a compositional analysis. Results from this work directly support language revitalization efforts being undertaken at community-based and academic institutions. I show that sentential aspect can be decomposed somewhat transparently into three levels. There are however ongoing questions relating to how the outermost ‘irrealis’ aspectual layer composes with lower layers, and these questions are the focus of the present talk.

Optional ergative marking in Cabécar: Insights from a corpus study

In this presentation we provide a detailed account of the syntactic and pragmatic properties of (optional) ergative marking in Cabécar, a Chibchan language of Costa Rica. We first establish the morpho-syntactic facts with elicited data, presenting the crucial constructions that provide evidence for subject/object asymmetries in this language. Second, investigation of a corpus of 96 narratives reveals that word order emerges as the primary factor influencing ergative marking, with the ergative marker being omissible almost exclusively in canonical SOV structures. Givenness, while not a direct determinant, exerts an indirect effect through its alignment with word order.

Strategies for predicating borrowed adjectives in Paraguayan Guarani and Sanapaná

This paper investigates the behavior of Spanish-origin adjectives in Paraguayan Guarani and Sanapaná in predicational contexts. Even though both recipient languages have an overt copula strategy for property predication – analogous to the Spanish use of *ser/estar* – in neither language this strategy is dominant with the predication of Spanish-origin adjectives. Instead, the strategies that are most frequent with etymologically Guarani and Sanapaná property words (verbal strategy in the former, juxtaposition in the latter) are straightforwardly extended to borrowed adjectives. This study contributes to our understanding of the interface between lexical and grammatical borrowing, which has remained largely understudied regarding adjectives.

Choctaw Speech Recognizers for Language Revitalization

This work describes the development of two Automatic Speech Recognizers (ASRs) for Choctaw, an American Indigenous language belonging to the Muskogean language family. An ASR is a computer program that automatically converts spoken audio to text. One ASR was trained on phrasal audio clips, which was designed to assist language learners. The second is a keyword-type ASR, which was implemented in the context of a dictionary project. Both systems support the greater revitalization of Choctaw, which is an endangered language. System designs, challenges, and future directions for both ASRs will be discussed.

Sistema de concordancia de participante en la lengua amahuaca (Pano, Perú)

Este trabajo analiza la concordancia del participante (CP) en amahuaca, lengua pano del subgrupo de las Cabeceras. A partir de, principalmente, datos de campo, se describe cómo los adjuntos muestran orientación semántica hacia participantes con función S, A u O, mediante morfología tripartita, paralela al sistema de caso. También se examina su interacción con el sistema de cambio de referencia, que distingue sistemáticamente entre S, A y O. Este estudio contribuye tanto a la documentación de la lengua como a la reconstrucción del sistema de caso en el proto-pano.

Referent Realization in Kanien'kéha: Documentation, Analysis, and Activation

Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) is a Northern Iroquoian language spoken by fewer than 600 L1 speakers. Adult immersion programs have successfully contributed to an increase in L2 speakers, but struggle to develop a "final layer of authentic proficiency" (e.g., prosody, discourse). This project targets referent realization (RR), that is the form and position of referential expressions, an area difficult for learners of this polysynthetic language. Based on an annotated conversational corpus, I develop an analysis of RR to eventually design teaching resources. Preliminary analysis shows that discursively marked referents (new or focused) require verb-external expressions, while unmarked ones are realized within the verb (pronominal prefixes or incorporation), revealing a broader separation between syntax inside the verb and discourse

outside the verb.

Distribución geográfica y estrategias de formación de palabras en la toponimia indígena de Chiloé

Esta investigación describe la distribución geográfica de la toponimia indígena del Archipiélago de Chiloé, enfocándose en topónimos de origen williche y chono. Se analiza un corpus de 744 topónimos, determinando las estrategias de formación de palabras y su filiación lingüística. Se hipotetiza que los topónimos de la Isla Grande son mayoritariamente williche, mientras que los de las islas menores y costa este son chono, reflejando los patrones de poblamiento. El estudio aborda las etimologías ambiguas, revisa fuentes coloniales y propone un mapa toponímico. Así, se contribuye a la comprensión del poblamiento histórico y al patrimonio lingüístico del territorio chilote.

A'ingae nasality always floats

I observe a new restriction on nasality in the native roots of A'ingae [con]: Nasality always "starts" from the left edge and extends through (a part of) the root. I propose that (1) nasality in A'ingae is a floating feature that associates from the left, and (2) all segments are underlyingly either (a) underspecified for orality/nasality, (b) specified as fully oral, or (c) specified as oral but with an underspecified stop closure. The account makes two new predictions: (i) a (pre)nasal(ized) segment is never preceded by oral sonorants/vowels, (ii) a prenasalized stop is always followed by oral segments.

Translating legal terms into Indigenous Languages: A Ch'ol case study

In this paper, we report on the collaborative methodology of developing a glossary of legal terms in the Mayan language Ch'ol. We connect our process to previous work on technical terminology in Indigenous languages in the Americas such as legal terms in Choctaw (e.g., Haag & Willis 2013, Haag 2018) and medical terms in Kaqchikel (e.g., Henderson et al. 2014). We end with some implications on interpreting for speakers of lesser-known languages in a legal context.

En este artículo presentamos la metodología colaborativa para elaborar un glosario de términos jurídicos en la lengua maya ch'ol. Vinculamos nuestro proceso con trabajos previos sobre terminología técnica en lenguas indígenas de las Américas, como los términos jurídicos en choctaw y k'iche' (Haag & Willis 2013 para choctaw e Instituto de la Defensa Pública Penal 2023 para k'iche') y los términos médicos en kaqchikel (Henderson et al. 2014). Concluimos con algunas implicaciones para la interpretación en contextos legales con hablantes de lenguas poco conocidas.

Incorporación nominal en ckunsa, allentiac y millcayac

El presente trabajo tiene como objetivo describir la incorporación nominal en ckunsa, allentiac y millcayac, situándose dentro del panorama andino. Las fuentes utilizadas para esta investigación provienen de diversos textos desde el siglo XVII hasta mediados del XX, los cuales cobran especial relevancia debido a la falta de hablantes nativos. Los datos

sugieren que la incorporación nominal en ckunsa, allentiac y millcayac es de tipo preverbal, diferenciándose del mapudungun, lengua vecina, el cual tiene incorporación de tipo posverbal. La relevancia radica en la contribución al conocimiento morfológico y tipológico de las lenguas, proporcionando datos útiles para la revitalización lingüística.

Revitalizing Northern Pomo questions from documentation

I provide the first description of two interrogative morphemes in Northern Pomo, a dormant California language, based on a corpus analysis of 558 question examples from an online text/audio corpus of phrases elicited from L1 speakers. I highlight the necessity and efficacy of corpus-based analyses in revitalization contexts where access to L1 speakers is not possible. I demonstrate that both morphemes are obligatory in matrix questions and absent in embedded questions. I discuss counterexamples and show that most are not after consulting the source recordings. This finding informs ongoing revitalization efforts and future analysis of Northern Pomo questions.

Language Revitalization through Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Video journalism

In this presentation we report best practices and reflections on a collaborative experience in language reclamation, revitalization and documentation involving the field of video journalism. We support the idea that revitalization projects can benefit from interdisciplinarity, by leaning into other fields first, rather than entering a space with the primary goal of language documentation, gaining wider community collaboration, which we describe. Finally, we reflect on how documentaries in our field can have a big impact on the training of future generations of linguists inside/outside of the community, and thus we offer some recommendations and reflections on this topic.

Sincretismo de voz y voz pasiva en el zapoteco de San Pablo Güilá

Los estudios sobre voz en lenguas zapotecas, basados típicamente en criterios morfológicos, han negado la existencia de pasivas (véanse varios en Operstein & Sonnenschein, 2015). Al tomar distancia del componente morfológico y apegarse a la perspectiva sintáctica de Legate (2021); este trabajo muestra evidencia sintáctica de que el ZSPG (oto-mangue, México, VSO) presenta construcciones pasivas tipológicamente canónicas con verbos intransitivos que expresan un agente implícito, sin importar que sean morfofonológicamente más básicos que sus contrapartes transitivas. Además proponemos que el paradigma morfológico compartido por verbos intransitivos pasivos e inacusativos puede analizarse como un caso de sincretismo-u, siguiendo a Embick (2004).

K'ak'ak' Tzib: a Pedagogy for New Indigenous Literacies for Kaqchikel Maya Speakers

Kaqchikel Maya is the fourth most spoken language in Guatemala. Yet despite the high number of speakers very few can read or write in their language. This phenomenon is like the one experienced by heritage language learners (HLL) in the United States. Based on a ground, ethnographic exploration, this study describes a grass-roots movement in Kaqchikel

language development. Specifically, HLL methodologies, along with community linguistic knowledge, can be utilized to develop effective literacy teaching materials. This demonstrates how interventions that utilize the standard Maya alphabet but are sensitive to the needs of local communities can increase literacy among Kaqchikel speakers.

Building Capacity for Root-Word Method in Ojibwemowin

Building capacity for novel methodologies is essential in language reclamation. Ojibwemowin, a polysynthetic Algonquian language, uses roots to form complex verbs stems (Nichols, 1980). An increase in comprehension of roots for learners opens freedom of generation, ease of understanding, and greater access in world-viewing as only it can be done in this language. Fellow polysynthetic Indigenous languages have had success in employing the 'Root-Word Method' (Green & Maracle 2018). Increasing the ability to teach and learn using a root-based approach in Ojibwemowin would be an attractive option for learning and calls for applied linguistics to help fertilize root growth.

Number and Definiteness in Yucatec Maya: The grammar of reference in a language contact situation

Two different processes of change have been reported in Yucatec Maya: One of the demonstratives has acquired uses of a definite determiner, being used in contexts where demonstratives are highly unusual; and plural marking, usually considered optional, has become more common, its usage reportedly being extended to inanimate referents in younger generations, where it used to be rare. Motivated by a proposed universal connection between Number and Definiteness, an experimental study involving acceptability judgments has been conducted to investigate whether these two changes are dependent on each other or independent processes explainable via influence from Spanish.

Placeholder or hesitation marker? na in Quechua-Spanish bilinguals

The current study analyzes the lexical item *na* in Cusco-Callao Quechua (Southern Peru). Using sociolinguistic interview data from bilingual (Quechua/Spanish) speakers from the Cusco region, we observe two primary uses of *na*. First, it functions as what Fox (2010) refers to as a "placeholder filler" (henceforth 'placeholder' similar to English 'whatchamacallit') to stand in for another word in the discourse (see also Seraku 2024). Second, Nobel and Lacasa (2007) observe that *na* can be "used alone as a hesitation filler while the speaker is contemplating the next word, but it must have affixed to it the particle that would be affixed to the missing word" (226). In the Quechua data, our analysis reveals patterns, not yet described in the literature, in which *na* is used with reference to taboo or sensitive topics. Moreover, our Spanish data demonstrate considerable borrowing of *na*, where it varies with other hesitation markers, such as *mm* and *pues*.

Historical Linguistics as Community-Focused Work: the Collins-Gatschet Manuscripts

The most complete historical records of Chikashshanompa' (Chickasaw, Muskogean) are two notebooks from 1889 and

1890, by Judson Dwight Collins, a Chickasaw speaker and politician, and Albert Gatschet, a Swiss ethnologist and linguist. We demonstrate a method of historical work that engages with contemporary L1 speakers of Chikashshanompa', which resulted in a publication catered to the needs of the language community. The Collins-Gatschet manuscripts provide a crucial snapshot of the language as spoken in the late 19th century. Due to the consistency of Chikashshanompa' over time, these manuscripts can be used to supplement existing and forthcoming language teaching materials.

Special Session on Indigenous Signed Languages: *Some ethical issues in signed language research*

This panel argues for the values of linguistic and cultural competence and the recognition of deaf intersectional epistemologies for conducting better signed language research.

Documentation and description of signed languages is younger than that for spoken languages, and the field of signed language linguistics has been always dominated by hearing linguists, and deaf linguists constitute a minority (Hochgesang, 2019; Hou et al. 2022).

Thus there is an ongoing need for more explicit discussion about ethical issues related to conducting signed language research – especially when there is an increasing interest in documenting Indigenous signed languages and non-Western signed languages, as these are frequently researched by outsiders (Hou & Ali, 2024).

Navigating the dynamic federal funding landscape

The U.S. scientific enterprise is experiencing challenges and instability, including in how science is funded. Funding agencies face mandatory reorganizations including large reductions in the workforce, with drastically reduced budgets proposed for federal research funding. In addition, external influence is in tension with scientific expertise in setting funding priorities and merit review criteria. These shifts, concomitant with ongoing legal challenges and new mandates, yield an uncertain research environment. In this session, current and/or former federal research staff and other stakeholders will provide an overview of the current federal funding landscape, including anticipated changes in funding opportunities, proposal processing, and agency priorities. In doing so, we aim to help the research community navigate dynamic changes, strengthen proposals, and align research goals with evolving expectations in the context of new funding priorities. We also aim to jumpstart a broader conversation that identifies concrete paths towards a more resilient infrastructure for the language sciences.