Karla is scheduling two university talks, one in Valladolid and one in Mérida. Don Alfredo will present with us at the Valladolid talk, probably not at the Mérida talk. Steve expects they will be in Spanish and he will not speak. We don't know if Benjamin will join us.

Presenters

Don Alfredo, Steve McDonald, Deb Matina and Tommy Witten
We can reuse our photos from the CoA talk.

Title

Lessons From Teaching Ancient Glyphs

Abstract

Many efforts are underway to revitalize our ancient writing system. In this talk we hear from two groups. Don Alfredo, a member of Maya Antiguo para los Mayas, has been teaching ancient writing workshops to young students and community groups for several years He will share both practical techniques and cultural insights that spark renewed interest. The Ancient Maya App team—currently developing a smartphone application—seeks to integrate the ancient script into modern, technology-driven contexts. The app, still in progress, offers tools to read ancient glyphs and convert Maya words from Spanish letters into glyph blocks. By combining teaching initiatives with emerging digital technologies, these efforts aim to transform the ancient writing system into a commonly used, traditional system.

Talk Outline/Notes

The app team does not "pick winners". We do not create glyphs, write dictionary entries or define glyph blocks. We integrate well-regarded resources created by the broader community. For example, our glyphs are from Professor Tokovinine's catalog, dictionary entries are from Kettunen and Helmke's handbook and glyph block definitions from the proposed unicode standard for Mayan. We will follow the Instituto Nacional de Lenguas Indígenas standards as they are developed. Where no standard is yet defined, the app will integrate multiple resources from the community. For example, new glyphs needed to write phonetic sound present in modern Maya languages.

App Store Download QR code

This QR code has not changed.