This document is the tenth annual report of the Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project (HRELP). It outlines the structure of HRELP and its activities for the year. Cover background image is taken from SOAS’s new logo.

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Annual Report 2012

making a leading contribution to both scholarship and practice in the field of endangered languages
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Introduction

2012 has been a milestone year for the Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project (HRELP) as it has now been in existence for a decade and has grown considerably in various activities and projects aimed at the documentation, preservation and support of endangered languages around the world. It was therefore time to reflect on what has been achieved so far and to set future directions. We held a Strategic Review of the entire operation in January 2012. The Review showed that the activities of HRELP have made and continue to make a leading contribution to both scholarship and practice in the field of endangered languages. It also assisted us in identifying strategic directions for the future of HRELP:

- It is with pleasure that I have taken on the role as Head of HRELP overseeing the activities and initiatives of its three components. This Annual Report gives you a flavour of the diversity of the activities in research, training, publications, and events that ELAP ELAR and ELDP have organised this year.

Finally, I would like to thank the three Directors and their respective teams for their dedication throughout the year. A special thanks goes to the many researchers and scholars around the world who help with the assessment of the many grant applications we get each year and also to the ELDP Grants Panel members, in particular those whose terms finished this year or who are unable to continue due to other commitments, namely Prof Lenore Grenoble, Prof Susan Penfield and Prof Randy La Polla.

Anne Pauwels, Head of HRELP

Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project

The Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project (HRELP) was established in 2002 with a commitment of £20 million from Arcadia Trust to document as many endangered languages as possible to encourage the development of relevant skills across the world. It has the following three components:

- **Endangered Languages Academic Programme (ELAP)**
  - Aimed at training the next generation of language documenters, ELAP offers students and early-career researchers an array of opportunities: an MA in Language Documentation and Description, a PhD in Field Linguistics, and postdoctoral fellowships at SOAS. We also offer a comprehensive programme of public lectures, seminars and training courses.
  - Professor Peter K. Austin is the Director of ELAP.

- **Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (ELDP)**
  - ELDP was set up to provide approximately £15 million in competitive research grants to encourage the development of linguistic fieldwork in endangered languages (especially by those at an early stage in their careers) and to promote the documentation of as many threatened languages as possible.
  - The Director of ELDP is Dr Mandana Seyfeddinipur.

- **Endangered Languages Archive (ELAR)**
  - ELAR is a digital archive of primary data collected by ELDP grantees and ELDP and ELAP staff and students, as well as other depositors. It is a prime resource for study and methodology in the field of digital language archiving. David Nathan is Director of ELAR.

The mission of HRELP is to:

- Provide opportunities for fieldwork, academics, students, collaborative ventures and international organisations to work together with endangered language communities to ensure that everything possible is done to record and encourage linguistic, cultural and human diversity;
- Train new generations of linguists to document and support endangered languages;
- Award approximately £1 million a year in research grants to high quality projects;
- Set up an innovative, comprehensive endangered languages digital archive as a major international resource for scholars, communities and other interested people;
- Welcome all those able to donate time, money or expertise to help build on the solid base HRELP has established.

Activities throughout the year

This year has been a busy one with a range of activities carried out jointly and separately by the three sections.

In January 2012 HRELP was reviewed by a Strategic Planning Review Panel consisting of two SOAS internal members and two external members. The Panel made recommendations in three broad areas: (1) the possibility of creating a Centre of Endangered Languages and Cultures to enhance the intellectual contribution the School can make to the field of study and to build upon the contributions made by ELAP and associated researchers; (2) two alternative options for future governance/management structures were proposed: (3) technical issues were identified around archiving modes, storage and access to the media produced and its future legacy.

Following the Review Professor Anne Pauwels was appointed Head of HRELP and actions were taken to implement the Review findings, including a technical evaluation of ELAR in November 2012 by two external archiving experts.

Joint activities throughout the year included Endangered Languages Week (see page 6). The following is an overview of the work of each section during the year.

**ELAP**

Students

ELAP had its ninth year of operation and enrolled 10 new MA Language Documentation and Description students in September 2012. This is a reduction on previous years probably due to the difficult global financial situation. ELAP also enrolled five new PhD students, two of whom completed their MAs at SOAS.

Three of the new PhDs are international students and come from Nigeria, Japan and the USA. Two PhD students (Mike Franjeh and Kay Johnson) submitted their dissertations for examination in September 2012.

**ELDP**

The Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project (HRELP) Annual Report

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**ELDP**

Staff

There were some changes in staff during the year. Mike Franjeh was appointed as Senior Teaching Fellow (funded by an Indigenous Languages Support grant awarded to the Oeri Aboriginal Corporation for teaching relief for Prof Austin). Mike is teaching core MA courses, including Field Methods. Dr Julia Saltabank was promoted to Senior Lecturer in Language Support and Revitalisation, and was granted sabbatical leave to work on her forthcoming book Endangered Languages: Attitudes, Identities and Policies to be published by Cambridge University Press.

**Visitors**

Professor Tania Koutera, Dusseldorf University, was again Feodor Lynen Visiting Professor supported by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation from 1st January to 1st April 2012 and is visiting ELAP during her sabbatical leave from 1st October to 31st December 2012. Erkki Luuk visited in January 2012 as an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation post-doctoral fellow.

Two post-doctoral researchers from Japan joined ELAP from May 2012 to March 2013 under an exchange agreement between the Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University, and SOAS. Yuka Hayashi works on Jemer, an endangered language spoken in southern Japan; Rihito Shirata works on Kikai Ryukyuan. Both scholars are sponsored by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Helena Metslang is visiting ELAP under an Erasmus doctoral fellowship from the University of Talinn, Estonia.

Other short-term visitors included Dr Linda Barwick (University of Sydney), Frances Kofod (Australia), Prof Maria Kopytsevskaya-Tamm (Stockholm University), Prof Bonny Sands (Northern Arizona University), and Prof Kristine Stenzel (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro).

**Other activities**

ELAP staff and students participated in Endangered Languages Week, the 3rd Summer School in Lyon, France, the ESRC Festival of Social Science, a language revitalisation field trip to Wales, and fieldwork in Australia, Indonesia, Guernsey, Paraguay, Bolivia, Ecuador, Nepal, Mozambique and Algeria. These activities are described in detail below.

Volume 11 of Language Documentation and Description was published, including papers arising from a workshop on applied documentation in sub-Saharan Africa that was held at SOAS in May 2012.
ELAR

ELAR made significant steps forward in 2012 after setbacks in the previous year. Following a budget restructure at the end of 2011, ELAR has restored and extended its staff (see below). Through increased staffing, skills brought by new staff members, improvements in workflow prompted by the HRELIP Review, new software support for collection processing, and additional management input from Professor Peter K. Austin, ELAR has greatly reduced its backlog of unpublished collections. New methods enabling deposits to upload materials and curate them online are currently being tested and will be made available in 2013, which will further streamline processing by distributing the archiving effort more widely.

In July, ELAR moved from R201 to occupy two rooms in the SOAS “Old Building.” Fitting into a smaller space has meant that the Raising Room, which provided specialist equipment and an area for postgraduates to do group work, is no longer in operation. ELAR’s new premises are bright and airy, and with a unique atmosphere through being located in one of SOAS’ historic and characterful rooms with a semi-circular curved wall.

Staff

From March to July 2012 Professor Peter K. Austin served as Acting Director of ELAR while David Nathan was on sick leave. In May, Dr Kakia Chatsiou was appointed as a fulltime digital data curator. Formerly of the UK Data Archive in Essex, Kakia has brought specialist archiving skills and experience; she is responsible for a variety of curatorial tasks as well as co-ordinating ELAR’s team of assistants.

This year ELAR has systematically employed an number of postgraduate linguistics students as Archive Assistants. As well as offering part-time employment to students, the Assistant Programme provides practical training in digital curation, which is highly relevant to their studies and serves to consolidate their learning experience at SOAS. The assistants are drawn from the cohort of Masters and PhD students in the ELAP programme; they thus bring relevant knowledge to the task and at the same time gain very valuable experience through practical work within their educational domain. For various time spans in 2012 ELAR employed Ebany Dohle, Samantha Goodchild, Lydia Green, Laura Kipp, Sandy Ritchie, and Frances Simmons.

ELAR’s former software developer, Dr Edward Garrett, has been re-engaged as a consultant through his company Pinedrop, which is continuing the development of ELAR’s catalogue and archiving systems, working closely with ELAR staff. Tom Castle’s position has been increased from half-time to three-quarters.

Other activities

In the UK, Europe and internationally, ELAR participated in conferences, workshops and training events (see details page 29). These included a presentation by David Nathan and Kakia Chatsiou on ELAR’s experiences as a social networking archive at the specialist archive conference inNET in Cologne, Germany. David Nathan presented on ‘From Preserving Language Resources to Serving Language Speakers: New Prospects for Endangered Languages Archives’ at the international conference Digital Humanities 2012 in Hamburg.

In February, David Nathan co-taught (with Anthony Jukes, La Trobe University, Australia) a documentary linguistics workshop at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies in Tokyo, Japan. Kakia Chatsiou ran a practical workshop at SOAS in May on how to effectively use ELAR’s collections. ELAR continued to contribute to HRELIP’s publishing activities thanks to Tom Castle’s design skills. He designed the Endangered Languages Week and Open Day Exhibition materials, posters, and this Annual report.

ELAR began an occasional seminar series, beginning on 12th November 2012 with a presentation by Dr Linda Barwick of the University of Sydney, who spoke about her ELAR collection.

ELDP Administration

In September 2012 Jenny Martin joined ELDP as the new programme administrator replacing Jean McCary. Jenny is responsible for all administrative aspects of the programme, including responding to enquiries, making payments and liaising with grantees. Jenny has several years’ portfolio management experience, most recently at the Carbon Trust where she was the co-ordinator for a multi-million pound green technology research programme. With her background Jenny brings exciting new skills to the programme.

Grant round 2012

In 2012 the ELDP Grants Panel awarded 35 grants amounting to almost £1.1 million, bringing the total funds awarded by the programme to over £10 million distributed over 300 language documentation projects. This year marked a record for the number of applications received for documentation of African languages submitted by African scholars.

Capacity building

ELDP continued local capacity building activities (which began with training courses in Ghana in 2008) with a training course at the Pedagogical University in Tomsk in September 2012 in collaboration with ELDP grantee Andrey Flichenko (see page 13). ELDP also provided books and materials to grantee Ayumi Neba who has begun setting up a Masters Programme at the University of Buea with the support of the Vice Chancellor Dr Nalio Lyonga.

Training

ELDP ran grantee training twice in 2012. 25 grantees were trained in theory and methods in modern language documentation by a team of specialists. The training is tailor-made for the needs of the grantees invited to London. At the September training SOAS experienced a severe set back as seven of 16 grantees did not receive their visas for the UK in time. None of the African male grantees was able to attend the training. As this is a matter of serious concern for ELDP not to be able to train its grantees other options will have to be explored if training in the UK continues to be problematic for nationals of certain areas.

Collaborations and teaching

ELDP engaged in collaborative grant acquisition with Gabriela Perez Baez and Ruth Rouvier at the Smithsonian Institution (USA). ELDP has built a large database of linguistic experts available to encourage and facilitate use of the Smithsonian Institution collections by community members and linguists to advance research on language and cultural knowledge, strengthen partnerships with communities, and engage the public through access to speakers of endangered languages.

ELDP Director Mandana Seyfeddinipur taught training workshops on multimodality and video at SOAS, the University of Florida (USA) and Cologne University (Germany). She also participated in the NSF-funded Conference on Sociolinguistic Language Documentation in Africa held at the World Congress of African Languages (UCONRAD), in Buea (Cameroon), chaired the working group on multilingualism, and presented at the Congress about grant writing for ELDP applications. Mandana is also involved in promoting multilingualism and research on it through a skills development scheme for students at SOAS in collaboration with Bangor University (UK) and Lund University (Sweden). In addition she is involved in an initiative of the Volkswagen Stiftung (Germany) on research into prosody and manual gesture inszer studied languages of the world under the direction of Doug Whalen, Martine Grice and Nikolaus Himmelmann.
Endangered Languages Week 2012

This year’s extended Endangered Languages Week (ELW) took place between 1st and 10th May 2012, and included activities in collaboration with the 5th Austronesian and Papuan Languages and Linguistics Conference, and the British Association for Applied Linguistics special interest group on Africa. The theme this year was ‘Language, Performance, Culture’ and our aim was to highlight the issues of endangered languages and language documentation through a variety of talks, exhibitions, discussions, films, lectures and performances. Highlights this year included music and poetry performances by internationally renowned poet Bob Holman (from New York City) and local groups of Kundish, Serepa, Mau and Quechua background, and an interactive exhibition curated by Tom Castle (ELAR).

ELW started with a ritual Scissors Dance performance by Jose Navarro “Pishtaco” and Jose Fernandez “Ccory Ccente” on 1st May. This dance symbolizes the very deep roots of Peruvian Andean culture, and has been recognised by UNESCO as an instance of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The interactive exhibition ran from 3rd to 11th May and featured the work of fieldworkers who have documented performances such as poetry, sand art, paintings, songs, and dances. We also had a range of talks from fieldworkers, demonstrations from students (software, palatography etc), film showings, and songs.

Frances Kofod, who has worked extensively in the North of Australia, was guest speaker in the Linguistics departmental series on 8th May. She discussed aspects of the Jarragan languages ( Kimberley, Australia) that have come to light through her work in the ELDP funded project ‘The painter’s eye, the painter’s voice: Language, art and landscape in the Gija world’.

Open Day was held on 9th May, and was an opportunity to continue exchanges with partner institutions such as Cambridge Endangered Languages and Cultures Group, Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre, Foundation for Endangered Languages, The Rosetta Project, the International Institute for Sign Languages and Deaf Studies, and the World Oral Literature Project. We also teamed with the Royal Anthropological Institute International Festival of Ethnographic Films to screen some fascinating films from their collection.

Language Landscape, a student-organised project which evolved from the London Language Landscape project of last year, was launched on 9th May and demonstrated their website, mapping the use of languages around the world.

Endangered Languages Week 2012 closed with a one-day workshop on sign language documentation and how non-specialist linguists can approach this area.

Endangered Languages Week 2012

Visitors explore the interactive exhibits including a demonstration of ELAN software and palatography (photo Ebany Dohle).

At the entrance to the exhibition issues about language endangerment were presented, including a shop mannequin asking the provocative question “Why bother?” (photo Tom Castle).

ELAP Student Sophie Mu presented objects from her home village representing the Jingpu culture, some of the objects were specially made at a reduced scale for the exhibition (photo Tom Castle).

Jose Navarro with one of his puppet scissors dancers, illustrating aspects of the dance and explaining historical features relating to a traditional rural lifestyle (photo Karolina Grzech).

Opening Endangered Languages Week, the Ritual Scissors Dance performed by Jose Navarro “Pishtaco” & Jose Fernandez “Ccory Ccente”. This dance is a kind of ‘competition’ or ‘Atipanakuy’ in the Quechua language, where two dancers try to outdo each other (photo Karolina Grzech).

The exhibition included eight screens featuring the work of fieldworkers who have documented performances such as poetry, sand art, paintings, songs, dances and on-line video demonstrations of palatography (photo Tom Castle).

Visitors outdo each other (photo Karolina Grzech).

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Every Language Matters

ELAP participated in the ESRC Festival of Social Science through an open day forum on 9th November to promote public understanding of the place that languages hold in the lives of individuals and communities around the world, as well as the role of linguistic research in furthering our understanding of language. The presentations included Vanuatu Sand Drawing: languages can have different manifestations by Mike Franjieh showing how sand drawing is a unique means of communication among the members of the various language groups living in the north of the archipelago, A Linguist in the Bush by Candide Simard, discussing why linguistic fieldwork matters and what happens to languages people speak when their way of life is rapidly changing, Language Landscape: mapping language diversity by Samantha Goodchild and Karolina Grzech, and Preserving Languages and Linguistic Diversity by Peter Austin discussing current issues in the documentation and description of the languages of the world, and how their study matters for our understanding of cultural and linguistic diversity.

3L Summer School Lyon

The fourth 3L Summer School was held at the DDL Laboratory in Lyon, France, from 1st to 13th July. The theme was ‘Endangered Languages Revitalisation’ with the main objective being to create a space of reflection in an academic setting on the growing number of projects of revitalisation around the world, as well as promoting a critical outlook on fieldwork in contexts of language revitalisation. A junior researchers conference was held at the end of the Summer School.

Meet a Fieldworker

Between January and March interested students and staff had the opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of linguistic fieldwork and to interact with fieldworkers and see some of their work. Presentations were 11th January Radu Voica on the Solomon Islands, 25th January Lutz Marten on Bantu languages, 8th February Mike Franjieh on Vanuatu, 22nd February Julia Sallabank on Guernsey, 7th March Sophie Sallfrner on Nigeria, and 21st March Peter Austin on fieldwork in Indonesia and Australia.

ELAP, ELAR and Social Media

Staff and students in ELAP and ELAR are very actively involved in the use of social media (Web 2.0 applications), particularly podcasts and blogs, as well as Facebook and Twitter. MA student Ebany Dohle produced a series of programmes for SOAS Radio on various aspects of endangered languages (see soasradio.org/search/node/endangered%20languages) including interviews with Kristine Stenzel (Kotiria and Warikalanguages of Brazil), Jose Navarro Pishitcco (Scissors Dance), Mike Franjieh (Sand Drawings of Vanuatu). Peter Austin also made podcasts with OpenAir on International Mother Language Day (21st February) speaking about Bangladesh, Australia and the importance of mother language education, as well as Endangered Languages Week. Peter posts fortnightly at the Endangered Languages and Cultures blog (www.paradisec.org/blog), Twitter and on Facebook. A Facebook page for the Friends of the Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project was set up early in 2012.

ELAR Facebook and Twitter identities were created in June, and ELAR’s new blog, appropriately titled EL Blog, was launched in September. EL Blog aims to increase ELAR’s interactions with endangered languages communities, as well as with researchers and other archives, and to keep them informed about interesting developments in the archive and the activities of our staff. So far it has featured posts on Open Access, European Day of Languages, languages and the Olympics, ELAR visitors and conference activities, as well as a series of articles “Meet an endangered language” by ELAR volunteer Zander Zambas designed to introduce readers to selected ELAR collections and provide a guided tour through their resources (find EL Blog at elar-archive.org/blog).

The Sylheti Documentation Project

In September 2012 ELAP and ELAR began an activity involving students enrolled in the MA in Language Documentation and Description called the Sylheti Documentation Project. This project is a response to a call from Dr Mukid Chowdury of the Surma Community Centre (the Bengali Workers’ Association) in Camden, London, to document the Sylheti language (a minority language of Bangladesh) as it is spoken by the users of the Centre, particularly the language of the elderly people which is only partially learnt by the younger generations. This will be an opportunity for the students to gain first-hand experience in all aspects of language documentation and description, from project design to using technology, as well as being actively involved with the community.

This project is led by teaching fellows Michael Franjieh (Field Methods), Candide Simard and Simone Mauri (Applied Language Documentation and Description), and Stephen Leonard and Karolina Grzech (Language Support and Revitalization). It is also supported by ELAR staff members Tom Castle and Kaka Chatsiou.
Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (ELDP)

ELDP is in its tenth year of operation and in 2012 the ELDP Grants Panel awarded 35 grants amounting to almost £1.1 million, bringing the total funds awarded by the programme to over £10 million distributed over 300 language documentation projects. This year marked a record for the number of applications received for documentation of African languages submitted by African scholars.

In the 2012 grant round ELDP received 103 eligible applications. The Panel recommended 38 for funding and of these 35 accepted the award. Three applicants received funding from other sources and were not offered the grant. The overall success rate for applications in 2012 was 34% (31% in 2011). For coming years we expect an increase in grant applications as the DoBeS programme of the Volkswagen Stiftung has ended, leaving ELDP as the DoBeS programme of the Volkswagen Stiftung and the NEH DEL programme, sizeable collections of corpora are now available in different archives which could potentially facilitate cross-linguistic comparative studies in different areas of research. The technological, methodological and ethical aspects of this are now being explored by different initiatives, with the potential to advance theory and methods of language documentation. Mandana Seyfeddinipur is participating in a Volkswagen Stiftung initiative on research into prosody and manual gesture in lesser studied languages of the world under the direction of Doug Whalen, Martine Grice and Nikolaus Himmelmann.

Another area of interest of ELDP is accessibility and use of documentary corpora and related academic publications. After ten years of funding by ELDP and other agencies such as the Volkswagen Stiftung and the NEH DEL programme, sizeable collections of corpora are now available in different archives which could potentially facilitate cross-linguistic comparative studies in different areas of research. The technological, methodological and ethical aspects of this are now being explored by different initiatives, with the potential to advance theory and methods of language documentation. Mandana Seyfeddinipur is involved in three of the proposals.

ELDP and the Masters programme in language documentation and description at the University of Buea, Cameroon

In 2008 and 2010 ELDP supported two summer schools on theory and methods in language documentation in Africa aimed at local linguists. One of the participants, Dr Ayu’wni Neba, from the University of Buea, Cameroon was one of the participants. Encouraged by the encouraging training and networking during the schools Dr Neba applied to ELDP and was awarded an ELDP Small Grant in 2011 to document the honorific system in his native language Bafut a Grassfields Bantu Language of North West Cameroon. This year he is setting up a Masters programme in Language Documentation at his home university, the University of Buea in Cameroon with the support by the Vice Chancellor Dr Nalova Lyonga , ELDP and other ELDP grantees like Pierpaolo di Carlo.

Local capacity building

ELDP continued local capacity building activities (which began with training courses in Ghana in 2008) with a training course at the Pedagogical University in Tomsk in September 2012 in collaboration with ELDP grantee Andrey Flichenko (page 13). ELDP also provided books and materials to grantee Ayuwni Neba who began setting up a Masters Programme at the University of Buea with the support of the Vice Chancellor Dr Nalova Lyonga. Future collaboration is planned, and it is envisaged that the next local training will take place at the University of Buea. ELDP grantees such as Pierpaolo DiCarlo have offered to teach during the planned training.

Collaborations

ELDP has continued to join forces with colleagues across the globe. Grant acquisition efforts have started in collaboration with Gabriela Perez Bazex and Ruth Rouver at the Smithsonian Institution (USA). The Recovering Voices programme at the Smithsonian Institution supports speakers of endangered languages and cultural practitioners seeking to preserve their languages and cultural heritage. One focus is the use of the Smithsonian Institution collections by community members and linguists to advance research in language and cultural knowledge, strengthen partnerships with communities, and engage the public through access to speakers of endangered languages. ELDP has a built a large database of linguistic experts available to engage in such work and collaborate with the Smithsonian Institution in their efforts.

Training

ELDP is also promoting and disseminating modern language documentation theory and methods, especially in language use, multilingualism research, and video documentation of human interaction. Mandana Seyfeddinipur taught training workshops on multimodality and video at SOAS, the University of Florida (USA) and at Cologne University (Germany). The workshops were received very well with follow-up workshops being planned for 2013.

Mandana Seyfeddinipur participated in the NSF-funded Workshop on Sociolinguistic Language Documentation in Africa held at the World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL 7), in Buea (Cameroon) organised by Jeff Good (University of Buffalo, USA) and Tucker Childs (Portland State University, USA and ELDP grantee). She chaired the working group on multilingualism, and also attended WOCAL meeting with grantees and potential applicants. She gave a presentation on grant writing for ELDP applications which led to requests for further information about ELDP funding and application requirements.

Access and research

Another area of interest of ELDP is accessibility and use of documentary corpora and related academic publications. After ten years of funding by ELDP and other agencies such as the Volkswagen Stiftung and the NEH DEL programme, sizeable collections of corpora are now available in different archives which could potentially facilitate cross-linguistic comparative studies in different areas of research. The technological, methodological and ethical aspects of this are now being explored by different initiatives, with the potential to advance theory and methods of language documentation. Mandana Seyfeddinipur is participating in a Volkswagen Stiftung initiative on research into prosody and manual gesture in lesser studied languages of the world under the direction of Doug Whalen, Martine Grice and Nikolaus Himmelmann.

An initial workshop in Cologne brought together international specialists in prosodic and multimodality research, resulting in five grant proposals which are currently under evaluation. Mandana Seyfeddinipur is involved in three of the proposals.

Broader Impact

Multilingualism and its consequences for language endangerment is also of interest of ELDP. Speakers of endangered languages are multilingual, a fact which is often neglected by documentation and linguistic research. Support for multilingualism shows acceptance and valorisation of minority languages. Mandana Seyfeddinipur received an ARHC (with Friederike Luepke and Noriko Iwasaki, £60 000) to promote multilingualism and research into it through a skills development scheme for students at SOAS in collaboration with Bangor University (UK) and Lund University (Sweden). Students are being trained in theory and methods of research on multilingualism, addressing areas such as language attitudes, language policies, the cognitive basis of bilingualism, corpus studies, and qualitative research in multilingual language use. Students are also receiving training in outreach work within multilingual settings where they can use their acquired knowledge and apply it in concrete situations.

ELDP aims to support cultural diversity and documentation at different levels. Many more realistic and sustainable activities are needed to further stem the tide of language shift that leads to language endangerment.

Mandana Seyfeddinipur and Doug Whalen presentation on grant writing for ELDP applications.
ELDP grants awarded 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Host Institution</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Project Language</th>
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ELDP training in Siberia

There are approximately 40 indigenous languages from eight different language families that are still in use in Siberia. Languages such as Mansi, Eastern Khanty, Selkup, Chulym Turkic, and Yet are now in a critical state, while the languages east of the Yenisei river (excluding Yakut, Tuvin, Buryat) all have fewer than 7,000 speakers (for at least 15 languages the number of speakers is less than 100), most of whom are over the age of 60.

The level of documentation and description of these languages is extremely diverse, from consistent and representative datasets to extremely sporadic and sketchy descriptions. In most cases no multimedia data is accessible and much material dates back to the 1960s and 1980s, consequently suffering from out-dated theoretical, methodological and technological frameworks.

Since 2004 ELDP has funded a few projects on Siberian languages (Enets, Vogul, Kura-Urmi Nanai, Uilchi, Negidal, Os (Chulym Turkic), Eastern Khanty and Southern Selkup). However, there remains an urgent need for documentation of dozens more languages as they are highly endangered. Quite a number of linguists are present in Russia and Siberia who could potentially engage in documentation work once trained in modern language documentation techniques.

To this end we organised a training course at the University of Tomsk in September 2012, in collaboration with grantee Andrey Flenichenko, targeting young linguists and representatives from endangered speech communities, and delivered by a team of Russian-speaking trainers drawn from the pool of current ELDP grantees and alumni, including Sophie Saltifer, Fedor Rozhanski, Elena Marcus, and Marina Chumakina. Mandana Seyfeddinipur and the team taught theory and methods in modern language documentation based on the ELDP grantee training conducted annually in London.

Trainees participating in the course were (1) PhD and MA students. Denis Tokmachev (Novosibirsk, ethnic Turan), Andrey Kozin (Abakan, ethnic Northern Khanty), Asiana Bajar-ool and Alla Maltseva (Novosibirsk), Arzhanh Mazina and Erkin Ercinchev (Altai), Valentin Gusuev (Russian Academy), Nadezhda Fedotova, Sergey Kovzin, Yulia Kurganskaya, Valeria Lermontsa, Olga Potanina, Natalya Polyakova and Maria Tomsky (Tomsk); (2) language activists: Aleksandr and Tatiana Kondyjaks (Chulym Turkic), Natalia Izhembina, (Southern Selkup) and Irina Korobnikova (Central Selkup); and (3) experienced researchers Aleksandra Kim and Andrey Flenichenko (Tomsk).

In-country training allows ELDP to flexibly advise potential applicants how to address difficulties in meeting ELDP grant application criteria, as well as how to build local capacity for long-term sustained documentation of language and cultural diversity.
Sign language documentation in Cameroon and Mexico

A particularly vulnerable group of sign languages is known as “village sign languages”, that is, sign languages in small-scale rural communities. In 2012 ELDP awarded a postdoctoral fellowship to Sam Lutalo-Kiingi (Uganda), the first deaf African academic qualifying with a PhD in sign language linguistics. Sam is collaborating with Goedele de Clerck, a deaf/signing anthropologist working on a hitherto unknown rural sign language in northern Cameroon; the project is an example of South-South collaboration, capacity building, and skills transfer among deaf sign language users.

A further project of village sign language is the Chatino Sign language documentation project by PhD students Lynn Hou and Kate Mesh (University of Texas at Austin, USA) on Chatino village sign language used by at least 10 deaf people and their hearing associates in San Juan Quiahije, Mexico.

Over the summer of 2012 they spent two months in San Juan Quiahije, establishing working relationships with signers in the area and collecting naturalistic video data of signed discourse in genres ranging from story-telling and joke-telling to parental instruction of children, and casual conversations about daily routines, village happenings, and the televised 2012 Summer Olympics. The team also hopes to examine the transmission of Chatino sign, as the project extends to deaf and hearing children who are acquiring it as a first language.

The work of these sign language linguists and documenters is unique and of utmost importance for our understanding of the human language faculty as it will provide data on the diversity and the processes involved in the evolution of language under different cultural contexts.

Visit to the Pitt Rivers Museum

Abokali Jimoni Sumi (ELDP grantee) writes:

I visited the Pitt Rivers Museum at Oxford in April 2012 during my trip to SOAS for grantee training. It had always been a dream of mine to see Naga objects and information that the museum keeps. Although most of the information is available online in the Naga Database and the books about us by ethnographers who visited my homeland nearly a century ago, coming into contact with these objects in person was quite an emotional experience.

I went to the museum with a Naga friend from the Konyak tribe who lives in London, and Tom Castle from ELAR who was kind enough to contact the museum for us in advance and take us to Oxford. Both my friend and I were amazed and even shocked to see objects like human skulls which we no longer have in Nagaland. My friend was excited to see many Konyak objects, including a tattooed skull of a Konyak chieftain.

Looking at the skulls of our forefathers and the heads of enemies our grandfathers had chopped off all preserved in glass cases thousands of miles away from home was a strange feeling. We saw amini kimji (Sumi bridal cloth), types of azuta (knives) and many traditional artefacts in their original form. It was an eye-opening experience as most designs on traditional cloths and objects have changed over the years and the originals are now rarely seen in Nagaland. I wanted to go back home and tell the few people who would really understand the meaning these objects embodied for us.

It seemed as though these old objects were bridging a gap of many lifetimes, transporting me back to a way of life that actually has everything to do with who we are now but no one wants to remember. It was a self-discovery of sorts – of a part of my life that I was not conscious of.

ELDP grant: Nihali, a linguistic isolate of India

In 2012 ELDP awarded a grant to Shailendra Mohan (Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune, India) to document Nihali, a critically endangered language spoken by approximately 2,000 people in Jalgaon-Jamod tehsil of Buldana district, Maharashtra, Central India.

Nihali is considered a linguistic isolate, a language for which no historical (genetic) relationships can be established. While Nihali has received some linguistic attention this will be the first attempt to provide a rich multimedia corpus and description of the language, which will hopefully provide rich data to clarify possible links to other languages.

Lack of data and clear evidence is common in language documentation. For many areas no or only sparse information exists. Due to this it may not even be clear if the variety spoken is a language or a dialect, making language classification inaccurate or impossible. Maps or indexes of linguistic vitality are based on poor data (e.g. speaker numbers) in areas where there are no or unreliable censuses.

Shailendra Mohan already has extensive experience in language documentation as a member of Anvita Abbi’s pilot study on Andamanese which resulted in the ELDP-funded Vanishing Voices of the Great Andamanese project. Shailendra is also planning to connect the linguistic data with information from genetic studies.
Endangered Languages Documentation Programme
Research Projects Awarded 2012
Endangered Languages Academic Programme (ELAP)

ELAP is in its ninth year of operation and enrolled 10 MA Language Documentation and Description students in September 2012; this is slightly down on previous intakes, most likely as a result of the current difficult global financial conditions. As in previous years, the new students came from a mixture of background: some had previously completed BA degrees in linguistics, languages, and translation, while some came from teaching backgrounds and others had worked in industry.

Five new students joined the PhD in Field Linguistics programme in September 2012:

- **Sarah Croom** completed her MA at SOASs and is undertaking her PhD part-time. Her topic is ‘The impact of superficial measures in language revitalisation programmes’; she will be looking at Cornish and Welsh from a comparative perspective.

- **Golden Ekpo** has an MA in Computational Language Documentation from the University of Uyo, Nigeria and will be working on the documentation of Oro, her native language, with a focus on narratives.

- **Charlotte Hemmings** completed her MA at SOAS and was awarded a Wolfson scholarship for her PhD. She will be working on the description and documentation of Kebit, a minority language of Sarawak, east Malaysia.

- **Yuko Kameda** completed her MA in Canada and will be working on aspects of language revitalization of Ainu, spoken in Japan.

- **Doug McNaught** is from the US and will be working on the documentation and description of an indigenous Aboriginal language of Taiwan.

Other Activities

The Department of Linguistics and ELAP ran a series of seminars throughout the period covered by this report, which were coordinated by Lameen Souag and Sophie Salfier. They included the following presentations dealing with issues related to endangered languages:

- 3rd February 2012 ‘Direct Lexical Elicitiation: Notes from the Field’ Bonny Sands (Northern Arizona University, USA)

- 7th February 2012 ‘How many =Hoan body parts are there?: Exploring lexical typology’ Bonny Sands (Northern Arizona University, USA)

- 1st May 2012 ‘Ideological Directions in Welsh Language Policy’ Dave Sayers (University of Swansea)

- 8th May 2012 ‘Language, Land, Art and People: Working with Endangered Languages in the East Kimberley, Australia’ Frances Kofod (Kununurra, Australia)

- 16th October 2012 ‘Sourcing The Crowd In Language Documentation’ Bruce Birch (Australian National University, Canberra)

- 4th December 2012 ‘Agreement in Archi’ Marina Chumakina (Surrey Morphology Group, University of Surrey)

7th European Australianist workshop

A two-day workshop was organised by Candide Simard on 3rd and 4th April 2012. A biennial event, the workshop brought together established as well as new researchers to present current work on Australian Aboriginal languages in a venue for discussion and exchange. The theme was ‘Contact phenomena in Australian languages, but wider-ranging contexts from all areas of research were presented, including rule-based computational linguistics in Murrinh-Patha, the lexicalisation of emotions terms in Dalabon, and a discussion of the genetic status of Emnidiyaluyka. Undergraduate and postgraduate students were particularly welcome to attend this event, and Candide Simard ran a reading group on Australian languages during term 2 for those wishing to develop their knowledge prior to the workshop. Further details see http://www.soas.ac.uk/linguistics/events/apll5-conference/

Publications

- **Peter K. Austin**


  **Julia Sallabank**


Conference presentations

**Peter K. Austin**


4th April 2012. ‘Meta-documentation and the challenges of working with legacy materials: some Australian cases’. 7th European Australianists Workshop.


**Julia Sallabank**

ELAP staff

Academic staff

For full staff profiles please visit the website www.hrelp.org/aboutus/staff

Professor Peter K. Austin

Peter is Marit Rausing Chair in Field Linguistics. His research interests are language documentation and description, syntactic theory (Lexical Functional Grammar), morpho-syntactic typology, Australian Aboriginal languages, and languages of eastern Indonesia.

Mike Franjieh

Mike is Senior Teaching Fellow in Language Documentation, teaching courses during the MA programme. He completed his PhD in September 2012, and has been awarded a Christensen Fund grant from June 2013. His research focuses on languages of Ambrym Island, Vanuatu, and the endangered cultural practice of sand drawing.

Grants awarded

Peter K. Austin was awarded teaching relief funds under an Indigenous Languages Support grant to the Dieri Aboriginal Corporation for Dyirli language materials development £13,500

Tania is Professor of English Linguistics at the Heinrich-Heine University of Duesseldorf, Germany and has been awarded a Volkswagen Foundation DobiSe programme. Her research interests are primarily in endangered languages, and the role of prosody in language documentation.

Other Activities

Peter K. Austin

29th March 2012. invited participant AHRC Beyond Text award holders presentations, London.

26th June 2012. AHRC Beyond Text Steering Committee meeting, Queen Mary University.


3rd 10th August 2012, fieldwork on Diyari language, South Australia.

6th-7th December 2012, meeting of Advisory Board, Vigdis Finnbogadottir Research Centre, University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland.

Candide Simard

July 2012. fieldwork at Timber Creek, Northern Territory, Australia: continuation of work on Jaminjung dictionary, data collection for new research project on prosody.

Julia Sallabank

11th-16th June 2012 led student field trip on language revitalisation to Wales.

Candide Simard

9th November 2012. Preserving Languages and Linguistic Diversity. Every Language Matters ESRC Festival of Social Science, SOAS.

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Candide is Senior Teaching Fellow in Language Documentation (50%), and post-doctoral fellow (50%) on a project led by Eva Schultz-Berndt and Claudia Wegener Discourse and prosody across language family boundaries: two corpus-based case studies on contact-induced syntactic and prosodic convergence in the encoding of information structure funded by the Volkswagen Foundation DoBeS programme. Her research interests are prosody of Jaminjung, an Australian Aboriginal language, and the role of prosody in language documentation.

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Julia is Senior Lecturer in Language Support and Revitalisation. Her research interests are primarily sociolinguistic, focussing on language revitalisation, motivating young generations, Guernesia, literacy practices in endangered languages, and their implications for language policy. materials and other literature.

Dr. Candide Simard

Candide is Senior Teaching Fellow in Language Documentation (50%), and post-doctoral fellow (50%) on a project led by Eva Schultz-Berndt and Claudia Wegener Discourse and prosody across language family boundaries: two corpus-based case studies on contact-induced syntactic and prosodic convergence in the encoding of information structure funded by the Volkswagen Foundation DoBeS programme. Her research interests are prosody of Jaminjung, an Australian Aboriginal language, and the role of prosody in language documentation.
Student excursion to Wales

Birgul Yilmaz (MPhil student) writes:

A language revitalisation field trip to Wales was organised by Dr Julia Sallabank from 11th to 16th June to enable postgraduate students to have hands-on experience of language revitalisation quite near to SOAS. I was particularly interested in this trip as my PhD research partly deals with the struggle for recognition of the Kurdish language in Turkey and Northern Kurdistan, as the Welsh language also struggled through centuries yet has managed to become a remarkably successful example of language revitalisation. As part of our trip we met officials at the Welsh Language Unit, Department for Education and Skills at the Welsh Assembly: visited Welsh-medium nursery, primary and secondary schools in Carmarthen and Cardiff; visited a community centre, Ty Tawe in Swansea, where adult Welsh classes and a choir are held. We also visited Tŷ Bont, a television company in Llanelli which produces programmes in the Welsh language. This was one of the most alluring experiences for me as we had the opportunity to see a live broadcast of a magazine programme and a weather forecast in Welsh.

We were struck by the commitment and passion towards the language on the part of everyone who welcomed us into their schools and organisations: teachers, learners, playgroup organisers, and TV producers. Although, we were told by the Welsh Language Unit that Welsh language was still at a ‘fragile’ state, our visit to a parent and toddler group as part of the ‘Welsh for the Family Scheme’ suggested a promising future for the Welsh language.

Language Landscape

The Language Landscape website (www.languagelandscape.org) grew out of a project called London’s Language Landscape which was featured at SOAS Endangered Languages Week in May 2011. A group of SOAS students and staff decided to develop the interactive map created for that project into Language Landscape which is a tool for mapping where languages are spoken around the world. At its heart is a collection of samples - audio, video or photographic representations of languages - uploaded by students and members of the public. Each sample is represented by a marker on the map which is placed exactly where the sample was made.

Language Landscape has been designed with three main purposes in mind. The first is recreational - people have an insatiable appetite for languages, whether it’s a passion for their own tongue or the desire to learn another. Its second purpose is academic - the site will be a valuable tool for researchers. In the long term, the site will chart global linguistic diversity with a focus on where and when languages are spoken - a map of language use in space and time. The third purpose is to provide people around the world with a powerful tool for the promotion and celebration of linguistic diversity.

With over 50% of the world’s 7,000 languages in danger of becoming extinct in the next century, Language Landscape can help raise the profile of minority and endangered languages. It serves as a significant platform for speakers to promote their language and highlight the plight of threatened languages worldwide.

This year Language Landscape was awarded funding by the SOAS Alumni Association and was one of eight projects selected for a 2012 Google Earth Outreach Developer Grant. The team is very active on Twitter and Facebook.

Stories from recent ELAP graduates

Cathy Edwards, MA 2008

I had been a video editor for several years when I decided I wanted to re-activate the academic corner of my brain. During a year in Mexico as part of my BA majoring in Spanish I became interested in indigenous languages, and I wanted to get involved in promoting language diversity at the same time as studying linguistics further. So the MA in Language Documentation and Description at SOAS looked just about perfect for me. It allowed me to remain involved in media: I made a podcast about the Welsh language as part of my coursework, and through HEYPE I met a Mexican sociolinguist with whom I made an animation about an Aztec creation legend. I also worked for SOAS radio, producing documentaries on Newari (a language of Nepal) and Central Asian epic poetry, and took part in guestteaching sessions on video recording and editing.

Straight after finishing the MA I went in 2008 I began a BBC traineeship, made up of various placements around the UK, and I’ve continued a career in TV, radio and online production ever since. For Click, a World Service digital technology show, I ran a piece about Kevin Scannell’s website IndoEuropeanTweet.com, which groups people on Twitter by language. The idea is that people using the same minority language can find each other and use Twitter as a way of keeping their languages alive and kicking in the digital age. I’m having a career pause at the moment to look after my very new baby, but I’m plotting a future radio documentary about a minority language of the UK.

Alice Mitchell MA 2010

My BA was in German and Linguistics, and when living abroad in eastern Germany as part of the degree, I was amazed to discover that two Slavic minority languages (Upper Sorbian and Lower Sorbian) were still spoken in the area, completely unknown to many Germans. I wrote my BA thesis on factors involved in the disappearance of the Sorbian languages, and applied for the ELAP M.A. in Language Documentation and Description to find out more about language endangerment and what linguists were doing about it.

The M.A. offered a taste of the many different directions linguists can take from the basic recognition that the world’s linguistic landscape is rapidly changing. While the loss of linguistic diversity is lamentable, I realised that an activist role was not for me. Instead, I wanted to understand the social contexts of language change and learn how to document and describe languages in their social setting. I decided I would need a more complete knowledge of linguistics to pursue these goals and applied to several graduate schools in the U.S., where I felt I could get a broad and in-depth training in linguistics.

I’m now in my third year of the Linguistics Ph.D. program at the University at Buffalo, taking classes, teaching, and monitoring the quality of my British accent. The decision to embark on a long Ph.D. program in the U.S. has been extremely fulfilling so far; I’ve learned a lot about the different fields of linguistics and have had time to focus my own interests. I undertook a field trip to Tanzania in summer this year, where I began researching an avoidance register in the Barabaig dialect of Datooga. This register is a special kind of language used by women to avoid saying the names of their in-laws, and is as yet unstudied. Special registers of this kind are endangered across the African continent, and they offer an interesting insight into how political, socio-cultural and economic changes are affecting local language practices. I was able to try out some of the documentation methods I learned at SOAS and finally began to contribute to our knowledge of under-described languages.

Peter Budd MA 2004, PhD 2009

I enrolled on the inaugural MA in Language Documentation and Description in 2003 and was easily persuaded to sign up for a PhD in Field Linguistics the following year. My doctoral research took me to Vanuatu to work on Bierebo, a previously undocumented language of Epi island. My time spent living there for fieldtrips in a small village was an unforgettable experience. From an endangered languages perspective it was uplifting to observe the vibrant, though precariously small, speech communities, and really rewarding to collaborate with speakers on developing an orthography and producing the first Bierebo written materials.

After completing my PhD I initially tried to find an academic post but have since returned to English as a Foreign Language activities, teaching English for Academic Purposes and Academic Writing at various London universities. I have also started working as a test writer for the UEL Global Examinations Board. My Linguistics background has proved very valuable for all of this, as have the teaching assistantships I held with ELAP during my PhD.

Having put post-doctoral plans on hold for now, I am still trying to devote some time to Linguistics by writing academic papers. I know at some point, perhaps when my two young children are a bit older, that I’ll return to Epi, since I’d like to expand my thesis on Bierebo into a publishable grammar and look at further Bierebo language support initiatives.
Endangered Languages Archive (ELAR)

This year saw ELAR reach a critical mass in terms of its holdings, its staffing and workflows, and its recognition internationally. Following the resumption and acceleration of deposit processing, there are now 140 deposits online with published data, which represents a 240% increase over 2011. As a result of the increased staff numbers, and a revised streamlined and modularised workflow, ELAR is now able to process incoming materials much faster. The new workflow sees data placed online faster - often within two weeks of its arrival - in simplified (“unbundled”) form. Additional curation and bundling into sets of associated files takes place later; this process will increasingly be done by or together with the collection depositors through web-based computer systems currently in development.

As an overview of the range, amount, and usage of materials, ELAR holds over 30,000 audio files, nearly 5,000 video files, and 9,000 images, and about 9,000 text files (such as transcriptions and translations). This year approximately 2,000 files were downloaded, and around 3,500 resources accessed (such as audio or video played within the user’s web browser).

ELAR’s registered users stand at nearly 800, a year-on-year growth of over 50%. Members of endangered languages communities continue to be a significant proportion of users. In addition, while the majority of ELAR users are language scholars, we also have a significant number of interdisciplinary scholars including anthropologists, archivists, artists, ethnographers, ethnomusicologists, filmakers, folklorists, historians, language activists, language community members, language speakers, language teachers, librarians, linguists, poets and students, from over 60 countries.

ELAR’s subscription system was completed this year. It enables users and depositors to communicate via the archive to negotiate access to sensitive materials. This unique system is an application of social networking technology to address a key component of ELAR’s approach to protocol (access management). Together with a new control panel for depositors which displays the actual usages of their materials, the subscription system enables depositors to play a greater role in monitoring and managing access to their materials.

Involving depositors in the curation and management of their collections is not the only way that ELAR is actively involved in today’s milieu of participation and access. ELAR’s innovative catalogue system, launched in 2010, already redefined endangered language archiving as a platform for building and conducting relationships between depositors and users based around language documentation. However, 2012 saw an increase of ELAR’s presence through the use of social media (see page 8). Through these varied and expanding activities, together with ELAR’s increased international profile in collaborative, training and academic arenas, 2012 has seen ELAR reach a “critical mass”, with the opportunity to play a growing role in the support of endangered languages and documentation in coming years.

ELAR’s core collection archiving activities during 2012 are described in the following tables:

A. Collections published online - as curated deposits (42)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depositor</th>
<th>ELOP grants</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Language(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ayla Applebaum Bozkurt</td>
<td>IGS0071</td>
<td>Documentation and Analysis of Kabardian</td>
<td>Kabardian</td>
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<tr>
<td>I Mayan Arka</td>
<td>IPP0011</td>
<td>Documentation of Rong</td>
<td>Rong</td>
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<td>Samuel Atilongo</td>
<td>SGO049</td>
<td>A Documentation of Gurene Folk Tales and Other Genres</td>
<td>Gurene</td>
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<td>Jeremy Balush</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Documentation of Dho</td>
<td>Dho</td>
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<td>Henrik Bergqvist</td>
<td>IGS0038</td>
<td>Temporal Reference in Lakandon Maya</td>
<td>Lakandon Maya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Megan Biesele</td>
<td>MDP0241</td>
<td>Ju’hoan (ktx) Audio and Video Material 1970 to Present</td>
<td>Ju’hoan, X’ao-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Bugaeva</td>
<td>IPP0128</td>
<td>Documentation of the Saru dialect of Ainu</td>
<td>Saru dialect of Ainu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connie Dickinson</td>
<td>SGO054</td>
<td>Documentación de Ch'irpala</td>
<td>Cha’pala</td>
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<td>Stefan Dierenz</td>
<td>IPP0154</td>
<td>Documentation of Kanamari</td>
<td>Kanamari</td>
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<td>Nora England</td>
<td>MDP0018</td>
<td>Two Mayan Languages: Uspanteko and Sakapulteko</td>
<td>Uspanteko, Sakapulteko</td>
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<td>Conrad Feather</td>
<td>FFT0160</td>
<td>Documentation of mythology and songs of the Nuwas</td>
<td>Panuan</td>
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<td>David Fleck</td>
<td>MDP0193</td>
<td>Documentation of the Mayurana Languages</td>
<td>Mayurana</td>
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<td>Mike Franjah</td>
<td>IGS0065</td>
<td>A documentation of North Ambyrm, Vanatu</td>
<td>North Ambyrm</td>
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<td>Lydia Green</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Ikipána (Logba) plants: names and uses</td>
<td>Ikipána, Logba</td>
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<td>Nyoko Hattori</td>
<td>FFT0110</td>
<td>Pingelapese language data</td>
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<td>Birgit Helfweg</td>
<td>IPP0010</td>
<td>Goemai Tests</td>
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<td>Clar-Hill</td>
<td>MDP0133</td>
<td>Paman languages: Umpila, Koku Tu’u, Kanju</td>
<td>Umpila, Koku Tu’u</td>
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<td>Jay Hoyer</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Bajgha: Swedish List Elidcation Sessions</td>
<td>Bajgha</td>
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<td>Mark Janse</td>
<td>MDP0226</td>
<td>Documentation and Description of Cappadocian</td>
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<td>Juliane Kabisch-Lindenlaub</td>
<td>SGO057</td>
<td>The Analysis of Golpa Stories</td>
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<td>Jorge Rosés Labrada</td>
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<td>Collaborative Documentation and Description of Mako</td>
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<td>Christina Lorimer</td>
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<td>The New Testament in Scots</td>
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<td>Elena Mihus</td>
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<td>Asheninka Perene (Arawak) 2010 collection</td>
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<td>Victoria Nyst</td>
<td>IPP0114</td>
<td>Langue des Signes Malienne</td>
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<td>Adjaroua Omar Sall</td>
<td>IPP039</td>
<td>Documentation of Buddi</td>
<td>Buddi, Modik</td>
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<td>Jonathan Owens</td>
<td>SGO054</td>
<td>Glaeda in rural and urban contexts</td>
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<td>Sibaji Panda</td>
<td>PPP0039</td>
<td>Investigation of an endangered village sign language</td>
<td>Allipur Village Sign</td>
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<td>Gellites Pollan</td>
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<td>Ethnographic and discursive audiovisual corpus of Tseltal</td>
<td>Tseltal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fedor Rozhanskiy</td>
<td>MDP0211</td>
<td>Ingrinian narratives and elicitations by Ilya Nikolaev</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fedor Rozhanskiy</td>
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<td>Ingrinian narratives by Fedor Rozhanskiy and Elena Markos</td>
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<td>Fedor Rozhanskiy</td>
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<td>Ingrinian, Votic, and Ingrinian Finnish by Mehmet Muslimov</td>
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<td>Serge Sagna</td>
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<td>The Documentation of Gujilajaa Eegima: Senegal</td>
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<td>Sophie Suffmer</td>
<td>FFT0123</td>
<td>Ikkan and related dialects of Ikkan</td>
<td>Ikkan</td>
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<td>Julia Sallabank</td>
<td>SGO021</td>
<td>Documentation of Guernesiais</td>
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<td>Joke Schuit</td>
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<td>Documentation and description of Inuit Sign Language</td>
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<td>Aung Si</td>
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<td>Kristine Stenzel</td>
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<td>Wa’ihana Linguistic and Cultural Archive</td>
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<td>Maziar Toosarvandani</td>
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<td>Dari, Gabri</td>
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<td>Saskia van Putten</td>
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<td>Description and Documentation of Avatime</td>
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<td>Anthony Woodbury</td>
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<td>Documentation of Chalino</td>
<td>Chalino (variants)</td>
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<td>Meng Chien Yang</td>
<td>MDP0114</td>
<td>Yami Documentation</td>
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## B. Collections published online - as progressive deposits (19)

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<tr>
<td>Louise Ashmore</td>
<td>SG0105</td>
<td>A pan-dialectal documentation of Wik-Ngathan and Wik-Ngathar</td>
<td>Wik-Ngathan</td>
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<td>Common Bach</td>
<td>SG0102</td>
<td>Documentation and analysis of Haiala and Haianaisa</td>
<td>Haiala/ Haianaisa</td>
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<td>Anna Bugaeva</td>
<td>IPF0128</td>
<td>An Alu Talking Dictionary</td>
<td>Alu</td>
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<td>Natalia Caceres</td>
<td>FG0159</td>
<td>Documentation of Ye’kwana in the Erebato river in Venezuela</td>
<td>Ye’kwana</td>
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<td>Aurélie Cauchard</td>
<td>IG0131</td>
<td>Documentation of Caac</td>
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<td>Ingeborg Fink</td>
<td>SG0099</td>
<td>Dene Text Collection</td>
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<td>David Harrison</td>
<td>MD0096</td>
<td>Middle Chulym (Ös dili): a Turkic Language of Siberia</td>
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<td>Gwendolyn Hyslop</td>
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<td>Catriona Hyslop</td>
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<td>Documentation of Khutip language documentation in Bhutan</td>
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<td>Irina Nikolaeva</td>
<td>MD0051</td>
<td>Tundra Nenets texts</td>
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<td>Bruce Rigby</td>
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<td>Paman languages: Kuku Thayan, Awu Alaya</td>
<td>Kuku Thayan</td>
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<td>Glauber Remling da Silva</td>
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<td>Verbal events in Paresi-Hallití</td>
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<td>Kimary Shahin</td>
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<td>Lower Sr’atl’imcts Documentation</td>
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<td>Peter Sutton</td>
<td>MD0133</td>
<td>Paman languages: Wik Ngathan, Wik Mungkan</td>
<td>Wik Ngathan</td>
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<td>Silvia Wilson</td>
<td>FG0158</td>
<td>Desano - audio and video materials</td>
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<td>Xianming Xu</td>
<td>MD0209</td>
<td>Linguistic and cultural documentation of Sadu</td>
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<td>Yungendo Prasad Yadasa</td>
<td>MD0158</td>
<td>Baram Dictionary</td>
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<td>Yungendo Prasad Yadasa</td>
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<td>Linguistic and ethnographic documentation of Baram</td>
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## C. Materials received - new deposits (27)

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<td>A Documentation of Guerrean Folk Tales</td>
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<td>Jerry Immanuel Balah</td>
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<td>Documentation of Ohoao</td>
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<td>Juan José Bueno Hulè</td>
<td>IG0136</td>
<td>Documentation of Isthmus Zapotec</td>
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<td>Aurélie Cauchard</td>
<td>IG0131</td>
<td>Documentation of Caac</td>
<td>Caac</td>
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<td>Connie de Yos</td>
<td>SG0140</td>
<td>Longitudinal Documentation of Sign Language Acquisition</td>
<td>Village Sign, Ball</td>
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<td>Stefan Dienst</td>
<td>IPF0154</td>
<td>Documentation of Kanamari</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ingeborg Fink</td>
<td>SG0099</td>
<td>Dene Text Collection</td>
<td>Dene</td>
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<td>Lyndsay Green</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Ikipán (Logba) plants: names and uses</td>
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<td>Steffen Haarholm-Larsen</td>
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<td>Survey, Description and Documentation of Tol</td>
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<td>Gwenn Hyslop</td>
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<td>Documentation of ‘Oleka</td>
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<td>Julian Kalsby-Lindegaard</td>
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<td>Stuart McGill</td>
<td>IPF0179</td>
<td>The Kainji Project</td>
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<td>Julian Meyer</td>
<td>IPF0186</td>
<td>Documentation of Gario and Surui Languages in whistled speech</td>
<td>Gario, Surui</td>
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<td>Sabaji Panda</td>
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<td>Investigation of an endangered village sign language in India</td>
<td>Village sign</td>
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<td>Fedor Rozhanskiy</td>
<td>MD0211</td>
<td>Ingrian narratives recorded by Fedor Rozhansky and Elena Markus</td>
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<td>Fedor Rozhanskiy</td>
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<td>Ingrian, Voltic, and Ingrian Finnish recorded by Mehmet Muslimov</td>
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<td>Julia Saltabak</td>
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<td>Ruth Singer</td>
<td>IPF0140</td>
<td>Parallel documentation of two under-documented areas of Mwung</td>
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<td>Abokali Sumi</td>
<td>SG0119</td>
<td>Traditional agricultural songs and stories of the Sumi Nagas</td>
<td>Sumi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maziar Tooskarvandani</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Zoroastrian Dari</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emo-Abasi Urua</td>
<td>SG0121</td>
<td>Documentation of Dirge songs among the Uruan people in Nigeria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie-Eline van Emmegten</td>
<td>FG0152</td>
<td>Documentation of Einindlhukaya</td>
<td>Einindlhukaya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xianming Xu</td>
<td>MD0209</td>
<td>Linguistic and cultural documentation of Sadu</td>
<td>Sadu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## D. Materials received - sample data for evaluation or initial deposit (23)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depositor</th>
<th>ELDP grants</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Language(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Brindley</td>
<td>SG0120</td>
<td>The Siti pilot project: description and documentation</td>
<td>Siti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martine Buill</td>
<td>SG0067</td>
<td>Documentation and description of Ecuadorian Siona</td>
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<td>Amy Campbell</td>
<td>FG0162</td>
<td>Expanding the Documentation and Description of Hupa</td>
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<td>Aurélie Cauchard</td>
<td>IG0131</td>
<td>Documentation of Caac</td>
<td>Caac</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ingeborg Fink</td>
<td>SG0099</td>
<td>Dene Text Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lydia Green</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Ikipán (Logba) plants: names and uses</td>
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<td>Selene Hernandez Gomez</td>
<td>SG0037</td>
<td>Documentation of Santa Ana Huay’l’palen Otomi, Tulancingo</td>
<td>Huay’l’palen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juliane Kalsby-Lindegaard</td>
<td>SG0057</td>
<td>The Analysis of Golpa Stories</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Kamholz</td>
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<td>Documentation of Moor</td>
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<td>Alexander King</td>
<td>MD0128</td>
<td>Kayn  Ethnopoetics: Stories from Herders and Maritime Villagers</td>
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<td>Jorge Rosés Labrada</td>
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<td>Collaborative Documentation and Description of Mako</td>
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<td>Stephen Logan</td>
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<td>Documentation and Description of Ririo</td>
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<td>Tam Nguyen</td>
<td>IG0057</td>
<td>Folktales from the Bih language</td>
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<td>Yuto Ninagawa</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Documentation of Yawan, of the Ryukyu Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>María Ponsotten</td>
<td>IG0125</td>
<td>Culturally informed corpus of Dalabon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heidi Reid</td>
<td>IG0130</td>
<td>Variation in the TMA system of Providence Island Creole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glauber Remling da Silva</td>
<td>IG0068</td>
<td>Verbal events in Paresi-Hallití</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierre Sans</td>
<td>IG0126</td>
<td>Documentation of Basiro</td>
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<td>Chikako Sengé</td>
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<td>Documentation and Description of Wanyýrra</td>
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<td>Kimary Shahin</td>
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<td>Lower Sr’atl’imcts Documentation</td>
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<td>Aung Si</td>
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<td>Documentation of language and biological knowledge of the Sologa</td>
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<td>Stel Sronch</td>
<td>IG0084</td>
<td>Documentation and description of Ngarinyin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Francesca Stamuli</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Boove (Greco), an almost extinct Calabrian Greek variety</td>
<td>Boove</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## E. Depositors who added to their existing published deposits include:

- Ayla Bockst-Cleppebaum (IGS0071; Kabardian), Linda Barwick (MDP0139; Western Arnhem Land), Natalia Caceres (FG0159; Ye’kwana), Frances Kofed (MDP0190; Gjia), Nariyo Kone (MDP0179; Kiksh), Stuart McGill (SG0058; Cicipo).
Access and accessibility

The quest for open and free access to the results of publicly funded research and documentation is a motif of our time. For ELAR, this quest can be understood as “more open access”, that is, we recognise the inherent sensitivity of endangered languages documentary materials, while at the same time developing and improving policy and systems to enable nuanced, depositor-controlled access management for those cases where it is required.

The circumstances under which endangered languages are documented mean that much of the collected and analysed material is inherently sensitive. Speakers of endangered languages typically live under social, economic or political provisions (not to mention being subject to military and natural disasters which are also causes of language endangerment). To seek their co-operation in recording spontaneous, socially contextualised conversations and narratives of various kinds entails offering protections where necessary, in many ways similar to those that are applied to private data such as medical records.

ELAR’s catalogue system balances access and usage protocols for respecting such sensitivities, with as much open access as possible. For example, the Subscriber category enables depositors to approve access to users who provide suitable reasons for their use of materials. So far, around 90% of subscription requests have been approved by depositors. The protocol category of Community member can be used to manage access to more sensitive materials. This has an advantage because sensitive materials whose most likely users are themselves community members are available to most of its potential users under this system; in many other archives such materials would simply be listed as closed access. Approximately half of ELAR’s holdings are freely available under the User category to anyone who registers. Non-registered visitors to the site can browse metadata and general background to deposits, communities and languages.

ELAR’s research indicates that speakers and depositors appreciate managed access, knowing who is accessing their materials and why, rather than wishing to restrict access. For this reason, ELAR requires users who want to download materials to register as site members, so that usage can be reported to depositors. We believe that in time this will lead to increased confidence and trust on the part of speakers and depositors, and thus a tendency to make materials more open over time (depositors can now set access levels themselves).

The careful formulation and implementation of managed access is a key ingredient in the development of trust amongst language speakers, depositors, archivists and users, and that trust is the foundation on which we can ultimately maximise the quality, amount, and accessibility of deposited materials.

Ultimately, access of language documentation is not merely a matter of “available” versus “not available”. In our field, accessibility is a better term, reflecting the range of users, and encompassing parameters such as website usability, and the presentation and navigation of materials. And none of these factors count for anything at all unless potential users (especially language community members) become aware of the resources and are motivated to try to access them.

Events and participations

ELAR staff participated in the following events:

- David Nathan (with Anthony Jakes, Nikolaus Himmetmann, Hideo Sawada, Iku Nagasaki, and Honoré Watanabe). Documentary Linguistics Workshop (Doc ling), Institute for the Study of Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, 11-16 February 2012
- Ella Chatsiou. Endangered Languages Archive data holdings: A hands-on workshop. SOAS, 24 May 2012
- Thomas Castle, Kakia Chatsiou, Edward Garrett and David Nathan. Archiving with ELAR. Presentations at ELDP training, SOAS, 5-12 Sept 2012.

Visitors

ELAR had a number of visitors throughout the year, including depositors Linda Barwick, Dorothea Hoffmann, Trevor Johnston, Frances King, Alexander King, Shailendra Mohan, Karma Phuntsok, Daisy Rosenblum, Sophie Saffiner, Ruth Singer, and Kris Sterzel. Other visitors included Laura Robinson (University of Alaska), Bob Holman (Endangered Languages Alliance), and Maja Kominic (Arcadia).

Professor Kris Sterzel (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro) visited ELAR for a week in July. She worked closely with ELAR staff on preparing her two collections: Kolina linguistic and cultural archive and Wí Whana Linguistic and cultural archive, the outcomes of her ELDP MDP grant. While at SOAS, Kris gave a talk on The pleasures and pitfalls of ‘participatory’ documentation projects, offering a critical reflection on her project carried out with the two indigenous language communities in northwestern Amazonia. Kris also recorded a podcast about her work, which is available from the SOAS Radio website.

In August, ELAR was visited by Bob Holman, co-director of the Endangered Languages Alliance, film-maker, and well-known New York poet. Bob is currently creating an epic multimedia poem based on disappearing languages and visited ELAR to talk about ethical issues and to identify ELAR collections as possible sources of poetic material.

Dr Linda Barwick (University of Sydney and also co-director of the Paradisci archive) visited in July and November to work on her collection the Western Arnhem Land Song Project, which includes documentation of more than 50 different song sets and extensive repertories of songs, each consisting of song performance, song texts, and discussions from seven communities in Western Arnhem Land. In November Linda gave a talk about the archiving of her collection, which attracted a multi-disciplinary audience of linguists, anthropologists, and musicologists.
ELAR Staff

For full details of ELAR staff members’ interests see www. hrl.org/aboutus/staff

David Nathan, Director
With over 20 years experience in educational and computing support for endangered languages, especially Australian Aboriginal languages, David Nathan has taught computing, linguistics, cognitive science, multimedia, and language documentation and archiving. His publications include the textbook Australia’s Indigenous Languages, and papers on archiving, language documentation, audio, multimedia, lexicography, and the internet. He has produced multimedia CDs for a number of languages, established and runs several web sites, and was co-author (with Peter Austin) of the first hypertext web dictionary. Currently he is interested in new horizons for archiving as publishing, using advancing social networking environments, and in the connections between language documentation and language support, and how these connections can be supported through archives and innovative media technologies. David is responsible for leading and managing the ELAR team, especially in the areas of archiving, policy and design of systems. He also takes part in day-to-day technical and training activities. He has an active academic profile, publishing and speaking widely on language archiving and documentation.

Dr Kakia Chatiou, Digital Content Curator
Kakia Chatiou is a linguist and data scientist who joined ELAR in May 2012. Kakia previously worked as a Data and Support Services Officer at the UK Data Archive, University of Essex, enhancing ESDS data and documentation, where she also worked in preparing data management training resources (MANTRA project, EDINA). She holds a PhD in Linguistics (Essex, 2010) and has an active research interest in the study of the syntax and semantics using constraint-based theories of language and computational tools and platforms. Recently, she has been documenting Boliarnia, an endangered trade language of Central Greece. Kakia oversees ELAR collection processing through all stages of the ingestion workflow, from acquisition to accession into the online ELAR catalogue. She is also responsible for the day-to-day management, operations and training of a team of archive assistants and volunteers. She works with all ELAR team members on planning and documentation of ELAR’s evolving systems. She is involved in training data users and depositors, and offers support to depositors during their data creation and depositing process, helping to ensure that the data, metadata and documentation archived are of the highest possible quality. A strong social media advocate, she helped establish ELAR’s blog and other social networking activities.

Thomas Castle, Digital Technician
Tom Castle studied Three Dimensional Design at Kingston in Surrey, completing a BA (Hons) in 1977. He worked in the theatre, as a designer/maker, sound and lighting technician and as a performer with many experimental, political or community groups. Tom developed skills working with video, photography and sound for live performance and ‘multi-medium’ events. In 1982 he moved to Hatton Hall in the East End of London, designing, teaching, performing and providing technical support for community projects. In 1990, he became a volunteer counsellor and obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Psychodynamic Counselling from Birbeck, University of London. In 1992 he became a freelance technician, designer and production manager, touring with contemporary dance groups, performance art companies, Kathryn dancers, rock bands and experimental puppeteers. In 2004, he completed an MA in Sonic Arts from Middlesex, having turned his attentions back to experimenting with sound, technology and art. Tom is a member of ELAR’s online system development team, he manages data transfer, back-up systems and he contributes to data curation, teaching and training activities.

Bernard Howard, Technical Officer
Bernard Howard started work at SOAS as the Phonetics Lab Technician. He manages the Linguistic Resources Room and provides technical support to assist staff and students with recording and digitising. He also writes reviews of the latest recording equipment and helps with equipment support for ELAR fieldwork students and ELAR and ELDP training events.

Peter Austin, Acting Director (March-June)
Better known as the Director of the Academic Programme and the general architect of the HRELP project, Peter stood in during the period of David Nathan’s absence. Peter brought his wide-ranging skills and experience in project management to help ELAR respond to changes in its SOAS environment and its expansion of staffing.

Psychologist and supervisory Counselling

Archive Assistants

Ebay Dohle recently completed her MA in Language Documentation and Description and is interested in the languages of South America. She is passionate about art, writing, travelling and languages, and is fluent in English, Spanish, Portuguese and German. She has worked with communities in Guatemala and Nepal in researching policy for environmental sustainability, bilingual education and cultural preservation. At ELAR, Ebay is involved in data curation, as well as working with depositors to help improving collections. She has also created several podcasts as part of the SOAS Radio Endangered Languages Series.

Samantha Goodchild completed her MA in Language Documentation and Description, and is particularly interested in language support and revitalisation, and language planning and policy. She is involved in the Language Landscape project, which aims to map diverse languages by allowing users to upload their own recordings. At ELAR, Samantha assisted with updating the depositors database and general secretarial duties.

Lydia Green recently completed her MA in Language Documentation and Description. She is also a PhD student at the University of Newcastle (Australia) and a member of the Endangered Language Documentation Theory and Application (ELDTA) research group. Lydia has studied German, Korean, Latin and Twi. She has researched language loss in Alaska, California, and Australia and she hopes to use multimedia to celebrate the beauty of the world’s linguistic diversity. At ELAR, Lydia was involved in curating collections and liaising with depositors to help improve the collections.

Laura Kipp recently completed her MA in Language Documentation and Description. Before coming to SOAS, she did a BA in English Linguistics at the Free University of Amsterdam, where she also worked as a student assistant on the DutchSemCor project. At ELAR, she was involved in curating collections and working with depositors to help improve the collections.

Sandy Ritchie is pursuing his PhD in Field Linguistics, focusing on the Chinrame language, and is currently undertaking fieldwork in Bolivia. Sandy is a co-founder of the Language Landscape project. At ELAR, Sandy curated several major collections, and developed a guide to Professor Avita Abbi’s Great Andamanese collection, which piloted a broader move at ELAR to contextualise deposits more richly in order to enhance user access. Together with Professor Abbi and the ELAR team, Sandy also contributed to the electronic version of the Great Andamanese Dictionary.

Frances Simmons is currently studying for an MA in Language Documentation and Description and has a special interest in the languages of the Middle East, Russia and Siberia. Frances previously served as a volunteer with Human Rights NGOs in the Middle East. At ELAR, she is curating collections and working with depositors to improve collections.

Volunteer

Zander Zambas is currently studying for an MA in Language Documentation and Description. He is a participant in the Sylheti Project, through which he plans to research the relationship between musical and linguistic systems. Through the SOAS In-House volunteering scheme, Zander has contributed to the ELAR blog a series of posts entitled ‘Meet an Endangered Language’, in which he provides highly readable guides to specific deposits and highlights their unique contents in order to attract both scholars and a general readership to explore ELAR’s collections.
DELAMAN revitalised

The Digital Endangered Languages and Musics Archives Network was established in 2003 as an international umbrella body for archives devoted to preserving documentation of endangered languages and cultures worldwide. ELAR is a founding member of the network, which aims to stimulate interaction and collaboration on practical matters related to the emerging and challenging task of being the long-term custodians of language resources that are not only enormously valuable but also increasingly unique as language diversity is lost, and typically sensitive in nature.

Core members of DELAMAN, including ELAR, have recently revived the network’s early vigour and activities after it spent three years in relative dormancy. At the recent INNET Conference in Cologne on “Best practices in digital language archiving of language and music data”, the members present restated DELAMAN’s commitments:

- to be a network of organizations who are actively engaged in archiving endangered languages material in the sense of preserving primary data and related resources
- to define and publish criteria that trusted endangered languages archives should fulfil
- to launch a major campaign to seek out hidden and disparate sources of language documentation (such as in private hands) and try to identify means of digitising and archiving them.

Being an archive assistant

By Lydia Green, MA student

Working as an Archive Assistant in the Endangered Languages Archive from November 2011 to October 2012 has been a valuable part of my development as a language documenter. Before coming to SOAS I carried out a short fieldtrip to Ghana, working on documentation of plant names and usages among speakers of Ikpana (Logba). From September 2011 to August 2012 I undertook the MA in Language Documentation and Description (funded by a scholarship from the Fulbright Foundation), which provided me with the necessary theoretical background. Working in ELAR has given me an insider perspective on how to handle materials coming out of language documentation. Taken together these three elements have been informative for my future PhD research. Working in the archive has allowed me to meet many depositors and work closely with their materials, giving me exposure to a variety of research styles and outputs. I have learned about managing metadata, using regular expressions, and curating materials for long-term preservation and access. One of the most useful things has been experiencing the complete process of depositing, using my own documentation materials as an example. Going through this process helped to prepare me for my future documentation work, as having a clear idea of the final shape of outputs makes organizing the data collection easier. Overall, my experience working in ELAR has been incredibly useful to me, particularly in conjunction with the MA and in preparation for fieldwork as part of my PhD.

Lydia’s deposit is available at
elar.soas.ac.uk/deposit/ikpana-148778
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making a leading contribution to both scholarship and practice in the field of endangered languages