Call for Abstracts

Deadline: April 1, 2009

Abstracts are invited for 30-minute presentations in all areas of Dene/Athabaskan linguistics, language documentation, language teaching, language policy, and language revitalization. Presentations addressing the themes of the conference are particularly welcome.

General Session

Papers submitted for the general session may address any topic related to Dene/Athabaskan languages and linguistics. Especially encouraged are presentations focusing on the theme "Information Technology and Language Documentation," which will explore how emerging digital tools and methodologies can be used to further the goals of community language programs. The meeting will include a workshop on digital archiving geared towards community language documenters.

In addition to individual presentations, proposals for group or panel discussions are also welcome.

Special Session A: Athabaskan Origins

Recent scholarship has found evidence suggesting that Dene languages may be related to the Yeniseian languages of Siberia. The primary aim of this session is to stimulate critical discussion of these proposals. Papers addressing other topics in the history and development of the Dene languages are invited as well, including those drawing on evidence from fields such as archaeology, genetics, and demography.

Invited Speakers
- Yuri Berezkin (Kunstkamera, St. Petersburg)
- Bernard Comrie (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig)
- John Ives (University of Alberta)
- James Kari (Alaska Native Language Center)
- Jeff Leer (Alaska Native Language Center)
- Johanna Nichols (University of California, Berkeley)
- Edward Vajda (Western Washington University)

Special Session B: Toponyms

A second special session will focus on the structure, history, and cultural significance of placenames in Dene languages. This session seeks to broaden the empirical scope of comparative work in this area and to foster discussion among researchers and community groups interested in documenting toponymic knowledge.

Submission Guidelines

Deadline

Abstracts must be received electronically by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time, Wednesday, April 1, 2009.

No late submissions can be accepted. Authors will be notified of (non-) acceptance by Friday, May 1, 2009.

Formatting

Abstracts must fit on one page in 12-point font with 1" margins. So that the review process can remain anonymous, authors should not include their names or otherwise reveal their identity on this page, and instead include identifying information in the body of an email accompanying the submission. References may be included on a separate page if necessary.

Submissions

All abstracts must be submitted electronically as PDF or Word documents (PDF is required if the submission contains special fonts). Abstracts should be sent to alc09@berkeley.edu. The body of the accompanying email should include the title of the paper and the names and contact information (phone and email) for all authors of the presentation.

Presentation and Publication

Presentations are allotted 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for questions. Presented papers will be published as a volume of the Alaska Native Language Center Working Papers.