

# Clearly Heard Forever

## J. P. Harrington Database Project Newsletter

Number 8

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### Project Organizers

In the last newsletter we featured several of our student staff. In this issue we introduce Martha Macri and Victor Golla, the project directors, and Georgie Waugh, one of our senior advisors.



**Martha Macri** is a member of the Cherokee Nation. A linguist, she is a professor of Native American Studies at UC Davis.

In 1991 Georgie Waugh approached her about the need for an indexing database to make the linguistic and cultural notes collected by J. P. Harrington accessible, both to scholars and to community members. Macri designed the database in consultation with Victor Golla. Lisa Woodward was the first to transcribe Harrington's notes into this format in 1994.

Macri teaches a class in which students work on any Native American language they wish to study. Several students have worked directly with Harrington's notes. Macri's other interests include Cherokee and the languages and scripts of ancient Mesoamerica. She has also developed the Maya Hieroglyphic Database and recently published with Matthew Looper, an updated catalog of Mayan signs.

**Victor Golla** has been studying California Indian languages since his undergraduate days at Berkeley in the late 1950s. He has done extensive fieldwork on California and Oregon



Athabaskan languages (especially Hupa and Tututni), and has written widely about American Indian languages in general.

His interest in the last few years has been the history of research on California languages, which has inevitably led him to Harrington. During the 1990s he organized a series of conferences that brought together the linguists, anthropologists, and community people who were working with the Harrington papers for a sharing of insights and problems. He also edited a *Harrington Conference Newsletter* to keep people in the Harrington research network in touch with each other.

At the moment, he is finishing a guide to California Indian languages. He's planning to revive an electronic version of the *Harrington Conference Newsletter* under a new name.

**Georgie Waugh's** first encounter with John Peabody Harrington notes took place at the Smithsonian where she had undertaken research for her dissertation on the late prehistory of northern San Diego County.



Waugh recognized the enormous potential of these notes, then being microfilmed by Elaine Mills, not only in ongoing studies in linguistics, but for ethnography and archaeology. She particularly perceived the difficulty in pursuing such research without a comprehensive index, such as the one being created by this project. Georgie is delighted with its success. She is presently coding Harrington's extensive correspondence.

## Native Knowledge



Photo from <<http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu>>

A photo of Michael Grofe and Lisa Woodward with quotations from Michael, Lisa, Ben Burgess, and Kerin Gould — graduate students who have worked on the Harrington Project — were included in an article on the Native American Studies Department in the UC Davis campus faculty and staff newspaper *Dateline* on July 24, 2005. The article was also featured on the UC Davis website.

### Linguistic Society of America

In July, Martha Macri presented a paper, *Working with Language Communities in Unarchiving: Making J. P. Harrington Notes Accessible*. The visibility of the project as an effort that successfully involves members of indigenous communities was the topic of this keynote address for the session on *Language Documentation: Theory, Practice, and Values* at the 2005 LSA Linguistic Institute at MIT/Harvard.

Macri also presented a paper *A Linguist's Responsibilities to the Community of Linguists* at the session on *Ethics and Archiving: Best Practices* at the same conference.

### Summer at the Project

This summer NAS students Lisa Woodward, Dina Fachin, Michael Grofe, and Duane Leonard from Linguistics have been transcribing data and checking files on a number of languages.

### J. P. Harrington Notes Currently Being Coded or Checked

California languages: Cahuilla; Chumashan: Barbareño, Ineseño, Obispeño, Ventureño; Kitanemuk; Luiseño/Juaneño; Mutsun;

Northern/Central Pomo; Serrano; Tubatulabal; Wikchamni.

Other languages: Coos; Northern Paiute; Ute.

### Coming Soon. . .

The next newsletter will describe Harrington's relationship with the Fenyes/Curtin/Paloheimo family in Pasadena, California and New Mexico and their collaboration on projects in the Southwest.

We will also have a report of the trainings that are planned for the Barbareño and Ineseño Chumash communities in the Santa Barbara area in mid August. Project personnel Woodward and Macri will be joined by Matthew Vestuto from Olympia, Washington. Matthew is Barbareño and has worked as a volunteer for the project for several years.

### General Information

**John Peabody Harrington** (1884–1961), hired in 1915 by the Bureau of American Ethnology as a research ethnologist, devoted nearly half a century to field work on Native American languages. The men and women he interviewed were often among the last remaining speakers of their languages.

**The J. P. Harrington Database Project**, administered through the Native American Language Center at UC Davis, with funding from the National Science Foundation (awards BCS01-11487 and BCS04-18584), bridge funding from the Office of Research, UC Davis, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. Principal investigators: Martha Macri, Victor Golla. Project director: Lisa Woodward. Research associates: Ben Burgess, Dina Fachin, Duane Leonard, Georgie Waugh.

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**NEW:** <http://nas.ucdavis.edu/NALC/JPH.html>

**Newsletter name** Harrington frequently wrote "ch." next to a word or phrase to indicate that he had asked the speaker to repeat it, so it could be "clearly heard." If he had asked the speaker to repeat it slowly several times, and was absolutely certain of the accuracy of his phonetic transcription, he would write "ch. forever."

Martha Macri, Lisa Woodward, Newsletter Editors