

August 24, 2015

Dear Colleague:

The LSA has recently established a new charitable contribution fund in memory of Emmon Bach (June 12, 1929 - November 28, 2014). This fund was established in consultation with Emmon's families and close colleagues, and is to be used to support student fellowships at CoLang, the Institute for Collaborative Language Research. This will be the first named fellowship at CoLang; we are sure that Emmon would be pleased and honored to be helping to support the CoLang institutes, which offer an opportunity for practicing linguists, undergraduate and graduate students, and indigenous language community members to develop and refine skills and approaches to language documentation and revitalization.

In addition to his well-known work on syntactic and semantic theory, Emmon worked over many decades on the languages of northern British Columbia, especially Haisla, documenting the Haisla language and publishing articles on issues in the semantics and morphology of polysynthetic languages. For several years in the 1980s and 1990s, he taught linguistics (in New Aiyansh) and cotaught Haisla and Coast Tsimshian with community members (in Kitamaat and Prince Rupert). Beyond his scientific interests, he was concerned with language rights and problems of language endangerment. He was active in SSILA, the Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages, and was President of SSILA at the time of his death.

The goal now is to raise enough funds to support an endowed Bach Fellowship award at each future CoLang Institute. An endowment relies on the earnings rather than the principal to generate the financial award. In order to support a biennial fellowship that covers tuition, room and board, plus travel support, the LSA will need to raise a minimum of \$50,000. Pre-announcement fundraising has raised \$21,900, almost 44% of our goal, from a combination of individual donors and a contribution from the CoLang fund balance left over after CoLang 2014, sent by Colleen Fitzgerald at UT Arlington.

The fundraising drive will continue indefinitely until sufficient funds are raised, but we hope to reach our goal in time to make the first award at CoLang 2016 at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

As founding donors, we invite you to make a generous donation to the Emmon Bach CoLang Fellowship Fund. Donations may be made online at http://www.linguisticsociety.org/donate, where you will also find a printable donation form if you prefer to make a payment by check or credit card off-line.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Jim Blevins, University of Cambridge

Ellen Broselow, Stony Brook University

Gregory N. Carlson, University of Rochester

Wynn Chao

Mary Dalrymple, Oxford University

Daniel Finer, Stony Brook University

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Gert Webelhuth, University of Frankfurt

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T.E. Zimmermann and Caroline Féry, Goethe University, Frankfurt

And other donors who wish to remain anonymous