September 1984

4. No financial obligation in excess of funds available in the treasury shall be assumed by the Executive Committee or by any officer on behalf of the Division except that in the event of the dissolution of the Division, estimated receipts for the current year may be considered as available funds.

5. The Division may establish special funds to be administered by the American Anthropological Association for purposes the Division may designate.

ARTICLE XV. Publications

1. The American Anthropologist shall be the official journal of the Division.

2. The Anthropology Newsletter shall be the official newsletter of the Division.

3. The Division may establish additional publications subject to the approval of the Members and in accordance with the By-Laws.

ARTICLE XVI. Amendment

1. These By-Laws may be amended by the Members by mail ballot, provided that a proposed amendment is approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

2. Amendments may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by five (5) percent of the Members in good standing. The Executive Committee shall have the power to propose amendments to the Members and it shall allow thirty (30) days for the return of ballots.

3. Amendments and provisions of these By-Laws shall be effective immediately upon adoption and shall supersede and nullify all previous amendments and provisions.

SOCIETY FOR LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY

JANE H. HILL, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

News from SLA

Linguistic anthropologists have formed a new unit within the American Anthropological Association. The unit, called SLA, or Society for Linguistic Anthropology, was established by an amendment to the American Anthropological Association's By-Laws at the 1983 Annual Meeting of the AAA, when more than 200 linguistic anthropologists met to elect the SLA Organizing Committee. At the 1984 Annual Meeting of the AAA, linguists voted to establish the new society as a Unit of the AAA, ratified a set of By-Laws, and elected officers. The new officers are Marianne Mithun (SUNY Albany and UC Berkeley), President; Elizabeth Silverstein (Chicago), President-elect; Jane H. Hill (Arizona), Secretary-Treasurer. Members of the Executive Committee are Judith H. Hill (Georgia), two-year term, and Allan Blount (Georgia), two-year term. These terms will establish a rotation of Executive Committee membership, but have not yet been scheduled. The new Executive Committee shall hold a runoff election on the third day of the Annual Meeting, and agreed that the first SLA-sponsored sessions will be sessions in honor of the Centennial of Edward Sapir. Applications for participation in the new SLA are coming from all over the world, and as soon as possible, the Executive Committee will clarify the rights and duties of membership. Final decisions here must await decisions by the AAA Board as AAA completes its own reorganization. Meanwhile, SLA activities have been sustained by voluntary contributions, but hereafter, AAA members will be able to select SLA as an election option to their annual dues. One independent issue of the SLA Newsletter has been distributed; SLA news will hereafter be published in the AAA Newsletter. The Contributing Editor invites submissions of news of meetings, publications, research in progress, appointments, and other news relevant to the field of linguistic anthropology. News should be submitted to Jane H. Hill, Department of Anthropology, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85282, or to Alan Blount, Department of Anthropology, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85282.

By-Laws of the Society for Linguistic Anthropology

ARTICLE I. Name

1. The Society shall be known as the Society for Linguistic Anthropology (SLA), a Unit of the American Anthropological Association, hereinafter referred to as the Society.

ARTICLE II. Purposes

1. The purposes of the Society shall be to advance the study of language in its social and cultural context and to encourage communication of the results of such study.

ARTICLE III. Powers

1. The Society shall be autonomous in all matters within its field that are not covered by the By-Laws of the American Anthropological Association, minimal to the American Anthropological Association's interests, or prohibited by law.

2. The Society shall have an elected President and Secretary-Treasurer and other elected or appointed officers as set forth in these By-Laws.

3. The Society is empowered to determine membership dues.

4. The Society shall determine voting requirements and all Division Section matters.

5. The Society may engage in publishing and program activities in collaboration with the Executive Committee, and other agents, and set publication and program policies appropriate to the Society.


ARTICLE IV. Membership

1. Membership in the Society shall be open to any Member in good standing of the American Anthropological Association who supports the above purposes, subject to the payment of dues stipulated to the Executive Committee of the Society.

2. A Member in good standing shall be eligible to hold any office of the Society and, should the Society be entitled to such representation, its first representative on the Board of Directors of the American Anthropological Association and its representative on the Executive Committee of the American Anthropological Association.

3. The President-elect shall assume the duties of the President in the event of absence, death, resignation, or incapacity of the President, and shall succeed to the office of President at the expiration of the term as President-elect.

4. The Society-Treasurer shall have charge of the records of the Society and shall submit a draft budget not less than thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting for the approval of the Executive Committee. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as editor of the Society's section in the Anthropology Newsletter.

5. The terms of office of all officers shall be two years, commencing at 9:00 p.m., on the third day of the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

ARTICLE VII. Executive Committee

1. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers, two members elected at large from the membership of the Society, and any additional representatives elected by the Society to the Board of Directors of the American Anthropological Association.

2. Subject to directives and limitations imposed by the Members of the Society, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to execute on behalf of the Society all powers and functions defined in these By-Laws.

3. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once annually, at the time of the Annual Meeting. In addition, it may meet additionally on the call of the President or a majority vote of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall report to all non-elective appointments and may make interim appointments to fill vacancies in any elective office until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. Annual Report

1. At the time of each Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee shall report its activities to the Members and to the Board of Directors of the American Anthropological Association. This report shall include the reports of the Secretary-Treasurer, editors of publications committees, and other agents representing the Society.

ARTICLE IX. Meetings


3. The business of the Society shall be transacted by majority vote unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE X. Quorum

1. Five (5) percent of the Members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Business Meeting.

2. A majority of the Members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for transacting business.

3. The business of the Society shall be transacted by majority vote unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE XI. Nominations and Elections

1. Candidates for any elective office may be nominated by the Executive Committee, by a Nominations Committee, or by Members. All candidates shall be Members in good standing of the Society.

2. A Nominations Committee of three (3) Members shall be appointed annually by the Executive Committee.

3. The Nominations Committee shall nominate at least one (1) person for each office, and at least two (2) persons for each other vacant office. Nominations shall be made known to Members at least one hundred twenty (120) days before the Annual Meeting.

4. Five (5) percent of the Members in good standing may nominate an additional candidate for any office, provided the nomination is received in writing to the Secretary at least ninety (90) days before the Annual Meeting.

5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall inform the prospective nominees of the probable extent of the burden of the office. A nomination becomes effective only upon filing with the Secretary a statement of willingness and ability to devote such time to the affairs of the Society as necessary to the effective execution of office.

ARTICLE XII. Balloting

1. A Member in good standing shall be entitled to cast one ballot in each election for each office.

2. Ballots shall be secret and enclosed in a signed envelope. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to examine the eligibility of the voter.

3. Thirty (30) days shall be allowed for the returns of ballots. Ballots must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer not later than the stated deadline.

4. The service agency may be engaged to tally the votes and certify the results to the Executive Committee.

5. The candidate receiving the most votes for a contested office shall be elected; the Executive Committee shall hold a run-off election within ninety (90) days to resolve all ties.

ARTICLE XIII. Amendments

1. A referendum may be conducted by mail ballot at any time upon initiation of the Executive Committee, or upon receipt by the Secretary-Treasurer of a

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