

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 for the purpose of this section, estimated receipts from annual dues and other accounts receivable 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 institute 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 proposed amendment circulated to the Members and it shall allow thirty (30) days for the return of ballots.

3. The 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 reorganized American Anthropological Association. The Society for Linguistic Anthropology (SLA) began at the 1982 Annual Meeting of the AAA, when more than 200 linguistic anthropologists met to elect the SLA Organizing Committee. At the 1983 Annual Meeting of the AAA, linguistic anthropologists 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; Michael Silverstein (Chicago), President-elect; Jane H. Hill (Arizona), Secretary-Treasurer. Members of the Executive Committee are Judith Irvine (Brandeis), three-year term, and Ben Blount (Georgia), two-year term. These terms will establish a rotation of Executive Committee membership, but hereafter all officers will serve two-year terms as established in the By-Laws. The new Executive Committee appointed Kenneth C. Hill (Michigan) as SLA Program Chair for the 1984 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 arriving 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 Unit membership when they pay annual dues. One independent issue of the *SLA Newsletter* has been distributed; SLA news will hereafter be published in this column. The Contributing Editor invites submissions of news of meetings, publications, research in progress, appointments, and all other news relevant to linguistic anthropologists. News should be submitted to Jane H. Hill, Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721. Meeting news in particular should be submitted as early as possible, to meet *Anthropology Newsletter* deadlines.

### By-Laws of the Society for Linguistic Anthropology

Unit of the American Anthropological Association

#### ARTICLE I. Name

1. The Society shall be known as the Society for

## Unit News

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 reserved by the By-Laws of the American Anthropological Association, inimical 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 on all Division/Section matters.

5. The Society may engage in publishing and program activities, appoint editors, committees, and other agents, and set publication and program policies appropriate to its purposes.

6. The Society shall adopt and maintain By-Laws or Rules of Procedure consistent with American Anthropological Association By-Laws. The Society shall file with the American Anthropological Association Secretary a copy of its current By-Laws, Rules of Procedure, and Table of Organization.

#### 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 purpose, subject to the payment of dues stipulated by the Executive Committee of the Society.

2. A Member in good standing shall be eligible to hold elective or appointive office, participate in the scientific program, receive publications and have one vote in nominating and electing officers and the transaction of other business of the Society.

3. For just cause, a Member may be deprived of membership by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee, subject to appeal to the Members at the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE V. Dues

1. The Executive Committee shall set the annual dues of Members and may establish rates for special categories.

2. Any Member in arrears in the payment of dues shall lose all membership privileges.

#### ARTICLE VI. Officers

1. The officers shall be a President, President-elect, and Secretary-Treasurer.

2. The President shall be the presiding officer 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 Secretary-Treasurer shall have charge of the records of the Society and shall submit a draft budget not less than sixty (60) 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 o'clock pm, 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 and may meet additionally on the call of the President or a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

4. The Executive Committee shall make all non-elective appointments and may make interim appointments to fill vacancies in any elective office until the next regularly scheduled election.

#### 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. The report shall include the reports of the Secretary-Treasurer, editors of publications, committees, and other agents representing the Society.

#### ARTICLE IX. Meetings

The Society shall hold an Annual Business Meeting at the time of the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2. The place and date of the Annual Meeting shall be disclosed to the Members not less than one hundred twenty (120) days in advance of the meeting.

3. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Program Chair who shall organize the scientific program of the Society.

4. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee or upon written request of five (5) percent of the Members.

#### 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 Secretary-Treasurer and at least two (2) persons for each other vacant office. These 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 by the Secretary at least ninety (90) days before the Annual Meeting.

5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall inform the prospective nominee 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 any election or referendum.

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

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

4. A 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. Referenda

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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