

7.9.4. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF LANGUAGE STUDY: UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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7.9.4.1. INTRODUCTION

There are several departments engaged in language study at the University of Hawaii. These include the Departments of European Languages, East Asian Languages, East Asian Literature, Indo-Pacific Languages, English, English as a Second Language, and Linguistics. In addition, the Social Science and Linguistics Institute, incorporating the former Pacific and Asian Linguistics Institute, carries out language and linguistic research in a non-instructional setting. Masters level programmes are available in most of the departments with doctoral level programmes in Asian Languages (Japanese) and Linguistics. A sub-concentration in Psycholinguistics is also available at the doctoral level in the Linguistics Department.

Most of the doctoral research has been done in and through the Department of Linguistics (initiated in 1963). Faculty members in that Department have done their research on Micronesian, Melanesian, Polynesian, Malayan, Papuan, Sino-Tibetan, Japanese, Vietnamese, various South-East Asian, Indo-European, Indo-Aryan, and Amerindian language groups.

The linguistic programme at the University of Hawaii includes theoretical, anthropological, historical-comparative, and applied linguistics. It also includes research in language acquisition, sociolinguistics with emphasis on creoles and pidgins, ethnolinguistics, lexicography, field methods, and computer techniques.

7.9.4.2. THE DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

The 1973-74 *Graduate Division Catalog* of the University of Hawaii lists a total of 31 faculty members in the Department of Linguistics, 20 on a regular basis, another two on the emeritus status, and nine more in the co-operating faculty connected with Psycholinguistics from the Departments of English as a Second Language, Psychology, and East Asian Languages. In addition to the members of the Department of Linguistics there are some 30 members of other departments who have significant interests, training and ongoing research in the field of linguistics.

Though the area covered at the University of Hawaii in language and linguistics is broad, there is a major concentration in the Department of Linguistics on the Austronesian and non-Austronesian languages of Oceania. Current faculty members with major interest in the Papua New Guinea area of these languages include George W. Grace, Andrew K. Pawley, and Howard P. McKaughan.

7.9.4.2.1. G.W. GRACE

Professor Grace has been interested primarily in historical linguistics and specifically in the reconstruction of Proto-Oceanic. His study ranges from the collection of and reporting on data in 1955-56 under the Tri-Institutional Pacific Program, sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, to analysis and publication of results in his 'A Proto-Oceanic Finder List' (Grace 1969), and his article on 'Notes on the Phonological History of the Austronesian Languages of the Sarmi Coast' (Grace 1971). The languages discussed in the latter paper include Sobel, Bongo, Tarpia, Wakd , Anus, and Masimasi (all in Irian Jaya).

Professor Grace had earlier (1955) concluded that the Oceanic subgroup (called then Eastern Malayo-Polynesian) 'extends no farther west than the western border of Australian New Guinea.' He amends that statement with the study of the languages of the Sarmi Coast, concluding that these languages also belong to the Oceanic subgroup of Austronesian.

7.9.4.2.2. A.K. PAWLEY

Professor Pawley has been interested in Papua New Guinea since his doctoral studies under Professor Biggs at the University of Auckland. Pawley's early research was with the Kalam, a Papua New Guinea Highlands language generally referred to in the literature as Karam. His major work to date on the Kalam is contained in his dissertation (Pawley 1966).

Currently, collaborating with Professors Ralph Bulmer and Bruce Biggs, Pawley is finishing an extensive Kalam dictionary of 'ethnoscience' interest which will be published in *Pacific Linguistics*.

Pawley has extended his research to the comparative-historical field with research on the Austronesian languages of Oceania. Of interest to the Papua New Guinea area is a tentative subgrouping suggested by Wilhelm Milke in 1965, which he calls New Guinea Oceanic. Pawley defines this as

including all the Austronesian languages of the New Guinea mainland east of Geelvink Bay, together with the languages spoken on small offshore islands (including the islands of the Milne Bay), those spoken west of the Talasea Peninsula on the north coast of West New Britain and the New Guinea mainland. (Pawley 1973)

He also contributed to our knowledge of the relationship of Austronesian languages of Central Papua (Pawley 1975a).

Two of Pawley's recent papers, presented at the First International Conference on Comparative Austronesian Linguistics (Pawley 1973, Pawley and Green 1973), give excellent studies which deal in part with the New Guinea Oceanic languages: 'Some Problems in Proto-Oceanic Grammar' and 'Dating the Dispersal of the Oceanic Languages'. In the latter, written with Roger Green, Pawley contrasts a geographic area he calls Near Oceania (New Guinea, Bismarck Archipelago and the Solomons as far east as San Cristobal) with Remote Oceania (all other parts of Oceania). He discussed the Archaeology and the Linguistic history (in so far as it is known) for these areas and argues for a date of 3,000 B.C. or earlier for the initial dispersal of the Oceanic subgroup of Austronesian languages, with the dispersal centre in the New Guinea region rather than farther east.

7.9.4.2.3. H.P. McKAUGHAN

Professor McKaughan's research in Papua New Guinea has been on non-Austronesian languages of the Eastern Highlands. He did fieldwork in 1961 under the auspices of the New Guinea Micro-Evolution Project supported by the National Science Foundation with Professor James B. Watson of the University of Washington as the Principal Investigator, and in co-operation with the Summer Institute of Linguistics. Analysis and publication has been during his affiliation with the Universities of Washington and Hawaii. Working together with several Summer Institute of Linguistics members (Lovings, Frantzes, Vincents, Bee, and Kerr among others) he studied the Eastern Family (of the East New Guinea Highlands Stock) located in the Kainantu area. The results are published in *The Languages of the Eastern Family of the East New Guinea*

Highland Stock (McKaughan, ed. 1973) (McKaughan 1973a, 1973b, McKaughan, comp. 1973a, 1973b, 1973c, McKaughan and A. Loving 1973, McKaughan and Marks 1973, R. Loving and McKaughan 1973, A. Loving and McKaughan 1973). The major portion of the material is descriptive in nature using a taxonomic approach. A sizeable collection of text material has been included which can be used for further research on these languages. Also, Bee, Kerr and McKaughan have presented early steps in reconstruction of a Proto-Kainantu family. The studies include Tairora, Gadsup, Auyana, and Awa as the major languages and also Binumarien and Waffa related to Tairora, Agarabi related to Gadsup, and Usarufa related to Auyana (see Bibliography).

7.9.4.2.4. DARLENE BEE

The Micro-Evolution Project has been closely associated with the University of Hawaii both through Professor McKaughan and by Dr Darlene Bee and Dr Harland Kerr's association with the Department. Darlene Bee (tragically killed in an aircraft accident in 1972) and Harland Kerr studied and did research at this University in parts of 1964-66. Bee did her basic work for her paper 'Comparative and Historical Problems in East New Guinea Highland Languages' (Bee 1973c) in a seminar conducted by Professor Grace. At that time Bee was at the University of Hawaii under an East-West Center grant. Other relevant publications by her include Bee 1973a, 1973b, Bee, comp. 1973, Bee, Luff and Goddard 1973, Bee and Glasgow 1973.

7.9.4.2.5. H.B. KERR

Dr Kerr furthered his work on 'The Proto-Kainantu Kinship System of the East New Guinea Highlands' (Kerr 1973b) as a postdoctoral fellow of the East-West Center and in collaboration with the Micro-Evolution Project at the University of Hawaii. He also wrote a chapter on 'Subject Morphemes in the Tairora Verb Complex' (Kerr 1973a) for the project.

7.9.4.2.6. S.H. ELBERT AND I. HOWARD

Samuel Elbert (Professor Emeritus) in his extensive fieldwork on Polynesian languages has worked with the Takuu of the Mortlock Islands. This is a Polynesian outlier though politically connected to Papua New Guinea. Professor Irwin Howard, also of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Hawaii has, with intramural research support, organised materials that he collected and those that Professor Elbert

collected on Takuu in the early 1960s. Howard has more recently been awarded a National Science Foundation grant to support further fieldwork and to sponsor a research consultant from Takuu to visit the University of Hawaii.

7.9.4.2.7. GRADUATE STUDENTS

Several doctoral students at the University of Hawaii have been interested in the languages of Papua New Guinea, so far all of them working on Austronesian languages. Russell Cooper is working on the Suau dialects of Milne Bay (Cooper 1975), Peter Lincoln has written his dissertation on Banoni of Bougainville (Lincoln 1976a) and the question of Papuanisation (Lincoln 1976b). John Lynch, who recently completed his doctoral programme at the University of Hawaii, used data from Suau and Aroma to support his discussion of Melanesian Possession (Lynch 1973). Joseph Kess, one of the early Hawaii doctoral students now at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, has written on the historical phonology of Motu (Kess 1969). Joel Bradshaw is working on Siboma or Numbam1 (about 50 miles south of Lae) and Frank Lichtenberk is on Manam Island.

7.9.4.2.8. AUSTRONESIAN CONFERENCE AND COLLABORATION WITH OTHER UNIVERSITIES

The papers by Lincoln, Lynch, and Pawley were presented at the First International Conference on Comparative Austronesian held in Honolulu, Hawaii, early in 1974. All of the papers presented were summarised by Malcolm Mintz and Peter Lincoln for the readers of *Asian Perspectives* (Mintz 1975, Lincoln 1975). Many of the papers have been published in special issues of *Oceanic Linguistics*, a journal edited by George Grace and founded in response to the Pacific Science Congress held in Honolulu in 1961. In response to some of the papers presented at the 1974 conference, Grace and Pawley have received a National Science Foundation grant to study the relationships among the Austronesian languages of the North-East coast of New Guinea from Manam to Siboma, supporting the current fieldwork of Lichtenberk, Lincoln, and Bradshaw. This project and that of Howard have been conducted in close association with the newly formed Language Department at the University of Papua New Guinea. Public lectures on various aspects of the project were given by both Lincoln and Grace at the University of Papua New Guinea and at the University of Technology in Lae, where one of the graduates of the English as a Second Language programme at the University of Hawaii, Jeffrey Siegel, is teaching. More technical papers were

presented at the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea in September 1976: Lincoln reporting on his survey of Austronesian languages between Finschhafen and Madang, and he with Lichtenberk and Bradshaw reporting on their impressions after a few months' exposure to Gitua, Manam, and Numbami, respectively. These ties with the University of Papua New Guinea strengthened earlier contacts through Pawley's visiting appointment and Lynch's more permanent appointment. Linguists at the University of Hawaii have maintained close contact with other institutions working in the Papua New Guinea area. Both Grace and McKaughan spent sabbaticals as visiting professors in Professor Wurm's Department of Linguistics in the Research School of Pacific Studies, the Australian National University. Lincoln was a special student there while doing fieldwork in Bougainville. Howard and Pawley have been associated with Professor Wurm's department and Robert Blust, after completing his degree at the University of Hawaii, was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship during which he did fieldwork on Manus Island. Professor Wurm has held brief visiting professorship appointments with the University of Hawaii.

Professor Biggs of the University of Auckland, who continues to work with Pawley on Kalam, was a member of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Hawaii in 1968 and 1969. Close ties, of course, also exist with United States mainland universities and colleagues.

7.9.4.2.9. STUDIES IN NEW GUINEA PIDGIN

In addition to the research on the more traditional languages of Papua New Guinea, there has been considerable interest in New Guinea Pidgin. Analytical papers by Pawley (1975b) and Bickerton (1975) were presented at the 1973 Pidgin Conference at the University of Papua New Guinea. At the Pidgins and Creoles Conference held in Honolulu in January 1975, one session was devoted to New Guinea Pidgin. A course in beginning conversational New Guinea Pidgin was offered at the University of Hawaii in the summer of 1975. This course is being offered again in 1977 as a part of the prelude to the Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute. The focus of the Linguistic Society of America programme is on languages of the Pacific, with interested colleagues coming from all over the world.

7.9.4.2.10. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The surge of interest in the languages of Papua New Guinea was evidenced by the attendance and the number of papers read at the Austronesian conference in 1974 and subsequent meetings, and by the many contributions to the volumes of this series. This increased activity is very encouraging. Members of the faculty of the University of Hawaii hope to continue to contribute significantly to it.

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