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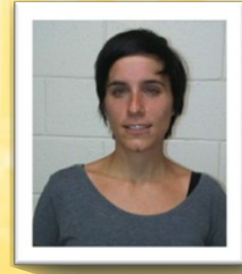
Special Presentations by Visiting Scholars from the University of Bremen, Germany

H. Costenoble's Chamorro Dictionary

By Barbara Dewein

Wednesday, September 14, 2011, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

CLASS Lecture Hall



H. Costenoble is known as the author of *Die Chamoro Sprache*, a Chamorro grammar published in 1940. The manuscript of *Grundwörterammlung der Chamoro Sprache*, a Chamorro dictionary also conducted by Costenoble, has recently been found. The dictionary was meant as a complement to the grammar, but for financial reasons, it was never published.

The *Grundwörterammlung* differs from other known Chamorro dictionaries in that it claims to contain only words of “Indonesian origin” and to exclude Spanish loan words. In addition, words no longer in use at that time were included in the dictionary. Furthermore, the main entries have been reduced to the most basic word form. This allows inferences on the etymology of some lexemes, which makes the dictionary particularly interesting to linguists and to the Chamorro community engaged in the reconstruction of old Chamorro words.

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***For more information
contact the MLI Office @
735-2193/1***

Chaifi - A fairytale from the Marianas by Georg Fritz: A Commented Re-edition

By Steve Pagel

Tuesday, September 27, 2011,

6:00pm - 7:00pm



In 1906 the German district captain on Saipan Georg Fritz made available to the German public the Marianas legend of Chaifi. It was published in two German language journals that year in two different languages -Chamorro and German. A commented re-edition of these publications joins in an analogous process, but in the opposite direction: it intends to give the Marianas public access to Fritz’ version and translation of the fairytale. In my presentation I will outline Fritz’ intentions with regard to the publication as well as offer a tentative analysis of the legend and the Chamorro used by the author, considering also the intercultural context of the publications.

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**UOG
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Series**



LANGUAGE ENDANGERMENT A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

By Dr. Thomas Stolz

The University of Bremen, Germany

Tuesday, September 20, 2011, 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Jesus S. & Eugenia A. Leon Guerrero SBPA Building, IT&E Lecture Hall, #131

Language death is a very common phenomenon in the modern age. Estimates range from 60% to 90% of today's languages being at least moderately endangered such that their survival into the next century is at stake. In many cases, language endangerment can be understood as the direct consequence of foreign rule and the imposition of a prestige language from outside the autochthonous community.

Thus, European and American colonialism can be held responsible for the precarious situation in which literally thousands of languages especially in the Americas, Austronesia, Australia, and Africa have to struggle for survival. To safeguard the existence

and growth of an endangered language, it is important to take a close look at what happens in similar cases outside one's own immediate surroundings. There is a plethora of cases language activists can learn from. My lecture will highlight some of the most characteristic aspects of language endangerment and provide a typology of pertinent cases.



***For more information contact
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