INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LANGUAGE PRESERVATION

Techniques and Technologies for Documenting the Languages of Papua New Guinea

21 May - 1 June, 2012
University of Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea

The University of Goroka is at the forefront of efforts to preserve the endangered languages of Papua New Guinea, thanks to new initiatives in curriculum development, technology training, and digital archiving. Goroka is situated in an area of exceptional linguistic diversity, including dozens of undocumented languages.

This workshop - the first of its kind in PNG - will provide hands-on training in digital technologies for language documentation, and will create archival documentation for at least five local languages for which speakers will be available. Topics to be covered include: audio and video recording techniques, documenting informed consent, metadata and record keeping, the protocol of Basic Oral Language Documentation, and key software tools for transcription, interlinear text preparation, and dictionary making. Each participant will be assigned to a team who will compile a substantial electronic text collection for one of the languages.

People interested in participating should email Steven Bird (sbird@unimelb.edu.au) or the local organizers (gerryl@uog.ac.pg, froweinf@uog.ac.pg) for further information.

Staff:

- Steven Bird, coordinator (University of Melbourne, University of Pennsylvania)
- Lawrence Gerry and Friedel Frowein, local organisers (University of Goroka)
- David Chiang, Ashish Vaswani, Ada Wan (University of Southern California)
- Andrea Berez and Mary Walworth (University of Hawaii)
- Mark Eby (University of Goroka)
- Florian Hanke (University of Melbourne)

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