Real places and virtual representation - Beaver language documentation

Initiative: Dokumentation bedrohter Sprachen (beendet)

Bewilligung: 13.04.2008

Laufzeit: 2 Jahre

The Beaver language documentation project is a collaborative research effort by an international and interdisciplinary team. The work is also closely coordinated with the First Nations that belong to the Beaver people in Canada. Beaver is a highly endangered language that is still spoken in several communities. Speaker age ranges from older than 45 to older than 70. Besides aspiring to a good multimedia documentation and basic description of the hitherto undescribed language, the project follows an integrational approach: the central topic concerns the personal, historical, and mythical conceptualization of places and placenames. Ethnographically these types of narratives tell of traditional hunter-gatherer patterns of subsistence and land use, linguistically the texts provide a wealth of spatial terms that are almost unique to the verb morphology of Athabaskan languages. The extension period will allow to proceed with the transcription of the recordings to gather grammatical information to complement the corpus data in order to make it more accessible for typological and linguistic research and to finish two doctoral theses that cover new ground in the phonetic, phonological and prosodic description of this polysynthetic tonal language.

Projektbeteiligte

Dr. Dagmar Jung
Universität Köln
Philosophische Fakultät
Institut für Linguistik
Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft
Köln

Es werden die Institutionen genannt, an denen das Vorhaben durchgeführt wurde, und nicht die aktuelle Adresse.

10.05.2024

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