

National Science Foundation  
Workshop for  
**Documenting Endangered  
Languages**



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The New England Center,  
University of New Hampshire,  
Durham, NH

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# DEL Workshop

## Summary

# Positive Developments

- NSF/NEH DEL program made permanent.
- DoBeS potentially being extended.
- HRELP funds scheduled to last longer.
- Continued input from smaller funders.
- Increased awareness and use of archives.

# Action Items

- Funders could make future funding (and continuing years) dependent on making material available at the least restrictive level possible.
  - Is it the role of funders to make this change in attitude?
- If this could be enforced for an entire institution (as applicants), this would be more effective.

- Insist that archiving costs be included in grant budgets.
- Expect there to be time for preparation of material after the field work itself.
- Insist on a corpus management plan as part of the grant proposal.
- Establish more archives.
- Provide more training sessions for creation and use of archives.
- Integrate DRIVER with the endangered language community.

- OLAC could provide guidelines for metadata quality, not just syntax.
- OLAC could poll non-members (but known to have archivable data) about barriers to using OLAC.
- Create a template for managing a small archive that would allow local communities to have full control over archival material.
- Have a Cultural Survival publication dedicated to sharing this information.

- Create infrastructure for archiving for the humanities.
- Ensure that data will migrate.
- Agree on citation standards for online material.
- Use “movage” instead of storage.
- Establish an archive at NMAI.
- Provide grants to community members for recording their own language.

- Provide scholarships for community members to study linguistics, library science, etc.
- Workshops for communities on archiving (NMAI, others).
- NMAI website for sharing information about archiving.
- Convince NMAI leadership of the importance of language.
- Establish a PR plan for

- New global discussions--OECD etc.
- 2008--International Year of Languages.
- Connections across disciplines, constituencies, and agencies.
- Funding from Indian Country--coalition building.
- Global issue.