



September 5, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Jonathan Amith's proposal for a digital portal for data on comparative Mesoamerican ethnobiology. This is a fantastic idea and would be an immensely valuable tool for anyone interested in biological anthropology or linguistics, people interested in historical and pre-historical migrations of populations, and communities interested in the documentation and fortalization of indigenous knowledge of plants and animals.

My own experience with ethnobiology stems from my work on a documentary project on a variety of Totonac spoken in the Sierra Norte of the state of Puebla. Part of this project has been work on identifying plants and animals known to the Totonac community, along with their uses and associated folklore. Although much of this data has now been published in a dictionary (*Upper Necaxa Totonac Dictionary*. Mouton, 2011) and is available on-line (<http://www.artsrn.ualberta.ca/totonaco2/>), making reliable identifications of plant and animal species has been extremely difficult, requiring specialist knowledge and access to information and resources that are hard to locate or utilize for non-biologists. Particularly for plants and insects, it was often necessary for me to seek expert assistance for even the roughest (Order or Family level) identifications of many species, and many terms I have for biota are still labeled "unidentified" or "tentatively" in my database. A tool such as that proposed here would be invaluable for someone like me. At the very least having access to photos and descriptions of biota found in the region where I work would give me a starting point (a Family or Genus) for making more precise identifications, and at best could help pinpoint the Genus or Species we are working with.

For linguists who are just starting out on projects like this, a database of biota would kick start work on this part of documentation: linguists receive little or no training in the identification of plants and animals and are, frankly, hopelessly naïve with respect to the difficulties of making such determinations. The vast majority of materials produced to date either ignore the need for precise identification of plants and animals (witness the number of dictionary entries where a word is translated as "type of tree"), or rely on local Spanish names and the linguist's (often wrong) best guess at what type of plant or animal is being referred to. The resulting misidentifications represent a serious flaw in the documentary project and can seriously hamper future re-

search—for example, by erroneously attributing knowledge of a non-local species to a group, leading future researchers to hypothesize migration from other areas where that species is found.

Another strength of this project is the interdisciplinary approach being taken. Building a reliable database of this kind, that is accurate both in terms of the biology and in terms of the linguistics and anthropology, is necessarily a collaborative project. Just as linguists and anthropologists lack the specialist knowledge needed to identify species, biologists lack the skills needed to collect and interpret linguistic and entombological data. Collaboration from the local communities is also key, as these are the sources of the data that underlie the project and many of these people will be end-users of this database once it is made publically available. Including as many of the potential users, academic as well and community-based, is an essential part of the design of any project that proposes to have practical applications. Useable interfaces are notoriously difficult to design, so the kind of early collaboration that Dr. Amith proposes will ensure the feedback necessary to produce a practical application.

In sum, I can't really support this application strongly enough. I needed this portal ten years ago, and I look forward to working with it in the future. Anyone undertaking linguistic or anthropological fieldwork in Mesoamerica will benefit greatly from this resource, and I urge you to give it the highest possible priority for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Beck', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Beck  
Professor and Associate Chair  
Department of Linguistics  
University of Alberta



Dr. Christian DiCanio  
Haskins Laboratories  
300 George St., Suite #900  
New Haven, CT 06511

Dr. Jonathan Amith  
42 Hanover Street  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Dear Jonathan,

I am writing to you as a linguist and collaborative fieldworker regarding your NEH grant submission, entitled "*Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Dissemination*." Since 2004, I have done linguistic fieldwork with the community of Triqui speakers in San Martín Itunyoso, located in Oaxaca, Mexico. Part of this fieldwork has included the collection of plant and animal nomenclature, photographs, and the collection of plant samples for botanical identification, mostly done through the Ethnobotanical Garden of Oaxaca City.

Though I have collected such samples and information, it is difficult to circulate such knowledge to the wider public and to elicit feedback from a wider community of scholars interested in comparative ethnobiology. The intention of my data collection has been to benefit the creation of a detailed lexicon of the Triqui language. As such, my goals as a researcher are primarily linguistic, not biological. However, my data is also useful to research on Mesoamerican ethnobiology. The proposed grant provides an innovative solution to this issue of dissemination and provides a public outlet/repository for ethnobiological information from the Triqui community. I would be pleased to share my lexical data, photographs, my plant samples, and my botanical identifications with you as part of your project. I look forward to our future collaboration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christian DiCanio



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS  
AMHERST

215 Machmer Hall  
University of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

VOICE: 413.545.2221

September 7, 2014

To the National Science Foundation:

I am writing in support of Jonathan Amith's proposal to create an online resource to aid in the collection and dissemination of information regarding the lexicosemantics of biological nomenclature in Mesoamerica. As an active researcher in the field of language documentation and preservation, I can say that Jonathan's project will serve an important role in the ongoing effort to document rapidly disappearing indigenous languages.

My current project, which is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, is to document the use of place names in the Chatino language of San Juan Quiahije, Oaxaca, Mexico. Place names, and names more generally, carry with them cultural understandings of the significance of places and people, as well as the significance of local flora and fauna. Consequently, the photo- and video-documentation of plant and animal life has been an integral part of my ongoing project. Jonathan's proposed database would provide me with a convenient way to organize and disseminate the information I gather for use by other researchers. It would also aid in the organization of past research by myself and other linguistic anthropologists. Without Jonathan's project, I anticipate that it will be some time before the photographs and descriptions of my project become generally available.

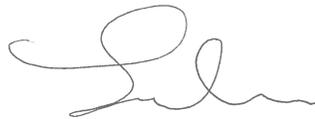
A second reason to support Jonathan's project is that it will encourage interdisciplinary work on the lexicography of biological terms in indigenous languages. Again, I cannot stress enough the importance of these terms to the linguistic and cultural understanding of the indigenous communities I study. By providing a platform for researchers of different backgrounds, Jonathan's project will allow biologists, linguists, and anthropologists to each contribute their specific skills to the identification and classification of local flora and fauna, as well as the linguistic and cultural analysis of the terms used to denote the flora and fauna. While at present this interaction happens through personal connections and group collaborations, there is no unified platform for interdisciplinary analysis and information sharing. Jonathan's project would therefore greatly aid researchers focused on Mesoamerica from a variety of backgrounds.

Not all of the researchers who would benefit from this project come from the U.S. There are many indigenous researchers and scholars who have taken an interest in local traditions, and understanding these traditions often requires a careful analysis of the local

language. In my analysis of Chatino, for instance, I was initially unable to translate many place names that figure prominently in local customs. My current project aims to fill these gaps by learning from native speakers who have the knowledge of landscape required to understand the meanings of the place names. By collecting together a mixed-media corpus including photographs, videos, voice recordings, and transcriptions, I hope to create a resource that will be useful for native Chatino speakers who wish to study and preserve their language. Jonathan's project would contribute greatly to this end.

In sum, I see at least three main reasons for supporting Jonathan's project. First, the project would allow for the efficient dissemination of data that I and other researchers are currently gathering, including many photographs of local plant life with accompanying descriptions. Without Jonathan's project it may take some time before the data is generally available. Second, Jonathan's proposal will facilitate interdisciplinary contributions, thereby building a multi-dimensional archive containing biological, linguistic, and anthropological data on each entry. Finally, the proposal will aid local researchers who wish to document and preserve their language for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emiliana Cruz', with a stylized, cursive script.

Emiliana Cruz, Ph.D.  
Dept. of Anthropology  
University of Massachusetts  
210 Machmer Hall  
Amherst, MA 01003  
Office Phone: (413) 545-2880



"El saber de mis hijos  
hará mi grandeza"

# UNIVERSIDAD DE SONORA

Hermosillo, Sonora

Maestría en Lingüística

División de Humanidades y Bellas Artes

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Gabriela García Salido  
Postdoctoral Researcher  
Universidad de Sonora  
Hermosillo, Sonora, México  
E-Mail: [ggsalido@gmail.com](mailto:ggsalido@gmail.com)

September 7, 2014

Office of Digital Humanities  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue. NW  
Washington, DC 20506

It is my pleasure write a letter in support of the proposal "Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination" submitted by Jonathan Amith. I know the work of Dr. Amith well, and I have long wanted to collaborate with him on a project that includes Southeastern Tepehuan, a Uto-Aztecan language spoken in Durango, Mexico. As part of my fieldwork in Durango (2010-present), I have gathered photographs (attached) and text material that relates to the flora of the region during my stay in the Mountain communities of the Tepehuan people.

Dr. Amith's past work and specifically this proposal will enable different researchers to work in concert, gathering and sharing information that facilitates working with and the documentation of cultural history through a collaborative and public digital portal.

The impact of Amith's proposal will not only be of interest to the field of linguistics, but also to the fields of anthropology, history, botany, and related fields by providing local and traditional ecological knowledge of Mesoamerican cultural-history that together can be used to evaluate present classification of flora and fauna across the world.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of Dr. Amith as he seeks external funding to support the digital portal for collaborative research, and I look forward to participating in this proposal when it is funded. Any program that helps to advance the study of indigenous language should be considered mandatory in our academic communities.

Sincerely,

Gabriela García Salido

Postdoctoral Researcher

<http://www.maestriaenlinguistica.uson.mx>

Department of Linguistics

Universidad de Sonora

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Centro de las Artes  
Rosales y Luis Donaldo Colosio  
Tel/fax: (6) 259-21-02

**School of Arts, Languages, & Cultures**

The University of Manchester  
Oxford Road  
Manchester M13 9PL  
United Kingdom

September 1, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in strongly enthusiastic support of the proposed interdisciplinary Mesoamerican biodiversity portal project. As an academic linguist who has been studying and carrying out field research on Oaxacan languages for ten years, I consider this proposal to be of potentially revolutionary significance for our understanding of this biologically and culturally unique region of the world.

My research focuses on two genetically unrelated languages spoken by small populations (several thousand each) on opposite sides of Oaxaca state: the language isolate Huave of the southeastern Isthmus region; and Amuzgo, of the Oto-Manguean language family, in the western hill territory bordering Guerrero. Despite my primary training in formal theoretical linguistics, my long-standing side interest in ethnobiology stems from the fact that successful linguistic research depends on collection of authentic data and culturally appropriate speech, which requires the linguist to understand native speakers' knowledge of the natural environment where language-based interaction is embedded. To this end I have photographed as many varieties of local flora and fauna as possible, documented their names in the indigenous language, made high-quality recordings of narratives from elders describing the traditional uses of many plants, and used the knowledge gleaned as a basis for further interviews and investigations of language structure.

As an isolate, Huave holds promising but unlocked clues to regional migrations and cultural history. The origins and settlement history of the Huave people is largely a mystery, but linguists such as myself have begun to analyze native versus non-native words for flora and fauna, tracing and dating borrowings from other languages. Careful analysis of sound and word structure can reveal meanings behind the nomenclature, as well as the encoding of native taxonomies. Meanwhile, for Amuzgo, linguistic comparison of nomenclature with neighboring related languages will help to distinguish ancient versus recent commonalities and divergences.

Nevertheless, my current ethnobiological data are far from being complete or systematic enough for viable publication, and my other responsibilities make it impossible for me to dedicate the time and effort on my own that would be required to develop this rich primary material or incorporate it into other documentation projects. In particular, interdisciplinary collaboration from biologists is needed to accurately identify specimens for even a preliminary glossary, and input from anthropologists will aid in correctly elucidating the patterns behind plant usage and conceptual classifications. As my dissemination efforts until now have consisted of inviting comments on an extensive Facebook album of my plant photographs, the proposed portal would enable exponentially greater and higher-quality communication and progress. In combination with comparative data from the wider region, the potential contribution of this portal to multiple fields of enquiry is enormous indeed, and it will be welcomed as a landmark resource by all scholars of Mesoamerica.

Sincerely,



Dr. Yuni Kim  
Lecturer, Division of Linguistics and English Language  
University of Manchester



02 September 2014

To whom it may concern,

My name is Alex McAlvay and I am a Ph.D. student in Botany at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. My research centers around traditional resource management carried out by two Uto-Aztecan speaking groups in Northwestern Mexico: the Wixárika (Huichol) and the Rarámuri (Tarahumara).

Through my 6 months of fieldwork I have accumulated names and photos of plants and plant-related management practices especially of the Wixárika. While I believe these data to be important for cultural continuity, ethnobiology, and comparative linguistics, on their own they would not constitute a publishable manuscript.

Dr. Amith's database would allow my work to be cross-checked with other scholars' work and foster discourse with others studying the Wixárika and closely related groups. Perhaps most importantly, it would contribute a piece of the puzzle to larger scale comparative works addressing otherwise unapproachable interdisciplinary questions about Proto-Uto-Aztecan lifeways, origins, and interactions with other groups.

I believe this to be a truly innovative and important use of technology which will facilitate efficient work in linguistics, anthropology, ethnobiology, and other fields.

Sincerely,

Alex McAlvay  
Graduate Student  
Department of Botany  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
430 Lincoln Drive  
Madison, WI 53706

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Department of Botany  
College of Letters and Science

430 Lincoln Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1381  
608/262-1057 Fax: 608/262-7509 Email: [botany@ls.wisc.edu](mailto:botany@ls.wisc.edu) <http://www.botany.wisc.edu>



Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

Department of Anthropology

7 September 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Dr. Jonathan Amith has invited me to collaborate on his project “Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination.” I have accepted his invitation enthusiastically, both because of the quality of the project itself and the unparalleled opportunity it will offer to make Uto-Aztecán ethnobiological data that I have compiled over the past seven years available to a broad audience.

My current research focuses on Uto-Aztecán historical linguistics and cultural history. A key component of this research has been the creation of non-relational databases of terms for plants and animals that have been recorded by scholars (primarily linguists and anthropologists, beginning in the nineteenth century) from the thirty documented Uto-Aztecán languages. I now have entered into the databases all of the ethnobiological terms reported from all of these languages. There are over 8000 records in my databases, which include the terms as rendered in the orthography of the original sources and the current standardized phonetic/phonemic orthography for Uto-Aztecán languages, along with any scientific identifications provided in the original sources. The databases are readily exportable for integration into other database programs.

Apart from making my data more accessible, Dr. Amith’s project will link my data to those that he and others have collected but have not yet published. Because Nahuatl ethnobiology is among the poorest documented of all the Uto-Aztecán languages, the Nahuatl ethnobiological data that Dr. Amith has collected will be of major significance to my own research and that of others in a variety of disciplines. I am confident that the project as a whole will also stimulate native speakers, both of Uto-Aztecán languages and languages in other language families, to collect additional data to complement and enhance the information that will be available through the proposed digital portal.

If you would like any additional information regarding my evaluation of the significance of this project or my commitment to participating in it, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-546-0321 or [merrillw@si.edu](mailto:merrillw@si.edu).

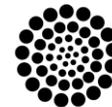
Sincerely,

*William L. Merrill* [in lieu of signature]

William L. Merrill, Ph.D.

Curator of Latin American Ethnology

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
PO Box 37012 MRC 112  
Washington, DC 20013-7012  
Telephone (202) 633-1920  
Fax (202) 357-2208



San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, 02 de septiembre de 2014

“2014, Año de Octavio Paz”

**A QUIEN CORRESPONDA**

Presente

**Asunto:** apoyo a proyecto del Dr. Amith

Por medio de la presente, manifiesto mi gran interés en la propuesta presentada por el Dr. Jonathan Amith de crear un portal sobre etnobiología mesoamericana. Como lexicógrafo responsable del Diccionario Multidialectal del Tzeltal (lengua maya de Chiapas), que está en fase final de elaboración, me he enfrentado al desafío de redactar entradas para términos de flora y fauna, de manera que sean entendibles por personas que no hablan la lengua indígena. El uso de nombres científicos para este fin es muy adecuado, pero la identificación científica de especies es muy problemático. Un sitio de internet para compartir lo que tengo con otros investigadores (de ciencias sociales y biología) podría ser de suma importancia. Efectivamente, este tipo de material puede trabajarse desde una comunidad interdisciplinaria, como biólogos para la identificación, lingüistas y antropólogos para comentar la nomenclatura o los usos.

Además, muchas veces no hay manera fácil de publicar terminología de flora y fauna, más cuando es parcial. Poder subirlo a un recurso en internet sería una manera de divulgar este material rápidamente.

Por último, cabe destacar que los hablantes nativos de tzeltal con los que trabajo estarían muy interesados en un proyecto de etnobiología de este tipo.

Por todo lo anterior, reitero mi más firme apoyo al proyecto propuesto por el Dr. Amith.

**Atentamente**

**Dr. Gilles Polian**  
**Profesor-Investigador Titular “A”**

Oaxaca, 8 September 2014

National Endowment for the Humanities

Re: Letter of Support for Jonathan Amith

To whom it may concern:

Recently Jonathan Amith wrote to me about his pending NEH proposal entitled "Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination." Given my long-term work with several Indigenous languages of Oaxaca, he asked me if I would be willing to participate by providing material for the pilot development of the website.

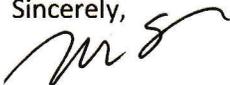
I am writing this letter of strong support in response to this request. Indigenous knowledge of local flora and fauna is both extremely rich and highly endangered. Although the primary focus of my work has not been the nomenclature of plants and animals, I have compiled a significant amount of this material over the years, especially for the highly endangered Ixcatec language. Unfortunately, as Jonathan mentions in his proposal, there is no available outlet for this data, which is not complete enough to justify a print publication but is nevertheless extremely important to both Indigenous and academic communities. A public website that would allow for the uploading of material by researchers and native speakers, for discussions of this material by communities of users, and for the open dissemination of this material to interested users will have an immensely positive impact at many levels.

I will be able to provide material on the nomenclature of terms for local flora from several communities in which I have worked and where the following languages are spoken:

Recently, Jonathan and I met with native speakers of Mazatec, Triqui, and Tacuate (a Mixtec language of Santa María Zacatepec) in Oaxaca. They were enthusiastic about participating in projects to document the names and uses of local flora and fauna and saw the importance of such an effort both from the documentation and educational perspective. If the project is funded I will tell them and native speakers of other linguistic communities about its existence and work with Amith to promote the website's use among Indigenous colleagues from Oaxaca.

I would like to offer my enthusiastic support for this groundbreaking project on Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge.

Sincerely,



Michael Swanton

BIJC-mws-2010908-001\_letter\_Amith.doc.

4 September 2014

Office of Digital Humanities  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue. NW  
Washington, DC 20506

To whom it may concern:

Several days ago Jonathan Amith mentioned that he would be submitting a project entitled "Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination" to the Digital Humanities Start-up Program at the National Endowment for the Humanities. He asked me to collaborate as a botanical consultant and I am here pleased to confirm my commitment in this capacity. I will work with Amith, Victor Steinmann, and the IT team to develop the most felicitous database structure for plant terminology considering project goals. I will also work to provide the best evaluations of the data that will be used to test the website as it is being developed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Jane Lott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Emily J. Lott, Associate  
Plant Resources Center  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Main Building, Room 127  
110 Inner Campus Drive Stop F0404  
Austin, Texas 78712-1711

5 September 2014

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to confirm my commitment in collaborating as a botanical consultant on the project "Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination." My work will comprise two major activities. The first will be to advise on the structure of the botanical facet of the database behind the web portal, focusing on how best to deal with questions of synonymy among different names for the same species. The second will be to evaluate the test data that will be included in the website of this pilot project.

Sincerely yours,



Victor W. Steinmann, Ph.D.  
Investigador Titular "A"



Instructional Technology and Training  
300 N. Washington St  
Gettysburg, PA, 17325

8 September 2014

Office of Digital Humanities  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue. NW  
Washington, DC 20506

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to confirm my participation in the NEH Digital Humanities Start-up project "Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination". At project initiation I will work with Amith and the programmers at Civic Actions to fine-tune the plans for structuring the database and developing the graphic user interfaces that will both allow users to upload material for discussion and dissemination and the present the uploaded data to the community of users. As the project develops I will periodically evaluate development and offer suggestions as needed. Near project conclusion Amith and I will review the status at that time and make suggestions to Civic Actions for any needed rectifications.

At the same time I would like to confirm that while development of the website will take place at Civic Actions as Beta and posterior versions of the final product are developed they will be hosted on a server that Gettysburg College provides for faculty projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Eric Remy".

Eric Remy  
Director of Instructional Technology

4 September 2014

Office of Digital Humanities  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20506

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to confirm the commitment of CivicActions to build out the database and web design contained in the project Jonathan Amith is submitting to NEH entitled "Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination". CivicActions is committed to build a minimal viable product (MVP) that will allow the project to grow in the future as additional budget is secured.

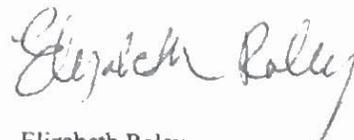
CivicActions is an experienced web development company with a staff of programmers and designers capable of designing and implementing large-scale websites for the most demanding clients including the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, Amnesty International, Greenpeace, and the American Civil Liberties Union.

We are committed to open source technologies and specialize in the Drupal content management system, a robust system that will allow easy portability of the developed system to other servers on which the final product can be hosted. For the present project we will work with Jonathan Amith and Eric Remy within the budget requested to accomplish the following goals:

- Determine and implement the most adequate database structure for the material to be managed: text on traditional ecological knowledge; photographs and other images; digital recordings, transcriptions, and translations; botanical and zoological data on specific content uploaded by the participating community of social scientists, native speakers, and biologists
- Create and test a user-friendly graphical user interface (GUI) for the uploading of material by potential contributors (several individuals have already been asked by Amith to proportion data from their fieldwork)
- Build a search engine capable of pulling out data according to the varied criteria of potential users
- Create an informative and attractive manner to display data sought by potential users (researchers in the social sciences and biology, native speakers, the general public)
- Facilitate user comments on the website content

Our project team will be headed by the undersigned who will take responsibility for coordinating activities between Amith and Remy on the one hand and the team of Civic Actions programmers and designers on the other.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Raley  
Director, Agile Development

**Kung, Susan S**

2:55 PM (2 minutes ago)

to  
me

Office of Digital Humanities

National Endowment for the Humanities

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue. NW

Washington, DC 20506

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Jonathan Amith's digital humanities application to NEH, "Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination". As the leading repository for language documentation in Latin America our mission is to provide permanent and secure archival space for linguistic and cultural material from Indigenous communities in this area. Amith has archived his extensive and varied holdings on central Guerrero, Nahuatl, Pacific Coast of Guerrero Mixtec, and Sierra Nororiental de Puebla Nahuatl. Much of this material relates to ethnobiological research and forms the substantive base for the present project.

Amith's Digital Portal project will utilize this material as well as other small amounts of textual, visual and audio material provided as test cases by those who have agreed to contribute to this pilot project. As a permanent archive AILLA does not develop or archive any websites other than the interface to our own holdings. However, we would be glad to store the substantive material that results from Amith's project, particularly the XML databases that link Indigenous nomenclature, classification, and uses of biotaxa to metadata and to Western scientific determinations. We look forward to receiving the material should the project be funded, as I hope it will.

Sincerely,

**Susan Smythe Kung, PhD**  
**Archive Manager**

**Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America**

**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN**

2300 Red River St., SRH 1.108, Stop S5410

Austin, Texas 78712-1428 [512.495.4604](tel:512.495.4604)

[www.ailla.utexas.org](http://www.ailla.utexas.org)

[skunq@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:skunq@austin.utexas.edu)