

## Major Documentation Project

### Curriculum Vitae

Using this template, provide a CV for the principal applicant. Depending on the grant type, you may be required to submit a similar CV for other members of the team; see the relevant guidelines for details. Include all CVs as part of the overall application form; do not submit them separately, for further CV forms go to [www.hhelp.org/grants/apply](http://www.hhelp.org/grants/apply).

First Name	William	Title, if any	Dr.
Family Name	Poser	Nationality	USA & Canada
Title of current post or study	self-employed freelance linguist and programmer	Date of appointment or registration	

### Education/Training

List your highest/latest qualification first

Dates of study	Degree	Subject	University/Institution
1979-1985	Ph.D.	Linguistics (with Electrical Engineering)	MIT
1974-1979	A.B.	Linguistics (with Classics)	Harvard

### Employment

List your last 3 positions

Date	Position	Name of Employer
2001-2005	Lecturer in Linguistics	University of Pennsylvania
1994-1998	Associate Professor (1 <sup>st</sup> Nations Studies)	University of Northern British Columbia
1983-1994	Assistant Professor, then Associate, Professor with tenure (Linguistics)	Stanford University

**List any other significant awards, exhibitions, or other achievements relevant to this application**

**Committee membership relevant to documentation**

Linguistic Society of America Technology Advisory Committee 2008-present  
Member of the EMELD (Electronic Metastructure for Endangered Languages Data) Ask-an-Expert Panel. September 2004 to present.

**Employment history**

Research Associate, Linguistic Data Consortium, 2001-2006  
Acting Executive Director, Yinka Déné Language Institute, 1999-2001  
Education Technical Advisor, Carrier Sekani Tribal Council, 1999-2000  
Lheidli T'enneh Linguist Nov. 1998 – August 2001  
Adjunct Professor, Linguistics, University of British Columbia 1999-present  
Lecturer University of Pennsylvania, 2001-2005  
Faculty member LSA Summer Institute 1987, 1989, 1995  
Visiting Erskine Fellow, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand 1995  
Visiting Researcher, ATR Automatic Interpreting Telephony Laboratory, Osaka, Japan. 1988-1989.

**Editorial Positions**

Founding co-editor Northwest Journal of Linguistics 2007 to present  
Associate Editor, Language, 1991-1993

**Documentation efforts**

Extensive field research on and community work with the Carrier language of British Columbia since 1992. Results include dictionaries of Stuart Lake, Stony Creek, Lheidli and Cheslatta dialects, grammatical sketches of Stuart Lake and Lheidli dialects, a first year university textbook for the Stony Creek and Lheidli dialects, a short (50pp.) book aimed at lay people, and a nearly completed scholarly book on the language, as well as numerous talks and papers. I have taught Carrier (Stuart Lake and Stony Creek dialects) at university level. I have also taught introductory linguistics and lexicography courses for Carrier and Chilcotin students.

**Academic research and publications**

**Books**

- Poser, William J. 1984. The Phonetics and Phonology of Tone and Intonation in Japanese. Ph.D. dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. [Includes an instrumental study that established what is essentially our current understanding of phrasal trends in F<sub>0</sub> in Japanese.]
- Poser, William J. 1998. *Nak'albun/Dzinghubun Whut'enne Bughuni* (Stuart/Trembleur Lake Carrier Lexicon). Vanderhoof, British Columbia: Yinka Déné Language Institute. Second edition.
- Poser, William J. 2001. *Lheidli T'enneh Hubughunek* (Fort George Carrier Lexicon). Prince George, BC: Lheidli T'enneh. (May 2001) Third edition.
- Poser, William J. 2008. *Saik'uz Whut'en Hubughunek* (Stoney Creek Carrier Lexicon). Vanderhoof, BC: Saik'uz First Nation. Fifth edition.
- Campbell, Lyle and William J. Poser. 2008. *Language Classification: History and Method*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Poser, William J. 2008. *An Introduction to the Carrier Language: Saik'uz Dialect*. Vanderhoof, British Columbia: Saik'uz First Nation and College of New Caledonia. [First year university-level textbook.]

Poser, William J. 2009. *An Introduction to the Carrier Language: Lheidli Dialect*. Prince George, British Columbia: Lheidli T'enneh and College of New Caledonia. [First year university-level textbook.]

## Articles

- Poser, William J. 1982. "Phonological Representation and Action-at-a-Distance," in H. van der Hulst & N.R. Smith (eds.) *The Structure of Phonological Representations*. Dordrecht: Foris. pp. 121-158.
- Poser, William J. and Yoshinori Sagisaka. 1989. "Modelling Phrase Level F0 Phenomena in Japanese," *Densi Zyoohoo Tuusin Gakkai* Preprint SP88-160. 24 March 1989.
- Poser, William J. 1990. "Evidence for Foot Structure in Japanese," *Language* 66.1.78-105. Reprinted in Natsuko Tsujimura (ed.) *Japanese Linguistics: Critical Concepts in Linguistics*. Oxford: Routledge, 2005, pp. 159-190.
- Poser, William J. 1990. "Word-Internal Phrase Boundary in Japanese," in S. Inkelas & D. Zec (eds.) *The Phonology-Syntax Connection*. Center for the Study of Language and Information, Stanford University and University of Chicago Press. pp. 279-287 (1990).
- Trout, J. D. and William J. Poser. 1990. "Voicing, Phonotactics, and Place: Auditory and Visual Influences on Phonemic Restoration under Complementary Sentential Conditions," *Language and Speech* 33.123-137.
- Poser, William J. 2005. "Noun Classification in Carrier," *Anthropological Linguistics* 47.2.143-168.

## Programming

Three decades experience as a programmer and Unix system administrator. Particular expertise in tools for linguistic research and text processing, regular expressions and related pattern matchers, character encoding and Unicode, sorting, digital signal processing, and phonetics software. Greatest expertise in C, Awk, and Tcl, but experience with over thirty programming languages. Experience includes the generation of Tex from Shoebox-style lexical databases for my own Carrier dictionaries, Sally Thomason's Flathead dictionary, and Jonathan Amith's Oapan/Ameyaltepec Nahuatl dictionary.

### **Programms developed as part of Jonathan Amith's language documentation initiatives in Nahuatl and Mixtec.**

**ShoePolish** – a maintenance tool for lexical databases of the Shoebox type. It can perform a number of global changes, such as assigning unique Ids to databases that lack them, renaming tags, and splitting fields containing multiple values or merging multiple single-valued fields into a single multi-valued field and can convert from one Shoebox-type format to another or between CSV format and Shoebox-type formats. It also provides searches using arbitrary Boolean expressions over pairs of regular expressions for tags and a choice of regular expression, number predicate, or date predicate for values (e.g. "find all records in which either the Ameyaltepec or Oapan word begins with an *m*, there is an associated pitch track, the word is not a compound, and the record was last modified prior to 2006."). Finally, it can select records that are suspicious in any of a number of respects, e.g. lacking an obligatory field or containing only one of two fields that should only occur paired. It can generate a histogram of tags so that the user can inspect records containing likely to be erroneous rare tags.

**Prompter/Segmenter** – a program that reads a list of words in any of several formats including Shoebox-type formats, filters the list according to specified criteria and sorts it in any of several ways, and generates prompts containing up to three specified pieces of

information. When a recording sequence begins, a special tone is emitted for use in synchronizing time stamps. Each time the user presses the “Next” button, a new prompt is emitted and a time stamp is recorded.

**Fix Mixtec** – a program that takes as input a plain ASCII transcription of Mixtec and converts it to a Unicode-encoded transcription with superscript tone numbers and marking of nasalization.

### **Other major software programs.**

**Msort** – a sort program that permits parsing into records other than lines, identifying key fields by tag, specifying a separate sort order for each key, and key-specific exclusions and substitutions. For each key comparisons may be lexicographic, numeric, numeric string, hybrid, by string length, by angle, by date, by domain name, by time, by ISO8601 date/time stamp, by month name, or random. It handles optional keys and provides Unicode normalization and full case-folding. Numeric, numeric string, and hybrid keys may use any of dozens of numeral systems. Reviewed at *linux.com*: <http://www.linux.com/feature/134956>

**Libuninum** – a for converting between integers and numerals in 70 numeral systems including 14 Chinese/Japanese variants, Devanagari, Kharosthi, Old Persian, and Klingon.

**Redet** – a tool for developing and executing regular expressions, with support for over 50 programs. Reviewed in *Linux Magazine*: [http://www.linux-magazine.com/issue/65/Free\\_Software\\_Projects.pdf](http://www.linux-magazine.com/issue/65/Free_Software_Projects.pdf)

**SndBite** – a specialized audio editor designed for breaking large recordings into small pieces (e.g. one utterance per file) with maximum efficiency. Special features include: (a) multiple simultaneous views of the waveform at different resolutions; (b) the ability to position window edges at transitions between sound and silence; (c) automated setting of cut points at zero-crossings; (d) automatic filename generation easily controlled by the user. A derivative under development called Segmenter adds the ability to read and write segment lists and to play back or write out the audio in a segment list, features for editing segment lists, and the ability to read Prompter journal files and to detect the synchronization tone generated by Prompter and use it to normalize time stamps.

### **Computational course relevant to documentation efforts**

Developed and taught course on “Computational Methods in Linguistic Research” for University of Pennsylvania. 2002.

*Many publications and much software are available at: <http://billposer.org>.*