

Frank Seifart (MPI-EVA, Leipzig)

Juan Alvaro Echeverri (Universidad Nacional de Colombia)

Towards a re-evaluation of the Boran-Witotoan family

Abstract:

In this talk we examine the relationship between the Boran languages (Bora and Muinane) and the Witotoan languages (Witoto proper, Ocaina, Nonuya). Aschmann (1993) proposes that there is a distant genealogical relationship between these two groups, which the ASJP (Müller et al. 2010) does not recognize. Our main evidence for a more accurate analysis than Aschmann's (1993) proposal is based on newly available data from the Nonuya language, which Aschmann (1993) did not take into account. We also identify processes of borrowing between Boran and Witotoan languages.

References:

Aschmann, Richard P. 1993. Proto Witotoan. *Publications in Linguistics* 114. Arlington, TX: The Summer Institute of Linguistics and the University of Texas at Arlington.

Müller, André, Søren Wichmann, Viveka Velupillai, Cecil H. Brown, Pamela Brown, Sebastian Sauppe, Eric W. Holman, Dik Bakker, Johann-Mattis List, Dmitri Egorov, Oleg Belyaev, Robert Mailhammer, Matthias Urban, Helen Geyer, and Anthony Grant. 2010. ASJP World Language Tree of Lexical Similarity: Version 3 (July 2010).