

Collaborative Research: Chamorro

(Project to Revise/Update the Chamorro-English Dictionary)

Between the

University of California, Santa Cruz
Principal Investigator: Dr. Sandra Chung

and

NMI Council for the Humanities
Principal Investigator: Dr. Elizabeth Diaz Rechebei

Funded by the National Science Foundation

Project Period: 2008 to 2011

3-Year Grant to:

Year 1: Expand/update Chamorro English Dictionary (Topping,Ogo, Dungca,1975)

Year 2: Continue Revision and Produce Oral Histories Videos

Year 3: Finalize Revision and Produce additional Oral History Videos

Goals of the Revision

- Reformat the Dictionary using Toolbox
- Revise the entries to meet the needs of future generations
- Add as many new entries as possible, including specialized words and words of cultural significance

Component 1:

Revision/update Dictionary
3 Years

Workgroup Leader: Dr. Rita Hocog Inos

Workgroups: 6 teams

Saipan: 4 teams

Rota and Tinian: 1 team each

Thematic Groups: by cultural themes

Component 2

Oral Histories Video

2 Years

- Oral Histories Video Project to start in Year 2 and continue in Year 3
- Focus on Cultural and Historical themes
- Videos to highlight key words and meanings

Component 3
Reference Grammar
3 Years

Chamorro Reference Grammar by
University of California, Santa Cruz
Linguist, **Dr. Sandra Chung**, Principal
Investigator

Workshops to be conducted during the three years as part of the project:

Linguistics, orthography, Toolbox, derivatives, parts of speech and language endangerment issues

Principal Project Partners

- Chamorro/Carolinian Language Policy Commission
- Public School System
- Indigenous Affairs
- Joeten/Kiyu Public Library
- Historic Preservation Office

Other Partners:

- Numerous volunteers and non-profit organizations in CNMI and Guam

Project Contact

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