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Anthony Mattina of UM receives Summer research stipend

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ANTHONY MATTINA OF UM
RECEIVES SUMMER RESEARCH STIPEND

MISSOULA --

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded Dr. Anthony Mattina, assistant professor of foreign languages at the University of Montana, a summer stipend for further research in texts of the Colville language, a Salishan or North American Indian language of northeastern Washington.

Mattina, instructor in Italian and linguistics at UM, received his doctoral degree in linguistics from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, specializing in theoretical and American Indian linguistics. In immediate danger of extinction, Colville is spoken by only a few elders on the Colville reservation. Research is urgent, says Mattina, if the grammatical structure and total oral tradition of Colville are not to be lost forever.

Mattina has spent the past five summers on the reservation collecting materials, and with the aid of a University of Montana summer grant has edited texts for processing at the University of Oklahoma Computer Research Center under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics.