

Robert T. Harms

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Education

A.B., Univ. of Chicago, 1952
A.M., Univ. of Chicago, 1956 [Slavic Languages]
Ph.D., Univ. of Chicago, 1960 [Linguistics]
Dissertation: "Descriptive Grammar of Estonian"

Academic and research positions

Instructor, U. Texas at Austin, 1958-1961
Visiting Asst. Professor, Columbia University, 1960
Asst. Professor, U. Texas at Austin, 1961-1964
Visiting Assoc. Professor, Ohio State University, 1964
Visiting Assoc. Professor, Columbia University, 1965
Assoc. Professor, U. Texas at Austin, 1965-1967
Professor, U. Texas at Austin, 1967-2006
Professor Emeritus, U. Texas at Austin, 2006-present
Research Affiliate & Webmaster, Plant Resources Center,
U. Texas at Austin, 2006-present
Visiting Professor, Univ. of Cairo, Summer Linguistic Institute, Summer 1973.
US-Hungary Exchange Professor,
U. Szeged/Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 1967-1968
Consultant for computational phonology: Microlytics, Incorporated, 1989

Administrative positions:

1972-73 Acting Chair, Department of Linguistics
1973-77 Chair, Department of Linguistics
Fall 1993 Acting Chair, Department of Linguistics
1987-89 Graduate Advisor, Department of Linguistics
1998-present Graduate Advisor, Department of Linguistics

Research travel awards

1954-56 Fulbright scholarship to Finland
1962-63 Inter-University Committee on Travel Grants award for study and
research at Leningrad State University, USSR.
1967-68 Inter-University Committee on Travel Grants award for study and research
at Szeged University and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest.
1968 Fulbright research grant for Finland.
1978 National Academy of Sciences grant for research on various Finno-Ugric
languages in the USSR.

Selected publications

Books

Introduction to Phonological Theory. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1968, xiv + 142 pp.

Estonian Grammar. Uralic and Altaic Series, Vol. 12, Bloomington: Indiana University Publications and The Hague: Mouton and Co., 1962, xi + 175 pp.

Finnish Structural Sketch. Uralic and Altaic Series, Vol. 42, Bloomington: Indiana University Publications and The Hague: Mouton and Co., 1964, vii + 105 pp.

Book edited

with Emmon Bach: *Universals in Linguistic Theory* New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 1968, xii + 210 pp.

translated into Italian as: *Gli univaleri nella teoria linguistica*. Torino: Boringhieri, 1978, 313 pp.

Articles

"The Finnish Genitive Plural," *Language* 33 (1957), 533-537.

"Stress and Juncture in Finnish," *American Studies in Uralic Linguistics*, Uralic and Altaic Series, Vol. 1 (1960), 7-12.

"Huomioita suomen numeruksesta" [Observations on Finnish number], *Virittäjä* 1964, 289-292.

"O fonologii kak grammatičeskom urovne" [On phonology as a grammatical level]. In: *Issledovanija po fonologii*, S. K. Shaumyan (ed.), Moscow, 1966, 254-261.

"Stress, Voice and Length in Southern Paiute," *IJAL* 32 (1966), 228-235.

"The Measurement of Phonological Economy," *Language* 42 (1966), 602-611.

"Split, Shift and Merger in the Permic Vowels," *Ural-Altische Jahrbücher* 39 (1967), 163-198.

"How Abstract is Nupe?," *Language* 49 (1973), 439-446.

with Emmon Bach: "How do Languages Get Crazy Rules?". In: *Linguistic Change and Generative Grammar*, R.P. Stockwell & R.D.S. Macaulay (eds.), Bloomington and London, 1972, 1-21.

"Uralic Languages," *The Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 15th Edition, Vol. 18, 1974, 1022-1032. Also significantly revised for 1988 edition.

"Az ó' si uráli nyelv" [The early Uralic Language]. In: *A vízimadarak népe: Tanulmányok a finnugor rokon népek élete és mű'veltsége körébol*, J. Gyula (ed.), Budapest, 1975, 193-211.

"Problems in Lapp Phonology," In: *Congressus Tertius Internationalis Fenno-ugristarum Tallinnae Habitus 17.-23.VIII. 1970. Pars I: Acta Linguistica*, Valmen Hallap (ed.), Tallinn, 1975, 433-439.

"The Segmentalization of Finnish Nonrules," *Texas Linguistic Forum* 5 (1977), 73-88.

- "The Uralo-Jukaghir Focus System: A Problem in Remote Genetic Relationship."
In: *Studies in Descriptive and Historical Linguistics, Festschrift for Winfred P. Lehmann*, Paul Hopper (ed.), Amsterdam, 1977, 301-316.
- "Some Nonrules of English". In: *Linguistic and Literary Studies in Honor of Archibald A. Hill*, Vol. II, A. Jazayery, E. Polomé and W. Winter (eds.), The Hague, 1978, 39-51.
- "Some Observations and Hunches Concerning Estonian Prosody," *Estonian Papers in Phonetics*, 1978, 31-34.
- "Fonoloogiateooria praegusest seisust USA-s" [The current state of phonological theory in the U.S.], *Keel ja kirjandus* 22 (1979). 95-98.
- "A Backwards Metrical Approach to Cairo Arabic Stress," *Linguistic Analysis* 7 (1981), 429-450.
- "The Rounding of Central Vowels in Upper Vyc&egda Komi." *Congressus quintus internationalis fenno-ugristarum, Turku 20-27.VIII.1980, Pars VI*. Osmo Ikola (ed.), Suomen Kielen Seura, Turku, 1981, 83-88.
- "On the nature of Jaz'va Stress," *Nyelvtudományi közlemények* 85 (1983), 335-339.
- "The Locus of Hampered Voice in Southern Paiute," *IJAL* 51 (1985), 438-441.
- "The Archaic Nature of Votic Dissimilatory Labialization." In: *Läänemeresoomlastest neenetsiteni*, A. Laanest (ed.), Tallinn, 1985, 31-35.
- "Dissimilatory Plural Formations in Baltic Finnic," *Sovetskoe finno-ugrovedenie* 22 (1986), 88-98.
- "What Helmholtz Knew about Neutral Vowels." In: *In Honor of Ilse Lehiste*, Robert Channon and Linda Shockey (eds.), Dordrecht: Foris Publications, 1987, 381-399.
- "Synchronic Rules and Diachronic 'Laws': The Saussurean dichotomy reaffirmed." *Research Guide on Language Change*, Edgar C. Polomé (ed.), Mouton de Gruyter, 1990.
- "Two-level Morphology as Phonology: Parallel Automata, Simultaneous Rule Application, and the Elsewhere Condition," *Texas Linguistic Forum* 35 (1995), 117-152.
- "Uralic," *Macropaedia, Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 1997. Also *Micropaedia* articles: "Matthias Alexander Castrén," "Ural-Altai languages," "Uralic languages," "Finno-Ugric languages," "Permic languages," "Sami language," "Mordvin language," "Mari language," "Estonian."
- "Radiate and eradiate individuals in *Grindelia nuda* (Asteraceae)," *SIDA* 19(3), 715-718, 2001.
- "A Field Study of Hybridization between *Berberis swaseyi* and *B. trifoliolata* (Berberidaceae) in Hays County, Texas," *Lundellia* 10, 18-31, 2007.
- "A Study of *Chaptalia* (Asteraceae: Mutisieae) in Central, Southern and Western Texas and the Resurrection of *Chaptalia carduacea* Greene," *Lundellia* 14, 8-26, 2011.
- "A new species of *Evolvulus* (Convolvulaceae) from the High Plains of the Texas/New Mexico border," *Phytoneuron* 2014-20, 1-20, 2014.

“Variation in *Evolvulus nuttallianus* (Convolvulaceae) in central Texas,”
Phytoneuron 2014-91, 1–10, 2014.

Research Interests:

In Linguistics my research interests were focused on the external bases of phonological processes not generally incorporated in generative treatments of phonology; specifically:

(1) The diachronic origin of synchronic rules: How do synchronic rules arise and evolve. To what extent are alternations to be regarded as historical rather than synchronic? Historical developments within the Finno-Ugric languages provide my primary database for this study.

(2) The on-line generation and recognition of phonological forms. My primary focus was the two-level morphology approach of Koskenniemi and its relationship to traditional generative concepts such as rule economy, rule generality and level of abstractness, and especially to the increasingly nonlinear models of recent phonology.

(3) The phonetic bases of phonological processes, especially prosodic organization. A significant portion of the phonological processes that generative practice describes and handles as segmental can be shown to be consequences of (a) 'hardware' constraints of universal (nonlearned) phonetic coarticulation or (b) the operation of (learned) prosodic control (timing, energy, etc.) at a nonsegmental level.

In Botany my current interests are the description and documentation of morphological details commonly not noted in traditional taxonomic studies. Most recently my work has included the use of scanning electron microscope images.