Telling Traditional Stories Using Non-Traditional Methods: Digital Animation of Desano Narratives

ISABEL MARTE, ZACH RIVERA, AND WILSON SILVA, Rochester Institute of Technology

Digital technologies are quickly reaching indigenous communities in remote areas in the Amazon Region. In many Desano communities, for example, children have access to dominant media (through TV, radio, films in DVD) and digital technologies (computer video-games and smart phones). In this talk we will discuss the development of digital animation of traditional Desano narratives, which can be used as tool for language revitalization efforts in the Desano communities. We will discuss the challenges to create technology-enhanced language materials, based on traditional narratives that can generate speakers’ interest in their languages, and be used as an aid to language revitalization efforts in the communities.