
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

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Strategic Languages Find Home at NGCSU

It's no secret that North Georgia College & State University has been awarded federal grants totaling over \$2 million to build up its foreign language programs. These federal funds include a \$1.2 million federal contract for the university to establish a strategic languages training center on the Dahlonega campus. Items funded by the contract include instructional faculty and support staff, library resources, curriculum development to expand language offerings and study-abroad opportunities for cadets as part of their language programs.

MAVNI Soldiers look to join Special Operations Forces Elite

Please see page 16. "There is a lot of value added to having them [MAVNIs] with the SF teams as we tap into other areas of the world," said a Special Forces captain. "When that Soldier can talk to guys in this community and tap into that resource, they're telling him what's important to prepare for. On the flip side, that Soldier is serving as a translator and an asset for the team while they conduct training exercises in African countries."

Primary school pupils 'benefiting from French and German lessons'

EVERY primary school in the county is now teaching its pupils a foreign language. In 2007 the Government decided that by this year every child aged seven and over would learn at least one modern foreign language. And schools in the county all now run language classes. Councillor for children's services with [Lincolnshire County Council](#), [Patricia Bradwell](#), said: "All our primary schools are making modern languages available and we are delighted that they have risen to the challenge to provide this important subject. "All the pupils learn French and German. We start them off in reception with very basic vocabulary that they learn through songs, like they do with English, really. By the time they get to year six they can have conversations and do more advanced grammar."

Lingual Solution Launched in Response to Increased Demand for Translation Services

An economic recovery is underway, and according to a recent article published in the Journal of Commerce [i], the strong growth of US Exports evidenced in 2010 is expected to continue through 2011. This news suggests manufacturing and services companies will continue seeking increased exposure in international markets as well as multicultural domestic markets. In order for businesses to effectively communicate with target audiences in a foreign language, translations must be both accurate and culturally sensitive. LingualSolution (lingualsolution.com), a recently-launched company based in Maryland, specializes in translation and interpreting services that help businesses overcome foreign language barriers.

Officials mark start of work on Utah cyber center

Officials are marking the start of construction on a \$1.2 billion National Security Agency cyber security center at a Utah National Guard camp near Salt Lake City. It's designed to help the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and other agencies protect national security networks and identify cyber threats, though the NSA has refused to disclose its full purpose or function. Many believe the center is meant for analysis of domestic and international telecommunications.

Flowery hosts dual immersion info night

Dual immersion at Flowery began in 1998 with 20 students and a \$1 million Title VII grant. In December 2004, the school board voted to make Flowery a "dual immersion school of choice." Then in 2006, Flowery was awarded a \$500,000 Foreign Language Assistance Program grant to support final expansion. Dual immersion extends through fifth grade at Flowery and grades sixth, seventh and eighth

at Adele Harrison Middle School. Currently there are 426 dual immersion students in grades K-8, and the first dual immersion class ever is now in their senior year of high school.

SFL Staff Member Visits China

Candace Hackett Shively, Director of K-12 Initiatives at The Source for Learning, spent eleven days in early December visiting schools and universities in the People's Republic of China. She was part of a group of 35 leaders in the use of educational technology, all of whom were members of ISTE, the International Society for Technology in Education. Coordinated by the People to People Citizen Ambassador Program, the trip included visits to Beijing, Xi'an, and Shanghai. While in China, the delegation visited the Beijing International School—an independent, proprietary, coeducational English language K-12 day school that serves Beijing's expatriate community—and the School of Educational Technology at Beijing Normal University, an elite school similar to Columbia Teachers College in the U.S., that conducts research in instructional systems design and curriculum development. The group also visited Beijing's high school No. 3, a public school for grades 7-12.

PREVIOUS NEWS

Air Force officials approve changes to officer selection brief

In an effort to better highlight candidates who possess the skills necessary for officer promotion in today's expeditionary Air Force, senior Air Force officials approved changes to the officer selection brief. The modified officer selection brief will be used beginning with boards in June and include a more detailed professional military education section, the addition of a foreign language proficiency section and an acquisition qualifications section.

821st ETRS helps Iraqi airmen master core value

As you walk into the Iraqi Air Force Training School here you will notice the words integrity, military discipline, loyalty to the homeland and English language posted on the walls. These are the Iraqi Air Force core values. Airmen, civilians and contractors assigned to the 821st Expeditionary Training Squadron educate, train, advise and assist the faculty and students at the training school in an effort to build the foundation of a credible, self-sustaining Iraqi Air Force. "Mastering the English language is a key to the future success of Iraqi Air Force operations," said Lt. Col. Dawn A. Nickell, 821st ETRS commander.

A Tough Job Outlook

For those seeking jobs teaching English or foreign languages, the job market remains bleak -- but what passes for good news may be that the number of openings is flat this year, and isn't dropping further after dramatic declines in the previous two years. While these findings suggest that the number of openings in English is level compared to 2009-10, the total is 20.3 percent fewer than in 2008-9, and 39.8 percent fewer than in 2007-8. For foreign languages, this year's total, flat compared to 2009-10, is 16.9 percent fewer than the 2008-9 total and 39.3 percent fewer than the total the year before that.

Foreign Language Learning Opportunities for Middle and High School Students

Is your child interested in learning Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Spanish or Japanese? It will soon be time to register for classes for the 2011-12 school year. Parents and students are invited to a presentation and discussion on APS [Arlington Public Schools] world language options on Thu, Jan. 13 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. in the Jefferson Middle School Library. Join World Language Advisory Committee chair Dr. Rick Jackson; senior language testing specialist at the Center for Applied Linguistics Meg Malone; FBI language testing specialist and former APS teacher Rachel Brooks; World Language Instruction supervisor Marleny Perdomo and World Language specialist Melissa West-Sen for an informative discussion of the world language options available during the 2011-12 school year and about the practical benefits of learning a foreign language early.

Language is About Communication, and Learning One Should Be Too!

Foreign language education can be a useful and rewarding part of a balanced curriculum. Schools use different methods to teach students a foreign language. Foreign-language conversation requires a student to think on his feet. Fortunately, this is an ability all students already possess and certainly one that can be practiced and honed in the context of foreign language instruction. An emphasis on adaptive thinking in the instruction of the four language skills (writing, reading, speaking and listening) serves the true purpose of language—communication. Certain methods and principles are particularly effective in improving students' communication skills in a foreign language classroom. One strong example is relevance.

The Softer Side of War: Exploring the Influence of Culture on Military Doctrine

When U.S. forces invaded Iraq in 2003, the U.S. military was not particularly concerned about the impact of culture on its operations. U.S. leaders believed that the assault would play out as a high-tech conventional conflict and would be followed by a stabilization effort only slightly more difficult than the one U.S. troops had encountered in Kosovo a few years before. As the commander of the U.S. Army's First Brigade, First Armored Division, in Baghdad during the first crucial year after the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime, I quickly discovered not only that this assumption was incorrect but also that sectarian and ethnic identities, the role of tribes in Iraqi society, and the U.S. Army's own internal culture would weigh heavily on the course of the conflict, influence our approach to waging the war, and impact our interactions with our coalition allies.

Fayette schools ramp up foreign language studies in earliest grades

It's before the long holiday break, and Miko Momozono is charming a difficult-to-captivate class of second-graders at Picadome Elementary, not with a story or a movie, but with the simple act of counting. In Japanese. Since they were in kindergarten, they've been taking 20 minutes a day of Japanese as part of Fayette County's growing foreign language programs. It's grown so much that children in 21 elementary schools now have foreign language instruction of some kind. It's part of the district's emphasis on getting languages to children when it's easiest for them to learn.

Chinese Charter School Set for East Bay

Weighing the public education options for his two children, El Cerrito doctor Michael Jugo felt the East Bay fell short. He wanted them to have an advantage he didn't have growing up: learning Chinese at school. Or so he thought. Instead, Mr. Jugo chose an even more difficult path—creating a Chinese-language public charter school in his own county. After a year of planning, Mr. Jugo and a group of four other families in November received unanimous approval from Alameda County to launch a Mandarin Chinese immersion charter school, the first of its kind in the state.

Amid cuts, language studies falter School districts pursue alternatives that are less labor-intensive

The push to teach foreign languages in New Jersey's elementary schools appears to be faltering as schools cope with budget cuts. Several districts this year dropped elementary world language teachers from their roster and instead have opted for less labor-intensive alternatives. Some have asked regular classroom teachers to take over, and others are resorting to videos and computer programs to pick up the slack. In [Bloomingdale](#), trustees are mulling a plan to solicit volunteers to help with instruction. "It's a matter of what you can prioritize and what you can afford," said James Montesano, superintendent of schools in [Paramus](#), which uses Muzzy, the BBC interactive language instruction video program, in the elementary schools. The state mandate – introduced in 1996 – calls for districts to introduce world language study in the early grades, but does not call for full-blown language programs such as those required in high school.

Elementary School Spanish Program In Jeopardy

A multi-dimensional program installed in both Snow Hill and Pocomoke Elementary Schools is teaching young students Spanish as a second language, along with associated cultural, historical, geographical and even scientific lessons associated with the content. The initiative, part of the ELL Language Infusion Push into the Classroom, is in its second year as a fully grant-funded program, but is at risk of being discontinued when the current grants expire. Through the program, pre-K to 5th grade students are

learning Spanish as a second language, while Spanish-speaking students are learning English at the same time, explained Coordinator of Instruction Diane Stulz.

Chinese To Be Most Popular Language On Internet

We take it for granted that the most popular language on the [Internet](#) is English, since, after all, [the Internet was an American creation](#). But thanks to the huge number of Internet users that China is adding each year, English will soon be replaced by Chinese as the most popular language on the Internet. (Just to clarify: People in China speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Wu, Min and an abundance of dialects, but the written language across the board is Chinese). Last year, China added 36 million Internet users, bringing their total to 440 million users. The United States [only has](#) 220 million Internet users, but English is spoken in more countries than China, and so more websites are published in that language.

US Marines Being Trained for Cultural Sensitivity Before Deployment

The U.S. military is expected to withdraw from Afghanistan by 2014. But thousands of U.S. Marines will still deploy there within the next year to support the war. To prepare them, the Defense Department has introduced culture training programs at several military bases around the United States. One such program is being conducted at the Quantico Marine Base in Virginia - about 58 kilometers from Washington.