
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 04 NOVEMBER 2011

Afghanistan Pakistan Hands Airman trains future Afghan pilots

(Af.mil)...Kathryn Gustafson

As an Air Force aviator, Lt. Col. Daryl Sassaman had been to Afghanistan before; however, never did he imagine he would one day be living with the Afghans, working to hone their English language capabilities, while improving his Dari proficiency. Today, he is one of approximately 253 service personnel who are members of the Afghanistan Pakistan Hands program. Through language and culture education and training, the APH program grooms military members to serve on a rotational cycle in country. As one cohort departs the region, a new group is deployed, while another receives language and culture education and training. "They come back a second time knowing how the culture works and are therefore able to continue building relationships," Sassaman said.

NGCSU receives \$720K funding for Chinese instruction for cadets

(Access North Georgia)...Staff

North Georgia College & State University has been awarded \$720,000 in federal funds and designation as a "flagship" university for Chinese instruction for cadets. The designation comes from the National Security Education Program (NSEP) at the Department of Defense. Two other schools, Arizona State University and the Georgia Institute of Technology, also were awarded 2011 grants and Chinese flagship status. This is very exciting news for North Georgia, and it will reap great rewards for our students as we continue providing opportunities for them to increase their global knowledge and understanding," President Bonita C. Jacobs said.

A major military branch checks out the Peninsula as a potential new home

(Monterey County Weekly)

Presidio spokesman Dan Carpenter confirms Army officials have made multiple site visits to Monterey in the past two months, taking stock of existing educational and housing facilities at the Naval Postgraduate School, Defense Language Institute as they consider a new home for Civil Affairs.

Unconscious language learning

(University of Cambridge)

Unconscious learning could be the secret to speeding up learning a second language. When linguists talk about unconscious or implicit language learning, they don't mean learning while you sleep. Rather, they are talking about one of the most intriguing of all mental phenomena: the ability to learn the complex and subtle regularities that underlie a language without even realising. For children, such 'implicit' language learning seems to happen spontaneously in the first few years of life; yet, in adulthood, learning a second language is generally far from effortless and has varied success.

Confucius Classroom comes to Hillsboro High School

(The Tennessean)

Hillsboro High School is getting Metro Nashville Public Schools' first Confucius Classroom, a special place to teach and promote Chinese language and culture. It's part of the school's Academy of International Business and Communication and was funded through the Confucius Institute at the University of Memphis and the Office of Chinese Language Council International.

Philippine National Police Joins Forces with Koreans!

(Arirang)

The police in the Philippines are guardians of the Filipino citizens, always protecting them from crimes and danger. And leading the effort is the Philippine National Police, or PNP, which devotes itself to

keeping public order and security. A special class is in progress at PNP headquarters. Offered by the Korean Community Association, it teaches Korea's language and culture to PNP officials. The class is in high demand, and has already produced one graduating class.

PREVIOUS NEWS

Global Economy Exposes Japan's Shortage of English-Speaking Graduates

(The Chronicle of Higher Education)...David McNeill

In Japan's business world, they call it the "Rakuten English shock." The country's largest online retailer has told its 6,000 employees that they must be fluent enough in English to converse with one another by next year. Executives who aren't up to speed will be fired; rank-and-file workers will find their path to promotion blocked. That dramatic move by Rakuten's Harvard Business School-educated founder, Hiroshi Mikitani, is the latest sign that some Japanese companies are accepting a long-held truism: English is the language of global business. It is also, however, exposing a long-term shortage of local university graduates fluent in the world's lingua franca. Japanese children learn English starting in elementary school and throughout high school, and many go on to study it at college.

The China Conundrum

(The Chronicle of Higher Education)...Tom Bartlett and Karin Fischer

Mr. Yisu chose to attend college more than 7,000 miles from home, he said, because "the Americans, their education is very good." That opinion is widely shared in China, which is part of the reason the number of Chinese undergraduates in the United States has tripled in just three years, to 40,000, making them the largest group of foreign students at American colleges. While other countries, like South Korea and India, have for many years sent many undergraduates to the United States, it's the sudden and startling uptick in applicants from China that has caused a stir at universities—many of them big, public institutions with special English-language programs—that are particularly welcoming toward international students.

Language Link Helps Haitian Teens Adapt to US School

(Voice of America)...Alex Villarreal

Thousands of Haitians sought refuge in the United States after last year's devastating earthquake in Haiti. Many are young people, now enrolled in U.S. schools, surrounded by a new language and culture. One high school in Florida is helping the students adjust. It's a typical school day at Boyd Anderson High School in South Florida. But Kerby Edme is not a typical student. "Right after I jumped to the other roof, the house collapsed," he recalls. Kerby is one of about 25 Haitian earthquake survivors enrolled here. "The teachers were very patient with us," he says, "because some of us, we didn't speak English before we came here."

Understanding emotions without language

(Health Canal)

Does understanding emotions depend on the language we speak, or is our perception the same regardless of language and culture? According to a new study by researchers from the MPI for Psycholinguistics and the MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology, you don't need to have words for emotions to understand them.

Harford schools superintendent heads to China

(Baltimore Sun)...Bryna Zumer

Harford County Public Schools Superintendent Robert Tomback is getting ready for an overseas trip to learn about Chinese education Nov. 3 through Nov. 11. Tomback will be part of the 2011 Chinese Bridge Delegation, a week-long program in China for educators to start or strengthen their institution's Chinese programs and partnerships. The event is sponsored by The College Board, the non-profit organization that oversees standardized testing programs used in the college admissions process nationwide. It invites school and district leaders to attend as guests of Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters.

Defense language training program needs improvement, GAO says

(Government Executive)...Caitlin Fairchild

The Army and the Marine Corps must better document the results of their language and culture training programs to make them more effective, according to a new [report](#) by the Government Accountability Office. While the Defense Department has stressed within its own documents, such as the Quadrennial Defense Review and the Army and Marine Corps Operating Concepts, that language and culture skills are necessities, GAO found the two services lacked the documentation for improvement.

'Simulating Iraq' At Wadsworth Atheneum

(The Hartford Courant)...Susan Dunne

In California, there are enormous facilities where military recruits are trained before being deployed to the Middle East. The training consists not just of combat drills, but also encounters with costumed role-players — some military, some civilian — simulating life in a typical Iraqi or Afghan town. "They replicate the language, the costumes, the clothes, the architecture, the smells, the sounds. It's an immersion experience," says Claire Beckett. "The military has decided that American soldiers don't know what to expect regarding conditions on the ground, the cultural, human element."

Diving in

(NC State University)

Ten hours a day, studying a foreign language? That's daunting. But it's far less daunting than navigating a foreign country without the ability to communicate. For the last two summers, future army officers at NC State have put in those hours of study to give themselves an advantage in the field. And with funding from US Army, special operations soldiers from Ft. Bragg will soon join them. In 2009, the [Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures](#) received a grant to teach ROTC students five critical languages: Arabic, Chinese, Persian, Russian and Urdu. The grant launched [Project Gold](#), a summer program that includes six hours in the classroom and up to four hours of homework each day. The classes, which are open to ROTC and non-ROTC students, cover two semesters of material in just six weeks.

Female Engagement Team establishes bonds

(ISAF)...1st Lt. Kathleen Argonza-Pangburn

Once the male soldiers had left the room, leaving the women alone, Naseema and her 15-year-old sister-in-law, Leena, pulled the blue burka over their heads, and folded it on the back of the chair. For a moment, this little office was a place for Leena and Naseema to discuss the successes and challenges they face in their daily lives. We are inspired by the fact that, even though Afghanistan is not America, we can see you all here," said Naseema with a flat palm indicating the body armor and M-4s that littered the room. "One day, Afghanistan will be okay with women doing these jobs."

2012 Passat Commercial: Vámonos

(YouTube)

Humorous video. While DLO does not endorse the 2012 Passat, we do, however, endorse language learning!

7 secrets to learning a language fast

(Skyscanner)

1. Studying grammar is for academics – communicating is king. 2. Speak the language from day one. 3. Start with a phrasebook, learn it quickly and use it. 4. For vocabulary get repetition flashcards. 5. Meet up with people before you travel. 6. Don't think so much – just do it! 7. Have fun and enjoy talking!