
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 27 DECEMBER 2010

Signs of change: Legislator wants American Sign Language to count for college admissions

Delegate Dickie Bell has pre-filed a bill that would mandate that colleges and universities recognized ASL as fulfilling foreign language admissions criteria for incoming students within the state of Virginia.

Windsor schools adopt bilingual path

Windsor Unified School District (North Coast California) is one of 33 school districts in the state recognized by the California Department of Education this month for adopting standards to recognize spoken, written and cultural expertise in two languages.

China's Publishing Body Bans Use of Foreign Words in Media

Following a ban on the use of foreign words in TV in May, the Chinese government's publishing authority announced last week that it has banned the use of foreign words in Chinese newspapers, books and websites.

High school students' language classes stretch to include Russian, Arabic, Chinese

Pennsylvania Schools are moving beyond the typical Spanish, French and German courses to include Chinese, Russian, Japanese and Arabic in school districts around the midstate.

Letter: The 'X' in Xmas is of Greek origin

The X in Xmas was the written symbol X of the Greek alphabet called Chi also the first letter in the Greek word Christos.

PREVIOUS NEWS

English's demise as the world's dominant language

British linguist Nicholas Ostler challenges the current popular view that English will remain the world's lingua franca forever.

World Language Report Raises Concerns for School Board

School Board members in West Hartford, CT say they want a continuing dialogue on the philosophy and mission of teaching foreign language in the elementary schools.

Linguistic Risk Taking vs. Academic Study

Being a linguistic risk taker can increase your functional fluency. This risk takers are out talking to people, making friends and living in the language but may continue to make many mistakes because they did not have the academic training. Is it better to say little and be right, or say a lot, be understood but use the wrong words/grammar in the foreign language?

Better to Use a Translator for Calls and E-Mails

What's the best way to communicate with a new business associate in China? Experienced China hands agree that using a skilled interpreter to make a call or to translate the text of an e-mail message into Chinese is ideal.

Failure to Communicate – Could the U.S. mission in Afghanistan fall apart simply because of bad translation?

U.S. troops rely on translators. Imagine filtering your use of English through a translator who didn't attend college, was never your buddy and didn't grow up with your American slang that we take for

granted. The chances for error or insult multiply rapidly. Can we fail because of the failure to communicate?

GAPP to Regulate Foreign Language Use in Publications

China's General Administration and of Press and Publication (GAPP) recently released a public notice concerning increased regulation of foreign language print materials.

Lawmakers Vote to Allow Foreign-Language Schools in Armenia

Armenian lawmakers on Wednesday voted overwhelmingly to adopt a controversial bill essentially allowing teaching at schools in a language other than Armenian.

Imitation Easiest Way to Grasp a Foreign Language

A Dutch study finds that people who copy speech of another foreign language speaker have a better comprehension in learning the new language.

Cambridge's MLK School to introduce Mandarin immersion program

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School in Cambridge, MA will become the first public school in New England to operate a Mandarin Chinese immersion program when the initiative is deployed in September 2011.

Switching Channels – India should think beyond familiar ways of dealing with China

It would be inconceivable for school students in Ukraine not to be able to choose Russian as a foreign language or for schools in Slovakia not to have German as a choice. Should not Indians have the same choice for Chinese?

IU establishes Swahili Flagship program for undergraduate education

The College of Arts and Sciences at Indiana University Bloomington today announced the establishment of an undergraduate Swahili Flagship program, to be led by Alwiya Omar, clinical associate professor in the Department of Linguistics. The Swahili Flagship, with a three-year grant of \$600,000, will be IU's second such advanced language program, joining the [Chinese Flagship](#) that was begun in 2008. It will be only the second African Languages Flagship in the nation.

Top Countries for Expat Families

According to a recent survey by **HSBC Bank International**, children living abroad [benefit from better education, higher safety levels and improved health and well-being](#). These little ones are also more likely to learn a foreign language (84%), play more sports (47%) and spend additional time with their families (53%). The downside for families is that the cost of childcare and expense of raising kids is likely to increase with a move to another country.

New Russian Flagship Center: University of Wisconsin-Madison

UW-Madison Russian Flagship Program is an innovative new undergraduate program that offers highly motivated students in any major the opportunity to reach a professional level of competence ([ACTFL Superior/ILR 3](#)) in Russian. The Russian Flagship Program increases students' opportunities to delve into Russian language and culture through intensive courses, more advanced courses, and more individual time with instructors and native speakers.