
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

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Civilian Program Mentors Afghan Defense Counterparts

"Training the Afghan army and police is part of the equation, but so is the encouragement and development of competent ministerial institutions to oversee the transition and sustain the force over time," Schear said in an interview. Civilians bring expertise across a wide range of skill sets ranging from financial management to personnel policy to acquisition and logistics. These are skills that DOD civilians can best teach to their Afghan counterparts, he said. The program is part of the Civilian Expeditionary Workforce initiative and is aimed at civilians in grades GS-13 and above.

316th Training Squadron wins award two years in a row

Officials recently announced the 316th Training Squadron at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, earned the Command Language Program of the Year award for the second consecutive year. The squadron will go on to represent the Air Force at the Department of Defense level. The 316th TS is responsible for monitoring and training more than 2,000 cryptologic language analysts annually in a joint service environment, officials said. With approximately 140 on-site instructors, an abundance of training and deployment resources, language opportunities and incentives, the squadron has established a well-managed institution with the capability to produce language-proficient Airmen ready to achieve mission success, said Lt. Col. Erick Lawson, the 316th TS commander. In 2010, the 316th Training Squadron received approval for a language training detachment, staffed by instructors from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. The LTD allows language professionals the opportunity to undergo language training in Korean, Chinese, Arabic and the Iraqi dialect.

2010 MARINE CORPS LANGUAGE PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE CORPORAL JAMES D. MORIN (PMOS 2673) FROM 3D RADIO BATTALION, MARINE CORPS BASE, HAWAII AS THE 2010 MARINE CORPS LANGUAGE PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR. A PANEL OF SENIOR LANGUAGE PROFESSIONALS SELECTED CPL MORIN FROM A LIST OF HIGHLY COMPETITIVE NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED FROM UNITS THROUGHOUT THE MARINE CORPS. NOMINATIONS WERE OPEN TO ACTIVE DUTY AND RESERVE MARINES WITH AN MOS OF 02XX, 26XX, OR 2799. CORPORAL MORIN IS A VERY DEDICATED TAGALOG LINGUIST WHO MAINTAINED A LANGUAGE TRAINING PROGRAM THROUGH WHICH HE ACHIEVED A 3/3 ON THE DEFENSE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST. LARGELY THROUGH SELF-STUDY, CORPORAL MORIN ALSO DEVELOPED LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES IN THE TAUSUG, YAKAN, AND MAGUIDANAO DIALECTS. CONGRATULATIONS TO CORPORAL MORIN FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE, DEDICATION TO MISSION, AND SUPERIOR LINGUISTIC SKILLS. HIS COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING HIS LANGUAGE SKILLS SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO SUCCESSFUL MARINE CORPS COMBAT OPERATIONS.

CST: Afghanistan

Two years ago, a small **team** of female Marines -- drivers, engineers, cooks and other specialists -- began conducting "female engagement" initiatives with women in southern Afghanistan. If winning the hearts and minds of the local population was the goal, they thought it behooved them to amicably engage 50 percent of the population, women to whom American soldiers had virtually no access because of cultural and religious boundaries in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Since then, the Marines expanded the program and formalized their training linguistic, cultural, and tactical training in advance so they weren't left learning on the job ad hoc, sometimes painfully and with the begrudging support of a commander. Their rapport-building efforts, which included medical outreach and the establishment of micro-finance projects to help women generate income, were soon recognized by Gens. Stanley

McChrystal and David Petraeus, both of whom pushed for the Army to officially adopt the Female Engagement Team (FET) program over the past year.

Vallejo's Cave Language Academy students will use Spanish in all classes

Students won't just learn Spanish at the future Cave Language Academy. "They're learning *in* Spanish," said Lorena Hernandez, slated to become principal of the Vallejo Unified School District's first dual-immersion program, opening in August. The whole program will be structured to not only encourage bilingualism and biliteracy, but also biculturalism, Hernandez said. "It's the same curriculum (as other schools), but in Spanish," Hernandez said. The academy, approved January 2010 by the Vallejo school board as part of a sweeping restructuring of the city's schools, will garner a student body that's half native Spanish speakers and half English speakers. In this way, both groups will develop a fluency in both languages. There are about 200 such dual-immersion programs in the state, said Hernandez, who was a Patterson Elementary School teacher before being tapped for the top job at the language academy.

Chinese immersion charter school rolling out in Cayce

Melissa Rowell is a committee member helping to plan the curriculum for the academy, which will open in August. Located at 1340 Knox Abbott Drive, it will be South Carolina's first Chinese immersion school, meaning that all classes except English will be taught in Chinese by teams of Chinese and American teachers. "It's important for China and America to understand each other," said Xian Wu, an academy board member and mathematics professor at USC. "But if you don't know the language, you can't have the exchange." Although USC is reaching out to China through the Confucius Institute — a partnership with the Beijing Language and Cultural Institute — and the Chinese language programs at the Moore School of Business, East Point will be the state's first elementary school or secondary school to focus on Chinese culture and language.

Bridging the Language Gap

Video: To better connect the American and Latino communities, one mountain school is publishing a Spanish newspaper. It is a student-run newspaper, but it is the Latino parents who are learning the most. La Connexion Latina's first issue came out last November. The paper connects the Spanish speaking community with McDowell High School.

Texas Schools Instituting Mandatory Arabic Language and Culture Classes

It seems that it was a well-kept secret. Residents in the Mansfield Independent School District in Texas found out just this Monday evening that the district had decided to force some of their children to take Arabic language and culture classes. As for the impetus behind the move, as they say, just follow the money: The program is a condition for receipt of a federal grant. The Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) grant was awarded to Mansfield ISD last summer by the U.S. Department of Education. As part of the five-year \$1.3 million grant, Arabic classes would be mandatory at Cross Timbers Intermediate School and Kenneth Davis Elementary School. The program would also be optional for students at T. A. Howard Middle School and Summit High School.

PREVIOUS NEWS

Face of Defense: Uganda-born Army Officer Pursues Dreams

The 13th of 14 children raised by an Indian father and an African mother, D'costa was exiled to Austria at age 7 following Idi Amin's 1971 rise to power in Uganda. Two years later, he came to the United States and ultimately got into West Point on a third and final attempt, earning his commission in 1989. Now a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve, D'costa just completed a 10-month mobilization here as commander of 1st Battalion, 378th Infantry Regiment, a Lafayette, La.-based unit activated to augment basic combat training for the 192nd Infantry Brigade on Sand Hill.

Language Education: Preparing Chicago Public School Students for a Global Community

Chicago Public Schools convened a commission to better understand bilingual education and world language programs and to formulate strategies for closing the achievement gap between English language learners and other students. This is a link to the findings of this commission and its recommendations for the implementation of the Bilingual Education and World Language Initiative.

Cantonese: a Dialect in Peril?

Two people speaking different, mutually incomprehensible dialects are likely to fall back on China's lingua franca, Mandarin. But one Cantonese-American in New York has made it her mission to save her dialect. Every Thursday night you can find Kim Mui at a noisy café in the heart of Manhattan's Chinatown. Mui teaches Cantonese to adults. Her students pay no tuition, just donations. There are no fancy flashcards, just a book she has put together over nearly a decade of teaching. Chinese shares a common writing system. But when spoken, each dialect is mutually unintelligible.

Egyptian crisis unlikely to affect UW programs

Despite turmoil in Egypt, University of Wisconsin experts said demand for study abroad programs in the region is not predicted to decline. Late last month, six UW students studying abroad in Egypt's second largest city, Alexandria, were evacuated because of increasingly violent protests in Cairo. Two students slated to study in Cairo had their trips to the country canceled, and the study abroad program in Egypt was indefinitely suspended. "UW students are studying all over the world and are very interested in studying abroad in greater numbers," he said. "So the suspension of programs in Egypt is not expected to negatively affect our future study abroad programs."

Chinese classes helping SC students keep up with global economy

The ever-changing global economy is directly affecting South Carolina schools. To meet the demand statewide, 11 public schools offer Chinese as a foreign language. Three of those schools are in Columbia. While most of us took french or Spanish, the future of foreign language in the classroom is now reaching even further. In Chinese class at Hand Middle School, students learn both the language and the culture. Eighth-grader Amber Sutton is working on her future one Chinese phrase at a time. "There's a job you take and most colleges want you to have also a certain amount of specific language," said Sutton.

National Museum of Language – upcoming events

A list and description of upcoming events that will be held at the National Museum of Language in College Park, Maryland.

International Affairs Specialist program implements language improvement initiatives

International Affairs Specialist program has revamped its training, testing and maintenance policies to better prepare regional affairs strategists to meet mission demands, officials said here Feb. 4. RAS officers serve as attachés and security cooperation officers. They also serve in other positions that require sustained personal interaction with partner nations and require professional foreign language speaking proficiency to be effective, said Lt. Col. Keli Bedics, International Affairs Specialist program chief. "The IAS program office worked closely with our sister services, the Defense Language Office and the Defense Language Institute to tailor DLI's crypto-linguist-focused curriculum to meet RAS and foreign area officer mission demands," Colonel Bedics said.

U.S. College Students Return from Egypt

Jordan Bellquist had just finished studying with a couple of friends in a small Egyptian cafe when an Egyptian man approached them, speaking to them in English. "Take care of yourselves tonight. Something like a revolution is coming," he said. Bellquist, a senior at the University of Texas in Austin, was one of 57 students studying abroad at the University of Alexandria as part of her school's Arabic Flagship Program, a language-intensive immersion program for students studying Arabic language and culture. The next day, she watched as the country erupted. Protesters poured onto the streets denouncing President Hosni Mubarak.

Teaching culture through language

Language can play a huge role in culture. People communicate verbally to share their thoughts, invite friends to dinner, ask someone on a date, tell someone how to make a recipe and so many other things.

Marine Corps Community Services offers a way to combat this potential communication gap by offering several courses designed to teach Status of Forces Agreement personnel the basics of the Japanese language.

IU Lands Graduate Flagship Program

The Language Flagship, an initiative of the National Security Education Program (NSEP) within the U.S. Department of Defense, has chosen Indiana University as the only location for its graduate level activities in Chinese. The federal grant, with a total value of \$560,000, recognizes IU as a national leader in Chinese language instruction, curricular innovation and teacher training.

School Board Squashes Last-Minute Attempt To Eliminate Foreign Language

The Fairfax County School Board unanimously rejected a budget amendment Thursday night which would have eliminated foreign language in elementary schools for the next school year. The amendment, proposed by school board member Martina Hone, would have shifted the \$3.1 million dollars that currently funds Foreign Language in Elementary Schools (FLES) to the staffing reserve. Currently 32 county elementary schools out of 139 offer FLES programs, which give half hour language instruction to students two to three times a week. The program, which includes seven languages, is separate from the school system's partial immersion program that operates in 12 county schools.

Confucius Institute Teaches Chinese Language, Culture

A wealth of information about China is available to St. Louisans through the Confucius Institute at Webster University, housed in the historic Old Post Office Building in downtown St. Louis. Confucius Institutes are in 66 different countries. They work in partnership with the Beijing Language and Culture University and The Office of Chinese Language Council International of the Chinese Ministry of Education (HANBAN). The Webster University institute was founded in 2008 through the efforts of former Missouri Governor Bob Holden. It is the only one of its kind in Missouri. The Confucius Institute uses outreach programs to help educate St. Louisans about China and Chinese culture. It offers teacher training workshops, language classes - even trips to China for students.

Eurasian Regional Language Program

The American Councils Eurasian Regional Language program provides graduate students, advanced undergraduates, scholars, and working professionals' intensive individualized instruction in the languages of Eurasia. Participants may enroll in **semester, academic year, or summer** programs. All courses are conducted by expert faculty from leading local universities and educational institutions. American Councils currently offers study abroad programs in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Ukraine. Participants can study Armenian, Azeri, Buryat, Chechen, Georgian, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Persian (Dari, Farsi, Tajiki), Romanian, Tatar, Turkmen, Tuvan, Ukrainian, Uzbek or Yakut.