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## **DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE**

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### **CURRENT NEWS 20 MAY 2011**

#### **Linguists Essential Part of Female Engagement Team Mission**

*(ISAF)*...Lance Cpl. Katherine M. Solano

"Our linguist is everything to us," said Cpl. Vanessa Belcher, a Marine with FET 4, located in Marjah. "Without her we wouldn't get much accomplished." Belcher, a Tellico Plains, Tenn., native, said her linguist, Faria Jalala, is especially helpful when the Marines are in the villages and the Afghan women misconstrue her team for males. Jalala is able to wear her hair in a ponytail, which makes her more accessible to Afghan women, and in turn is able to expose them to the Marines.

#### **Student Warrior Diplomats Take Professional Development Into Their Own Hands**

*(NPS)*...MC1 Leonardo Carrillo

The Foreign Area Officer Association of Monterey (FAOAM) hosted the fifth annual Foreign Area Officer (FAO) Conference at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) early last month, exposing Monterey FAOs to a variety of diplomats and experts. The series of lectures, panels and keynote speakers were geared towards promoting the FAOAM mission of increasing professionalism, education, capabilities, communication and overall advancement of the FAO community.

#### **2011 Command Language Program Managers' Seminar**

*(DLIFLC)*

The presentations delivered at the seminar are posted at this location. They are posted with permission of the authors for the benefit of language program managers. This is not exhaustive. DLIFLC will add more presentations as they gain permissions.

#### **First Honor Graduate named Boren Scholar**

*(Citadel News Service)*

Noah Koubenec, who was awarded the David Shingler Spell First Honor Graduate at the May 7 commencement exercises for the South Carolina Corps of Cadets, has been named a Boren Scholar. A resident of Pilot Mountain, N.C., Koubenec graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree with majors in both Spanish and Political Science and a four-year cumulative GPR of a perfect 4.0. Funded by the National Security Education Program, Boren Scholarships provide up to \$20,000 to undergraduate students to study abroad in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad.

#### **Baby Talk: How does language develop in babies?**

*(ABC 15)*...Connie Colla

Babies are born primed to learn language. They watch the mouths of others to learn oral motor movement skills, listen for sounds to imitate and begin to understand receptive and non-verbal language as early as four months of age. Language is introduced to toddlers in three ways: object naming, visual cueing, and face-to-face communication.

#### **Reading helps kids learn new languages**

*(Stargazette.com)*...Jacqueline Knitter

Research has shown that when children are exposed to a language at an early age, they are most likely to speak like a native speaker. They also tend to learn new words and phrases more easily and quickly than older students. This is an opportunity for parents to choose storybooks that can expose their children to another language and culture. Parents do not have to be fluent in a foreign language to do this. There are a number of websites on the Internet where basic words (numbers, colors, animals and so on) are pronounced by native speakers. Parents can listen and practice saying the words they need before introducing them in the story they are reading to their child.

## **PREVIOUS NEWS**

### **CIA Trying to Hire More Diverse Agents**

*(News4Jax.com/Pam Benson)*

The CIA is hiring and the agency says language skills are at the forefront. If you speak a foreign language or two, are culturally aware and you are first or second-generation American you've greatly enhanced your chances of getting a job with the CIA. The focus of CIA recruiters is on the critical languages to include: Arabic, Pashto, Urdu, Persian, Russian, Korean and Chinese.

### **Call for Action on Federal Budget Cuts to Language and Humanities Programs**

*(Modern Language Association website)*

The MLA executive council issued a statement opposing cuts to language and humanities programs in the 2011 federal budget and called upon the President and Congress to ensure these programs receive adequate funding in 2012.

### **New York makes more cuts to Regents exams**

*(Pressconnects.com/Cara Matthews)*

New York State education officials voted on Tuesday to stop giving Regents exams in January, eliminating Italian, French and Spanish tests to save \$700,000. This means no foreign language Regents exams will be available as German, Hebrew and Latin tests were eliminated last year.

### **M-I-C-K-E-Y Mouse teaches China English, love for Disney**

*(SouthCoast Today.com/Bloomberg News)*

Disney is teaching English to China's youth and creating a future consumer base for Disney products and theme parks in the process. Disney English worked with an academic advisory board to create its Disney Immersive Storytelling Approach. Disney has established learning centers in seven Chinese cities and is finding the early going profitable.

### **Arabic Chat Translator Transforms Social Media Analysis**

*(SYS.CON Media/Marketwire)*

Innovative software launched yesterday by Basis Technology is supposed to transform the way governments and businesses analyze Arabic social media and online communications. Basis Technology's Rosette Chat Translator converts Arabic chat alphabet into standard written Arabic.

### **Navy releases new Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus Program directive**

*(Department of Navy Issuances)*

On 16 May Navy released a revision to its Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus (FLPB) Program via OPNAV Instruction 72270.7F. The instruction is the primary information source for Navy and Navy Reserve personnel regarding the FLPB.

### **Vietnamese parents try to develop their kids into prodigies**

*(Vietnamnet Bridge/Tien Phong)*

Parents in Vietnam nowadays are going out of their way to provide days filled with learning opportunities to include learning English and foreign languages like Chinese. Are the strict schedules for children as young as 3 or 4 too much?

### **Area schools adapting to meet new foreign language requirements by state**

*(The Ogemaw County Herald/Matt Keeton)*

Schools in Michigan are adapting to the Michigan Merit Curriculum established in 2006. Beginning with the Class of 2016, all students must complete two credits of world language other than English prior to graduation.

### **Economy prompts TN schools to increase Chinese classes**

*(Asheville's Homepage Citizen-Times.com/Julie Hubbard)*

Schools in Tennessee are adding opportunities to learn Chinese. Chinese is the next big economy and competition and jobs will be available for those people who can speak the language. Additionally, the Chinese government is supporting this movement through the Confucius Institute.

### **Support for College and University Students for Language Study**

*(National Foreign Language Center – University of Maryland)*

Need to know how your college aged student can learn a foreign language, be part of an immersion program or get some job related experience? Check out this website to see how DoD, CIA, NSA, DoS, Department of Education and non-government programs can provide such opportunities.

### **Arabic language program based at MSU featured in national publication**

*(Montana State University)*

The U.S. Arabic Distance Learning Network was featured in the May 3 issue of the national weekly publication with the story "[A Teaching Network Brings Arabic to the Heartland.](#)" Headquartered in MSU's Office of International Programs, the program offers Arabic language instruction at eight universities in seven states: Missouri, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, as well as MSU. It pairs videoconference instruction with in-classroom teaching by native Arabic speakers, and is thought to be one of a kind, according to Yvonne Rudman, the MSU-based manager of the program since its inception in 1998.

### **Students Get to Experience Cultures at Language Day**

*(Fox 35/Kion 46) ...Candice Nguyen*

The next great United States ambassador may be found in Monterey Friday. The Defense Language Institute on the Presidio of Monterey is hosting Language Day that invites thousands of students across California to experience different languages and cultures from around the world. "What's so important about language day is an opportunity to bring the community and especially younger people and students into the Defense Language institute to experience cultures first hand and from native people. That's different performances and cultures they may never get to experience at any other times in their lives," said First Lt. Scott Ghiringelli.