
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 02 JUNE 2011

Navy's Revised Strategic Language List

(Military.com)

The U.S. Navy recently revised its Strategic Language List (SLL). The new list goes into effect July 1. The updated list is shorter, dropping a number of languages and adding several languages and dialects. Some Sailors will see an increase in bonus pay based on the updated list, while some will see a decrease. For information on the Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus (FLPB) changes, see NAVADMIN 162/11 and for information on foreign language testing, see NAVADMIN 161/1. Both can be found on the [Navy Personnel Command website](#).

DoCoMo demonstrates spoken language translator for smartphones

(PhysOrg.com)...Bob Yirka

Japanese cellular service company NTT DoCoMo, recently demonstrated a smartphone cloud based app that allows users speaking different languages to communicate with one another by translating their conversation into each other's language. Using already existing technology from other companies, the service "listens" to words spoken on one end, converts those words to text, then translates them to the other person's language, which it spits into another text file; it then uses text-to-speech software to read the results to the person on the other end of the line. When the person responds, the whole process works in reverse. In addition to speaking and hearing the finished result, users can also see the words in both languages on their cell phones as the conversation progresses. (Includes video demonstration).

Market for Outsourced Language Services and Technology to Surpass US\$31 Billion in 2011

(e-releases)

The global market for outsourced language services and technology will reach US\$31.438 billion in 2011, according to a study by independent market research firm Common Sense Advisory. In its report, "[Language Services Market 2011](#)," the firm details the findings of its comprehensive study, identifying 25,256 unique suppliers of translation and interpreting services across 152 countries.

Airman presented International Affairs Excellence Award

(www.af.mil)...Master Sgt. Amaani Lyle

Air Force Secretary Michael Donley presented the award to Maj. Paul Sebold, a political military affairs strategist and country desk officer who championed building partnership goals in 35 military engagements and building air capabilities for 16 nations while based in U.S. Air Forces in Europe at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. "Paul is part of a skilled workforce that recognizes the importance of the cultural differences between the U.S., its partners and their neighbors abroad and recognizes the subtleties that go with international affairs," Secretary Donley said.

Foreign-Language Programs Stung by Budget Cuts

(Education Week)...Mary Ann Zehr

The federal government has a huge demand for proficient speakers of foreign languages, but Congress substantially reduced funds to support the teaching of foreign languages to K-12 and college students in the budget deal struck for fiscal 2011. Foreign-language advocates said this week they are discouraged that while President Barack Obama and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan have stressed in speeches the importance of bilingualism, a pot of money that underwrites the cost of [14 higher education programs](#) focused on foreign languages and international education—some of which provide crucial support to K-12 educators—will be cut by 40 percent in the current fiscal year.

URDU: part of India's diverse culture

(The News)...Markandey Katju

Indian culture can broadly be called the Sanskrit-Urdu culture: India is broadly a country of immigrants, which explains its tremendous diversity. The question now arises is whether these immigrants who came into India have all preserved their original different identities, or a common culture has emerged by their intermingling? In my opinion, despite all our diversities, a common culture has emerged in India which may broadly be called the Sanskrit-Urdu culture, which is the common culture of India. This culture revolves around two great languages which our country has produced, namely Sanskrit and Urdu.

Elder who preserved Potawatomi language dies

(Ksnt.com)

Cecelia Miksekwe Jackson, 88, a well respected elder and one of the last fluent speakers of the Potawatomi language, died Sunday at a Topeka Hospital.

PREVIOUS NEWS

The Bilingual Advantage

(The New York Times)...Claudia Driefus

Q. One of your most startling recent findings is that bilingualism helps forestall the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. How did you come to learn this? A. We did two kinds of studies. In the first, published in 2004, we found that [normally aging bilinguals had better cognitive functioning than normally aging monolinguals](#). Bilingual older adults performed better than monolingual older adults on executive control tasks. That was very impressive because it didn't have to be that way. It could have turned out that everybody just lost function equally as they got older. That evidence made us look at people who didn't have normal cognitive function. In [our next studies](#), we looked at the medical records of 400 Alzheimer's patients. On average, [the bilinguals showed Alzheimer's symptoms five or six years later than those who spoke only one language](#). This didn't mean that the bilinguals didn't have Alzheimer's. It meant that as the disease took root in their brains, they were able to continue functioning at a higher level. They could cope with the disease for longer.

Interpreter completes three-year tour

(DVIDS)...Tech. Sgt. Adrienne Brammer

After almost three years in Afghanistan, an American is returning home. Interpreter Sabour Raouf works as the cultural adviser and command linguist with the Regional Support Command-South at Kandahar Air Field. Looking back on his time here, the name of the unit hasn't always been the same, but the job was always important. "Sabour Raouf is without question the best linguist with whom I have worked in five countries and through five deployments," said RSC-S commander, Col. Greg Baine. "Through his expertise, maturity, and understanding of the environment, he has developed relationships among senior ANA and ANP officials that have facilitated extremely smooth communications and significantly enhanced our operations. Sabour consistently demonstrated his expert knowledge of the tactical situation.

A Step Back for Learning Languages

(The New York Times)...Jim Dwyer

New York is filled with people who either cannot speak English or who can speak nothing but. Next week, students across the state will take [Regents](#) exams in foreign languages for the last time, as the state is dropping its tests in Spanish, French and Italian. [This will save \\$700,000 a year](#), or to put it another way, roughly the cost of policing a homestand at one of the baseball stadiums.

NJ Lawmakers Support World Languages K-12

(LivingstonPatch)...Marilyn Joyce Lehen

New Jersey lawmakers on Thursday introduced legislation to create "more aggressive language programs," U.S. Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ) and Rep. Rush Holt (NJ-12) announced in a press statement. "The best way for our young people to master a foreign language is to start at an early age and continue learning throughout their education. This legislation seeks to create more aggressive

language programs that will help close the language gap for American students," Lautenberg said in the press release.

How France Lost Africa to the U.S.

(the Atlantic)...G. Pascal Zachary

The drive for economic opportunity explains much of America's attraction of African immigrants, but there's a political element as well, best illustrated by the recent history of Rwanda. A Francophone country, it added English as its third official language after the trauma of the 1994 genocide, signaling a shift in linguistic allegiance. On the surface, the change was an accident of history. Paul Kagame, the leader of the Tutsi rebel forces, had lived for years in English-speaking Uganda. He didn't even speak French. Because he knew English, he chose to receive military training in the U.S., at Fort Benning, Georgia. When he took power, he favored English, setting up a new national media network and criteria for government posts, all in English.

U.S. spies want computers to analyze metaphors

(cnet News)...Tim Hornyak

The Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity ([IARPA](#)), a spy version of DARPA under the director of National Intelligence, is working on something called [The Metaphor Program](#). The program is meant to "exploit the fact that metaphors are pervasive in everyday talk and reveal the underlying beliefs and worldviews of members of a culture."

Socrates in Spanish

(Inside Higher Ed)...Dan Berrett

When parents are given a choice of primary and secondary schools for their children, schools with foreign language immersion programs can be some of the hottest draws. By learning not just literature and grammar, but also physics and philosophy in a foreign language, students are thought to develop a more expansive view of the world and be more intellectually and culturally nimble, as well as being able to speak fluently in two tongues. This thinking is a large part of what has driven the number of foreign language immersion programs at the K-12 level to nearly double in the past decade, according to the [Center for Applied Linguistics](#).

Educator seeks to open O.C. bilingual school

(The Orange County Register)...Scott Martindale

In fall 2012, Brownson hopes to turn his vision into reality by opening the Orange County Bilingual Academy, a K-5 public charter school that gives students an opportunity to learn either English and Spanish, or English and Mandarin Chinese. Brownson also wants to give students an option to learn a third language after school. "Students are going to need a second language to survive in the world. It's critical for cultural understanding and jobs." Brownson's school would be the first in the county to offer the three-language model.

Study finds small language gaps in children adopted from abroad

(The Canadian Press)...Eric Danek

A new study suggests babies adopted from abroad may not be able to master language to the same level as Canadian-born babies. The study followed adopted Chinese-born babies and found that when they are compared against Canadian-born peers from similar households, the adopted children fared worse in language development. In different tests, between one-third and half of the adopted children had slightly more trouble expressing themselves, and about one-quarter had a bit more trouble understanding language than their Canadian-born peers.

Western Graduates Head To China for Internships

(The Wall Street Journal)...Javier Espinoza

In a crowded job market, having work experience in China on your résumé can make a big difference. Recent graduates in industries from engineering to finance in both Europe and the U.S. are making their way to the country, hoping to land their first jobs faster and more easily than their competitors. Lesmes Gutiérrez, a 23-year-old engineering graduate of Loughborough University in the U.K., who had a two-week placement with Baoshang Bank in Beijing late last year, says potential employers are more

impressed with those who can demonstrate a willingness to move out of their comfort zone. "It's quite a big step to go somewhere not knowing what to expect. The idea of going to China calls for awareness and the willingness to relocate," which could be appealing to employers, he says.