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## **DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE**

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### **CURRENT NEWS 03 JUNE 2011**

#### **GAO: Army and Marine Corps language and culture training needs attention**

*(Fierce Government)*...Molly Bernhart Walker

Army and Marine Corps training that helps soldiers better communicate and interact with multinational partners and local populations is lacking because Defense Department training is overly broad, says the Government Accountability Office. A GAO [report](#) (.pdf) released May 26 recommends that Central Command establish a process to identify and synchronize training requirements.

#### **2011 U.S. Department Of State Critical Language Scholarship Participants Depart For Summer Institutes**

*(US Department of State)*

Students selected to participate in the highly-competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program will arrive in Washington, DC during June to attend country-specific orientations prior to departing overseas to study in intensive language institutes. The CLS Program provides opportunities for American college students to study strategically important foreign languages abroad. This summer, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs is supporting 575 U.S. undergraduate and graduate students to study in 14 countries where Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla/Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Indonesian, Japanese, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, or Urdu are spoken. The students selected for the CLS Program were chosen from more than 5,200 applicants through a merit-based selection process.

#### **Lack of Fluency in English Could Force Some Iraqi Students to Return Home**

*(The Chronicle of Higher Education)*...Karin Fischer

Some [Iraqi students studying in the United States](#) on a new government-backed scholarship program could be forced to return home if they cannot meet English-proficiency requirements, a prospect that worries international educators. Officials from a number of American colleges raised concerns about the issue during a session on the Iraqi Education Initiative here at the annual meeting of Nafsa: Association of International Educators. If students lack the English-language skills to enter a regular academic program after one year, they could lose their awards and have to return to Iraq.

#### **South Korea to Fund Language Class in Bay Area Public School**

*(New America Media)*...Peter Schumann

A public high school in the affluent Bay Area suburb of San Ramon is set to offer what will be only the second Korean-language program in Northern California, where an ongoing fiscal crisis is driving most schools toward drastic cuts. But thanks to grants from the South Korean government, Dougherty Valley High is set to play a part in Seoul's larger push to deepen ties with the United States.

#### **Rosetta Stone arrives on iPad; language learning takes logical leap**

*(ZDNet)*...Andrew Nusca

On Thursday, the company [announced a companion iPad app](#) (called, appropriately, "Companion HD") for its conventional and pricey yellow language software suite. After using it this afternoon in a demo in Midtown New York, it's expressly clear to me that mobile devices are the next logical step in language learning.

## **PREVIOUS NEWS**

### **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.

### [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 Lehren

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.