
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 06 JUNE 2011

N.J. congressmen introduce legislation to use \$50M in federal funds for foreign-language education

(The Star-Ledger)...Julia Terruso

When Rep. Rush Holt heard about FBI storerooms stacked with untranslated documents and U.S. businesses losing contracts for want of bilingual negotiating power, it became clear to him the country had a language problem. The solution, decided Holt (D-12th Dist.) and others who advocate more extensive foreign-language instruction, lies in bolstering the nation's budget-strapped K-12 programs. As a start, Holt and Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) have introduced legislation in both the House and Senate to provide \$50 million in federal funds for public school students to learn foreign languages, starting in kindergarten.

Radio Battalion Helps ANGLICO Intercept Insurgents

(dvids)...Lance Cpl. Bryan Nygaard

Marines see a man walking, he does not see them. He hunches down and starts to dig. The Marines believe he is planting an improvised explosive device, but they do not know for sure. There is nothing that identifies him as the enemy. "When Radio Battalion got out here, they opened our eyes as to where the Taliban were hiding. They're the Marine Corps' greatest asset out here right now. Those guys are money." Where Radio Bn. makes its money is in giving coalition units indication and warning of insurgent activity. The battalion consists of linguists and signal analysts who identify enemy communication and help units identify potential areas of enemy activity.

Language as a social construct

(ynet.com)

Dr. Daniel Dor, a linguist, explores facets of most amazing invention humans have created collectively. 'By definition, language is something that is bigger than the individual person. The essence of language is in society - not the brain itself'. Dor is a linguist whose research and theory uncover the social constructs of language. In this, Dor challenges Noam Chomsky's theory of language - the leading linguistic theory of the second part of the 20th century - that explores language as a cognitive capacity.

Misadventures with translator apps

(The Washington Post)...Jason Wilson

Embarrassed at how my Spanish had deteriorated over the years, I recently decided to download a few translator apps for [iPad](#) and [iPod Touch](#) before a trip to Spain. I browsed around the App Store, downloading English-Spanish editions of [Google Translate](#), [SpeechTrans](#) and [Jibbigo](#), three of the most popular apps.

Higher Education Grants

(US Government Grants)

Higher education grants assist students complete higher education programs of their choice. The number of American students studying abroad increased by 8% in the 2006/07 academic year, according to an Open Doors report published by the Institute of International Education. National security has become a subject which many American students wish to study about. Students look for non-traditional destinations when studying abroad. The Boren scholarships have been providing student grants as much as \$20,000 to study abroad and are funded by the National Security Education Program (NSEP).

UGA students win Scholarships

(Athens Banner-Herald)

University of Georgia sophomores Rosemary Gay and Neenah Williams have been awarded National Security Education Program David L. Boren Undergraduate Scholarships for international language study during the 2011-12 academic year. Gay is pursuing bachelor's degrees in ecology, Romance languages (Spanish and Portuguese), and Latin American and Caribbean studies. Williams is pursuing bachelor's degrees in Arabic and cognitive science (linguistics and philosophy focus).

At The Mongolian School Of Los Angeles, Culture Is Preserved

(neon tommy)...Raphael Rosen

Within the boundaries of the Koreatown in Los Angeles there exists a shadow community of Mongolian immigrants, a kind of Little Ulaanbaatar hidden among the karaoke parlors and bibimbap cafes. On a sunny day in April, I make my way to the corner of Oxford and 3rd Streets in Los Angeles to talk to a member of this Mongolian diaspora. I have made an appointment to speak with Maya, a teacher at the Mongolian School of Los Angeles, and am trying not to be late. The school rents a cramped space on the second floor of a building owned by the Kwan Um Sa Buddhist Temple, a religious organization that services the Korean community. As I walk from the sidewalk and duck through a nondescript door, I notice Korean characters overhead. Just as the Mongolian community is almost unseen among the vastly greater numbers of Koreans in Los Angeles, the Mongolian School is invisible from the street, tucked away on the top floors of a Korean business.

Expanding Bilingual Education In New Britain Schools

(Hartford Courant)...Peter Peluso

On May 13, students from DiLoreto Dual Language Magnet School had a dance and music performance at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) with one clear purpose to be proud of one's cultural heritage and by removing masks the CCSU and DiLoreto students once had. The day included an aesthetic awareness performance by future Connecticut teachers and bilingual school children. The program had a total of 60 students from DiLoreto, 30 of which performed on May 13, while the others performed earlier in the year.

Nigeria: Reviving Igbo Language and Culture

(allAfrica)

Worried that Igbo language is becoming endangered in schools, market places, public places and in homes, Anambra State governor, Mr. Peter Obi recently established schools for the teaching of Igbo language and inculcation of Igbo core values. In laying the foundation for the establishment of the schools, Obi said the Igbo language "is a language of a great people who have contributed to the progress of Nigeria in every facet.

PREVIOUS NEWS

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.

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.