
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 07 JUNE 2011

Military's first Hindu chaplain brings a diverse background

(Stars and Stripes)...Chris Carroll

Dharm, 40, has been named the first Hindu chaplain to serve the Department of Defense. Hinduism, with nearly a billion adherents worldwide — but fewer than 1,000 active servicemembers, according to Pentagon statistics — was the largest of the world faiths not represented by a chaplain.

Afghan Language Aptitude Battery (ALAB)

(CASL)

This project is to develop a language aptitude test that helps NATO Training Mission personnel in Afghanistan select those students who are most likely to succeed at learning English. ALAB is designed to measure the potential language learning ability and academic ability of students in Afghanistan. We are working with a research team composed of scientists from CASL, Princeton University, Rice University, Michigan State University, and Mount Holyoke College on a final version of ALAB that will include an optimal set of measures of language learning ability, intelligence, and general cognitive ability.

Next Step for Attleboro College Grad is the U.S. Army

(AttleboroPatch)...Patricia Resende

The recent college grad joined URI's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) when she was a sophomore. The program enabled her to get the training she needed to excel as a soldier. The Attleboro native and resident earned her Jump Wings at Airborne School in Fort Benning, GA, and in 2009 completed the Army's Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP) internship at the Panamanian Embassy, and a Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT) internship with the 112th Signal Battalion at Fort Bragg, NC, in 2010.

Bilingual, bi-literate and bi-cultural

(California Catholic Daily)

Two Catholic elementary schools closed after decades in operation because of falling enrollment will be re-opened this fall by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as "Dual Language Immersion" schools. "All Souls School is getting ready to reopen its doors in the Fall 2011 as a Dual Language Immersion school," says the school's website. "Students, starting in kindergarten, will begin to become bilingual, bi-literate and bi-cultural in either English and Spanish or English and Mandarin."

A Smarter Response to Eliminating Foreign Language Programs

(Huffington Post)...Ron Fairchild

Last week *Education Week* ran a story about [huge cuts to foreign language](#) programs across the country. When I was in California recently, I learned about a creative solution to this problem involving two parents, Dave and Ruth Finsthwait, who created an inexpensive Spanish language immersion program for schools, called [Sombrero Time](#). The beauty of their curriculum is that anyone who is a native Spanish speaker can use it with elementary school students and teach them Spanish. Their motto is "Learn Spanish in Spanish." For the past four years, Sombrero time has been testing and refining the curriculum and delivery methodology ensuring that WHAT and HOW students learn is effective and relevant to their education and future life experience.

Kindergarteners to learn Chinese in math, science lessons

(Cumberland Times-News)...Kristin Harty Barkley

Starting in the fall of 2012, a select group of 5-year-olds from across the county will start learning about the Chinese language and culture through a "partial immersion" program. That means half their classes

will be taught in Chinese. “The Chinese language will not be taught as a subject as it traditionally is in our schools,” said West Side’s Principal Molly Stewart. “The students will follow the kindergarten curriculum, but language arts and social studies will be taught in English. Math, science and health will be taught in Chinese. ... They’re really going to be immersed in the Chinese culture.”

Letters to the Editor: International-Education Programs Should Be Continued

(The Chronicle of Higher Education)

Mr. Montgomery writes that three Title VI programs (National Resource Centers, Language Resource Centers, and Centers for International Business Education) “provide excellent resources for advanced research” and suggests that the resources developed over the years now suffice—not acknowledging that all (including the grants to the University of Denver, where he once worked) are primarily training programs that annually impact thousands of undergraduate and graduate students, as well as in-service teachers. He does not even mention the competitive Title VI fellowship program for students who combine study of less commonly taught languages with training in a wide variety of disciplines and professions, or that a significant number of the fellowship program’s awardees eventually enter government service.

PREVIOUS NEWS

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

(divids)...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.

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.