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## **DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE**

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### **CURRENT NEWS 29 JUNE 2011**

#### **Commander: Special Operations Forces Under Stress**

*(Yahoo.com)*...Lolita C. Baldor

Vice Adm. William McRaven said demand for the elite forces around the world continues to grow, so there often isn't enough time to train between deployments. And he said the helicopters and other equipment they need are not available to units in the United States who are preparing to deploy. He said the short breaks between deployments limit training in key language skills and the regional and cultural expertise that enable the commandos to work well in other countries. And he noted that most of the helicopters needed for training are either at the warfront or in maintenance, making it difficult for aircrews to hone their skills.

#### **Bill Will Improve Native Hawaiian Education, Akaka Said**

*(Hawaii Reporter)*

U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii), Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, introduced a bill to improve the education of Native people, the Native Culture, Language and Access for Success in Schools (Native CLASS) Act.

#### **Federal cuts sting UW's global-language classes**

*(Seattle Times)*...Katherine Long

For years, the University of Washington's Jackson School of International Studies has taught an ever-changing menu of the hottest languages of the developing world — languages such as Arabic and Urdu, Hindi and Chinese. The school is one of the country's largest recipients of federal funding for less commonly taught languages and international study. But federal cutbacks approved in spring will deal a blow this fall to the school's ability to offer the classes and accompanying studies in global culture, economics and history.

#### **Foundation Seeks to Compensate for Cuts in Federal International-Study Program**

*(The Chronicle of Higher Education)*

To make up for some of the budget cuts in the federal Fulbright-Hays study-abroad program, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is providing a one-time grant of \$3.16-million to establish new fellowships for overseas doctoral research. The program will be administered by the [Institute of International Education](#) and will support approximately 80 Ph.D. students in the humanities. The goal is to improve knowledge in non-Western languages and international-area studies.

#### **National Museum of Language Hosts Annual Dinner**

*(Patch.com)*...Kimberly Davis

A longtime language educator and entrepreneur told a gathering of colleagues that they must promote the study of foreign language to ensure the future of the field. "We as language educators need to work together—not to promote our own language, but foreign language, in general," said Dr. Charles Stansfield, president of Second Language Testing Inc., in Rockville.

#### **Researchers share useful lessons learned in evaluating emerging technologies**

*(EurekAlert)*

Schlenoff and his colleagues used their SCORE approach to evaluate technologies as they progressed under two DARPA programs: ASSIST and TRANSTAC. In ASSIST, DARPA is funding efforts to instrument soldiers with wearable sensors—video cameras, microphones, global positioning devices and more—to continuously record activities while they are on a mission. TRANSTAC is driving the development of two-way speech-translation systems that enable speakers of different languages to

communicate with each other in real-world situations, without an interpreter. By providing constructive feedback on system capabilities, the SCORE evaluative framework helps to drive innovation and performance improvements.

### **NYC Arabic school to re-open as high school**

*(Wall Street Journal)*

The Khalil Gibran International Academy was met with a firestorm of criticism when it opened as a dual-language middle school in 2007. Its founders said it would teach a diverse student body about Arabic language and culture. But opponents charged it would promote Islamic extremism. The school saw high staff turnover, cycling through four principals since its founding. But its biggest problem ended up being low enrollment, education officials said. Only 111 students study there now and the school never attracted many native speakers of Arabic. The new plan is to phase out the junior high and re-open as a high school in downtown Brooklyn, near the Atlantic Terminal transportation hub, in 2012. The changes involved extensive talks with the school's partner organizations, New Visions for Public Schools and the Arab-American Family Support Center.

### **Lincoln High students enjoy Arabic program**

*(DesMoinesRegister.com)*...Janet Klockenga

On Thursday 45 students will finish a three-week total immersion Arabic language and culture program. It was brought to the school through a \$100,000 grant from StarTalk, a program of the National Security Language Initiative formed by President George W. Bush in 2006. Its goal is to expand the teaching of strategically important world languages that are not widely taught in this country, including Arabic, Chinese, Dari, Hindi, Farsi, Portuguese, Russian, Swahili, Turkish and Urdu.

### **Cal State San Bernardino to offer Persian program**

*(Los Angeles Times)*...Carla Rivera

Cal State San Bernardino has received a \$195,000 federal grant to teach Persian, the national language of Iran, which is also widely spoken in Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and other Central Asian counties that have become critical to U.S. business and security interests. The five-week program begins on June 27 and will provide housing, tuition, meals and field trips for up to 24 students who will have the option of continuing study during the academic year. Participants will also have the opportunity to study abroad in a Persian-speaking country next summer.

### **USA's 1st Punjabi charter school to open in California**

*(Newstrack India)*

The first Punjabi [charter school](#) of the United States of America will open in West Sacramento (California) in this August, according to reports. Named Sacramento Valley Charter School, its mission includes promoting 'a culture of strong social and family values' and it will provide a 'rigorous' [curriculum](#). Located on the property of Sikh [Temple](#) of Sacramento, it will provide free education from [kindergarten](#) to grade six (ultimately expanding to seventh and eighth grades), [after school](#) enrichment programs, Punjabi language education, school uniform, "more accountability", homework assistance, free vegetarian lunch and refreshments, free transportation, etc., reports suggest.

## **PREVIOUS NEWS**

### **DLIFLC accepting nominations for the Hall of Fame**

*(DLIFLC)*

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center is accepting nominations for the DLIFLC Hall of Fame by August 1, 2011. The purpose of the DLIFLC Hall of Fame is to honor the heroes of the Department of Defense language community who have contributed significantly to language and culture training. **ELIGIBILITY:** Any person who has made a lasting contribution to language training or military linguist operations in the Department of Defense is eligible for nomination to the Hall of Fame. However, to ensure that actions for which persons are nominated are of an enduring nature, and to prevent any

appearance of impropriety, all actions must have occurred at least ten years prior to the date on which the nomination is submitted.

### **Plymouth, UK sailor proves her worth in Nahr-e-Saraj**

*(dvids)*...Lance Cpl. Bryan Nygaard

In many parts of Afghanistan, women are not permitted to talk to or associate with men outside of their immediate family. This hinders male NATO troops from engaging with half of the country's population. Telford, along with other FET members, works to bridge these cultural divides. "She mucks in with everyone else," said Sgt. Alex Miller, a linguist with Military Stabilization Support Team, Nahr-e-Saraj (South). "She wants to do an excellent job out here. She's very enthusiastic about doing it."

### **Mineola Schools Weigh Options on Foreign Language Program**

*(Patch.com)*...Geoffrey Walter

As part of competing in a globalized society, foreign languages are being introduced to students at younger and younger grades. At its most recent meeting of the board of education, Mineola School Superintendent Dr. Michael Nagler gave a brief update on changes being made to the foreign language program for the 2011-12 school year.

### **Hip-hop, texting may help save world's languages**

*(The Sacramento Bee)*...Tim Johnson

In southern Chile, young speakers of Huilliche, a language that's in peril of extinction, produce hip-hop videos and post them on the Internet. Across the globe in the Philippines, teenagers find it's "cool" to send mobile phone text messages in regional languages that show signs of endangerment, such as Kapampangan. Technology, long considered a threat to regional languages, now is being seen as a way to keep young people from forsaking their native tongues for dominant languages.

### **Emily Burke Awarded Prestigious Boren Scholarship**

*(Patch.com)*...Kathy Shaskan

Emily Burke of Morris Plains, who recently graduated from the University of Maryland, has been awarded a prestigious Boren Scholarship to continue her studies next year in Turkey. Boren Scholarships, awarded by the National Security Education Program (NSEP) to support international study, can cover up to \$20,000 of the student's expenses. Burke was one of 151 students nationally to receive the scholarship.

### **UO students earn distinguished study-abroad scholarships**

*(University of Oregon)*

Five UO students received Fulbright awards for international study or research during the 2011-12 academic year. Randianne Leyshon, a graduate student in Journalism, received a Fulbright English Teaching Award for Russia. Four other individuals have received academic Fulbright awards: Tracey Gill (Business, Spain), Kate Margolis (Psychology, Spain), Monica McLellan (Comparative Literature, China) and Kelly Sky (Environmental Studies, India). In addition, four undergraduate UO students received Boren scholarships. Funded by the National Security Education Program, the Boren scholarship provides up to \$20,000 to undergraduate students to study in geographic areas, languages and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security.

### **Press Release: Talk About More Options for Language Learners - Gale and Middlebury Interactive Languages add Five New Languages to Powerspeak Languages**

*(PR Newswire)*

Gale, part of Cengage Learning and a leading publisher of research and reference resources for libraries, schools and businesses, and Middlebury Interactive Languages today announced the addition of five new languages to *Powerspeak Languages*, an online language-learning product. The new languages are: English as a Second Language (ESL) for Mandarin speakers, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Korean. With these additions, the total number of languages taught through *Powerspeak Languages* has grown from five to ten.

## [US Army Corps of Engineers: Bridging the language gap to create a better Afghanistan](#)

*(dvids)*...LaDonna Davis

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Joel VanEssen studied architecture in college with hopes of using his skills in the engineering field. But, in an unexpected twist of events, his aspirations took a sharp right turn in a field he had never even imagined. "As someone who went to school to study fields in math and science, learning a foreign language was something I never expected I'd do," VanEssen said. VanEssen became one of the first graduating classes of the AfPak Hands or Afghanistan Pakistan Hands program. The goal of the program is to teach service members and civilians the local languages of Pakistan and Afghanistan so that they can communicate with locals and help build U.S. relationships with foreign countries.

## [Translating Success](#)

*(Inside Higher Ed)*...David Moltz

Many foreign language departments at four-year institutions have been [threatened](#) or [eliminated](#) in the past few years as administrators look to trim academic budgets. And language offerings are limited at many community colleges, which may offer Spanish and not much else. During these trying times, however, foreign language offerings have multiplied at Bergen Community College, a two-year institution in New Jersey that does not even require its students take a foreign language to earn an associate degree. What's Bergen's secret? Professors say it's listening to student interest and speaking to them with one voice about the skills they will need in an increasingly global society.

## [A Pre-College Summer To-Do List](#)

*(New York Times)*...Lynn F. Jacobs & Jeremy S. Hyman

**Brush up on a foreign language.** At many colleges, the biggest single requirement is two years of a foreign language. Many freshmen have had a smattering (or more) of some foreign language in high school, whether it be Spanish or French, or for the more enterprising, and global-minded, Mandarin or Arabic. Whatever the case, the summer before college is an excellent time to get ahead on your language skills. If travel abroad is in your plans, pick a country that speaks the language you're working on; if Spanish is your intended tongue, volunteer work in most communities can put you in a situation where Spanish is routinely spoken.

## [Demand for Early Childhood Language Courses Reaches Epic Proportions](#)

*(Patch.com)*...McCarton Ackerman

Brooklyn has long offered foreign language courses for parents interested in having their school-age children learn a second language. But the demand has recently shifted to an even younger set of learners. With parents ready to do just about anything to give their kids a leg up in school, many families are now raising their kids, who have often just spoken their first words, to be bilingual. From native French speakers looking to instill their home language in their children at an early age, to parents dropping off kids at Mandarin and Hebrew classes without speaking a word of it themselves, the demand for language programs in the neighborhood which cater to young children has reached a swelling point.