
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 07 JULY 2011

Fresno State Iranian studies receives endowment

(The Business Journal)

The PARSA Community Foundation has contributed \$200,000 toward an endowment at California State University, Fresno as part of a series of grants promoting Iranian studies programs throughout North America. Part of a total of \$2.4 million in grants to various universities in the U.S. and Canada, the Fresno State grant will help establish the "PARSA Community Foundation Visiting Scholar in Persian and Cultural Studies" position. The PARSA grant is also matched dollar-for-dollar by the [Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute](#), and is pooled with a previous \$500,000 Roshan grant for a total \$900,000 endowment.

English can be very confusing language to learn

(Leavenworth Times)...John Reichley

The new class of international military students (IMS) is at the fort and off and running in preparatory classes and getting to know each other. And those from non-English speaking countries are hard at work perfecting their skills in their new language. We sponsored the first student from a country that was part of the former Soviet Union, and he had to spend a year at the Defense Language Institute in San Antonio learning English. By the time he arrived here I thought he spoke it pretty well.

The changing face of America's youth

(CNN)...John D. Sutter

For the first time in national history, the majority of young people in two states -- California and New Mexico -- now identify as Hispanic, according to census data released this year. In eight additional states -- Nevada, Arizona, Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Maryland and Hawaii -- white children are in the minority compared with peers from other racial and ethnic groups combined, according to data analyzed by William Frey at the Brookings Institution. The number of white children in the United States actually shrank by 4.3 million kids from 2000 to 2010, according to the analysis. A greater percentage of young Hispanics were born in the United States than their older counterparts, which may explain the language gap between younger Hispanics and the previous generation.

English for Advanced Learners: Linguists Examine Obstacles to Native-Like Proficiency in Foreign Language Acquisition

(Science Daily)

"It appears that many of the obstacles that advanced learners find difficult to overcome are related to linguistic variation, to contexts in which fixed grammatical rules are not available, and several alternatives of expression are possible," explains Professor Marcus Callies of the Department of English and Linguistics at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU). He investigates the specific linguistic phenomena that advanced students of English in particular experience as difficult, and is convinced that the outcome of his research will not only help improve the training of university students who will become teachers of English at German high schools, but also assist early-career researchers to further develop their academic writing skills.

Budget Cuts Pose Challenge for Foreign Language Children

(Ed Exec)

Tighter school budgets are making it difficult for schools with high numbers of children with English as a second language, according to a union leader in Bradford. Some schools have lost interpreter services as a result of staff cuts, according to Ian Murch, Bradford branch secretary of the National Union of Teachers.

Chinese to Be Taught in All Swedish Schools

(China Digital Times)

"I want to see [Sweden](#) become the first country in [Europe](#) to introduce instruction in Chinese as a foreign language at all primary and secondary schools," said Jan Bjoerklund, who heads the Liberal Party, a junior member of the centre-right ruling coalition. "Not everyone in the business world speaks English. Very highly qualified activities are leaving Europe to move to China. Chinese will be much more important from an economic point of view than French or Spanish," he said.

Japanese goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima: 'Athletes should learn foreign language skills'

(The Mainichi Daily News)

Japanese professional goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima has urged Japanese athletes to learn foreign language skills so that they can easily mingle with other players and fully demonstrate their abilities abroad.

"Communication is important for the goalkeeper, who moves other players around and serves as the backbone of the team. You can boost your profile by exchanging words," said Kawashima, a 28-year-old goalkeeper who joined Lierse, a Belgian professional football club, in July 2010. "I want to see athletes learning foreign languages and being able to try their luck with their own abilities abroad," he adds.

PREVIOUS NEWS

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS: BRIDGING THE LANGUAGE GAP TO CREATE A BETTER AFGHANISTAN (DVIDS)

KABUL, Afghanistan – 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.

JAPANESE, KOREAN AND FOUR OTHERS CUT FROM NAVY FOREIGN LANGUAGE PAY LIST

(European Stars & Stripes)

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Proficient speakers of Japanese, Korean and four other languages will be receiving hundreds of dollars less in their Navy paychecks, beginning this month. Sailors will also no longer receive Foreign Language Proficiency Pay for knowing Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, Cantonese and Amoy Chinese as of Friday, according to Navy documents. The languages are now considered "enduring" and "prevalent in the force," meaning they are still strategically important, but that the numbers of speakers in the Navy exceeds mission needs. Several European languages, Thai and a few others fall under the same classifications. Only career linguists, Sailors assigned to a job coded for the language and expeditionary forces, will still receive extra pay for prevalent languages, according to a May 13 instruction signed by Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, chief of Navy personnel.

STUDENTS SOAK UP CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

(Plainfield Patch) In a mere 14 classes, students enrolled at Plainfield North High School's Chinese immersion summer school program learned about 300 Mandarin words and phrases. They can greet one another, introduce themselves and members of their families, count or order a meal in Chinatown. But a language isn't complete without learning the culture, meaning and background of those who natively speak it, said Fred Yungshen Lu, president and director of the Startalk Nurture Program, a sponsor of the course.

THE DEFENSE FOREIGN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE FOREIGN LANGUAGE CENTER (DLIFLC)

(StartLearningLanguagesNow.Com)

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC) is regarded as one of the finest schools for foreign language instruction in the nation. As part of the Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), the Institute provides resident instruction at the Presidio of Monterey in 24 languages and several dialects, five days a week, seven hours per day, with two to three hours of

homework each night. Courses last between 26 and 64 weeks, depending on the difficulty of the language.

JOB HUNT: FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS ARE A HOT COMMODITY IN TODAY'S JOB MARKET

(NorthJersey.Com)

In today's information society, communication is more than just important. It's crucial. Every business and political message runs the risk of being misinterpreted, especially when it comes to complex ideas, and the results of misinterpretation can range from a failed business agreement to the collapse of government talks. In short, there never has been more demand for specialists in translation and interpretation, which makes these two jobs hot prospects for the coming years. If you're fluent in two or more languages, you may find this career area of great interest to you, perhaps as you explore an entirely new vocation or if you're just starting your career after college. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, translators and interpreters will experience faster than average employment growth through 2018.

AIR FORCE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

(U.S. Air Force)

This page only provides an overview of the Air Force International Affairs Specialist (IAS) program, but it does address general questions, while also directing active-duty Air Force members and certified IAS officers to the Air Force Portal and Community of Practice, respectively, for further information. The dynamic and evolving global security environment challenges us to perform our mission under an expeditionary concept requiring rapid, world-wide deployment. To ensure our continued success in this environment, we need a cadre of International Affairs Specialists with the insight and skills to build effective relationships with global partners. A review of the former Foreign Area Officer (FAO) program made it clear that a transformation was needed. Under the old FAO program, officers were not developed sufficiently nor managed effectively to become foreign area experts and most faced significant career progression hurdles for serving outside of their primary AFSC. The new IAS program replaces the FAO program and deliberately develops (selects, trains, assigns) officers with international affairs expertise while keeping them viable and competitive in their primary AFSC development track.

DEFENSE LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION ENTERPRISE (DLITE) CONTRACT AWARDS

(FedBizOps)

These contract awards provide translation and interpretation services for personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, transportation, tools, materials, supervision, and other items and any other non-personal services necessary to perform language interpretation and translation services for Force Projection Operations mission area only.

A TRANSLATOR IN YOUR IPHONE?

(KitUp)

Anyone who's been deployed at one time or another over the last decade knows that language in a COIN fight is key. You can't get that 'Hearts and Minds' approach done without being able to communicate with some precision to the folks you're trying to win over. There's been a constant struggle between the technology and teaching solutions to language — gadgets can provide a short cut to communications, but are often clunky and expensive; classes are the best way to learn a language but take a lot of time, are tough to master and are also pretty expensive. But sometimes all you need is something to get you by...it's not like you're going to be able to interrogate Zawahiri or Mullah Omar, but if you're a Joe at a TCP, it'll do in a pinch.

TripLingo Launching Free Language iPhone App For Personnel in Afghanistan

(San Francisco Chronicle)...Press Release

There's more to the operations in Afghanistan than combat. Every day, soldiers stationed in Afghanistan are reminded of this fact as they interact with the locals, deliver supplies, and help to rebuild the country. Currently, communication often requires the presence of translators. TripLingo's Dari application will facilitate improved relations by promoting colloquial communication and cultural awareness between

locals and the military. The connections forged by meaningful communication are invaluable - helping people overcome challenges, collaborate, build trust and mutually beneficial relationships.

Marine posthumously awarded Intelligence Community Medal for Valor

(Marines.mil)...Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers

Sgt. Lucas T. Pyeatt was posthumously awarded the Intelligence Community Medal for Valor during a ceremony by the Director of National Intelligence, James R. Clapper. Pyeatt went to DLIFLC and became fluent in Russian and Pashto. While in Afghanistan, Pyeatt's job was to translate, monitor and transcribe for Marines and locals, as well as gain information about possible insurgent whereabouts.