
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 04 AUGUST 2011

If you don't speak the language, you can't belong

(The Vancouver Sun)...David Green

The requirement that immigrants who wish to marry a British citizen must learn English before coming to live in the United Kingdom is being challenged in the High Courts for discrimination and for obstruction to the right to family life.

BridgeBrazil Focuses on Business Language

(The Rio Times)...Sam Green

A language school called BridgeBrazil is helping clients arriving in Brazil who do not speak Portuguese transition into the workplace. There is a large demand and interest in business-language proficiency as the 8th largest economy in the world is growing especially with oil companies and people arriving for work related to the 2014 World Cup (soccer) and the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

To Fight Radical Islam, U.S. Wants Muslim Allies

(New York Times)...Scott Shane

"Rolling out a new strategy for combating radicalization, White House officials on Wednesday warned that casting broad suspicion on Muslim Americans is counterproductive and could backfire by alienating a religious minority and fueling extremism."

Boulder's Intercambio offers cultural training for service agencies

(Daily Camera)...Erica Meltzer

For years Intercambio has helped immigrants learn how to adapt to American culture, but now the Boulder-based service agency is helping other nonprofits and government agencies learn more about immigrants' cultures. Intercambio is doing this by offering "Building Cultural Awareness" workshops for Boulder area service agencies.

Word Search

(China Daily USA)...Li Xing

The International Federation of Translators (FIT) is meeting this week as part of its world congress. The article talks about the vast improvement of Chinese translators over the past seven years. For the second-largest economy in the world there were 15,039 firms offering translation and/or localization services on mainland China by the end of 2009 with a total revenue of 1.9 billion dollars.

PREVIOUS NEWS

The Pentagon Enters the Social Web With a Call for Memetrackers

(The Atlantic)...Jared Keller

"The study of language offers a strategic opportunity for improved counterterrorist intelligence, in that it enables the possibility of understanding of the Other's perceptions and motivations, be he friend or foe," the two authors of *Computational Methods for Counterterrorism* wrote. "As we have seen, linguistic expressions have levels of meaning beyond the literal, which it is critical to address. This is true especially when dealing with texts from a high-context traditionalist culture such as those of Islamic terrorists and insurgents."

Study: Older Students May Learn Language Rules Faster

(Education Week)...Sarah D. Sparks

After years of sighing over reports touting the advantages of learning a second language as a toddler, it's always nice to see a study that gives hope to older second-language learners, like [this one](#) from Israel, presented at last week's [International Congress for the Study of Child Language](#) meeting in Montreal. There's a slew of research suggesting that children learn a second language most naturally and implicitly in infancy and toddlerhood. It's widely thought that the window for learning begins to close after age 7, when at least some schools might begin teaching foreign languages. Though [emerging research](#) suggests regular second-language exposure can help keep the window for learning open longer, evidence still stacks against someone like me—who, like many folks, took my first language classes in high school and college—becoming fluent in another language.

State Department Taps will.i.am for China Effort

(New York Times)...Larry Rohter – Subscription Required

The State Department is teaming up with the hip-hop artist [will.i.am](#), a founder of the Black Eyed Peas, to organize a concert in Beijing this year to encourage cultural and educational exchanges between the United States and China. The announcement came after Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton met on Friday in Washington with [will.i.am](#), above, a creator of the 2008 viral video "[Yes, We Can](#)" that boosted support for Barack Obama among the young, to discuss the Obama administration's "100,000 Strong Initiative," aimed at increasing the number and diversity of Americans studying in China. For the event [will.i.am](#) and other American and Chinese artists will perform; no date or location for the show has been specified.

Chinese teachers are on a U.S. mission

(Los Angeles Times)...Ricardo Lopez

In a few weeks, 176 Chinese teachers will head to kindergarten through 12th-grade classrooms across the country, from rural Kentucky towns to the tidy suburbs of Salt Lake City. Only two will remain in California, assigned to schools in Redding and Ojai.

Most had never before left China. They had come armed with hopes of succeeding in the classroom, with fears that American students would be difficult to manage and with impressions of U.S. culture based on a diet heavy in Hollywood films. The guest teacher program, started in 2007 and partly funded by the federal language initiative, Startalk, is an effort by the College Board and the Chinese government's Chinese Language Council International, also known as Hanban.

Chinese teachers open new doors in Bristol, Tenn.

(Bristol Herald Courier)...Roger Brown

Chinese school teacher Chen Xiaoqian laughed when asked what she and fellow countrywoman He Aiping hope students learn during the time the duo will spend as instructors in the Bristol school district. "Actually, we hope we can learn from our students as much as they learn from us," Chen Xiaoqian said Monday, as her smiling compatriot, He Aiping, nodded in agreement. During the next two years, Chen Xiaoqian and He Aiping will teach Mandarin Chinese in the Bristol school district – which has some 4,000 students – through a partnership between the Bristol system and the Confucius Institute, a China-based organization that promotes the study of Chinese language and culture in the United States.

Oak Park schools budget adds \$2.1 million in new spending

(OakPark.com)...Terry Dean

Oak Park's elementary school district plans to spend roughly \$2 million for the 2011-12 school year on new staff, technology and an expansion of its foreign language program, among other proposed additions. The \$2.1 million was laid out by administration at the July 26 school board meeting, part of a discussion on the district's FY 2012 tentative budget. The final budget is slated for approval in September. Among the additions for the upcoming school year are two additional teachers for Holmes and Irving elementary schools. Two foreign language teachers will also be hired as the district expands its FLES (Foreign Language in the Elementary Schools) program. Among the new ticket items is \$30,000 budgeted for a backup network system in case the district suffers a power loss. That was the case two weeks ago when the district was virtually shut down during the rainstorm that knocked out power in the area.

To raise bilingual children, some families try 'one parent, one language' approach

(The Washington Post)...Associated Press

One-year-old Alice Di Giovanni asks for “banane,” not banana, when she’s in the mood for one. She’ll bid you farewell with a “ciao.” And if she wants more, she says “mas.” The Miami toddler is one of an increasing number of Americans living in homes where a language other than English is spoken, and her parents want her to learn as many languages as she can. So her Polish-Canadian mother speaks to her in French, her father in Italian and her Honduran nanny in Spanish. “She kind of mixes these things but I know she understands all three languages,” says mom Anna Manikowska. According to the U.S. Census, in 1980, just 11 percent of Americans lived in homes where languages other than English were spoken. By 2007, the percentage had nearly doubled to 20 percent.

Executive level jobs continue to be in high demand

(Channelnewsasia.com)

Jobs at the management and executive levels are expected to continue to be in demand. The report said employers are also taking their time to ensure they secure the right person with a number of companies conducting three rounds of interviews before making an offer of employment. Executives with additional language skills are most in demand, coupled with broad management experience and excellent communication skills. Demand is also strong for experienced Chief Financial Officers and Chief Executive Officers with strong interpersonal and language skills. Employers are continuing to look outside Asia, as well as within for quality candidates.