
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

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FBI's Newark Field Office Looking for Special Agents

(NBC – New York)

If you're something of a science or tech geek, are fluent in Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Russian, Farsi, or Punjabi, or have a military or law enforcement background, you may be just the special agent the FBI is looking for. The FBI's Newark, N.J., field office is accepting applications for special agent positions from now through Sept. 23, the agency said Thursday. It's looking particularly for individuals with foreign language fluency, particularly in languages that involve U.S. national security interests, such as Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Russian, Farsi, Punjabi, etc.

Female Engagement Team blazes trails in Afghanistan

(Virginia National Guard) ... Staff Sgt. Rebecca Petrie

A Stryker pulls up. The ramp lowers, and four Soldiers dismount, weapons at the ready, assault packs slung over their shoulders. The Afghan sun mercilessly beats down on their solid frames, swollen beads of perspiration growing heavy on each forehead. The leader lifts a hand and wipes the trickle of sweat from her eyes. This is the Female Engagement Team of Zabul province, part of a new military program aimed at reaching out to the women of Afghanistan while still respecting cultural boundaries. "FET is providing a voice and opportunities to women and children for a better tomorrow," said Maj. Maria Rodriguez, the outgoing officer in charge of the Combined Team Zabul FET.

Czech Police plan to recruit foreigners

(Czechposition.com)

The Czech Police anti-organized crime unit (ÚOOZ) wants to recruit foreigners legally resident in the Czech Republic from countries and cultures of organized crime syndicates operating here. Currently, only Czech citizens can serve in the police, a condition commanders say is hampering anti-crime work. "Members of special police units often don't have sufficient language skills, especially in obscurer languages, various dialects and slang. At the same time quality interpreting services are not available for some languages, and too expensive for others, and [external translators] can often not be used in the field," the Interior Ministry says in its proposal, a copy of which was obtained by the daily *Právo*.

First Marshallese class to be offered in Fall 2011

(University of Hawai'i)

For the first time, beginning in the Fall 2011 semester, the UH Manoa Department of Indo-Pacific Languages and Literatures will be offering regular classes in Marshallese language and culture. Interest in Marshallese language and culture has been building on the Manoa campus over the past several years, and retired UH Manoa linguist Byron Bender has generously acted as a volunteer mentor and advisor to students who formed informal Marshallese-language study groups. With the introduction of formal classes, UH Mānoa students and others will be able to sign up for just one course or a sequence of courses. The introduction of Marshallese is made possible, in part, by the Center for Pacific Islands Studies Title VI National Resource Center Grant for 2010-2013. One of the primary goals of this grant is to support the teaching of less-commonly taught languages.

Schools to base placement system on language skills

(The Copenhagen Post) ... Jennifer Buley

As schools throughout Copenhagen flung their doors open this week and began the 2011-2012 school year, a programme called 'Copenhagener Model 2.0' was rolled out, with a new strategy to voluntarily place students with language difficulties in classes with more fluent classmates. In the programme's first incarnation, which ran between 2005 and 2010, some 900 children with foreign backgrounds were

voluntarily switched from under-performing local schools to better-performing schools in other areas where the majority of children were native Danish speakers and test scores were generally higher. Now authorities have redefined the terms by which students are identified for the programme. Ethnicity will no longer be the deciding factor for which children are offered spots in more successful schools. Instead, the level of the child's language abilities – regardless of ethnic background – will be pivotal.

Multilingual Video SEO: Go Global By Marketing Video In Multiple Languages

*(ReelSeo)...*Christian Arno

Trying to optimize your videos can be like an art-form at times, but what happens when you want to go global? With foreign language use online growing at phenomenal rates, more and more video producers—amateurs and professionals alike—are choosing to go multilingual. And it certainly makes sense. A recent Eurobarometer survey found that 9 out of 10 EU Internet users preferred to use their native language to read or watch content on the Internet. For the amateur video producer or marketer, it's doubtful that you've got a load of spare cash lying about (who has?!) for professional translators. Google Translate is a handy online tool that be used when you're desperate, but do be warned it's far from perfect. Don't just assume that Google and YouTube are the mainstays for your shiny new multilingual videos. In China, for example, Baidu is the search engine of choice and YouTube is famously banned!

PREVIOUS NEWS

Federal Agencies Take Action to Digitally Document Nearly 50 Endangered Languages

(National Science Foundation – PRESS RELEASE)

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) today announced the award of 10 fellowships and 24 institutional grants totaling \$3.9 million in the agencies' ongoing Documenting Endangered Languages (DEL) program. This is the seventh round of their campaign to preserve records of languages threatened with extinction. Experts estimate that more than half of the approximately 7,000 currently used human languages are bound for oblivion in this century, and the window of opportunity for high-quality language field documentation, they say, narrows with each passing year. These new DEL awards will support digital documentation work on almost 50 endangered languages, enhance the computational infrastructure of the field and provide training for the next generation of researchers.

Enlisting Allah

*(The Atlantic)...*Brian Mockenhaupt

SOON AFTER HE DEPLOYED to southern Afghanistan this spring, Lieutenant Commander Nathan Solomon, a Navy chaplain, learned of a disconcerting and persistent belief among the locals in northern Marja: the Afghan soldiers stationed there weren't Muslim. The Taliban had convinced many in this stretch of Helmand province that the Afghan soldiers—most of whom were from northern and eastern Afghanistan and spoke Dari instead of Pashto, the local language—were nearly as foreign as the U.S. marines patrolling alongside them. Solomon and his Afghan liaison, Abdul Khabir, a mullah and an army captain, suggested that installing audio speakers at the joint patrol bases to announce the five-times-daily Muslim call to prayer might help. The first speakers brought quick results. "We didn't know they pray like we do," one man told a joint patrol of marines and Afghan soldiers. "It makes us trust them more, knowing we all share the same faith."

Program orients foreign teaching assistants to American culture

*(The StateNews.com)...*Britteny Dee

On Monday, future educators from 25 countries gathered at MSU for the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant, or FLTA, Orientation Program. The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the U.S. government, is designed to increase mutual understanding among citizens of the U.S. and other countries around the world. The FLTA Orientation Program is held for future teaching assistants from other countries who will come to the U.S. to teach their native language for a year. Participation in the program, which introduces the teaching assistants to U.S. culture and prepares them for their future teaching positions, is required before FLTAs can begin teaching.

Arabic program opens a new culture for students

(The Courier-Journal)...Sara Cunningham

When Claire Gothard greets friends and family, the Manual High School freshman may say "hello," or she might surprise you by saying "As-salamu alaykum." "It means 'peace be upon you' or something like that. I don't know, it's just prettier than plain old 'hello,' I think," said Claire, 14. Claire and 21 other middle and high school students spent three weeks at Seneca High School immersing themselves in Arabic language and culture as part of a program created by Louisville-based Los Monitos Language Center and the National Security Language Initiative, which provided \$84,000 in grant money for the program.

La Riviere – Maine French heritage language program

(The Portland Press Herald)...Juliana L'Heureux

La Riviere is a French heritage language program Ray is organizing at Lincoln and Hussey elementary schools in Augusta. "This French immersion afterschool program is based on Franco-American language and culture," says Ray. In other words, the children will learn pride in their Franco-American French and heritage. A parallel program is planned in Lewiston by the Franco-American Heritage Center.

Global Child Returns to Chelmsford Public Schools

(Patch.com)...Krista Perry

Global Child is returning to the Chelmsford Public Schools with a new theme this fall, "Going Places." Founded in 1992, Global Child provides foreign language instruction in French, Spanish and Mandarin for children in kindergarten through grade six. The program emphasizes listening and speaking skills through a unique combination of movement, singing and games. French and Spanish classes are small, grouped by grade level, and are held once per week in the Byam, Center, Harrington, and South Row schools.

RMIT launches on-line tool for aviation English proficiency

(Aviation Business)

To minimise potentially dangerous miscommunication, ICAO introduced English language proficiency requirements for all pilots and air traffic controllers operating in international airspace. More than 100,000 have been tested worldwide, including 22,000 who have taken the RMIT English Language Test for Aviation (RELTA).

Pay Your Taxes In 53 Languages

(Harford Courant)...Jon Lender

Google Translator Function Added To Department Of Revenue Services' Website. The online tool translates information on the website into 53 languages, ranging from Afrikaans to Chinese, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese and Yiddish. You call up a web page and click in the translator at the upper left for the language you want, and the text switches automatically. "Our job is to make taxpayer information and assistance available and accessible," said Revenue Services Commissioner Kevin B. Sullivan.

Soldier's Afghan strategy: One village elder at a time

(CNN)...Libby Lewis

Army Lt. Jarrin Jackson, who spent most of last year in eastern Afghanistan, said he believes in the counterinsurgency principles pushed by Gen. David Petraeus, who is now director of the CIA. "You'd walk up to somebody and say, 'As-salamu alaykum.' 'Tsenga yee?' It's kind of like 'What's up?'" Jackson said. "It's like 20 different ways of saying hello. I would walk up to an old man, shake his hand, look him straight in the face -- with my sunglasses off, so he could see my eyes -- and we would be shaking hands for probably one or two minutes." The majority of my time in Afghanistan ... I was interacting with people over there. The more you do that ... the better results. Jackson didn't mind looking goofy, fumbling with the Pashto language or trying to tell a joke.

For Navy SEAL Team 6, A Huge Loss For A Small Unit

(NPR)...Rachel Martin

The Special Operations Forces are used primarily to train foreign militaries around the world. Olson said that's happening in more than 60 countries right now, including places like Yemen, Somalia and Uganda.

"We are developing long-term relationships; we are learning the language; we're meeting the people; we are studying the histories; we're learning the black markets; we're learning how things really happen in those places," he said.

Americans Could Earn 20 Percent More per Hour by Learning a new Language

(prNewswire)

[New research](#) and [infographic](#) has revealed that Americans could earn 20 percent more per hour by learning another language as research suggests that bilingual people not only earn more money but also, are better able to multitask in their everyday lives. Emerging economies such as China, India and Brazil continue to grow at an ever-increasing rate, so has the rise in foreign language studies. In 2009 results have shown that the study of Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese and Korean all grew by approximately 15 percent in just five years. However, despite the growing significance of non-English speaking countries, just 9.3 percent of Americans are bilingual, compared to over half of all Europeans.