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## **DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE**

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### **CURRENT NEWS 13 SEPTEMBER 2011**

#### **9/11: A call to duty**

*(Wicked Local)*...Dan Mac Alpine

Chad Freeman was supposed to be a language specialist in the U.S. Army. It's why he chose the army over the Marines, the branch more in keeping with family tradition. The army was going to give him the chance to study foreign languages. Send him to its Defense Language Institute. And the Army kept its word. After basic training, Freeman received his specialty training. He then went to Germany. Safe and snug. "I wanted to serve my country and study language. I'd been raised to be very patriotic. The Army gave me the chance to kill two birds with one stone," said Freeman, who entered the service after high school graduation.

#### **Big Army Must Improve People Management Or Lose Talent**

*(Aol Defense - OPINION)*...Sydney J. Freedberg, Jr.

And those advisors have been in short supply over the last decade. During the Cold War and the 1990s, advising foreign troops had been a Special Forces mission, disdained by the "Big Army," where service outside U.S. units was not a recognized specialty and in fact hurt a soldier's promotion prospects. There was and is a Foreign Area Officer career track specializing in work abroad, but to this day FAOs are notoriously unlikely to reach high rank. Anyway, after 2003, there were nowhere near enough Special Forces and FAOs to mentor the entire Iraqi army and police. So the military grabbed personnel wherever it could, throwing individuals with no foreign experience onto hastily trained advisor teams.

#### **Language target set by leading university**

*(China Daily)*...Chen Jia

With an expanding economy and increasing global role, China's need for speakers of less-commonly taught languages will soar over the next decade, and the leading foreign language university has pledged to meet the rising demand. "The current number of languages we cover, 48, can't meet future need, so we plan to cover 89 less-commonly taught languages by 2020," Chen Yulu, president of Beijing Foreign Studies University, said. Its initial target is to offer 73 of these languages by the end of the 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015). The first step will concentrate on five Central Asian, and several South Asian, languages.

#### **Sept. 11 impacts university academics**

*(The Daily Campus – UCONN)*...Keri Cachmar

The Arabic language program has also grown in the last ten years. Arabic was offered as part of UConn's "Critical Language Program" for many years. A full-time instructor in-residence was then hired in 2007 to accommodate the growing program. In the fall of 2005, there were 22 students enrolled in Arabic language classes. In fall 2010, there were 190 students. Maha Darawsha, the current Arabic instructor, has accounted some of the program's growth to an increased interest in the Middle East, its language and culture. According to Darawsha, prior to 9/11, many students enrolled in Arabic courses because Arabic is part of their heritage and they wanted to learn more. "After 9/11, the case changed, there are more students who want to just explore the culture and language," said Darawsha.

#### **Translation app makes menus multi-lingual**

*(MSNBC)*

Foodie culture has sent America's culinary adventurers into the deepest regions of their local ethnic neighborhoods in search of new delicacies. Unfortunately for more open-minded eaters, they often find themselves confronted with unintelligible menus written in an intimidating foreign language. A new app

from Purdue University helps intrepid restaurant goers overcome that language barrier by not only translating the menu, but providing instructions about food allergies in a number of different dialects.

### **FBI agents to recruit OU campus**

*(The Oklahoma Daily)*...Jeremy Choat

A career workshop is looking for students to join one of the most recognized organizations in the United States. Two FBI agents are on campus today to recruit those interested in an FBI career. An FBI special agent recruiter will be present to explain career paths and answer questions. The workshop is open to all majors but is specifically targeting majors in accounting, economics, business, political science and the health field. An FBI foreign language coordinator will also be on hand to talk to foreign language speakers, especially any non-European languages.

### **Language Policy**

*(Slideshare)*

PowerPoint Slides focused on language policy that incorporates major languages of the world.

## **PREVIOUS NEWS**

### **Ten years after 9/11, we're still in the dark**

*(Washington Post - Opinion)*...Omar Ashmawy

As we honor the past, we must also commit to the future. This commitment must include an expectation that all Americans responsible for protecting us possess the education and knowledge to do so and be committed to accuracy and learning. A good place to start would be language and culture training for our soldiers, and training in Islam and Arab culture and history for policymakers. Similar education should be made available to local law enforcement and community leaders. At the height of the Cold War, we encouraged our best and brightest to study Russian language and history. Ten years after Sept. 11, this is a basic but necessary step. Ignorance is our vulnerability, and we must begin somewhere. Those individuals we remember Sunday deserve better. We all do.

### **Meeting the Educational Needs of Military Families**

*(DoD Live)*...Robert L. Gordon III

A critical component of the education review is an assessment of the rigor and effectiveness of the academic curricula experienced by our military children, regardless of their location. By assessing curricula, we will identify where we can implement and encourage changes to ensure that our children are receiving the level of quality education needed to prepare them to be successful. The curriculum assessment will also include analyzing curriculum standards with a particular focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), early childhood education, transition issues, and foreign languages.

### **White House Chooses Four Service Members As Fellows**

*(American Forces Press Service)*...Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.

Lt. Clay Pell is a Coast Guard judge advocate general. Pell executes regular Coast Guard exchanges with China to improve military diplomacy, instructs courses on human rights and military justice, and has prosecuted crimes for the U.S. Marine Corps. Prior to military service, Pell worked for the Central Intelligence Agency, State Department, and international law firms. Pell helped lead a national campaign to increase funding for inexpensive, lifesaving medicines for children under five, and has supported Progreso Latino, the International Institute, and the China Working Group in their drive to instruct foreign languages in local schools and provide critical services to communities of new Americans.

### **Sept. 11 propelled her into military, marriage**

*(Seattle Times)*...Lornet Turnbull

On Sept. 12, 2001, the then-26-year-old called an Air Force recruiting station near where she lived to inquire about becoming an officer. "I felt like something had completely changed in the world — yet here I was getting up and going to this job that meant nothing, really," she recalled. She was sworn into that

branch, which would train her in Arabic and prepare her for service in two wars and a career in intelligence. She had no idea what kinds of jobs might be available to her in the military. At Arizona State University, where she earned a degree in French, Lavelanet also studied Hebrew, took a year of Spanish and dabbled in Arabic. Lavelanet had to pass a special aptitude test to gain entry to the Defense Language Institute in California. Her scores were off the chart.

### **The importance of cultural competence**

*(Oncology Nurse Advisor)*...Helen H. Miller

The United States is the most diverse country in the world. Its citizens are of all backgrounds, cultures, languages, races, ethnicities, and beliefs. This diversity presents a challenge to the health care professional. How can we ensure that we deliver the most effective care to each patient, regardless of his or her heritage? Measuring your own cultural competency can shed light on the depth of your knowledge about cultures different from your own. It can also reveal what more you should learn about a specific population's beliefs and values. Georgetown University has developed the Cultural Competence Health Practitioner Assessment (CCHPA) for this purpose. Nurses can download an assessment from the university's Center for Child and Human Development Web site ([www.gucchdgeorgetown.net/nccc/clcfoa/](http://www.gucchdgeorgetown.net/nccc/clcfoa/)). The public health section of the American Medical Association's Web site provides information on eliminating health disparities ([www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/physician-resources/public-health/eliminating-health-disparities.page](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/physician-resources/public-health/eliminating-health-disparities.page)), and the Oncology Nursing Society's Multicultural Toolkit ([www.ons.org/clinicalresources/specialpopulations/Transcultural/ToolKit](http://www.ons.org/clinicalresources/specialpopulations/Transcultural/ToolKit)) is another informative resource on cultural competency.

### **Immigrants sending kids to stay with family overseas**

*(New York Daily News)*...Lois Barrett

For the Vasilakos family of Queens, sending their children to Greece for the summer has become an annual ritual. For Anastasia, 17, and Nicholas, 14, it's a way to stay connected with extended family, learn the culture and polish their language skills. "I realized that to have them go to summer camp here is great, but the money I spend on summer camp, I could spend the same amount and send them to Greece," said Irene Vasilakos, 43, of Whitestone. Her children travel every year with her parents to Greece, spending time in Kefalonia and Sparta. Vasilakos said she is sold on the benefits. "They are exposed to the culture of their heritage, they pick up the language, they spend time with Grandma and Grandpa," she said.

### **Why Some Languages Sound So Fast**

*(Time)*...Jeffrey Kluger

It's an almost universal truth that any language you don't understand sounds like it's being spoken at 200 miles per hour - a storm of alien syllables almost impossible to tease apart. That, we tell ourselves, is simply because the words make no sense to us. Surely our spoken English sounds just as fast to a native speaker of Urdu. And yet it's equally true that some languages seem to zip by faster than others. Spanish blows the doors off French; Japanese leaves German in the dust - or at least that's how they sound. To investigate this puzzle, researchers from the Universite de Lyon recruited 59 male and female volunteers who were native speakers of one of seven common languages - English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin and Spanish - and one not so common one: Vietnamese. They instructed them all to read 20 different texts, including the one about the housecat and the locked door, into a recorder. All of the volunteers read all 20 passages in their native languages. Any silences that lasted longer than 150 milliseconds were edited out, but the recordings were left otherwise untouched. ([Read about the death of a language.](#))

### **David Boren to speak in D.C. today**

*(The Norman Transcript)*

University of Oklahoma President David Boren will be in Washington, D.C., tonight to be honored at a reception that will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the National Security Education Program. Boren was a U.S. senator who chaired the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence when he authored the bill that created the language and overseas study program.

### **UK will not 'outsource' foreign policy, says William Hague**

*(Guardian)*...Nicholas Watt

Britain will not "outsource" parts of its [foreign policy](#) to the EU external action service, [William Hague](#) declared on Thursday as he outlined steps to boost the role of the Foreign Office. A new language school for diplomats will open at the Foreign Office. In a dig at the last government, he said: "We saw the much lamented axing of the Foreign Office language school and reduced investment in language skills, which led to fewer people being trained languages, for shorter periods and in scattered locations, without the esprit de corps that comes from our diplomats studying languages together."