
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 20 SEPTEMBER 2011

ISAF Commander writes check to local high school

(DLIFLC)...Natela Cutter

The commanding general of International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) in Afghanistan, Gen. John R. Allen, visited an art exhibit and book signing Sept. 16, featuring artwork of young gifted students. The exhibit was organized in part by the local Marefat High School whose students had their artwork published in a book of Afghan proverbs under a project funded by a U.S. Embassy grant. Allen's attention had been drawn to the Marefat High School fundraiser by Navy Capt. Edward Zellem, an Afghanistan/Pakistan (AFPAK) Hands program member and director of the ISAF Presidential Information Coordination Center detachment at the presidential palace in Kabul. Zellem started to collect Dari proverbs while learning the language as a part of the program that was initiated by Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in 2009. "Proverbs are a very important part of the Afghan culture," said Zellem, who worked with Marefat High School students to illustrate the book of 151 Dari proverbs collected and translated over the past 18 months.

Gen. Cone calls DLIFLC crown jewel of DoD language effort

(DLIFLC)...Brian Lamar

"DLI is the crown jewel of our Department of Defense's language and culture effort." These were the words of Gen. Robert Cone, commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), after visiting with students attending Dari classes at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Aug 17.

US spy agencies 'struggle with post-9/11 languages'

(The Telegraph)

The Sept. 11, 2001, attacks prompted a major push for foreign language skills to track militants and trends in parts of the world that were not a Cold War priority. But intelligence agencies have had to face the reality that the languages they need cannot be taught quickly, the street slang U.S. operatives and analysts require is not easy, and security concerns make the clearance process lengthy. As recently as 2008 and 2009, intelligence officials were still issuing new directives and programs in the hopes of ramping up language capability. "Language will continue to be a challenge for us," Director of National Intelligence James Clapper said at a congressional hearing last week.

DLIELC student becomes 'guardian angel' for Gateway Inn employee

(Air Education & Training Command)...Spencer Berry

A Georgian army officer studying at the Defense Language Institute's English Language Center used his medical training to help save the life of a civilian employee recently at the DLI campus. On Aug. 2 at approximately 7:45 p.m., Georgian army Capt. Aliko Odilavadze stopped by the Gateway Lodge Sundry Store to purchase a snack and soft drink. When he went to the counter to pay for his purchases, Odilavadze notice the cashier, Linda Blount, appeared disoriented; her lips were pale. Blount needed immediate medical attention. The captain stayed alongside Blount asking her questions to keep her responsive and alert. He placed a cold, damp cloth on her forehead to keep her cool. After about 10 minutes, EMS personnel arrived and took over the medical emergency. Reunited Aug. 25 at the store where it all began, Blount told the captain, "God bless you for helping me; you were my guardian angel that day. You saved my life." A humble Odilavadze replied by saying he was just doing his job. He is just glad that as a medical physician, he was able to assist Blount during her medical crisis. Odilavadze remains at the DLIELC attending a specialized English course. In October, he will move on to Fort Sam Houston where he will attend the four-month-long Medical Captain Career Course in Radiology.

Language skills increasingly sought by employers

(Institute of Leadership & Management)...Helen Mayson

According to a poll commissioned by Rosetta Stone, 80% of senior and upper [management](#) professionals believe it is either "very" or "extremely" important that employees have bilingual abilities. Nearly two thirds of respondents said language learning initiatives were likely to improve productivity and collaboration at their company, while 44% expected it to boost customer satisfaction and retention. Around 50% said the main reason for learning and [development](#) in this area was to help with expansion into new geographical regions, while 32% were eager to move staff overseas.

Languages for Business and Employability

(Financial)...Mariam Papidze

"In business, English is a very important language. But since Georgia has close links with Turkey, Iran and [Ukraine](#), knowledge of Turkish, Farsi and [Ukrainian](#) languages give you special advantages. Companies from these countries want to hire such people, as they will ensure finding a desired partner more effectively, making business, negotiations, dispute resolution and so on that much easier," said Levan Gogoladze, an expert. The world's language system is changing with new technologies and international communication's changes. As specialists say, the language of the leader country in the economic market will be the leader in languages too.

PREVIOUS NEWS

Soldier's interest in language

(Army.mil)...Spc. Hannah Frenchick

Part of a combat medic's job is providing basic and emergency treatment to Soldiers. While deployed they also give that treatment to the locals. For Spc. Ashley Lagace, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, the job of treating Afghans just became easier. She recently completed the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Presidio of Monterey's 16-week course that focused on the Afghan dialect of Dari at JBLM's Language Center.

4 Top Language Teaching Tools for Business

(The Street)...Jonathan Blum

In this newly flat, hot world of ours, businesses can no longer afford to be monoglot affairs. So picking up some basic working Spanish, Arabic or Chinese really does open up opportunities for your shop. So assuming you are even half serious about finding some new, non-English-speaking customers, here are four language tools worth a look: Brain Scape Business Spanish (free); Dictionary.com Word Dynamo (free); Babbel.com (\$13/month per user); Rosetta Stone (online access, \$200).

Scholarship takes UNL senior to Albania

(Lincoln Journal Star)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln senior Elena Shomos of Lincoln left for Albania on Sept. 5 on a Boren Scholarship to conduct research and learn the Albanian language. Shomos, who is studying French and international studies, will spend nine months studying at Fan S. Noli University in Korce, Albania. She will examine the Albanian government's efforts to join the European Union for her senior honors thesis. The National Security Education Program Boren Scholarship supports U.S. undergraduates studying abroad in countries considered critical to U.S. national security. The scholarships provide up to \$10,000 for a semester of study or up to \$20,000 for a full year of study.

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics may eliminate foreign language requirement

(The Independent Collegian)...Sura Khuder

The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics is proposing changes to its curriculum that will eliminate the foreign language requirement for incoming students. The Faculty Senate still has to vote on the proposal for it to go into effect and may not be approved until next fall. Students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree are not required to take any foreign language, while those pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree will be required to satisfy a "cultural diversity requirement."

Eton Institute to mark the European day of languages with free language lessons and cultural workshops for the public

(Albawaba – Press Release)

Do you fancy speaking musical Italian, sophisticated French, sensuous Spanish or intriguing Russian? This September, Eton Institute, the largest language training and professional development centre in the UAE, will commemorate the European Day of Languages with free language lessons and cultural workshops for the public. The European Day of Languages, observed on 26 September every year, is an initiative which celebrates the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe while promoting cross-cultural understanding. With an active Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy, Eton Institute will be supporting this initiative by offering free language and culture workshops, assessment services and consultations with language experts to the public on the day.

A decade after 9/11, Monterey County historian, military leaders reflect on terrifying day

(The Californian) ...Jeff Mitchell

In the anti-terrorism warfare the U.S. finds itself fighting, having the ability to speak the native languages of both friendly non-combatants and those of the enemy can sometimes mean the difference between life and death, said Col. Danial Pick, the commandant of the Defense Language Institute in Monterey.

'OMG Meiyu,' a breakout hit Web show, schools Chinese in American slang

(Washington Post) ...Tara Bahrapour

A young Chinese woman wanted to know: What is the English word for that gunky yellowish stuff in the corner of her eyes when she wakes up in the morning? She turned to Jessica Beinecke, the 24-year-old host of an online travel video program aimed at young Chinese viewers, and Beinecke responded with a humorous segment for her show, explaining in fluent Mandarin and exaggerated gestures all the icky stuff that comes from the face. The popularity of the show, called "[OMG! Meiyu](#)" and produced by Voice of America, has not escaped the notice of the agency's executives, who recognize that hip and eccentric programming is vital to connecting with youths, many of whom prefer to go online than follow the stiffer, more traditional news and cultural programs the agency transmits through satellite TV and short-wave radio.

Learning multiple languages benefits career, life

(College Media Network) ...Ashley Seering

As the melting pot that is America becomes even more ethnically diverse, the importance of learning multiple languages is becoming even more important. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 19.6 percent of American families speak a primary language other than English in their homes. As the demand for diversity increases, educational institutions should step up to the plate and offer a variety of foreign language classes.

Spanish government says Mendon's Clough Elementary is 'numero uno'

(Milford Daily News) ...Morgan Rousseau

Learning a foreign language opens the door to new friendships, business opportunities and a greater understanding of other cultures. The Spanish government recognized Clough Elementary School's efforts in opening those doors yesterday, honoring Clough as the top elementary school in North America in its academic excellence competition. For being named Elementary School of the Year by the Spanish Ministry of Education, Clough received a \$5,000 award that will buy new books and teaching materials. Spanish Ministry Education Adviser Francisco de Asis Garcia Diez, who presented the award, praised the program. "The results are amazing, especially if you visit the classrooms and see how happy the students are there. They speak Spanish and understand it perfectly," Diez said.

Study program helps American students learn Chinese

(Kansas State Collegian) ...Andy Rao

Last night, the K-State Chinese Language Study Program collaborated to share their experiences with the cultural exchange program. It was an evening that highlighted the combination of traditional Chinese dresses and jeans, and the differences in clothing were not the only way that participants shared their differences. "Being able to communicate and form friendships with more students on campus who are

from a different background is my favorite thing about being in the Chinese Language Study Program," said sophomore English major Rachel Smith.

SOF LEADER: A Salute to Special Operators, with Concern for Fraying of the Forces

*(Special Operations Technology)...*Dave Ahearn (Interviewing ADM Eric Olson)

Q: Understanding local cultures and languages is vital in conflicts of the 21st century. What are the major initiatives required to generate operators skilled in the languages and cultural skills for the AORs?

A: To facilitate this understanding, SOF units strive to establish and maintain effective working relationships with our allies and key partner nations. This cooperation enables SOF to discreetly access regions where overt U.S. military presence may not be possible, train with indigenous forces, and ultimately shape the environment well ahead of the sound of guns and the start of major combat operations. On a practical level, the initiatives in this area all require the thorough review many of our military personnel policies with a focus on areas for innovation. For example, the Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest (MAVNI) program is an illustration of how much capability can be recruited within the United States if we open our aperture to innovative personnel solutions. This concept should be broadened and institutionalized across DoD. The Afghanistan-Pakistan (AFPAK) Hands Program is another example.