
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 21 SEPTEMBER 2011

National Security Education Program Celebrates 20th Anniversary

(Boren Awards)

On September 8, 2011, Senator David L. Boren, President of the University of Oklahoma and author of the David L. Boren National Security Education Act of 1991, and Dr. Clifford Stanley, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, addressed Boren Fellows, Scholars, members of the National Security Education Board, and esteemed colleagues in the international education arena at a gathering in Washington celebrating 20 years of the National Security Education Program (NSEP). Both speakers highlighted the importance of language skills and cultural understanding to developing international partnerships and improving U.S. national security, praising NSEP for its commitment to provide linguistic and cultural training for American students through the Boren Scholarships and Fellowships. In conjunction with the 20th anniversary, NSEP has also released a video that highlights Boren Fellows and Scholars, and includes comments from Dr. Stanley and Senator Boren.

Fighting is cultural, criminal for Afghan policewomen

(USA Today)...Lianne Gutcher

The women in this town where strict Islamic customs pervade all aspects of daily life call the policewomen "whores" for working alongside Americans and men to whom they are not married, she says. The women get phone calls telling them they will be beheaded if they don't quit the force. Rodriguez, Female Engagement Team leader and provost marshal of the 1st [Stryker Brigade Combat Team](#), 25th Infantry Division, acknowledges the death threats and that a bomb had been placed in a teacher's home. But she asks the women to persevere. The Afghan government and NATO see the female officers corps as crucial to achieving those goals. There now are about 1,150 women in the [Afghan National Police](#), less than 1% of the force. The [Ministry of Interior](#) wants 5,000 police women on the job by 2014. Women are needed to perform duties that men are forbidden from doing in this tribal society in which ancient Islamic customs were strictly enforced long before radical, militant Taliban clerics took over the country in the 1990s.

UN Human Rights Council: Preserving Indigenous languages

(The NarcoSphere)...Brenda Norrell

The UN Human Rights Council's session on the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages and cultures in Geneva today, Sept. 20, included testimony from around the world on both what is being done to preserve Indigenous languages, and the history of discrimination and colonization that thwarts the preservation of Indigenous languages and cultures. The priorities to preserve and promote Indigenous languages was described by the representative from Bolivia, who described the language and culture as the foundation for the protection of Mother Earth, including water. Further, Bolivia provides Indigenous language classes, at no cost, to public servants. In Paraguay, the Indigenous language there is one of two national languages.

Foreign Languages Open Up New Worlds of Learning

(Patch.com)...Veronique Autphenne

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart" - Nelson Mandela. For children, learning a foreign language expands their horizons, gives them a leg up later on in life, and improves their overall linguistic abilities, even in their own language. I love our schools but, unfortunately, they are falling short when it comes to foreign language instruction.

PREVIOUS NEWS

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 Zelle, an Afghanistan/Pakistan (AFPAK) Hands program member and director of the ISAF Presidential Information Coordination Center detachment at the presidential palace in Kabul. Zelle 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 Zelle, 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 noticed 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.

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."