
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 07 OCTOBER 2011

Ex-Commander: US Started Afghan War Lacking Info

*(Associated Press/Yahoo.com)...*Robert Burns

The U.S. began the war in Afghanistan with a "frighteningly simplistic" view of the country and even 10 years later lacks knowledge that could help bring the conflict to a successful end, a former top commander said Thursday. "We didn't know enough and we still don't know enough," he said. "Most of us — me included — had a very superficial understanding of the situation and history, and we had a frighteningly simplistic view of recent history, the last 50 years." U.S. forces did not know the country's languages and did not make "an effective effort" to learn them, he said.

Forbes Insights Study Outlines the Importance of Multilingualism in Business

*(Enhanced Online News)...*Press Release

In an increasingly global economy, U.S. companies will perform better by hiring individuals who can communicate in foreign languages and by helping current employees develop language skills, according to a new study released by Forbes Insights (available at www.forbes.com/forbesinsights). "Language Study: Reducing the Impact of Language Barriers" is based on an exclusive survey of more than 100 executives at large U.S. businesses (annual revenues of more than \$500 million). This study was sponsored by Rosetta Stone Ltd. According to the study, more than half (65%) of companies surveyed face language barriers that contribute to inefficiency, ineffective collaboration and low productivity, among other factors.

ASU, Utah train future military officers in critical languages, culture

(ASU News)... Sarah Auffret

Improving critical language skills, regional expertise and cultural awareness of future military officers is the aim of a U.S. Department of Defense initiative under way at Arizona State University and the University of Utah. As part of "Project GO," the global officer effort, ASU has been training ROTC cadets in Persian, Russian, Tatar and Uzbek, and sending them to Central Asia and Russia every summer since 2008. Utah trains cadets in Arabic, Chinese, Hindi/Urdu, Korean, Pashto and Russian, and has recently opened programs for them in Jordan, Morocco, Russia and China.

Words in Motion

*(Humanities & Social Sciences Online)...*Carol Gluck & Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing

After years of exploration of the tools, media and technologies that informed and enabled globalizing processes it was only a matter of time until historians of globalization turned towards the most elementary and yet most complex of those tools – words. The volume under review sets out to explore, with the words of the editors, the power of words to "make worlds", to "do work in the world" as they "move across time and space" (p. 3). The fourteen chapters trace translingual, transcultural and transnational movements of words all over the globe and gauge the various impacts the words and their movements had on social and political action.

IU Bloomington chosen to establish nation's first Turkish Flagship program

*(IU News Room)...*Press Release

The Language Flagship, an initiative of the National Security Education Program within the U.S. Department of Defense, has chosen Indiana University Bloomington as the only location for its program in Turkish and other Turkic languages. The undergraduate Turkish Flagship program will be led by Kemal Silay, director of the Turkish Studies Program and chair of Ottoman and Modern Turkish Studies in the IU College of Arts and Sciences.

[Language awards reward innovative learning and teaching](#)

(BBC)

Eleven awards for excellence in language teaching have been made this year by the CfBT Education Trust. Successful projects received a European Language Label to reward innovative teaching and learning. Trust director Kathryn Board said she hoped the awards would lead to a revival of language teaching. Sharon Tanner, project coordinator for DDE, said: "We hope it illustrates the value and importance of education for global citizenship and intercultural understanding."

[New instructors arrive to teach Arabic culture, language to Missoula students](#)

(Missoulian)...Jamie Kelly

In Missoula, he's happy to participate in the education of high school students at Hellgate, Willard and other schools. Here, he'll teach the Arabic language as well as Arabic culture and customs of the Middle East and North Africa. "I thought it was a good thing to get in contact with American education," said Abdelsamad, who applied for the assignment in the Teachers of Critical Languages Program and arrived in the U.S. on July 24. "This will be an opportunity for me to enhance my language proficiency." Fadi Ehlin, a Jordan native who is the other full-time Arabic language and culture instructor, said it's important to have more than one native speaker of Arabic as MCPS continues to try to expand its Arabic studies program.

[OSU introduces new minor option](#)

(The Daily O'Collegian)...Cheyenne Conrady

A new minor will be available to all students at Oklahoma State University, regardless of their primary academic major. International studies as a minor will be offered to students for the first time at OSU, benefitting students in multiple areas of contrast including society, politics, economy, and culture. Also required will be 10 credit hours of a foreign language. International students will not have to take International Experience.

[Facebook launches its own universal translator](#)

(cnet News)...Lance Whitney

Those of you who'd like to read Facebook pages written in a foreign language now have a way to translate posts and comments into your native tongue. Using the translation tools of Microsoft's Bing, the social-networking site is now offering an inline tool that will translate posts made on public Facebook pages into the language indicated in your profile. As [described by the company](#), public pages written in a different language will display a "Translate" link next to each post or comment. Clicking on that link converts the post into your own language. Clicking on the "Original" link reverts the post back to its native language.

[PREVIOUS NEWS](#)

[Survival Speech](#)

(Language Magazine –page 19)...Brian Lamar

"Because our interpreter choked up, I kind of took the lead and called out to the checkpoint and told them 'Hey, it's us, don't fire! We're Americans!' explained Masterson. "Once they heard me and realized everything was okay, things calmed down. I am thankful that just because I had some language skills, I was able to diffuse the situation and things didn't end up tragically, said Masterson.

[Language test for overseas doctors](#)

(Management in Practice)

Overseas doctors with a "poor grasp" of the English language will be barred from working for the NHS, under new rules announced by Health Secretary Andrew Lansley yesterday (4 October). In his address to the Conservative Party during its annual party conference in Liverpool, Lansley said, "proficient language skills were equally as important as proper medical qualifications" when practicing as a doctor in England.

Call to prioritise languages in schools

(Irish Times)...Conor Pope

THE ABSENCE of a coherent language-learning strategy in primary and secondary schools is damaging the State's competitiveness internationally, according to a new report. The National Languages Strategy document, compiled by the Royal Irish Academy's committee for modern language, literary and culture studies, pointed out that the Republic was the only country in Europe, with the exception of Scotland, where a foreign language was not compulsory at any stage in the main education curriculum. According to the report, Ireland has the highest proportion of citizens in the EU who say they do not know any other language apart from their native tongue.

At French immersion school, a love for Russian

(The Washington Post)...Robert Samuels

To find the public school with the largest reported number of tweens learning Russian, look not in New York City, Alaska or anywhere else known for enclaves of immigrants from that country. Instead peer into Room 213 at Robert Goddard French Immersion School in [Prince George's County](#), where a curly-haired teacher on this particular day is bouncing a rag doll named "Tyoti Moti" on her knee. Dani Sanders is leading the seventh graders in a silly song. In 2010, Sanders had 176 Russian students in eight classes, according to a survey by the [Committee of College and Pre-College Russian](#), which has tracked Russian class enrollments since 1984. It is the only full-fledged Russian public middle school program in the region. Of the nearly 300 schools at all grade levels that reported data, it is the largest [middle school](#) program in the nation.

As others cut back, F-M School District considers offering Spanish to 7th graders

(Channel 9 News – 9wsyr.com)

After a tight budget year when some Central New York school districts were forced to cut foreign language programs, one district is now trying to strengthen its curriculum. Last year, the City of Fulton eliminated Latin, and Hannibal cut French. But now, Fayetteville-Manlius is considering offering Spanish to seventh-graders, which is one year earlier than normal. Staff at F-M believes that in order to truly grasp a foreign language, students need to start early in life. "They'd have that exposure, that time to process how a language works," said F-M Spanish teacher Melanie Campitello-Chevez, who is also a mother with two kids already fluent in two languages. "We have two daughters who are five and three."

Third Language Enabled Airmen Board meets, selects participants

(Af.mil)

Air Force foreign language experts recently met at the Air Force Culture and Language Center here to select the latest participants for the Language Enabled Airman Program. Nearly 600 people from across the Air Force applied for the program. Barbara Barger, the Air Force Senior Language Authority, will validate the results, and selected members will be notified no later than Oct. 17, said officials at the AFCLC. The target goal for this selection board was 300 new LEAP participants. LEAP is a career-spanning program to select, develop and increase Airmen's foreign language capability and cross-cultural competence, according to Jay Warwick, the AFCLC deputy director and the head of the AFCLC's language department.

Not So Foreign Languages

(Inside Higher Ed)...Scott Jaschik

[West Virginia University](#) announced this semester that it no longer has a department of foreign languages, and that's not because budget cuts eliminated any programs of study. Rather, the university renamed the program; it's now the department of world languages, literatures and linguistics. Across the country, [Grossmont College](#), a two-year institution in Southern California, changed its foreign languages department to a world languages department this fall as well. These colleges follow others that have made that switch over the last five or so years. In Massachusetts, the Five College Foreign Language Resource Center was renamed the [Five College Center for the Study of World Languages](#).

Faculty tries to assuage language woes

(SMU The Daily Campus)...Elizabeth Russ & Denise DuPont

We would like to thank Arnaud Zimmern very much for supporting the study of foreign languages at SMU in his recent column, "Don't let foreign languages fall to the wayside." In the fall of 2008, when the General Education Review Committee began to discuss the new university curriculum with groups on campus, the first comment we heard was a request for enhanced language instruction. Members of the Student Senate spoke of this need first, and their petition was echoed by faculty from divisions all over SMU. With the implementation of the new university-wide second language requirement in the fall of 2012, all students who are not already bilingual will be expected to improve their skills in a second language to the equivalent of two semesters past their level upon enrollment at SMU, up to the end of the intermediate sequence of the language of their choice.

Dual-language classes put Unified English and Spanish speakers in one room

(The Journal Times)...Lindsay Fiori

"El agua está destruyendo nuestro castillo," she said Thursday, telling the kindergarteners seated around her that the water was about to destroy their sand castle. "I don't like when that happens." As Faz spoke, her Spanish and English students all caught on and responded accordingly. They held up paper plates they'd drawn sad faces on to show the sand castle-destroying wave would make them "triste." It was a standard day in Faz's dual-language classroom at Jones Elementary School.

Learning Chinese offers Murfreesboro students window on the world

(The Tennessean)...Meagland Ragland-Hudgins

For the second year in a row, Murfreesboro City Schools' Discovery School at Reeves-Rogers is hosting a teacher from China. Ye Cheng's visit, which will last the entire school year, was funded by the Teachers of Critical Languages Program run by the U.S. Department of State. The program is open to American schools looking to develop or establish a program in Chinese or Arabic. Cheng has taught English in China for 13 years but didn't learn the language in a school setting.

Ireland 'needs clear strategy' for foreign language education

(School Days)...Donal Walsh

Primary and secondary schools need to do more to provide their students with a good knowledge of foreign languages if Ireland is to compete on the international stage. This is according to a study from the Royal Irish Academy (RIS), which warned a lack of skills in this area could be damaging the country's economy, RTE reports.