
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 21 OCTOBER 2011

Defense Language Office Collaborates with DEOMI to Launch New Defense Cross-Cultural Competence Website

(DLO)...Press Release

The Defense Language Office (DLO) and the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) announce the launch of a new Cross-Cultural Competence (3C) knowledge portal for the Total Force to acquire, build, and sustain cross-cultural competence. Users may access the 3C Portal at www.defenseculture.org.

Supreme Court nominee vows to improve French skills

(CBC News)...The Canadian Press

Justice Michael Moldaver, one of two justices nominated by Prime Minister Stephen Harper to sit on the Supreme Court, apologized to a panel of MPs on Wednesday for his limited abilities in the French language as opposition mounted to his appointment. "I have the greatest respect for the French language and culture, including its civil law tradition, the Québécois, as well as other French-speaking Canadians," Moldaver said in his opening statement to MPs before taking their questions as part of the Supreme Court selection process.

Being bilingual can open more doors for job-seekers

(The Lantern)...Danielle Seamon

A recent report from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics expects the employment of US translators and interpreters to increase 22 percent between 2008 and 2018. As domestic jobs begin to outsource and branch internationally due to the affects of globalization, employers are seeking the means to break the language barrier. "When you turn on the television, they're talking about how the market is crashing in Slovakia, how bailing out Greece is going to help us," said Spanish lecturer Alejandro Jacky. "It gives you an idea of just how interconnected every culture and every community is these days."

The College Board Redesigns the AP® Chemistry and AP Spanish Language and Culture Courses

(Market Watch)...Press Release

As part of its ongoing commitment to ensuring that Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) courses reflect college-level expectations and progress in each discipline, the College Board is pleased to announce revisions to the AP Chemistry and AP Spanish Language and Culture courses and exams. These changes take effect in the 2013-14 academic year and were made with the input of faculty members and scientists from many of the nation's finest colleges, universities and secondary schools.

D-26 Provides Options for Students Who Want to Learn Spanish

(Patch.com)...Quincy Hodges

[Cary School District 26](#) was in pursuit of a state grant that would offset cost for an after-school Spanish language class. However, upon investigation, the state does not support extracurricular activities with the grant, Valerie McCall, director of curriculum and instruction said Monday night. McCall has outlined three options for parents wanting their children to learn Spanish.

Travels in Afghanistan Anything but Normal for NGCSU Staffer

(The Saint – NGCSU)...Shanna Pettengill

Higbee worked three weeks as a Short Term Technical Advisor for the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) in the war-torn country. The trip was short notice but turned out to be well worth the rush. "The Library Director in Mercer University was originally supposed to go but couldn't, so I heard about it and applied thinking I got the job only because I was the only one who wanted it," said Higbee.

She later found out that her past experience in the Army, travels in India and ability to read Arabic made her the right woman for the job as she beat out five other contenders for the position.

PREVIOUS NEWS

DOD Strives to Promote, Preserve Language Skills

(American Forces Press Service)...Donna Miles

With the Defense Department's emphasis on developing language and cultural skills within the force, it's working hard to ensure those capabilities don't get lost after students leave the schoolhouse here. The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center trains thousands of students every year in more than two dozen languages, some that require more than a year of intensive, full-time study. To preserve those skills, the school is boosting its continuing education offerings, both through classroom and distance learning. "Language skills are perishable," said Mike Vezielich, dean of the continuing education directorate. "If one doesn't use the language regularly, those skills atrophy. And that doesn't take long," particularly for students at lower proficiency levels.

DLIFLC hosts international BILC seminar

(DLIFLC)...Brian Lamar

More than 60 participants from approximately 20 allied nations, that represent their country's equivalent to the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, arrived Monday for a four-day seminar to share best practices in the furthering of foreign language training goals through research. "Each year [BILC] member countries take turns hosting this seminar. 2011 was our turn to host this event," said Detlev Kesten, the assistant provost of operations at DLIFLC. This year's Bureau for International Language Coordination was hosted by the Commandant, Col. Danial Pick and Provost, Dr. Donald Fischer. The overarching theme of the seminar is "Research in Action."

Bet she's never lost for words! Ten-year-old schoolgirl can speak TEN languages including Kazak and Ugandan

(Mail Online)...Jessica Satherley

She might only be 10-years-old, but little Sonia Yang can already speak an incredible 10 languages. When she arrived here, Sonia was already fluent in Japanese, Chinese and English, as well as her native Taiwanese. But she can also now speak German, French, Spanish, Portuguese and has recently picked up Kazakh and the Ugandan language of Luganda. More than 5,000 students from across the region entered the language contest. They were tested on their knowledge of other tongues - as well as their ability to pick up entirely new ones.

Bilingual and struggling

(The Christian Science Monitor)...Fariba Mawa

My husband, Naeem, and I decided our language at home would be Farsi so that our two daughters could learn to speak it. They would learn English in school and outside the home. After watching dozens of relatives' and friends' children in the US forget their native language, we are determined to teach Bonoo and Andisha, 5 months, the importance of bilingualism. But it's a battle many second-generation immigrant parents have lost to the pervasiveness of English. Besides preserving cultural heritage, a second language can boost careers, sharpen analytical skills, and encourage communication with a world outside one's own. The loss of language is a deep-seated fear among many immigrants. The US has been dubbed the graveyard of languages by some academics for pushing English and excluding other tongues. Currently about 55 million Americans speak a language besides English at home, but by the third generation, the home language tends to atrophy, according to various studies. American society supports a rhetoric of multiculturalism but not multilingualism, experts say.

At 105, Chinese Linguist Now A Government Critic

(NPR)...Louisa Lim

Zhou Youguang should be a Chinese hero after making what some call the world's most important linguistic innovation: He invented Pinyin, a system of romanizing Chinese characters using the Western

alphabet. It took Zhou and his colleagues three years to come up with the system now known as Pinyin, which was introduced in schools in 1958. Recently, Pinyin has become even more widely used to type Chinese characters into mobile phones and computers — a development that delights Zhou.

All graduates to be bilingual

(Tuoiitrenews)

Within nine years, most graduates from Viet Nam's colleges and universities will be expected to speak English or another foreign language. This is part of a master plan on language teaching up until 2020. Under the plan, approved by the Prime Minister in 2008, foreign languages would be taught throughout the national education system, said Deputy Minister of Education and Training Nguyen Vinh Hien at an e-conference covering Ha Noi, HCM City, central Da Nang City, the Cuu Long (Mekong) Delta's Can Tho City, and northern Thai Nguyen Province.

Analysis: The rise and rise of western covert ops

*(Reuters)...*Peter Apps

Four months ago, Admiral William McRaven commanded the operation that killed Osama bin Laden. Now, as the new head of U.S. special forces, he argues that his shadowy, secretive warriors are increasingly central to how America and its allies fight. To work with tribal groups and win their loyalty, language skills and cultural awareness are essential. Special forces helped shape both the "Sunni awakening", which swept Al Qaeda and its allies from much of Iraq, and the more recent rebel victory in Libya. McRaven said he believed the Afghan "village program", working with local communities and police, might prove his forces' most important contribution to that war. The need for such skills is not new, of course. McRaven demands all his officers and NCOs learn a second language. Others in the field read ancient histories or the writings of idiosyncratic English archeologist T.E. Lawrence, better known as "Lawrence of Arabia".

Spanish TV's Telemundo to hold GOP primary debate

*(Yahoo.com/Associated Press)...*Laura Wides-Munoz

Spanish-language [Telemundo](#) network announced Thursday it will host its first presidential primary debate in December. The Republican primary debate will be held in Las Vegas and comes weeks before the early primaries begin. The locale is key, as Nevada is one of two early primary states with a growing number of Latino voters. [Florida](#) is the other. Top Telemundo news anchor [Jose Diaz-Balart](#) will host the debate, which will be broadcast in Spanish. Telemundo spokesman [Alfredo Richard](#) said the network is still hammering out the details and is in conversations with the candidates. "The debate will most likely mix both English and Spanish to accommodate the needs both of the candidates and our viewers," he said in an email to The Associated Press.

Language skills key to successful cross-cultural business

*(Fresh Business Thinking)...*Marcus Leach

UK-based businesses could be risking international growth by failing to invest in cross-cultural, language and communications training, according to new research by The London School of English. The research questioned 100 HR directors on their attitudes towards language and communication skills and their approach to training. The questions were designed to cover the increasing number of professional non-native English speakers working in the UK as well as native English speakers.