
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 24 OCTOBER 2011

Website Promotes Cultural Awareness Education

(American Forces Press Service)...Terri Moon Cronk

A new Defense Department Internet portal promotes education in cultural differences to support mission readiness. The Defense Language Office and the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute developed the site to acquire, build and sustain cross-cultural competence across the total force, officials said. The new portal provides self-paced training for leaders to learn effective communication across cultural lines at home and abroad, officials said. Offerings include gaming technologies, interactive videos, storytelling scenarios and lifelike avatars to stimulate critical thinking and learning. Leadership development applications also assess users on their self-awareness and perceptions of team performance.

Ministry holds online meeting on foreign language training

(Saigon GP Daily)...Le Lihn & Thu Tam

The Ministry of Education and Training organized an online meeting to discuss implementation of a project for foreign language training for the period 2008-2020. The online meeting was presided over by Deputy Minister Nguyen Vinh Hien, and was conducted in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, the central city of Da Nang, the Southern city of Can Tho, and Thai Nguyen in the North. Vietnam adopted a project on foreign language training for the period 2008-2020, under which primary school pupils have compulsory English language classes till the 3rd grade. It aims at improving foreign language skills for all young Vietnamese people who will use it to serve the country in today's industrialized and modernized world.

Students explore a different culture without leaving Laurel

(Laurel Leader-Call)...Eloria Newell James

Martinez said "the best way to learn a language is to learn the culture." Yohanna Jime'nez, president of the Mississippi Foreign Language Association (MFLA), agreed adding that "when you learn the language, you learn the culture." Jime'nez said the festival is a wonderful way to expose young people to different types of cultures. "It's a wonderful thing they are doing with the students," said Jime'nez, who also works as an adjutant Spanish professor at William Carey College. "They are doing an awesome job. They are presenting while they are learning."

Parents to benefit from Japanese language grant

(TribLocal)...Kate Thayer

Dooley Elementary School in Schaumburg will strengthen parent involvement in its Japanese Dual Language program with help from a Japanese foundation. The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chicago's foundation awarded Dooley a \$5,000 grant this week as part of an annual program that helps educational, arts and civic organizations. Principal Marion Friebus-Flaman said the money will go toward purchasing materials for the school's Japanese Dual Language program – specifically items for parents to use.

PREVIOUS NEWS

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.

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 Vezilich, 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.