
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

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Video: Female Engagement Team Reset Training

(dvds)...Cpl. Meredith Brown

Female Engagement Team Marines, from Regimental Combat Teams Five and Eight, conduct reset training on Camp Leatherneck. They discuss their experiences and successes so that they can learn from each other. Available in high definition. Interview with Cpl. Brandy Bates of Ann Arbor, Mich. and Sgt. Jessica Lugo of Los Angeles, Calif.

Language skills remain vital to world market

(Daily Gamecock)...Alice Chang

Being in Asia for more than six months now has made me realize that we Americans are the cultural underdogs of the world. That shouldn't come as a surprise: We're often stereotyped as being arrogant and ignorant, and I used to resent that a great deal. But when I see the ordinary 5-year-old students in my English class speaking more languages than I can, I can't help but wonder why we, as a country, don't try just a little harder to be global citizens. The answer seems simple enough: We've never had to be. The upside of being one of the first countries to develop and achieve stability as a whole is that we are the world's pioneers, the shepherds of the herd. The downside is that we're not actively integrating into the world. We're sitting back and letting the world integrate into us, and while that makes our lives easy for now, there's also something to be said for the cultural awareness we're losing while other countries are catching up. It is no longer enough to justify our lack of multilingual cultural infusion with "America is the world power," because the fact of the matter is, we can no longer guarantee we will have the same influence in the coming years. It is crucial that we begin to infuse language learning into earlier stages of education, and it is crucial we begin now.

Many Chinese Students Could Pay U.S. College Costs but Lack the Language Skills, Survey Finds

(The Chronicle of Higher Education)...Karin Fischer

Chinese students seeking to study in the United States have the money to do so but may lack the English-language skills, a [survey](#) of 18,000 prospective students found. Fifty-three percent of those surveyed by Zinch China, a consulting company that advises American colleges and universities about China, said their families can afford to spend \$40,000 or more, per year, on an undergraduate education. Another 22 percent reported they could spend between \$10,000 and \$40,000 a year. But more than a third of the students in the Zinch study don't speak English well enough to function in an American classroom. Just 18 percent have the advanced linguistic skills that would allow them to participate in a seminar-type setting.

Linguist discusses endangered languages

(Indiana Daily Student)...Katie Mettler

More than 60 faculty and students crammed into a small classroom in Ballantine Hall on Friday to hear renowned linguist Lindsay Whaley speak about endangered languages. Whaley, a professor of linguistics and classics at Dartmouth College, presented the lecture, "What We (Still) Don't Know About Endangered Languages." He spoke about studies and research that examine the shrinking number of languages used across the globe.

More American College Students Need to Study Abroad

(Policymic)...Dillon Cory

As International Education Week passes, a report from the Institute of International Education shows that the number of students that are studying abroad [has risen](#) over the past year. This encouraging news coincides with a State Department [push](#) for increased participation among American students, a positive

step towards creating a generation of Americans that are ready to handle the unique challenges of the 21st century. While the IIE report shows an uptick in the number of American students studying abroad, this is overshadowed by the disheartening fact that only [1% of students](#) enrolled in higher education are studying abroad.

PREVIOUS NEWS

U.S. Military Goes Online To Rebut Extremists' Messages

(New York Times)...Tom Shanker and Eric Schmitt

The morning sun had barely cast its fresh light over Tampa Bay when Ardashir Safavi--born in Iran, a refugee to Turkey, educated in the mid-Atlantic states--was up and patrolling two dozen Persian-language Web sites, hunting militant adversaries in cyberspace. His mission was to scan news reports, blogs, social media and online essays to identify those he viewed as "containing lies, misinformation or just misperceptions" about American military operations and Pentagon policy across the Middle East. Mr. Safavi works as part of the Digital Engagement Team, established in 2008 by the military's Central Command to "counter extremist ideology, promote cultural awareness and explain U.S. interests," said Maj. David E. Nevers, the team's chief officer, who must approve all responses before they are posted on foreign-language Web sites. The team includes 20 native speakers of Arabic, Dari, Persian, Pashto, Urdu and Russian, the latter a shared language across the Muslim countries of the former Soviet states of Central Asia. Given that Central Command is responsible for military actions in an arc of instability stretching from the Indian Ocean across the Persian Gulf to the Red Sea, people here call their headquarters "Tampa-stan."

Afghanistan Pakistan Hands trains future Afghan pilots

(NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan)...Kathryn Gustafson

As an Air Force aviator, Lt. Col. Daryl Sassaman had been to Afghanistan before; however, never did he imagine he would one day be living with the Afghans, working to hone their English language capabilities, while improving his Dari proficiency. Through language and culture education and training, the APH program grooms military personnel to serve on a rotational cycle in country. As one cohort departs the region, a new group is deployed, while another receives language and culture education and training. "They come back a second time knowing how the culture works and are therefore able to continue building relationships," Sassaman said. Deterring potential problems before they arise is a key feature of the APH program, according to Barbara Barger, the Air Force's senior language authority.

SDSU to Get \$1.8 Million Grant from Defense Department to Teach Middle Eastern Languages to Marines

(San Diego 6)

San Diego State University will get a \$1.8 million grant from the Defense Department to teach Middle Eastern languages to Marines, school officials said Wednesday. About 200 Marines will be taught Arabic, Farsi and Pashto over the next year or so at SDSU's Language Acquisition Resource Center, according to the school. "In San Diego, this means providing men and women in uniform with the language skills to succeed when they are deployed, especially in Afghanistan," said Rep. Susan Davis, D-San Diego, who helped get the grant.

UGA gets federal grant to start undergrad flagship Portuguese program

(The Associated Press)

The University of [Georgia](#) plans to use a federal grant to establish the nation's first and only undergraduate flagship program in Portuguese. The school says the rapid growth of the [Brazilian](#) economy has caused a rise in demand for Portuguese speakers. The renewable grant from the National Security Education Program provides more than \$225,000 for the program's first year and is expected to contribute more than \$1 million during the first full grant cycle.

Civilian Expeditionary Workforce

(YouTube – American Forces Press Service)...Elaine Wilson

Civilian Expeditionary Workforce video that highlights the training that civilians within the program receive prior to deployment.

UNC system shifts focus to online

(Daily Tarheel)...Daniel Wiser

The UNC system's push to consolidate and streamline universities' online education programs might still be in its early stages, but administrators already have one model to follow — an emerging foreign language consortium.

Children can practise language skills through social network

(Irish Times)...Marie Boran

SECONDARY SCHOOL teacher Anne Burke has come up with a novel way to get school children practising foreign language skills outside of the classroom with Lingua Swap, a social networking site combining elements of Facebook and Chatroulette. Lingua Swap is a video chat site aimed at secondary school children looking to practise conversation skills in German, French, Spanish and English. The "swap" element involves online chat between pupils of two different languages; they spend the first 10 minutes speaking, say, Spanish, and switch to English for the next 10.

Army not using, sustaining language skills: GAO

(Army Times)...Joe Gould

The Army and Marine Corps do a poor job of tracking how much language and cultural training troops have received, leaving commanders in the dark when it comes time to assign soldiers with these skills, the Government Accountability Office has found. The two services also spend millions of dollars to train troops to speak foreign languages in predeployment training, but the Army and Marine Corps lack plans to sustain these skills and use them for ongoing operations, the congressional watchdog agency said.

Lawrence soldier earns medal

(Eagle-Tribune)...Mark E. Vogler

U.S. Army Cpl. Angel Rodriguez of Lawrence was recently awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his work with Afghan people as a member of a provincial reconstruction team in the Khost Province of Afghanistan. Rodriguez considers the most interesting aspect of his initiative is working in small, five-member groups gathering information and building rapport with the Afghan locals in small villages throughout Khost Province. He cited the language and cultural barriers as the biggest challenge. Most PRT members rely on the local and U.S. linguists or interpreters, but Rodriguez has begun learning the Afghan dialect of Pashto.

Polyglot dragon: What the PLA's language school says about China's strategic direction

(Armed Forces Journal)...Scott J. Henderson

China watchers searching for clues to Beijing's strategic direction generally look for changes in government policy, diplomatic liaisons or force realignment. Here's another useful indicator: language training. When global ambitions push a nation beyond the boundaries of its homeland and away from its native language, a state designs and invests in foreign language training. If China peers out across the operational environment and determines, for example, that Central Asia or African energy reserves are top priorities, we would expect to see resources allocated for training personnel in the applicable languages and dialects. The institute's 2011 curriculum reveals an interest in Iranian and Middle East politics amid programs of study in 26 languages.