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[NDAAs amendments approved requiring studies on health of service members](#)

(The Hill)...Pete Kasperowicz

Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ), requires the DoD establish the "National Language Service Corps" to provide a pool of personnel with foreign language skills who, as provided in regulations, agree to provide foreign language services to the DoD or another department or agency of the U.S. The amendment would deem that a period of active service in the Corps be considered service in the uniformed services, and would consider the Corps a part of the uniformed service.

[DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE](#)

[Government has foreign language deficit](#)

(Washington Post)...Joe Davidson

Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii), chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs subcommittee on government management and the federal workforce, said national security agencies "continue to experience shortages of people skilled in hard-to-learn languages due to a limited pool of Americans to recruit from."

[Foreign Language Capabilities Remain a Priority](#)

(American Forces Press Service)...Sgt 1st Class Tyronne C. Marshall Jr.

"Let me begin by stating that Defense Secretary Panetta has long believed that having a strong language ability is critical to national security," Laura Junor, deputy assistant secretary of defense for readiness, said in testimony before a Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Subcommittee "We're committed to fielding the most capable force that we can deploy." Junor said mission success is directly connected to the ability to communicate effectively with local populations and international partners.

[AFRICOM first to test new regional brigade concept](#)

(Stars & Stripes)...John Vandiver

A U.S.-based unit has been selected as the Army's first "regionally aligned" brigade, and by next year

its soldiers could begin conducting operations in Africa. It is the first step in an effort to develop expert units to rotate through a region, which is intended to give commanders a more reliable supply of soldiers available for short, training-focused missions.

[McHugh: Language, culture vital for future missions](#)

(Army.mil)...Natela Cutter

Secretary of the Army John McHugh said that language and culture skills are critical for the



successful accomplishment of missions overseas today and in the future, during a visit to the

Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, May 21. "What we have learned over the last ten years, especially in places like Iraq and Afghanistan, that language skills, also accompanied by a cultural level of understanding and skills, are absolutely critical skills to get a mission done," said McHugh.

[Exercise Introduces Students to Negotiating Tactics](#)

(Defense.gov)...Jason Tudor

The elective at this Department of Defense Regional Center is one of a handful offered to complete the Program in Advanced Security Studies, a

10-week look at international law and the framework for the program's namesake.



The elective's 12 two-hour sessions last four weeks. "There are lots of linguistic and cultural differences in how individuals from different countries approach negotiations," he said.

"Negotiating across countries, language and cultural differences will always be difficult."

[Culture training enhances language skills effectiveness](#)

(Af.mil)...Karen Harrison

On any given day, the Defense Language Institute English Language Center hosts international military students from more than 100 countries to participate in general and specialized English language training. These students, invited by the Department of Defense's Military Department Secretaries, come to DLIELC to learn English through cultural and language immersion. "Although language often marks the starting point for these students, cultural education is intentionally integrated as soon as possible," said Rene Martinez, the DLIELC Curriculum Branch chief. "Most scholars agree that language and culture are closely connected and must be systematically incorporated into the instructional design in order for language learning to be effective."

NATIONAL

In Rhode Island, an Unusual Marriage of Engineering and Languages Lures Students

(The Chronicle of Higher Education)...Karin Fischer
The University of Rhode Island colleagues each



had a
problem.
Hermann
Viets, then
dean of
engineering,
felt strongly

that his students needed international experience to be competitive in a globalizing job market—and, like many engineering majors, they weren't getting it. His fellow administrator and next-door neighbor, John M. Grandin, associate dean of arts and sciences at the time, saw the writing on the wall with declining numbers in his German language and literature.