NEWS FROM SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

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Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL)

University of Hawai'i National Foreign Language Resource Center (NFLRC)

The University of Hawai‘i National Foreign Language Resource Center engages in research and materials development projects and conducts workshops and conferences for language professionals among its many activities.

2008 SECOND LANGUAGE RESEARCH FORUM

With the theme, Exploring SLA: Perspectives, Positions, and Practices, the Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) returns to the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa for the third time on October 17-19, 2008 (with the NFLRC serving as co-sponsor). Highlights include plenary talks by Harald Clahsen (University of Essex), Alan Firth (Newcastle University), Carmen Muñoz (Universitat de Barcelona), & Richard Schmidt (University of Hawai‘i at Manoa); 4 colloquia; and over 150 paper and poster sessions. Visit our website for more information.

1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE DOCUMENTATION & CONSERVATION: SUPPORTING SMALL LANGUAGES

The 1st International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation (ICLDC) will be held at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa from March 12-14, 2009. There will also be an optional opportunity to visit Hilo, on the Big Island of Hawai‘i, in an extension of the conference that will focus on the Hawaiian language revitalization program, March 16-17. Conference sponsors include the UH National Foreign Language Resource Center, National Resource Center East Asia, and Center for Pacific Island Studies.

It has been a decade since Himmelmann's article on language documentation appeared and focused the field into thinking in terms of creating a lasting record of a language that could be used by speakers as well as by academics. This conference aims to assess what has been achieved in the past decade and what the practice of language documentation within linguistics has been and can be. It has become apparent that there is too much for a linguist alone to achieve and that language documentation requires collaboration. This conference will focus on the theme of collaboration in language documentation and revitalization and will include sessions on interdisciplinary topics.

Plenary speakers include Nikolaus Himmelmann (University of Münster), Leanne Hinton (UC Berkeley), Paul Newman (Indiana University & University of Michigan), and Phil Cash Cash (University of Arizona).

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Abstracts are due by September 15, 2008, with notification of acceptance by October 17, 2008. We ask for abstracts of 400 words and a 50-word summary for inclusion in the conference program. All abstracts will be submitted to blind peer review by international experts on the topic. See conference website for more details.
NEW NFLRC PUBLICATIONS

Documenting and Revitalizing Austronesian Languages

The most recent addition to our group of online journals, Language Documentation and Conservation, released this, its first Special Publication. Also available online, the case studies found in this volume lead to a discussion of changes in the field of linguistics and the alliances which are being built between linguists and community language activists. The 11 chapters in the book touch upon the key themes of international capacity building initiatives, documentation and revitalization activities, and computational methods and tools for language documentation.

Check out our many other publications.

OUR ONLINE JOURNALS SOLICIT SUBMISSIONS

*Language Learning & Technology* is a refereed online journal, jointly sponsored by the University of Hawai’i NFLRC and the Michigan State University Center for Language Education and Research (CLEAR). LLT focuses on issues related to technology and language education. For more information on submission guidelines, visit the LLT submissions page.

*Language Documentation & Conservation* is a fully refereed, open-access journal sponsored by NFLRC and published exclusively in electronic form by the University of Hawai’i Press. LD&C publishes papers on all topics related to language documentation and conservation. For more information on submission guidelines, visit the LD&C submissions page.

*Reading in a Foreign Language* is a refereed online journal, jointly sponsored by the University of Hawai’i NFLRC and the Department of Second Language Studies. RFL serves as an excellent source for the latest developments in the field, both theoretical and pedagogic, including improving standards for foreign language reading. For more information on submission guidelines, visit the RFL submissions page.

Michigan State University Center for Language Education and Research (CLEAR)

CLEAR's mission is to promote the teaching and learning of foreign languages in the United States. Projects focus on materials development, professional development training, and foreign language research.

MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

Selected Products

The list below comprises just some of our free and low-cost materials for language educators. Be sure to visit our website occasionally for updates and announcements on new products: [http://clear.msu.edu](http://clear.msu.edu).

- **NEW! Introductory Business German** (CD-ROM) – This CD-ROM provides a condensed, highly-focused set of activities intended for use by business professionals who conduct business with Germans and German companies and wish to learn more about the German business and economics environment.
- **NEW! Celebrating the World’s Languages: A Guide to Creating a World Languages Day Event** (guide) – This publication provides a step-by-step guide to planning "World Languages Day," a university event for high school students designed to stimulate interest in learning languages and to highlight the importance of cultural awareness.
• *La phonétique française* (CD-ROM) – This cross-platform multimedia program consists of interactive lessons that can be used by French teachers to learn how to teach pronunciation, or by advanced students working independently.

• CLEAR’s Rich Internet Applications initiative has been underway for over a year. RIA is a research and development lab where our programmers are working on free tools that language teachers can use to create online language teaching materials – or have their students create activities themselves!
  - NEW! Broadcasts (create your own podcasts)
  - Audio Dropboxes (put a dropbox in any web page; students’ recordings get put into your dropbox automatically)
  - Conversations (record prompts for students to do virtual interviews and conversations)
  - Mashups (combine media elements to create a new resource for language teaching)
  - Viewpoint (record or upload videos to link from other sites or embed inside your own web pages)
  - SMILE (tool for creating interactive online exercises)

• **MIMEA: Multimedia Interactive Modules for Education and Assessment** (German, Chinese, Arabic, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian; online video clips and activities)

Coming Soon!

• More Rich Internet Applications
• Introductory Business Chinese

**CONFERENCES**

CLEAR exhibits at local, regional, and national conferences year-round. We hope to see you at ACTFL, CALICO, Central States, MiWLA, NCOLCTL and other conferences.

**UPCOMING CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

• **MiWLA**: Lansing, MI, October 23-24, 2008
  - Session: World Languages Day: Five Years of Free Fun!
  - Session: Online Language Portfolios: A Dynamic Display of Learning

• **ACTFL**: Orlando, FL, November 21-23, 2008
  - Session: The Technologies Your Students Use (and that you should, too)
  - Session: Teaching Culture in FL Classrooms: Video Interviews and Critical Incidents
  - Session: Opening Minds to the World through a ‘World Languages Day’

**NEWSLETTER**

*CLEAR News* is a biyearly publication covering FL teaching techniques, research, and materials. Contact the CLEAR office to join the mailing list or check it out on the Web at [http://clear.msu.edu/clear/newsletter/](http://clear.msu.edu/clear/newsletter/).

**The Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL)**

The Center for Applied Linguistics is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes and improves the teaching and learning of languages, identifies and solves problems related to language and culture, and serves as a resource for information about language and culture. CAL carries out a wide range of activities in the fields of English as a second language, foreign languages, testing and assessment, cultural education, and linguistics.
Featured Resources:

- **CAL News**
  
  *CAL News* is our electronic newsletter created to provide periodic updates about our projects and research as well as information about new publications, online resources, products, and services of interest to our readers. Visit our Web site to sign up.

- **Alliance for the Advancement of Heritage Languages**
  
  The **Alliance for the Advancement of Heritage Languages** (the Alliance) consists of individuals and organizations who share a commitment to advancing language development for heritage language speakers in the United States. The Alliance is committed to fostering the development of the heritage language proficiencies of individuals in this country as part of a larger effort to educate members of our society who can function professionally in English and other languages. The Alliance has revamped its Web site to offer expanded content and improved navigation.

- **National K-12 Foreign Language Survey Underway**
  
  CAL conducts a national survey of foreign language instruction in elementary and secondary schools every decade to gain greater understanding of current patterns and shifts over time in enrollments, the number of schools offering foreign language classes, the types of foreign language offerings, foreign language curricula and methodologies, teacher qualifications and training, and the effects of NCLB, among other issues. We are currently conducting the third survey to be able to show trends in foreign language education at three points in time (1987, 1997, 2007). For further details, visit the foreign language survey Web page.

- **Center for Research on the Educational Achievement and Teaching of English Language Learners (CREATE)**
  
  Visit the CREATE Web site to learn more about CREATE, its research, and upcoming events. To keep current on CREATE activities, sign up to receive an electronic newsletter and periodic announcements.

- **Spotlight on Language Series**
  
  In support of the *Discover Languages* campaign led by ACTFL, CAL has developed a regular Web series to provide information about specific languages. These language spotlights are introductory in nature and are intended to encourage readers to explore these languages and CAL’s work with them in more detail. Different languages will be highlighted periodically.

- **CAL Services**
  
  CAL provides a variety of professional development and technical assistance services related to language education and assessment needs.

Featured Publications:

- *An Insider’s Guide to SIOP Coaching*
- *Developing Reading and Writing in Second Language Learners*
- *Guiding Principles for Dual Language Education, Second Edition*
- *Practitioner’s Toolkit: Working With Adult English Language Learners*
- *What’s Different About Teaching Reading to Students Learning English?*

Visit CAL’s Web site to learn more about our projects, resources, and services.