

News and Information from the Language Learning Center

POLYGLOT

Volume 2, Winter Issue

February, 2001

We at the LLC want to partner with you to develop effective multi-media language learning materials and to ensure the pedagogically sound integration of technology into the language classroom. We welcome your ideas, comments, and inquiries at any time. Contact the LLC or your department's SA.

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Coming soon: Demonstration Day

Mark your calendars now for the LLC's Demonstration Day. The LLC will open its doors to all language coordinators, instructors, and TAs for an open house on April 10.

You'll be able to see and experience (hands-on) the tools, programs, and creations the LLC has provided to your fellow language departments. Come and see what other departments are doing with language technology and how they are using technology to help their students succeed.

We'll have three sessions — repeated in the morning and afternoon for your convenience — plus a Discussion Room open all day for language instructors to be able to interact with the LLC and each other in

a true meeting of the minds.

This is a unique opportunity to see what possibilities exist for language teaching. Everything you will see at this exciting event can be incorporated into your language curricula. All sessions require pre-registration, as space is limited and demonstrations will be "hands-on."

Invitations to Demonstration Day will be sent out at the beginning of Spring Quarter. Those wishing to pre-register now are encouraged to send an email to romance@u.washington.edu and reserve a place in the seminars you wish to attend.

The time and description for each session and the Discussion Room are located on the next page.

Two new positions provide computer support

The LLC recently added 1.5 senior computing specialist positions, dedicated to supporting faculty and staff desktop computing needs in language departments.

The other core staff at the LLC can be found on page 3.

Joseph Kautz Senior Computing Specialist monterey@u.washington.edu

Joseph works as a senior computing specialist for the Language Learning Center. He provides desktop and multilingual computing support for the Asian, Classics, Linguistics, LLC, Scandinavian and Slavic departments.

He has a M.A. and Ph.C. in Slavic Linguistics from the University of Washington.

Cecile Kummerer Senior Computing Specialist cecile@u.washington.edu

Cecile is a member of the LLC Desktop Support team that provides computer technical assistance to faculty and staff in the language departments. She has provided desktop and instructional technology support for the faculty, staff, and students of the Divisions of Spanish & Portuguese Studies and French & Italian Studies for twelve years, and she looks forward to expanding her experience to also working with the Comparative Literature, Germanics, LLC, Near Eastern Languages, and Scandinavian departments.

Cecile has a B.A. in French, Drama and Comparative Literature from Cedar Crest College in Pennsylvania.

DEMONSTRATION DAY

Tuesday, April 10, 2001 (3rd week of Spring Quarter)

Computer-based flashcards

The LLC has produced vocabulary flashcards and pronunciation helpers for some departments. You'll see and try out the Russian vocabulary tutor, the Chinese flashcards, the International Phonetic Alphabet learning tool, and more. Discuss applications of these tools to your language curricula.

Online audio and video

See and hear various applications of digital audio and video the LLC has produced for use by language departments. Listen to French audio homework over the web; try out a comprehension exercise based on Russian video; and listen to special projects such as digital audio poetry. Discuss applications of these tools to your language curricula.

Computer-based courseware

Experience computer-based exercises and learning programs for Swedish, Polish, German, Russian, Norwegian, Linguistics, and more. Pedagogical applications of computer-based learning, such as multimedia experience, will be demonstrated. Discuss applications of these tools to your language curricula.

9:30-10:20

10:30-11:20

11:30-12:20

12:30-1:20

1:30-2:20

2:30-3:20

3:30-4:20

All Day

Computer-based flashcards

Online audio and video

Computer-based courseware

Brown Bag Lunch
in the Discussion Room

Computer-based flashcards

Online audio and video

Computer-based courseware

Discussion Room

All Hands-on Demonstration sessions require pre-registration and will be located in Denny 112, the CALL lab. The Discussion room, open throughout Demonstration Day, will be located in Denny 123 and does not require pre-registration.

Discussion Room

The Discussion Room is intended to bring instructors from different language departments together to share ideas and experiences about the use of technology in language teaching. LLC staff members and graduate Staff Associates will be in the Discussion Room all day to talk to you about your language courses and learning

objectives. Plan to spend some time in the Discussion Room during your visit to Demonstration Day. Bring a brown bag lunch if you wish and make the most of your lunch hour in the Discussion Room with other language educators and LLC staff.

Light refreshments will be provided throughout the day.

LLT journal now available on-line

The latest issue of the Language Learning & Technology journal is now available on-line at: <http://llt.msu.edu/>.

Volume 5, Number 1 of the journal includes articles on:

- Exchanging Ideas with Peers in Network-Based Classrooms.

- Email and Word Processing in the ESL Classroom.

- Giving a Virtual Voice to the Silent Language of Culture.

- Can Software Support Children's Vocabulary Development?

- The Effect of Multimedia

Annotation Modes on L2 Vocabulary Acquisition.

LLT welcomes submissions of articles, reviews, and commentaries for future issues. The guidelines are available on the website.

Previous issues of the journal are also available on-line.

Behind the Scenes: the LLC Core Staff

Dr. Paul Aoki

Director

i5no8@u.washington.edu

Paul has been the Director of the Language Learning Center since 1984. He received his degrees in Linguistics (Ph.D. and M.A.) and Germanics (B.A.) from the University of Washington.

He is active in developing electronic media for language learning. He has worked with Microsoft, Apple Computer, the Department of Defense, and others to develop CD-ROMs and digitized audio. His wide range of interests is reflected in his membership in several professional organizations.

Dr. Klaus Brandl

Language Pedagogy Specialist

brandl@u.washington.edu

Dr. Klaus Brandl, a faculty member in the Department of Scandinavian Languages & Literature, has been associated with the LLC since 1991. He received his degrees in ESL (MA) and Ph.D. in Foreign Language Education/Applied Linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin in 1991.

His work and interests include TA training, research in language teaching and learning, Computer Assisted Language Learning, and the development of multimedia language programs. He has authored a variety of multimedia programs such as "The German Pronunciation Tutor", "Das Brot: An Interactive Reading Program", "Röda Rummet: Strindberg's First Chapter", and "Pin Yin Tutor". His scholarly works have been published by the Modern Language Journal and The Foreign Language Annals.

Bob Majors

Senior Computing Specialist

majors@u.washington.edu

Bob manages the department's computing operations: CALL multimedia and courseware development; networks; software and hardware; and training. He facilitates a graduate seminar for LLC Staff Associates on educational technology, instructional design, and CALL multimedia/courseware development.

Bob has a B.A. from The Evergreen State College in Electronic Media Communications and is working toward completion of his M.Ed. in Educational Technology at the University of Washington. His focus areas are situated learning, and computer-assisted interactive tutorial and simulation.

Larry Lesage

Media Lab Coordinator

lesage@u.washington.edu

Larry is responsible for the day to day operations of our classrooms and labs. His duties include the set-up, troubleshooting and repairing of various pieces of analog and digital equipment, assisting our senior computing specialists, providing assistance to the instructors who use our labs, recording and dubbing of audio and video materials, and the training of our student employees.

After fifteen years as a watch repairman, Larry resumed his education and received a B.A. in Communications from the University of Washington in 1997.

Sherri Huber

Fiscal Specialist

shuber@u.washington.edu

Sherri started working at the Language Learning Center in 1995 and is responsible for everything from answering the phones to balancing the budgets. She enjoys the variety her job affords her and most important, the people she comes in contact with on a daily basis. She also feels privileged to work in such a beautiful environment and always enjoys her excursions across the campus grounds.

'llc-list' promotes increased dialog

During the Winter quarter, the LLC email list worked to improve communication between the LLC and the language departments.

Recent discussions have included the use of computer-based flashcards, language CDs, and using foreign fonts in different processing programs.

The list currently has 51 subscribers representing all of the language departments on campus.

To subscribe to the list and join the discussion, send an email to: listproc@u.washington.edu leaving the subject line blank. In the message, type:

subscribe llc-list [your name]

For answers to general questions regarding ListProcs, check out: <http://www.washington.edu/computing/listproc/>

For questions regarding the llc-list, email glenn1@u.washington.edu.

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If you would prefer to be removed from our mailing list,
or would rather check the newsletter on-line, please contact the Language Learning Center.

Updating the CALL lab

The Computer-Assisted Language Learning lab in the LLC was upgraded this past year. Using funds from the Student-Tech Fee, the CALL lab allows students to access the latest and fastest technology in language learning.

The updated CALL lab is located in the Language Learning Center, Denny 112. There are 35 Macintosh computers running OS 8 in addition to 12 PCs running Windows 2000 and 98.

Windows 2000 and the soon to be released Macintosh OS X client both provide a Unicode solution to multilingual text.

The computer lab provides courseware integrated in language curricula. The language courses consist of interactive multimedia programs with video, audio, and text interface. Some programs have self and teacher evaluation capabilities.

CALL also provides foreign language computing capabilities such as word processing through language kits, email and browsing capabilities.

There is also a large presentation screen in the CALL lab, with an overhead projector which allows instructors to demonstrate and/or present computer- and internet-based activities and information.

The Student-Tech Fee also allowed for the purchase of two new servers, both running Macintosh OS X server. One server provides QuickTime streaming for 24 hour access to on-line language audio materials, and the other server provides file service and lab management.

The faster speed and increased access will be a great benefit to the students studying languages.

How to use the CALL lab

The CALL lab operates as a drop in lab, generally open to all UW students. It may also be reserved for special class purposes by UW instructors.

For drop in access come during lab hours Mondays through Thursdays 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Fridays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Sundays 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. If you need to save your work, remember to bring a zip disk with you.

For demo and presentation reservations, contact your department Staff Associate for an appointment and for setting up your presentation.