

A Closer Look at the LLC

How the LLC Serves the Language Departments

The LLC offers a wide variety of technological resources, language tools, lab facilities, and development services. Every language department on campus has its own unique needs for LLC services and resources. Some departments rely on us solely for high-quality audio access to textbook support materials. Others enjoy exploring new technological possibilities for enhancing language learning and instruction. In this section, we share a sampling of how the LLC and its Staff Associates supported each language department in accomplishing its goals during the 2003-4 academic year.

GERMANICS

SA: Kimberly Seal

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Kim upgraded the LLC's audio holdings from the 3rd to the 4th edition of the Na Klar! textbook, used for first-year German. The upgrade entailed compressing the new audio material and uploading for web streaming via the LLC website, and updating the LLC Germanics website to reflect the new audio holdings. A new web video resource was also created for beginning German students. Kim digitized and compressed 12 video clips from the "Fokus Films" series for online streaming. She also created a scrollable transcript of the dialogue that can be used with the video clips to aid in student comprehension. Web links were created for this project on both the LLC and Germanics websites. The streaming audio and video files are housed on LLC servers.

SLAVIC

SA: Laura Friend

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Laura prepared a new website and audio files for the first-year Russian series, "Nachalo". The project entailed compressing 150 exercises for streaming web delivery and building links using Unicode to properly present the Cyrillic

characters. She prepared CDs to accompany the "Modern Romanian" textbook for Romanian 401 students. Laura also helped restore access to a Russian Vocabulary Tutor, a program which only runs under the Classic Mac OS. Recent upgrades of our Mac lab to OS X+ had disrupted that service. Now the lab in Denny 112 runs both operating systems to preserve access to Classic programs. Laura tested and updated various other web-based and local LLC server audio for the Slavic languages, and she helped produce and maintain documentation related to the LLC's technologies.

ROMANCE

SA: Jay Waltmunson

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Jay prepared web-streamed audio series for French Linguistics, Spanish, and Portuguese. Jay is a co-author of the LLC's Student Technology Fee grant applications. This fall, he worked on a grant to upgrade the 15 PCs in Denny 112 (the original machines were purchased in 1998). He also has written programs to monitor the use of our Sony Soloist digital audio software in order to understand which languages' materials are being used the most. Jay also assists in maintaining the WebCT system for the web-based Spanish 110 course, and was a major force in installing and implementing the video conferencing system.

SCANDINAVIAN

SA: Lesley Carmichael
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Lesley prepared new Finnish audio materials for web streaming and worked with a publisher to make an interactive multimedia supplement to the new Norwegian textbook “Sett i Gang” available in the LLC’s labs. She extracted the audio track from audio/video sequences for an instructor’s use. She also worked with Scandinavian language instructors to procure copyright permission to make the audio materials for various texts available through the LLC. Lesley also creates the LLC’s quarterly newsletter, Polyglot.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

SA: Tae-Youn Ahn
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Tae-Youn prepared two new English audio series for students to access within the LLC’s computer labs. She also coordinated the copyright permission renewal for the continued use of 37 English series in the LLC labs and through the LLC website. For an advanced conversation class, Tae-Youn videotaped several English programs for students to watch at the LLC and the Odegaard Media Center. She also has spent extensive time working with the Sony Virtuoso computerized classroom software in Denny 122 to improve its functionality for use with pronunciation classes.

NEAR EAST

SA: Hande Solakoglu
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Hande converted archival materials into digital media for preservation and availability on demand. She worked on the LLC’s Student Technology Fee proposals and applications to procure outside funding for the development of instructional content for less commonly taught languages. Hande is very interested in

burgeoning technologies as has been researching new equipment options for the LLC. Hande has also been supporting her departments’ technical needs during conferences and assisting in the use of the LLC’s electronic classroom technology for language classes.

LINGUISTICS

SA: Lesley Carmichael
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Lesley coordinated the installation of software and files in the Denny 109 lab for Computational Linguistics courses. She also prepared Spanish Phonetics audio files for CD distribution through the LLC. In response to the ongoing challenge of multilingual computing, Lesley also researched and prepared a presentation on methods for using Unicode and the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) in computing. The information can be found here: <http://students.washington.edu/lesley/UnicodeIPA/UnicodeIPA11-2003.htm>.

ASIAN

SA: Duane Blanchard
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Duane developed an online ordering system to make it easier for students to purchase the audio CDs they need, and created a system to track the use of all of the LLC’s media files. Duane also updated the audio files and web page for the Integrated Chinese series used by first-year Chinese. Duane is a co-author of the LLC’s Student Technology Fee grant applications. The Macintosh operating system has been upgraded at the LLC from OS 9 to OS X.3, and Duane has been working with the Senior Computing Specialist, Bob Majors, to ensure that older OS 9 applications needed by students function under the new OS.

***Interested in teaming up
 with the LLC on a project?
 Contact your Staff Associate!***