

A Closer Look at the LLC: Autumn 2004

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 Staff Associates supported the LLC and their language departments this Autumn quarter.

ASIAN

SA: Duane Blanchard

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Duane is assisting with the Japanese Moodle courseware project and is also working on a webcourse for Tamil. He has been working to bring several new languages to Jay Waltmunson's Vocabulador including Mandarin and Tamil. Duane prepared a web-based survey to gauge the availability of skilled translators in the Seattle region for a potential national translation project. He is also continuing work on the LLC website and digitizing archival material for the AL&L Department.

the Sony Virtuoso computerized classroom software in Denny 122 and 109 to learn new features for ESL use.

ROMANCE

SA: Patrick Blaine

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Patrick is new to the LLC this year, and has been active in a number of different areas, including the migration of the WebCT Spanish Web course to the Moodle environment, placing audio materials online for streaming for the French department, and other smaller projects. Beginning in the winter quarter, he will be taking on a more substantial role in the implementation of new and existing Web courses, as well as working on seeing the STF grant proposals through completion.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

SA: Yu-jung Chang

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Yu-jung prepared new English audio series for students to access within the LLC's computer labs and coordinated the copyright permission renewal for the continued use of 43 English series in the LLC labs. For the new Listening and Speaking classes at the English Language Program, Yu-jung assisted teachers in recording new listening materials and creating quizzes so that students can have more chances to practice their English at the LLC labs. Upon request, she also helped teachers tape TV programs on regular basis for classroom use. She has spent extensive time working with

SCANDINAVIAN

SA: Lesley Carmichael

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Lesley prepared new Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish audio materials for web streaming via the LLC website and high-quality audio delivery in LLC labs. She has assisted with the LLC's exploration of a potential satellite office of the National Virtual Translation Center in the Pacific Northwest (see this issue of Polyglot for information on the project). Lesley also creates the LLC's quarterly newsletter, Polyglot.

GERMANICS

SA: Geoffrey Cox

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Geoff has been part of the German 100 level hybrid internet project, based in the internet learning environment, Moodle (read about Moodle in this quarter's LLC newsletter, Polyglot). He continues to research and employ different methods of delivering course content and interactive learning technologies to students. He is currently developing components for the course in Dreamweaver (CourseBuilder), Moodle, HTML, and Flash.

SLAVIC

SA: Laura Friend

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Laura worked with the new Russian coordinator, David Freedel, and other Russian instructors to incorporate an entirely new curriculum and resources for Russian 101 and 201. She created a set of interactive, online exercises to supplement the textbook. The first phase of the exercises has featured mainly vocabulary. Laura also has held several one-on-one training sessions with teaching assistants, with a focus on multilingual computing, especially for Georgian and Russian.

ONLINE COURSE DEVELOPMENT

SA: Jay Waltmunson

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Jay is focused this quarter on "Moodle," a web-based courseware platform that will enable foreign language classes to develop web-assisted courses. He has been assisting the Spanish department in the migration of a WebCT platform course to the new Moodle platform which will be implemented by Spring quarter 2005. Jay has also converted his Spanish online vocabulary practice program to work for any Unicode language. Tamil/English and German/English versions will be available by the end of the quarter. Finally, Jay is authoring a Student Technology Fee proposal to upgrade the Macintosh computers in the LLC open student computing lab. video conferencing system.

NEAR EAST

SA: Didem Havlioglu

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Didem worked with Near East language instructors and TAs to update resources for students of Near East languages at the LLC and to introduce them using keyboards mapped for Arabic and Hebrew characters. She also prepared audio files for the first year Uzbek course.

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. In response to the ongoing challenge of multilingual computing, Lesley has 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/UnicodeIPA.htm>

AMERICAN ETHNIC STUDIES

SA: Laura Friend

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Laura gained access to a new video-based, online Swahili program developed at BYU, in exchange for testing and feedback. She beta-tested the program and introduced it to a large group of Swahili students in the CALL Lab. Professor Maulana graciously agreed to incorporate the online course into his curriculum, and students are completing the course independently.

***Interested in teaming up
with the LLC on a project?***

Contact your Staff Associate!