

A Closer Look at the LLC: Winter 2005

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 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 Winter quarter.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

SA: Yu-jung Chang
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Yu-jung updated the English part of the LLC website to make new learning resources available for instructors and students, including a pronunciation guide and two new sets of audio materials (the 3rd edition of "Consider the Issues" and "Sound Advantage"). She also prepared three new sets of materials which students can request for duplication at the LLC (free of charge). New audio programs on listening and pronunciation, conversation, and TOEFL were added to the LLC's in-house offerings. They are available for self-study in the labs at the LLC.

ASIAN

SA: Duane Blanchard
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Duane has been spending time in the LLC's recording studio assisting Dr. Handel's students with their Chinese dialect recording projects. He's also been working with Pauli Sandjaja to record materials for her Indonesian courses and listening comprehension tests. Dr. Kim has led a tremendous effort to get materials ready for a new version of the Korean Vocabulator.

The latest version of this customizable flashcard program has support for audio and images. Duane is ready to help other language programs build this resource for their students and encourages TAs and language coordinators to take a look at the Korean

version at <https://depts.washington.edu/llc/olr/korean/vocabulator/korean.html>.

In addition, Duane and the other SAs have completed the transition of the LLC's website from HTML to PHP. The automatic redirection from .html to .php will soon be removed. Be sure to update your bookmarks and references on syllabi, websites, etc. to LLC web-based resources: substitute the .html suffix with .php; or, if the page's name is index.html, just erase the file name in the address field altogether - the .php will be automatically inserted when the address is called in a browser.

ROMANCE

SA: Patrick Blaine
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Patrick has continued to develop his skills in web-based technologies such as *Moodle*, and is looking forward to the further implementation of WEFLI, the Web-Enhanced Foreign Language Instruction initiative, which is part of a larger technological advancement program driven by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (see related article in this issue of *Polyglot*). He has been particularly active this quarter in online course building and videoconferencing. He has overseen videoconferences with Europe and Japan, together with Duane Blanchard. Patrick is currently preparing French online audio for UW and UW Extension courses in the spring. He is also continuing to learn new techniques for web design and is an active contributor to *Polyglot*.

GERMANICS

SA: Geoffrey Cox
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Geoff is continuing to work on the Web-Enhanced Foreign Language Instruction (WEFLI) project for Germanics, building a variety of different Flash interactions to introduce and test vocabulary and grammar. Vocablador program, Geoff has localized the interactions to more specialized interactions to fit into the pedagogical goals of the German language program. He is also preparing video and audio for web-based streaming.

LINGUISTICS

SA: Lesley Carmichael
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Lesley has helped steer the LLC toward various exciting interdisciplinary activities and grant proposals blending language learning technology, instruction, and linguistic research. In addition, a new Computational Linguistics Master's program begins in the Linguistics department beginning in Autumn, 2005. The LLC will provide classroom laboratory facilities and explore other ways to be of technological assistance, such as providing video conferencing services for participation in and/or viewing of multiparty computational linguistics conferences.

NEAR EAST

SA: Didem Havlioglu
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Didem has been working on generating an interactive Turkish *Moodle* course to supplement classroom instruction. The web-based materials will include thematic video dialogs for each lesson and exercises to practice communicative language. Didem shot the first dialog and is currently working on editing. This project is intended to be an example for language instructors who wish to expand the variety of their supplemental materials and incorporate technology into their teaching.

SCANDINAVIAN

SA: Lesley Carmichael
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Lesley plays an active role in various LLC activities in addition to her role as the Staff Associate for Scandinavian and Linguistics. During Winter quarter, she has been part of the LLC's efforts to establish a virtual satellite office of a national translation center here in the Pacific Northwest. She assists in forging relationships with a variety of on- and off-campus entities related to language and technology, and is also a significant contributor to the LLC's strategic planning process. She helped update the LLC's wiki knowledge base and assisted in managing the LLC's website usage statistics. Lesley also creates the LLC's quarterly newsletter, *Polyglot*.

SLAVIC

SA: Laura Friend
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Laura has been working with two Slavic instructors to create an online *Moodle* course for Russian 102 - the department's first web courseware venture. It is a collection of custom-designed resources that will supplement Russian 102. A beta version of the courseware was successfully implemented this quarter. New modules will continue to be added. The courseware is extensible to other languages due to *Moodle*'s multilingual capabilities. Laura also handles the LLC language resource needs of the American Ethnic Studies department.

**The LLC is actively
developing Online
Courseware using the
Moodle open-source
platform.
Read all about it
in the current issue
of *Polyglot*!**