Notes from the Director

Welcome back one and all! And a special welcome to the students who are currently studying with us here in the CWLC. Our fall 2012 course offerings include face-to-face classes in Hindi and Tibetan as well as Directed Independent Language Study (DILS) classes in Korean, Portuguese, and Swahili. All are well-inscribed and are in full swing. Our students are busy at work learning new sounds, new writing systems, new grammar, new vocabulary -- new languages and cultures from around the world.

In addition to sponsoring language study here at home on the DU campus, CWLC personnel have also been busy helping students with their work and study abroad. We invite you to read on to learn more about Hannah Parkes and Sam Estenson. Their summer PINS overseas research involves many languages and many cultures.

In other news, the CWLC is currently working to revamp the graduate language proficiency tests required of several of DUs graduate programs. More details are provided for you on p. 2.

The CWLC Newsletter has a new editor this year as well. Bailey Gearhart is an undergrad student at DU with a major in International Studies and a minor in Spanish. She is in her second year of tutoring Spanish at the CWLC, and she is an office assistant in the Center. Welcome aboard, Bailey!

Last but not least, please help me welcome our new Office Manager, Mary Shonk, to the CWLC. Mary brings with her many years of experience working in a similar environment here at the University. In addition, her degrees in Anthropology and Environmental Policy and Management make her particularly well-qualified to work in our international environment. Please stop by and meet Mary soon!

Happy Fall!

—Kathy Mahnke
## CWLC News

### Fall 2012 Exam Update for IMBA, IIC, and Korbel Students

The Center for World Languages and Cultures will be implementing new Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish proficiency exams for students in the International Masters of Business Administration program, the International and Intercultural Communication program, and the Korbel School of International Studies. The STAMP4S test is a computer-based assessment that measures reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. The scoring system for this test is based on national norms for foreign language proficiency and is widely recognized.

As a part of the pilot implementation of these tests, students will be given the opportunity to take the language proficiency exam for free during the fall quarter by signing up to take both the current test and the STAMP4S test (a $70 value). If a student passes either of these two exams, the language requirement will be fulfilled. If a student fails both of these exams, it will only count as one of the three allotted attempts to pass.

You can view the [STAMP4S Benchmarks and Rubric Guide](http://www.cwlccollege.org) and take a [STAMP4S practice test](http://www.cwlccollege.org) to help prepare for the exam; both can be found at the [CWLC website](http://www.cwlccollege.org). Further information is also available at: 303-871-4601.

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### Fall Quarter Tutoring Hours:

**Arabic**
- Mon 2-4
- Thurs 4-6

**Chinese**
- Mon 9-10; 11-12
- Tues 9-10; 11-12
- Wed 9-10; 11-12
- Thurs 9-10; 11-12

**French**
- Mon 4-6
- Tues 10-1:45
- Wed 12-1:45
- Thurs 8-12

**German**
- Mon 2-4
- Wed 2-4

**Italian**
- Tues 4-6
- Thurs 4-6

**Japanese**
- Mon 9-10; 11-12
- Tues 9-10; 11-12
- Wed 9-10; 11-12
- Thurs 9-10; 11-12

**Latin**
- Mon 9-10; 11-12
- Tues 9-10; 11-12
- Wed 9-10; 11-12
- Thurs 9-10; 11-12

**Russian**
- Mon 10-12
- Fri 12-2

**Spanish**
- Mon 8-9:45; 12-2, 4-6
- Tues 8-11; 12-4
- Wed 8-9:45; 4-6
- Thurs 8-11; 12-2

This drop-in tutoring takes place at the CWLC office, Sturm Hall, Room 201.
World Language and Culture in the News

Students to Watch

Sam Estenson, Intercultural Communications and Foreign Languages
Hannah Parkes, International Business

The Center for World Languages and Cultures was closely involved with an undergraduate summer research study made possible through a DU PINS grant (Partners in Scholarship) over this past summer. Two Denver undergrads, Sam Estenson, a CWLC tutor and member of the CWLC Advisory Board, with Hannah Parkes, also a Board member, were able to embark on their second summer of cultural research. Their study focuses on youth culture, ages 18 to 28, as perceived through the lenses of both geography and language. Intended as a three-summer project, last year’s grant enabled the pair to travel to Germany and Denmark, comparing the two European countries’ youth cultures. Both the language difference and the countries’ shared border were vital in order to observe the effect geography and language have on the subjects’ lifestyles and customs. By conducting interviews and questionnaires across various regions of the countries visited, their evidence now points to geography as having a larger effect on cultural identity when compared to language.

Through the help and guidance of CWLC faculty, specifically Dr. Kathy Mahnke (CWLC Director) and Professor Gabi Kathöfer (AHSS German Professor), both Sam and Hannah continued their work this past August in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. In contrast to the previous summer, this year’s study focused on the effect the same language has on cultures in geographically separated countries. The first leg of this research took them to Central America, where they spoke with university students, locals and families about how language and geography has shaped their own cultures. This will then be evaluated following further research in Spain this fall, thus comparing the differences in a same language across geographic distance.

(See a related article in University of Denver Magazine, Fall 2012 issue)

Upcoming Cultural Dates:

- Nov. 1st: Día de Los Muertos (Mexico, Latin America)
- Nov. 12th: Birthday of Baha’u’llah (Baha’i)
- Nov. 13th: Deepavali (Diwali)—Festival of Lights (Hindu, Sikh, Jain)
- Nov. 15th: Al Hijra/Muharram—New Year (Islamic)
- Nov. 16th: International Day of Tolerance (United Nations)
- Dec. 8th-16th: Hanukkah (Jewish)
- Dec. 10th: Human Rights Day (Australia)
- Dec. 25th: Christmas (Christian, Roman Catholic, International)
- Dec. 26th: Kwanzaa (African-American)

Cherrington Corner

With the help of Penrose Library, the CWLC now has the most recent issues of international periodicals on display in Sturm 201. There are currently 32 different magazines in 25 different languages. If you want the earlier issues of these magazines, please go to http://library.du.edu and click on the “Books, Journals and More” tab.

If you have any feedback or recommendations, please e-mail Peggy Keeran (Arts and Humanities Reference Librarian) at peggy.keeran@du.edu.

Come in to Sturm 201 and browse these awesome magazines!
Hindi and Tibetan Classes Offered by CWLC

The Center for World Languages and Cultures is offering language classes in Hindi and Tibetan. Interest in the Hindi class was so high that it had to be offered in two different sections. Indira Walia teaches the Hindi class every Sunday and Tuesday evening, and the students enjoy the practice before they head over to India.

Lhoppon Rechung is the Tibetan teacher and teaches every Tuesday evening. He is a Buddhist monk from Tibet and lives and works in Colorado. The Tibetan class allows students to learn a non-traditional language that is used in a very controversial region of the world.

Latino Heritage Month

The University of Denver Latino Center for Community Engagement and Scholarship (DULCCES) and Center for Judaic Studies present a film screening of the movie Kadish with talkback by filmmaker Bernardo Kononovich. This event will take place Wednesday, Oct. 17th in Davis Auditorium, Sturm Hall room 248. There will be a reception at 6:30pm, followed by the film and a discussion at 7:00pm. The event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Bernardo Kononovich is a renowned writer, producer, and film director from Argentina. His filmography features short films and documentaries, some of which focus on the Holocaust and the last military dictatorship in Argentina.

"Under the last military dictatorship in Argentina, thousands of people, including a disproportionate number of Argentines of Jewish origin, were abducted, tortured, and disappeared. KADISH records those atrocities, suggests a parallelism with the Holocaust and shows the impact on families and friends when victims’ bodies have been destroyed and their remains lost."
Local Community News

Language Learning Apps

Name: Sign 4 Me for iPad
Developer: Vecom3D, Inc.
Price: $12.99
Type: ASL Learning Tool and Translator
Summary:
Students of American Sign Language will find a plethora of apps all claiming to be the “best” at either teaching or assisting ASL. However, many of them are simple flash card apps, teaching rudimentary letter formation and vocabulary. The elementary ASL student will find Sign 4 Me as a helpful tool, offering a 3D character whose movements and hand placements can be replayed, zoomed and rotated—offering a unique perspective on a mobile platform. This reviewer (with very limited ASL skills) found the app to be surprisingly smooth running and easy to use. Beware that like all apps that offer translations, this one too has its limitations.

Name: iHomework
Developer: Element 84
Price: $0.99
Type: Productivity/Education
Summary:
iHomework, the bane of any student unfortunate enough to use the old Palm Pilot organizer, turns your Apple product (iPad, iPhone, Mac) into the ultimate educational organizer. Simply input your class information, assignments and due dates and iHomework will act as your personal assistant—recording your various tasks, sending reminders and uploading all developments wirelessly through the iCloud (which will sync to all other Apple devices you own). And if you really want iHomework to keep you honest, turn on the grade tracker, enter the grade settings for the class and the app will maintain an assignment tracker while displaying your current grade. Cheap, simple and helpful, iHomework would be a helpful addition to most busy students’ app collection.

Name: Survival Phrases
Developer: Innovative Language, Inc.
Type: Elementary/Travel Language Learning
Summary:
Language students aim to develop their skills through in-depth grammatical analysis, cultural readings, and repetition. But what if you do not have the time to dedicate such efforts to language skills and need to learn critical phrases for a business trip or research effort in a foreign country? Enter Innovative Language’s “Survival Phrases” series of applications for the iPad and iPhone. The app is available for several languages (Arabic, Mandarin/Cantonese, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, US and UK English, Farsi, Filipino, Finnish, French, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malaysian, Mongolian, Nepali, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese and Brazilian Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, several styles of Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian and Vietnamese) and gives the user access to important phrases, words, and cultural information, all with a built-in audio function. The audio playback function is particularly impressive—the Arabic version this user reviewed made an excellent point of teaching the difference between “hamam” and “hamaam”, “bathroom” and “pigeon,” a mistake this reviewer made repeatedly in the first months living in the Middle East. While the price is frightful, you can trust that Survival Phrases will deliver your critical language skills in times of need.

Name: Learn Chinese: Splashtop Whiteboard
Developer: Splashtop Inc.
Price: $19.99
Type: Classroom Tasks
Summary:
This app basically turns your iPad into multifunction command station, accessing your classroom computer wirelessly and controlling a myriad of applications such as Powerpoint or Keynote. This reviewer was able to connect the app with the classroom PC and projector in less than two minutes. No later than that programs like VLC, iTunes and Powerpoint were streaming across the projector—all controlled by the iPad. The possibilities for Splashtop Whiteboard are too many to list in this space, but the app definitely deserves is four out of five star rating on the iTunes store. Educators of all levels keen on using multimedia in the class will find this an excellent app despite its cost.

Volunteer:
The CWLC is looking for volunteers who will be willing to take both the new STAMP4S test being implemented for the Graduate Proficiency Exam and the old version of the test.
In order to get accurate data, we will need students to take both tests in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.
These tests will be used for the students in the International Masters of Business Administration program, the International and Intercultural Communication program, and the Korbel School of International Studies.
For more info, please contact the CWLC in Sturm 201.

LASA:
Join LASA at the weekly Charlas, Tuesdays at 5 pm at the Cyber Café. The Charlas are informal chats targeted at Latin American issues and areas of interest. They provide an ideal means for individuals to practice their Spanish-speaking skills in a relaxed environment, either in preparation for language requirement exams or for the mere joy of the language. There are beginner-level to native-level speakers.

Day: Tuesdays
Time: 5 pm-6 pm
Location: Cyber Café in the Korbel School of International Studies
Contact: Maria Rivera