

Let's Talk

Low-Enrollment, High-Prestige Languages

Center for the Study of Languages and Culture Symposium

numbers
have dropped
unsustainable
student numbers.
"You cannot enrollment hits
teach languages to
an auditorium of 200 all-time low
clear and depressing trend
cutting departments and dropping
languages is not only parochial
and short-term in its thinking, but
also deeply destructive of a future
national languages strategy
classes
facing It's a catastrophic,
enrollment issues.
short-sighted decision."
"...when university funding is being severely
reduced, languages look like an easy way
to save money." Language classes are
intensive, requiring small class sizes
Bilingual children are better at reading
and spelling, better at grammar and
word-recognition; they write better.
"officials cut the Arabic language program"
"Language skills are vital
to business success and are
an important element of
competitive advantage"
enrollment "the experience
n "free fall."
ropping of other cultures
from a peak is now confined
new budget model to an elite"

April 1–2, 2014

University of Notre Dame



"progressive
decline in students
wanting to study certain
languages at the
undergraduate level".
"a whole generation
risks being 'lost to
languages."
"We haven't
enough interpreters, because
too many don't have good
enough language skills"
"There are regions in the UK where
there is virtually no substantive higher-
education language provision." ... further
learning a language reduce the future
makes students better at pool of language
learning everything else. teachers
language is the gem of creative
insightful, long-term thinking.
languages do actually contribute to the economy,
if not in completely obvious ways universities
a language to help them be more see cutting
employable in an ever more global marketplace." languages
...ending all admissions, as the obvious
to programs in French, Italian, Russian, and
classics... their bottom line.
a language helps them be more employable in an global
marketplace." "high-performing"
language departments as many
threatened or eliminated as a third of
university language departments in the
British Academy
have closed in
the last seven years
consider demand over offering
more language varieties
"The university still regard
languages as important
especially in an international
environment where graduate
will have to have an understanding
of other languages and cultures."

Let's Talk

Low-Enrollment, High-Prestige Languages

University of Notre Dame's 2014 CSLC Symposium

Organizing Committee

Brian Ó Conchubhair, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Director, CSLC

Stew Markel, M.Ed., Assistant Director, CSLC

Matt Getze, M.A., Assistant Director, CSLC

Denise Ayo, Ph.D., Program Manager, CSLC

Maggie McDowell, 2016, Student Staff Manager, CSLC

Fernanda Osthoff, 2015, Student Staff and Language Tutor, CSLC

Linda Terrón, 2015, Student Staff, CSLC

All sessions in Room 100-104, McKenna Hall

April 1

- 5 p.m. Session 1**
- Opening Remarks: John T. McGreevy, I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean of the College of Arts and Letters
- Chair: Brian Ó Conchubhair
- Innovative Trends in Language Education: New Directions for LCTLs*
Nelleke Van Deusen-Scholl, Yale University
- 6:15–7:15 p.m. Reception, Morris Inn**
- Chair: David Gasperetti**
- The Technological Imperative For Less Commonly Taught Languages: Addressing Teacher Challenges*
Virginie Askildson, Kennesaw State University
- Noon to 1:30 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. Session 4**
- Chair: Denise Ayo
- Caring Means Sharing: The Shared Course Initiative and Language Instruction*
Stéphane Charitos, Columbia University

April 2

- 8 a.m. Coffee/Tea**
- 9 a.m. Session 2**
- Chair: Stew Markel
- The Secret of Getting Things Done is to [Inter] Act: Communicative Design for Less Commonly Taught Language Classes*
Lance Askildson, Kennesaw State University
- 10 a.m. Coffee/Tea Break**
- 10:30 a.m. Session 3**
- Chair: Justin Watson
- Oral Competency in 'New Spaces': Risk-taking and Interpersonal Performance*
Lori Crawford-Dixon, Holy Cross College
- Chair: Matt Getze
- Perfecting Peer-Tutoring Planning at Notre Dame*
Yongping Zhu, University of Notre Dame

Speaker Biographies

Lance R. Askildson is the chief international officer and executive director of the Institute for Global Initiatives as well as associate professor of English Language and Linguistics at Kennesaw State University. He is also the former director of Notre Dame's CSLC. He publishes and researches in the fields of program assessment, language learning technology, and language acquisition in study abroad immersion.

Virginie Askildson, a native of France, is an assistant professor of French at Kennesaw State University. She specializes in foreign language pedagogy and language instruction. Her current research includes French linguistics, language teaching materials design, and computer-assisted language learning (CALL). In addition to her current role at KSU, she has taught and supervised French language programs as well as a number of teacher training courses at the University of Notre Dame and the University of Arizona.

Stéphane Charitos completed a Ph.D. in French and Spanish from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1996, he was hired by Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton to design and administer the university's new Foreign Language Media Center. Subsequently, he was recruited by Columbia University to conceive, build, and direct the Language Resource Center. He has given papers and published in areas as diverse as 16th- and 20th-century French and Francophone literature, cultural and film studies, modern Greek studies, and critical theory as well as on issues related to technology, globalization, and language instruction.

Lori Crawford-Dixon earned concurrent masters degrees at Pennsylvania State University in French and public administration. Upon graduating from the ACE Service Through Teaching program in 2005, she served as clinical faculty in foreign language content before becoming the current content professor. Lori's teaching experience spans high school through graduate-level language instruction, and she holds a dual position as assistant professor of French and Spanish and director of assessment at Holy Cross College.

Nelleke Van Deusen-Scholl is associate dean of Yale College and director of the Center for Language Study at Yale University. Her research interests focus on applied linguistics, sociolinguistics, heritage language learning, and technology-enhanced foreign language teaching and learning. Her most recent publications include "Research on Heritage Language Issues" (in *Handbook of Heritage, Community, and Native American Languages in the United States: Research, Educational Practice, and Policy*; Routledge, 2014) and "Online Discourse Strategies: A Longitudinal Study of Computer-Mediated Foreign Language Learning" (in *Mediating Discourse Online*, edited by Sally Sieloff Magnan; John Benjamins, 2008).

Yongping Zhu specializes in historical Chinese syntax and pedagogy. His research interests are mainly the development of Chinese function words and second language acquisition. He has published a book about the development of Chinese prepositions (2010) and several articles in both fields of historical and pedagogical Chinese. His current works focus on the motivation of the development of Chinese function words and the acquisition of Chinese verb complements for students who study Chinese as a second language.

About The CSLC

The Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures (CSLC) is an interdisciplinary initiative dedicated to the advancement of language learning and cultural understanding at the University of Notre Dame.

It also administers its own language-intensive study abroad programs, conducts the English for Academic Purposes Program, pursues applied research in areas such as language assessment and computer-assisted language learning, hosts major academic conferences, executes grants, and provides strategic leadership and planning to a variety of academic departments, colleges and administrative units across the University.

The CSLC serves as an important coordinating mechanism for Notre Dame's five foreign language departments and 14 foreign language programs. Additionally, the CSLC provides strategic planning to foreign language faculty and departments and the Office of the Dean for the College of Arts and Letters on matters related to foreign/second language policy, principles, and best practices of second language acquisition; language program assessment; and English as a second language for academic purposes.

It offers a broad array of programs, technologies and assessment systems to advance language acquisition and cultural learning on campus.

Selected initiatives, grants, and programs include:

- Peer Tutoring
- English for Academic Purposes
- Summer Language Abroad Grants
- Foreign Language Reading Groups and Language Tables
- Conversation Exchange Partners
- Community Voices
- Language Technology Workshops for Faculty and Staff
- TALC (Talking About Language and Culture)
- Faculty Discussion Groups
- TESOL Certificate Program

Sponsors

Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts
Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures

Contact

Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures (CSLC)
329 DeBartolo Hall
University of Notre Dame, USA
574.631.5881

For more information, please visit our website: cslc.nd.edu