



JNCL-NCLIS Update

November 2016

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

As we prepare for, and recover from, the holidays, JNCL-NCLIS is working actively to inform the incoming Trump administration of our priorities. Regardless of the outcome of the election, these months would have been busy, as more than 4,100 political appointees must be selected, as a new Congress is seated on January 3rd, and as the work of appropriations for Fiscal Year 2017 must still be completed.

Our message remains the same: languages are critical to the national interest, vital for global security, and an engine of job growth across the US. Working together - the 126 member organizations of JNCL-NCLIS, the Delegates at our Language Advocacy Days, the Board and Executive Committee, the staff, and partner organizations - we have developed strong support for languages in both Houses of Congress and in both parties. Our [funding priorities for 2017](#) remain, and we will be tracking the appropriations process closely.

Legislatively, JNCL-NCLIS will work with the 115th Congress on the World Languages Advancement Act, and the Paul Simon Study Abroad Act, as well as the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. And, as I related last month, we've an active program on the labor and immigration issues concerning the language industry and teaching profession. We've continued to put these issues before relevant Committees and Members in Congress since the election.

In our last update, we shared the work that we've done with our members, the National Association of District Supervisors for Language (NADSFL) with Brandee Mau of Utah, in particular, and with the National Council of State Supervisors for Language (NCSSFL), on the issue of H-1B visa caps for foreign teachers. The cap on the H-1B, or highly skilled nonimmigrant worker visa, places heavy strains on school districts in sourcing qualified teachers to meet the fast-growing demand for dual language immersion programs. On November 18, the USCIS posted a final rulemaking that broadens the definitions under which a district can apply for exemptions to the cap. As we work with NADSFL and with immigrant advocacy organizations to articulate the full impact of the rule on issues impacting our members, you can read an overview below.

Finally, I invite all of you to participate in our upcoming Language Advocacy Days. If you have not already registered, **early bird registration rates will end today, November 30, at 11:55 pm EST**. We expect a record crowd, with more states and

organizations than ever. With the new Congress and new Administration, our early, articulate, and forceful advocacy for our priorities will help shape policies for the next four years. JNCL-NCLIS is a joint endeavor - it's in our name, after all - and your efforts over the past four years have produced specific and tangible results, on Capitol Hill and in the Executive Branch.

In closing, we've a great deal of work to do in the coming months, and I look forward to working with you.

With Best Wishes,

Bill Rivers

Key Policy Updates

Trump Announces Nominee for Secretary of Education

On November 23, 2016, President-elect Donald Trump announced his nomination for Secretary of Education: former chair of the Michigan Republican Party, Betsy DeVos. While DeVos does not have experience in public schools, she has served in leadership roles in a number of school reform organizations. She was co-chair of the Education Freedom Fund, an organization that provides scholarships for low-income students to attend a school of their choice. She also served as the chair of the American Federation for Children (AFC), an organization that supports school choice, charter schools, and school vouchers. Upon accepting her nomination as Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos [released a statement opposing the Common Core](#) thereby fully aligning her priorities with Trump's position on education.

USED Regulation 34 C.F.R. §299.19 (c)(3) May Negatively Impact ELLs

The proposed regulation, 34 C.F.R. §299.19 (c) (3), of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) would harm English Language Learners (ELLs) by reducing the criteria that determine their English language proficiency to a single test score. This could result in many ELLs' premature exit from English learning programs and damage their performance in other subjects throughout the remainder of their academic careers.

You can read the full regulation on the Federal Register, where it was [announced among other ESSA Accountability and State Plans](#).

You can also read [more information about the potential effects of 34 C.F.R. §299.19 \(c\) \(3\)](#), and how you can advocate for ELLs by opposing this regulation.

USCIS Publishes Final Rule impacting Exemptions to H-1B Numerical Cap

On November 18, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) published a final rule affecting changes in certain employment-based immigrant and nonimmigrant petitions. Most notably, the final rule clarifies and improves the method for determining which H-1B nonimmigrant workers are exempt from the H-1B numerical cap due to their employment at an institution of higher education (IHE), a nonprofit entity related to or affiliated with such an institution, or a governmental or nonprofit research organization, including a revision to the definition of the term "related or affiliated nonprofit entity."

Since 2006, shared ownership or control by the same board have been the criteria for nonprofit entities to claim an "affiliation" with an institution of higher education. This new rule broadens the definition to include a related or affiliated nonprofit entity that is "attached to an institution of higher education as a member, branch, cooperative, or subsidiary." The official definitions of entities eligible to claim affiliation with an IHE for the purpose of exemptions from the H-1B visa caps are:

(B) An affiliated or related nonprofit entity. A nonprofit entity (including but not limited to hospitals and medical or research institutions) that is connected or associated with an institution of higher education, through shared ownership or control by the same board or federation operated by an institution of higher education, or attached to an institution of higher education as a member, branch, cooperative, or subsidiary; or

(C) A nonprofit research organization or governmental research organization. A nonprofit research organization is an organization that is primarily engaged in basic research and/or applied research. A governmental research organization is a United States Government entity whose primary mission is the performance or promotion of basic research and/or applied research.

Congress expressed its will through the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act of 2000 to strengthen the H-1B visa program for high skilled workers in order to better enable U.S. employers to employ and retain high-skilled workers who are beneficiaries of an employment-based immigrant visa. This rulemaking will better align DHS policies and practices to the intended purposes of the visa program.

The new rule comes into effect **January 17, 2017** and could potentially make sourcing qualified teachers for K-12 language programs, particularly Dual Language Immersion, significantly easier for school districts. JNCL-NCLIS raised this issue with the White House in the spring with the help of our member organizations the National Association of District Supervisors for Language (NADSFL) and the National Council of State Supervisors for Language (NCSSFL). We are currently working to ascertain the full import of this rulemaking on school districts seeking highly skilled teachers for K-12 language programs.

For more information, read the [USCIS press release](#) or read [the final rule](#) on the Federal Register. You can also contact Kathleen Angustia or Nikki Lomax-Larson, Adjudications Officers at the Office of Policy and Strategy, USCIS, at 202-272-8377.

Request for Information on Report of White House Interagency Working Group on Language and Communication's

In order to assist National Science and Technology Council's (NSTC) Interagency Working Group on Language and Communication (IWGLC) in its efforts to further improve coordination and collaboration of research and development (R & D) agendas related to language and communication across the Federal Government, the Institute of Education Sciences requests information from interested parties through [this notice on the Federal Register](#).

You can read the [full report of the Interagency Working Group on Language and Communication](#). The due date for comment is **December 30**. You can submit your comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal or via postal mail or commercial delivery.

Update on U.S. Senate and House Leadership in the 115th Congress

JNCL-NCLIS works closely with a number of committees on our priorities. We've listed the [committees most relevant to language policy](#) on our website, and we are updating the list of committee assignments for the 115th Congress as they are announced. Senate Democrats held leadership elections and announced on November 16 the party and committee leadership roles for the next session. While the Republican party in both chambers and the Democrats in the House have yet to vote on committee assignments, there are a number of positions for which there is only one contender or which is already decided by rule and/or precedent.

APEC Update

As you may recall, JNCL-NCLIS was awarded a grant from the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperative (APEC) to examine the demand for linguistic and cultural competencies, and soft skills, in APEC economies and to determine if the output from institutions of higher education and other tertiary education institutions of individuals with these skills is adequate.

The project includes a survey of APEC economies' employment sectors and we are working with partners in Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, and Thailand to broadly administer the survey to executives and HR managers in those economies. The project builds on the ongoing work of the U.S. Department of Education on developing global competencies and on leading international discussions about global competencies in APEC, the upcoming PISA assessment, and other areas of educational diplomacy and cooperation.

Language Advocacy Day & Delegate Assembly 2017

TODAY is the last day to register with early bird rates!



Hotel Information

JNCL has a room block at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, where all Language Advocacy Day events except Congressional meetings will take place. The hotel is located at 400 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001 and is a short walking distance from the Capitol complex and Union Station. Room rates in the JNCL block start at \$229 per night for single and double occupancy rooms.

[Book your stay at the Hyatt!](#)

NB: The dates on the hotel booking site read February 14-16. Most guests will stay the nights

of February 15 and 16, as the event begins on Thursday morning, February 16 and concludes on Friday afternoon, February 17. There is a modest number of rooms available for Tuesday night, February 14 for guests arriving to Washington, D.C. early.

[Sponsor Language Advocacy Day!](#)

JNCL-NCLIS' Language Advocacy Day and Delegate Assembly brings together language advocates from all walks of the language profession - educators PreK-20 of the modern, less-commonly taught, and classic languages, researchers and social scientists, linguists and localizers, and business owners - all active in national, state, and local level organizations. The event helps build and strengthen a national network of language advocates, and is a great platform for sponsors to get involved, network within the language enterprise, and contribute to the JNCL-NCLIS mission.

There are only [a few opportunities remaining](#) to sponsor Language Advocacy Day! For sponsorship inquiries, please contact Maria Pulcini at mpulcini@languagepolicy.org.

[We're Changing Our Mailing Format!](#)

With the new year will come a new format! JNCL-NCLIS strives to provide our members, supporters, and all language advocates with actionable language news, language policy updates, and language advocacy alerts. That can sometimes mean our mailings are too long to fully digest.

A new and more concise format will help our readers access to the same quality and quantity of information and resources, just more efficiently! We'll be launching the new format of all our regular mailings with the new year, so be on the lookout!

We appreciate your feedback! If you have thoughts or suggestions on user- and reader-friendliness of our mailings, share them with Valerie at vturner@languagepolicy.org.

[JNCL-NCLIS Partners with GALA](#)

JNCL-NCLIS is pleased to announce its new partnership with the *Globalization and Localization Association*. The partnership opens up great new opportunities for JNCL-NCLIS members and GALA members alike!

- 15% first-time new member discount to JNCL-NCLIS members joining GALA
- 15% first-time new member discount to GALA members joining JNCL-NCLIS
- Discount for JNCL-NCLIS members attending GALA conference
- Discount for GALA members attending JNCL-NCLIS conference

[GALA 2017 Conference](#)

March 26-29, 2017
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Visit [GALA's website](#) for details about the organization's work in advancing translation, localization, interpreting, and the broader language industry.

For more information about the partnership, or to take advantage of the benefits, please contact Maria Pulcini at mpulcini@languagepolicy.org.

[Upcoming Member Events](#)

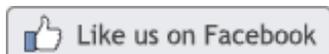
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LSA Annual Meeting	January 5 - 8, 2017 JW Marriott Austin Austin, TX http://www.linguisticsociety.org/event/lisa-2017-annual-meeting
NECTFL Annual Conference	February 9 - 11, 2017 Hilton Midtown New York, NY http://www.nectfl.org/conference/
NABE Annual Conference	February 23 - 25, 2017 Hilton Anatole Dallas, TX http://www.nabe-conference.com/index.html
SWCOLT Annual Conference	March 2 - 4, 2017 Skirvin Hotel Oklahoma City, Oklahoma http://www.swcolt.org/conference
CSCTFL Annual Conference	March 9 - 11, 2017 The Palmer House Hilton Chicago, IL http://cscftl.org/conferences/2016conference.html
SCOLT Annual Conference	March 16-18, 2017 Orlando Airport Marriott Orlando, FL http://scolt.org/index.php/conferences/future-conferences

We are happy to share announcements of our members' upcoming events in our email campaigns and on our social media platforms. You can share these announcements with us by sending the relevant information to vturner@languagepolicy.org.

Connect with JNCL-NCLIS

We have 1,195 followers on Twitter and are eager for more! Please follow us @JNCLInfo and like us on Facebook! We invite you to interact and share with JNCL-NCLIS and fellow members on all of our platforms:



More importantly, if your association has news to share with your colleagues, please do let us know - we are always more than happy to share news (good and bad), job announcements, upcoming events, and advocacy requests from all of our members.

Managing Your Subscriptions

Thank you for your interests in language news and the activities of JNCL-NCLIS. We are happy to have you as part of our community. While we try to limit the number of our messages and send only the most important information to you, we realize that sometimes that still amounts to a lot of mail in your inbox.

If you ever feel as though you're getting too much mail from us, you can always find a link at the bottom of each message that allows you to "Update Profile/Email Address." Clicking this link will take you to a page where you can change to which mailing lists you are subscribed (see the explanation of the lists below). At the bottom of every email, there is also an "Unsubscribe" link. Clicking this will remove your email address from all of our lists and you will be unable to receive any mailings from

us unless you resubscribe on our website.

- [JNCL-NCLIS Weekly Newsbrief](#) - Weekly roundup of language news, grant opportunities, and conference announcements sent on Thursday afternoons
- [JNCL-NCLIS Monthly Update](#) - Monthly newsletter detailing activities and news about JNCL-NCLIS, and occasional announcements and action alerts
- [Members of JNCL NCLIS Member Organizations](#) - Special announcements about JNCL-NCLIS activities relevant to members, action alerts, and information about the annual Language Advocacy Day.
- [Member Organization Delegates to JNCL-NCLIS](#) - Official JNCL-NCLIS business and information for member representatives in the Delegate Assembly

JNCL-NCLIS

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