



JNCL-NCLIS Update

September 2014

Message from the Executive Director

С первым звонком!!! With September comes the first day of school - a holiday in a great many countries, including Russia and the other states of the former Soviet Union. As the fall approaches, JNCL-NCLIS continues to promote languages to the US Government, advocating for our programs and interests in the Congress, and working with the business community to stress the value of language and cultures to the bottom line.

As Congress faces a mid-term election, with control of the Senate in doubt, there is little likelihood of a regular appropriations process for FY15. We have been told to expect a Continuing Resolution, which would fund the US Government at its current levels through mid-December.

That being said, the ongoing crisis in Ukraine has prompted the House Appropriations Committee has directed additional funding to the US Department of State in order to respond to the crisis. In that context, we have requested that the language of the House Appropriations Committee's draft bill on FY15 spending for the State Department. The draft bill, from late June, requires the Department to exercise its authority to spend funds on the Title VIII program. You can read more below on our request and our work on Title VIII ([link to the ASEEES letter and the note we sent to the Senate yesterday](#)).

In other news, JNCL-NCLIS has been working with Brigham Young University and Michigan State University on a survey of global talent requirements. Professor Phil Gardner, of MSU, leads an annual survey of more than 6,000 employers, asking them about their hiring plans for the upcoming spring semester. This came about because of a symposium held last January at BYU, under the auspices of BYU and American Councils. I had the pleasure of presenting at the symposium, on the role of the language enterprise and its impact on the 21st century. While there, and thanks to the good offices of Professor John Rosenberg, Dean of Humanities at BYU, and Scott Sprenger, then Associate Dean (and now Provost of the American University in Paris), a

survey of the language and culture requirements of American employers was proposed and presented to Professor Gardner. He agreed to add a module of questions on language and culture requirements. The survey wraps up on the 15th of this month, and we hope to have preliminary results by the end of October, in time for my presentations at ATA and ACTFL.

In another Congressional update, we have just heard from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences that the Academy's Committee on Studies has agreed to conduct a study on the impact of language on the national interest, as a follow-up to *The Heart of the Matter*, the Congressionally-requested study on the Humanities and Social Sciences published last year by AAAS. This was a high priority at our May Delegate Assembly and Legislative Day, and your hard work during that meeting helped us line up significant Congressional support for the study. You'll be hearing much more about this as we work on getting the request from the Congress and then executing the study.

In closing, we have high hopes for our upcoming work this fall. Rachel and I will be attending several member associations' meetings and presenting on our collective work, and I hope to see many of you in the coming months.

With Best Wishes,

Bill Rivers
Executive Director

Title VIII Appropriations

"Dear Colleague,

As many of you know from your meetings with the National Council for Languages and International Studies since this past May, the US Department of State chose to forgo funding in FY14 for the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (also known as Title VIII). This decision was made in September of 2013, as the Bureau of Intelligence and Research chose not to accept an intra-agency transfer from the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. The funds for Title VIII had, in previous years, been appropriated through the Economic Assistance line. A letter on this issue is attached, from a broad coalition of organizations engaged in research on the former Soviet space. Alumni of this program include former Secretaries of State, senior NSC members in the current and past administrations, and several former Ambassadors to Russia and the other states of the former Soviet Union.

The House Foreign Ops bill includes the language below, intended to ensure that the Department exercises the appropriations authority it was given to carry out this program.:

7034 (e) Directives and Authorities-(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Economic Support Fund shall be made available to carry out the program for

Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union as authorized by the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 (22 U.S.C. 4501-4508).

Given that Section 145 of the CR under consideration in the House includes additional funding to the Department of State to address the crisis in Ukraine, NCLIS would like to ask that the language from Section 7034 (e) of the Foreign Ops approps bill be included in the Senate version of the CR.

Thank you."

[Title VIII Letter to Sec. Kerry, Dec. 2013](#)

[AAAS Letter](#)

We write to request the Commission on the Humanities & Social Sciences undertake a follow-up study, proceeding from the excellent work presented in the Heart of the Matter, to examine how America's economic growth and national capacity in foreign language are intrinsically linked. The ability to communicate in languages and cultures other than our own has never been more vital. Read the [full letter](#).

[SCOLA trial membership for JNCL-NCLIS affiliates!](#)

JNCL-NCLIS is proud to announce that our latest member, SCOLA (www.scola.org) is offering free access to SCOLA's wide range of services and materials for all JNCL-NCLIS member organizations for the first six months and at a reduced rate thereafter. SCOLA provides on-line and mobile device access to foreign language broadcasting from more than 150 countries in more than 175 languages as well as an array of unique educational resources based on this authentic foreign content. These services include: Learning/Assessment Objects, specially produced programming, foreign text (periodicals, text books, etc.), hard to find radio programs, archived content and many more services designed for communicative language teaching and learning, specializing in the less commonly taught languages. SCOLA also secures broad-spectrum educational use permissions that allow SCOLA users to archive the content and to build their own learning tools with the content.

This service has been announced since January. Just last month several individual members noticed the offer and we have received many emails asking for access to SCOLA. SCOLA has kindly renewed this service again until July 2014. Please notify your members of this service before it expires again.

This introductory offer is open to any member or employee of a JNCL-NCLIS member organization. For individual access, contact Rachel Hanson (rhanson@languagepolicy.org) for your access credentials. For organizational membership, contact Bill Rivers (writers@languagepolicy.org).

[Social Media](#)

We have 408 *followers* on Twitter and are eager for more! Please follow us @JNCLInfo

We invite you to interact and share with JNCL-NCLIS and fellow members on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn!

- You can find us on Facebook at "JNCL-NCLIS." Please like our page on Facebook and please leave a note on our Facebook wall!
- Follow us on Twitter with the handle "@JNCLInfo"
- Follow us on LinkedIn at "Joint National Committee for Languages-National Council for Languages and International Studies."

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.

Website

We are here to serve you, our members, and we want our site to be an extension of that purpose. So if you have suggestions of how it could be improved, or if your organization has publications that would be useful to all our members and would corroborate our case for language, we invite you to share them with us. You can contact Rachel Hanson, rhanson@languagepolicy.org

Capitol Hill Visit Procedures:

A reminder on our procedures for visiting Capitol Hill:

- Whenever possible, the Staff will alert the membership and Board that a visit has been planned;
- For each visit, the Staff will ask the membership to respond to the following requests:
 - What community-wide issues might resonate with this office?
 - What issues might be important for the voters in that district?
 - Would someone representing your organization be available to accompany and contribute to discussions in either of those areas?

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