

*A collection of information and links to
websites concerning
Early Language Learning*

October, 2008

**Advocacy Resources on NNELL
website**

In times of economic hardship, schools need to cut their budgets and the first thing to go is often the early language program. Rather than being caught off guard with news that your program will be cut, be proactive and remind the decision-makers in your district why the program is important *before they even think of cutting it.*

Within the Member's only section of the NNELL website, you will find many advocacy resources:

Advocacy Features

- *Core? You Bet! Advocating for World Language Programs in the Age of Accountability* by Debbie Robinson and Charles Conway

Effective Advocates

- Questions Individuals Can Ask
- Questions Associations Can Ask
- Advocacy Ideas
- Advocacy Stories

Advocacy Strategies

- Tips for writing letters
- Tips for making telephone calls
- Tips for making office visits
- Tips for testifying
- Media Contacts
- Networking
- Sample letters

Advocates Influence Policy Makers

- Tips for advocacy at the local, state, and national level
- Advocacy begins at the local level!
- Political Action – state and national level

Media Advocacy Resources

- Resources for Teachers
- Resources for Parents and Students
- Resources for Board Members and Policy Makers
- Media Resources

Program Building – Maintaining a Program

- *Threats and Strategies to Counter Threats* by Marcia H. Rosenbusch & Laurie Sorensen.

Click here to visit the [NNEll website](#). Access these materials available to members of NNEll by logging in to the “members only” part of the website.

The Importance of Early Language Study: Changing Students' Minds – and Brains? **

In August of 2008, the National Capital Language Resource Center (NCLRC) featured this article which summarizes cognitive and other benefits of early language learning, citing recent research.

Click here to read the entire article on the [NCLRC website](#).

UNESCO names International Year of Languages **

UNESCO has named 2008 as the International Year of Languages. There are many resources on their website.

- Exhibits – online presentations to supplement the museum
- Resources – language links, library, papers, pod casts, and presentations
- About us – information about the National Museum of Languages
- Kids – free activities and computer games
- Calendar of events
- Flag contest – information about the contest for an International Flag of Languages.

Click here to explore the [UNESCO website](#).

Central States Conference Scholarships

- Cemanahuac Educational Community in Mexico Scholarship, 2009
- Center for Bilingual Multicultural Studies (Cuernavaca, Mexico), 2009
- Concordia Language Villages Teacher Seminar Scholarship
- Embassy of Spain Scholarship
- Goethe Institut (American Association of Teachers of German Scholarship)

Applications for all scholarships must be postmarked by **December 15, 2008**, for consideration.

Click here for more information about the scholarships and the criteria for applications of the [Central States Conference Scholarships](#).

Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Scholarships

- NECTFL / Mead Leadership Fellows Program
- French, German, and Spanish Embassy
- Cemanahuac Educational Community Scholarship

Applications for all scholarships must be postmarked by **December 1, 2008**, for consideration.

Click here for more information about the scholarships and the criteria for applications of the [Northeast Conference Scholarships](#).

Southern Conference on Language Teaching (SCOLT) Scholarships

- Estudio Sampere
- The Cemanahuac Educational Community
- The Embassy of Spain
- Centro MundoLengua
- The Goethe Institut and AATG
- The Cultural Services of the French Embassy

Applications for all scholarships must be postmarked by November 1, 2008, for consideration.

Click here for more information about the scholarships and the criteria for applications of the [Southern Conference Scholarships](#).

Language for Business Conference: K-12 and Community College

Florida International University's CIBER has announced the Language for Business Conference: K-12 and Community College, new perspectives on developing a language for business course. The day and a half conference will be held in Miami, October 31st – November 1st at the Sofitel Hotel. The Conference has the support of consulates, language associations and cultural organizations and will bring editorial companies from throughout the world to Miami to showcase the materials to K-12 teachers and junior community college professors. There are four language tracks: Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese and Japanese.

The program will serve to instruct high school teachers and junior community college professors on the importance and necessity of incorporating aspects of Language for Business into the standard curricula. It will provide teachers and professors with materials and practical lessons on how to incorporate and develop a course in the K-12 curricula on Language for Business.

There are several travel grants available for outside the area teachers.

Click here for more information about the [Language for Business Conference: K-12 and Community College](#).

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