

Canberra Region Languages Forum Update July 2015

1. TIME TO EXPAND OR BRUSH UP ON YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS?

Many language programs will be beginning or continuing for Term 3/Second semester in the week beginning 20 July 2015.

For details of opportunities in the Canberra region for adults to learn, develop and practice:

- Languages in addition to English <http://actbilingual.weebly.com/other-language-programs.html>
- English <http://actbilingual.weebly.com/english-language.html>

Please email canberrabilingual@gmail.com if you would like a program added or if you notice some of the content needs updating.

2: LANGUAGE REVIVAL: SECURING THE FUTURE OF ENDANGERED LANGUAGES

A FREE MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) to learn about how the world's endangered languages are revived and why this process is critical to preserving cultural identity. Instructors are Ghil'ad Zuckermann and Rob Amery of the University of Adelaide

Starts 28 July 2015. All welcome:

For more info: <http://www.facebook.com/Revivalistics> or <https://www.edx.org/course/language-revival-securing-future-adelaide-lang101x>

3. PROMOTING MANDARIN EDUCATION IN THE ACT

The ACT Education and Training Directorate (ETD) has announced a new grant: the ACT Government Mandarin Culture and Language Grants Program 2015. Schools and organisations or associations that teach Mandarin and/or promote understanding of Chinese culture in the ACT are eligible to apply for a one-off grant of up to \$5,000.

Applications close 17 August 2015. For Guidelines and Application Forms see http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school/languages_in_act_schools

This grant arises partly from the outcomes of a working group (WG) tasked with developing a two year Blueprint to enhance the learning of Mandarin and promote understanding of Chinese culture through education in the ACT. The WG included representatives from all Canberra schools (ACT government, Catholic, Independent and community language), the ANU, UC, the ACT Chinese Teachers Network and the locally based Association for Learning Mandarin in Australia.

The Blueprint provides a comprehensive overview of current initiatives as well as ideas for future developments and collaboration between stakeholders. The ETD, which chaired the working group, is currently finalising the details of the Blueprint for publication and will be seeking Ministerial endorsement and an official public launch date in the near future. Keep an eye on the ALMA website for further news (<http://learningmandarin.weebly.com/news.html>).

4. ALUMNI FRANCE AUSTRALIA

France Australia Alumni is a social and international professional network that caters to all residents in Australia who have studied or worked in France or in a French company, or who were students in an international French school.

France Alumni Australia allows its members to retain links with France, stay informed about the French presence in Australia, take advantage of opportunities to find a job or an internship in connection with France, and get information about a program or a scholarship.

For more information, visit <https://www.francealumni.fr/fr/poste/australie>

5. EXPLORE OUR INDIGENOUS STORY

- Tuesday 4 August 4pm-6pm
- AIATSIS, Lawson Crescent, Canberra ACT.

A collaboration between the Children's Book Council of Australia ACT Branch and AIATSIS Aboriginal Studies Press. Program includes:

- Kim Johnston (Aboriginal Studies Press): The relevance of Aboriginal Studies Press publication content and how it fits with the curriculum K-10.
- John Paul Janke (Communications and Outreach, AIATSIS): AIATSIS and its research activities.
- AIATSIS Librarian: Information about the collection, study guides, online exhibitions and general information about accessing the catalogue.
- Maureen Brooks (Aboriginal Studies Press): Books suitable for college students, ASP new releases and the new ethical publishing guidelines.
- Tour of the library and a display of items from the collection.

Aboriginal Studies Press publications will be on display, with the offer of a 20% discount for purchases on the night.

Cost: Free (tea and coffee provided). TQI Professional Learning: Teacher Identified, 2 hours

For more information and to book (essential), RSVP by Friday 31 July to act@cbca.org.au

6. THE LANGUAGE OF MONEY

Snudging Cheapskates and Magnificent Profusion: The Conceptual Baggage of 'Mean' and 'Generous'

- Dr Annabelle Mooney, University of Roehampton
- Tuesday 21 July 2015, 4.30-5.30pm
- HRC Conference Room, A.D. Hope Building #14, Australian National University

This paper focuses on a set of words that relate money to people and their behaviour. Using data from The Historical Thesaurus of English and the OED, Dr Mooney examines the words that are used to refer to or describe people who are generous or not so generous with their money. By identifying the conceptual baggage (McConnell-Ginet 2008) carried by the many words that mean 'generous' and 'mean', she seeks to describe some of the cultural values and assumptions that attach to these behaviours. Further, she questions whether these values are logical and useful in contemporary life, particularly in relation to financial literacy and behaviour.

This event is free, and all are welcome. Lecture is followed by light refreshments.

For further information visit <http://hrc.anu.edu.au/> or email colette.gilmour@anu.edu.au

7. INTENSIVE SEMINAR FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS OF JAPANESE

- Monday 28 September to Thursday 1 October 2015, Sydney

Organised by The Japan Foundation, Sydney this seminar will enable teachers to develop language skills, gain confidence using Japanese, and develop language teaching strategies and skills which they can apply in their own classrooms. Specific focuses include intercultural language learning (ILL) and ICT-based learning. Participants will be immersed in a Japanese language environment suited to their level, and will have ample opportunity for networking.

All teachers who teach any year level from K-6 (New Zealand: 1-8) are invited to apply. Applicants must be able to understand basic Japanese and read and write hiragana and katakana (equivalent to at least level N5 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test).

For information and application forms: <http://www.jpff.org.au/pd/seminars/intensive.html> All applications should be sent to coordinators@jpff.org.au by 1 August, 2015.

For more details, contact Ben Trumbull at coordinators@jpff.org.au, or 02 8239 0055.

8. ARC CENTRE FOR THE DYNAMICS OF LANGUAGE

The Centre is now gearing up to full operation. It distributes a free newsletter and regularly has items of interest on its news site.

To see current job vacancies, find out about upcoming events and subscribe to their newsletter see <http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/get-involved/> For other news see <http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/news-and-media/>

9. "WRITING WHAT MATTERS" a festival of Canberra readers, writers and storytellers

- Wednesday 22 July 9am-3.30pm
- The National Library

Organised by Aussie Writers, the program this year features an incredible line-up of talented writers and aims to entertain, educate and inspire future writers and introduce an array of exceptional writers to an enthusiastic reading audience.

- Cost: \$40; \$25 students and concessions.

For more details: <http://www.aussiewriters.com.au/events/> Email: info@aussiewriters.com.au or phone Suzanne on 0431 860 607 (m).

REMINDERS

10. HINDI IN AUSTRALIA National Workshop 17 July 2015

A workshop for those interested in Hindi to meet to discuss the current state of Hindi in Australia, in education, the community, and in media. The workshop includes keynote speakers from Sydney and Melbourne and is open to all interested parties.

- Friday 17 July 2015, 10am-5pm
- McDonald Room, Menzies Library

For details contact: peter.friedlander@anu.edu.au

11. PATJI-DAWES AWARD TO HONOUR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN LANGUAGE TEACHING BY AN ACCOMPLISHED PRACTITIONER

The teaching may take place in any setting – school, university, private language school or an indigenous community – provided that the learner is led, by the teacher's inspiration, to a high level of mastery in the chosen language.

Details of the very simple nomination process can be found at <http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/get-involved/dawes-award/>

Deadline for nominations: 20 August 2015.

FEEDBACK ON UPDATES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES WELCOME

Copies of previous Forum Updates are available at
<http://canberralanguages.blogspot.com/p/forum-updates.html>