We thank the College of Letters and Science and the Division of International Studies for their continued support of our mission. We also thank the members of our 2007-08 Advisory Board for their insights and suggestions:

- Erlin Barnard, Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia
- Gilles Bousquet, Division of International Studies
- Susan Brantly, Department of Scandinavian Studies
- Bruno Browning, Letters and Science Learning Support Services
- Monika Chavez, Department of German
- Magdalena Hauner, College of Letters and Science
- Robert Howell, International Academic Programs
- Jonathan M. Kenoyer, Center for South Asia, Department of Anthropology
- Junko Mori, Department of East Asian Languages and Literature
- Ellen Rafferty, Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia
- Jane Zuengler, Department of English

Finally, we acknowledge the outstanding contributions of faculty and staff who devoted their expertise and time to our individual projects, and to outreach coordinator Wendy Johnson, financial specialist Malliga Somasundaram, undergraduate student Marissa Mastrangelli, and SLA doctoral student Su yeon Kim, whose work on many Language Institute projects and programs has been invaluable.
INSTRUCTIONAL INNOVATION

In 2007-08, the Language Institute continued with work on several large-scale grant-funded projects to develop innovative courses, instructional materials and curricular models. New funding for these projects totaled $578,774 for this fiscal year. The projects are:

1. **National Online Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTL) Teacher Training Initiative.** Collaborative project of the Language Institute and the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) to develop and offer online methods courses for postsecondary instructors of LCTLs. Sally Magnan, Antonia Schleicher, Co-Directors. In 2007-08, researched, wrote and developed 8 lessons for 2-credit online course *Methods for Teaching Less Commonly Taught Languages.* Produced 55 video clips for use in course: interviews with LCTL administrators, instructors and students; LCTL classes; lectures. Prepared for for-credit pilot of course in Fall 2008 (new TAs from Languages and Cultures of Asia, Slavic Languages and Literature and Scandinavian Studies required to take the course) and in Spring 2009 through NCOLCTL, as non-credit professional development resource. Planned for additional 1-credit courses, to be developed in 2008-09: *Mediating Cultures, Introduction to the American Educational System, Teaching African Languages.* Presented on the project at the annual meeting of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages; keynote address at the International Conference and Workshops on Technology and Chinese Language Teaching.

2007-08 funding: $164,000, U.S. Department of Education International Research and Studies Program
Personnel: Erlin Barnard, Joseph Chikowero, Sally Magnan, Dianna Murphy, Robin Worth, Antonia Schleicher
Website: www.languageinstitute.wisc.edu/content/projects/national_online_teacher_training_initiative.htm

2. **CAILS: Central Asian Advanced Interactive Listening Series.** A project to develop web-based, cross-dialect training materials in Kazak and Uzbek. Uli Schamiloglu, Director. Developed 5 online lessons targeting advanced level listening proficiency in Kazak. Conducted 20 videotaped interviews in Uzbekistan. Presented and exhibited on the project at the Department of Turkology, University of Mainz, the Department of Turkology, University of Frankfurt, and at the annual meeting of Central Eurasian Studies Society, Association of Central Eurasian Studies conference and at the annual meeting of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages.

2007-08 funding: $130,000, U.S. Department of Education U.S. Department of Education International Research and Studies Program
Personnel: David Dettmann, Wendy Johnson, Talant Mawkanuli, Dianna Murphy, Bayram Rahimguliye, Uli Schamiloglu
Website: www.languageinstitute.wisc.edu/cails
4. **Giannini Chinese Online Program**  
Dianna Murphy, Sally Magnan, Co-Directors. Developed framework for online, distance Chinese language courses for high school students. Modified basic structure and materials from business courses for high school audience. Wrote new materials, where business content couldn’t be adapted. Finalized script for video episodes. Traveled to Beijing, China to work with film crew for shooting original video footage to incorporate into courses.

*2007-08 funding: $170,000*, Claire Giannini Foundation  
*Personnel:* Sally Magnan, Dianna Murphy, Tiffany Ilidais, Xiaojuan Jin, Piyanut Sripanawongsa, Claire Kotenbeutel, Yongping Zhu

3. **Online Language Learning Initiative.** Dianna Murphy, Sally Magnan, Co-Directors. Revised first-semester online, distance Chinese language course for business professionals, based on Fall 2007 pilot; completed drafts of second-semester course. Finalized script for video episodes. Traveled to Beijing, China to shoot original video footage to incorporate into courses. Worked with potential publishers on publication of course materials as textbook.

- **Elementary Conversational Chinese for Professionals II** (3 cr). Revised content in the Spring-Summer 2008. To be offered as pilot in and offered in the Spring 2009.

*2007-08 funding: $80,000* carry-over from 2006-07 award from the Credit Outreach Program; funding for Fall 2007 TA through College of Letters and Science; *$9,000* award from Center for East Asian Studies to support teaching the course in 2008-09; *$5,000* award from the Center for Business Education and Research in support of summer salary for Yongping Zhu.  
*Personnel:* Yang Liu, Sally Magnan, Dianna Murphy, Yang Liu, Yongping Zhu.

5. **Utamaduni Online: An Advanced Level Course in Swahili Language and Culture.** Magdalena Hauner, Principal Investigator. Received no-cost extension from the National Endowment for the Humanities to complete a project to develop 11 advanced-level Swahili lessons. Planned for completion of project by December 31, 2008.

*2007-08 funding: $20,774*, National Endowment for the Humanities  
*Personnel:* Magdalena Hauner, Beatrice Mkenda, Zablon Mgonja, Dianna Murphy  
*Website:* http://african.lss.wisc.edu/utamaduni

IT support for all of these projects is from the College of Letters and Science Learning Support Services, the Division of Information Technology and the School of Education Instructional Media Development Center.
ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The Language Institute is the administrative home to the interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Second Language Acquisition (SLA), with 24 doctoral majors in 2007-08. The program received 37 applications for admission in the Fall 2008. Four students will matriculate in the Fall 2008; one will begin the program in the Spring 2009.

Through $900 in support from the Graduate School and carryover from a gift from the Schoenleber Foundation, the Language Institute was able to provide support to several SLA majors to give papers at scholarly conferences, and to support an SLA dissertator in proposing and administering a dissertation grant for $1,500 from the journal Language Learning.

The SLA Graduate Student Organization, with graduate students in the Foreign Language Acquisition Research and Education Program at the University of Iowa organized its first, and extremely successful, bi-annual Graduate Student Symposium on April 17-19, 2008 entitled Evolving Perspectives in SLA. The Language Institute assisted in writing and administering $2,000 in grants in support of the Symposium. Website: http://slagrads.rso.wisc.edu.

The Executive Committee of the SLA PhD Program conducted a through self-study of the program to be submitted to the College of Letters and Science in the Fall 2008.

The Language Institute organized SLA-focused talks by visiting scholars Alan Firth (Newcastle University), Elaine Tarone (University of Minnesota) and Leo Van Lier (Monterey Institute of International Studies). Support for these talks was through the L&S Anonymous Fund and the University Lectures Committee.

In addition to supporting the SLA Program directly, we support other academic programs in many ways. In 2007-08, for example, we conducted a site visit and submitted a written evaluation of the Arabic and Persian Immersion Program.

K-12 OUTREACH

In 2007-08, the Language Institute continued to coordinate popular outreach programs for Wisconsin K-12 students:

• World Languages Day (April 22, 2008): An award-winning, annual event that brings over 700 high school students and teachers from across Wisconsin to campus to participate in approximately 50 sessions on world languages and cultures. This year we actively recruited new schools and top UW-Madison feeder schools. As a result, of the 26 Wisconsin high schools that participated this year, 15 attended for the first time and 12 participating schools were among the top 100 feeder schools for the UW-Madison. The event was supported by the Anonymous Fund; the Evjue Foundation; African Studies Program; Center for East Asian Studies; Center for European Studies; Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia; Center for South Asia; Global Studies; and Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies Program.
• **World Cinema Day (April 4, 2008):** An annual program that introduces Wisconsin high schools students to international cinema and provides teachers with curricular materials. This year’s WCD was the largest to date, with over 700 students and teachers from 15 schools attending a screening of the Spanish film *Fermat’s Room.* Kata Beilin and Juan Egea, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and Ken Ono, Department of Mathematics, led an introduction and discussion based on the film. New to World Cinema Day this year was the creation of a discussion guide based on *Fermat’s Room,* with Robin Worth as lead writer. World Cinema Day is produced in partnership with the Wisconsin Film Festival with support in 2008 provided by the Brittingham Trust and the Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies Program.

• **College for Kids:** Three, one-week language sampler workshops for gifted and talented rising 6th graders through the School of Education program. Coordinated in 2008 by SLA doctoral student Liu Yang.

• **UW Global Ambassadors:** Visits to high schools for presentations with UW-Madison students to raise interest in languages and international experiences. Presentations were made at Lodi High School, Monona Grove High School, and James Madison Memorial High School. A collaborative effort with International Academic Programs.

In 2007-08, we devoted considerable time to applying for external sources of funding for these programs. We are pleased to report that we received awards from the Evjue Foundation ($7,400) and the Madison Area Arts Commission ($500) in support of World Languages Day and World Cinema Day in 2009. Our proposal to the Alliant Energy Foundation was a finalist for UW funding, but ultimately was not successful.

We continue to work to connect with Wisconsin high school teachers by offering live webcasts and online archives of Language Institute lectures to members of the Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers (WAFLT), with WAFLT contributing $200 toward the cost of this service, and participating in the annual WAFLT meeting.

We worked to connect with Wisconsin high school teachers by participating in the annual meetings of the Wisconsin Council for the Social Studies (WCSS) and International Education, and the Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers (WAFLT).

**CAMPUS PROGRAMMING**

**For faculty and graduate students**

With support from the College of Letters and Science Anonymous Fund and in response to increasing interest among the Title VI Programs in language learning assessment, we sponsored a year-long lecture series entitled *Assessing Language Learning,* with talks by John Norris, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, *Making the Most of Assessment and Evaluation in College Foreign Language Programs;* Carl Falsgraf, University of Oregon, *Standards-based Measures of Proficiency (STAMP) and the Ecology of Assessment;* Gerard Westhoff, Utrecht University, *A Priori Assessment of Complex Language Tasks by Practitioners* and James P. Lantolf, Pennsylvania State University, *Dynamic Assessment: The Dialectical Integration of Instruction and Assessment.* John Norris,
University of Hawai‘i, also gave a workshop entitled *Learning to Apply Use-Oriented Assessment and Evaluation*.

The audience for the lectures was 50-100; we broadcast to an overflow room to accommodate the large numbers.

Lectures in the series will be published in the journal *Language Teaching*.

As in previous years, the Language Institute coordinated the annual cross-departmental pre-service workshop for new graduate teaching assistants. In 2008, over 90 new instructors participated in the 3-day workshop.

**For undergraduates**

To promote the study of world languages and cultures and stimulate enrollment in language courses, the Language Institute maintains a comprehensive website on the University’s language programs ([www.languageinstitute.wisc.edu](http://www.languageinstitute.wisc.edu)). We actively promote these programs by creating and disseminating materials on each language offered during the upcoming academic year to incoming and current students, and organizing events and programs for undergraduates that raise awareness of opportunities to study languages on campus and through study abroad. In 2007-08, these events and programs were:

- **Language for Life**: Panel discussion *Languages in International Development*. Presentations by Steve Boucher, Malcolm Childress and Nick Magnan. Audience of 75+ students, faculty and members of the community.
- **Lecture** on improving language proficiency during travel or study abroad with International Academic Programs; Sally Magnan, Dianna Murphy, Tammy Gibbs, and undergraduate students with International Academic Programs; audience of approximately 30.
- **Love Languages Campaign**, to highlight the importance and vitality of language learning through engaging, student-friendly online and print-based media and materials and strategically-timed publicity efforts. In the Spring 2008, residence hall mailboxes were stuffed with Love Languages flyers, and posters were distributed in campus buildings.
- Efforts to represent languages at this year’s **Summer Orientation and Advising (SOAR)** include the development of a 5-minute video presentation featuring language classroom footage and interviews with language faculty and students; online resources and handouts on individual languages; booklet for advisors on Fall 2008 language offerings and information on why to study those languages. Outreach coordinator Wendy Johnson attended SOAR each day to answer questions at advising tables.

**RESEARCH**

The Language Institute conducts and supports research that supports the teaching and learning mission of the College and the many departments in which languages are taught. In 2007-08, we conducted a survey of students enrolled in first- and fourth-semester language courses to explore student goals and the extent to which student goals articulate with national standards for language education. Results from the surveys were shared
with Departments and will be written up for publication.

We followed up this year on previous surveys of language students by drafting and submitting for publication an article on the reasons students of less commonly taught and commonly taught languages undertake and continue language study.

In 2007-08, we compiled data on language enrollments for University committees working on the reaccreditation effort and on language offerings for the Committee for Institutional Cooperation (CIC).

We were pleased this year to provide support to Cecilia Ford, Department of English, in administering a substantial award through the UW Foundation in support of her research, and to help to plan a workshop scheduled for the Fall 2008 related to it.

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE SERVICE**

Staff represented the Language Institute on numerous College and campus and campus-related committees, including the following: Sally Magnan (Humanities Summit; Reaccreditation; Mellon Proposal working group), Dianna Murphy (Co-Chair, Partners in Giving Campaign; Committee to review the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences Study of Title VI Programs; Workshop leader, Fulbright Teaching Assistants Orientation), Wendy Johnson (International Communications Group, Global Connections in the Memorial Union). Wendy wrote a piece "Inquiring Your Language Skills While Studying Abroad" for *Souvenirs*; Dianna Murphy received an Early Career Academic Staff award.