From the Director
Dr. Antonia Folarin Schleicher

It is again my great pleasure to welcome you to the thirteenth offering of our annual newsletter. It is through knowing where we are now that we will have a vivid picture of where we are going and hence lay down a sound plan of how to get there. This has been a big year for our center which has seen exciting changes for us. The NALRC has moved its base from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to our new home at Indiana University. UW-Madison has been a good home for us for the past 14 years. We are, however, very excited to be relocating to Indiana as we transition ourselves for what I believe to be greater and broader opportunities for our center.

What you read in this edition, is the result of a lot of dedication by a group of scholars from many different parts of the USA and beyond who have contributed to the success of the National African Language Resource Center (NALRC) this year. I would like to use this opportunity therefore, to express my gratitude to them.

Professional development continues to be one of the major objectives of the NALRC and we saw the center continue its offering of several professional development opportunities to our constituents. As our custom over the past years, we hosted the 2012 African Language Teachers Association (ALTA) Conference in conjunction with the 2012 National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOlCTL) Conference and offered our annual NALRC Summer Institute along with a Technology Workshop in Madison, Wisconsin. In all these events, the NALRC has strived to fulfill much needed support to student presenters and participants who would not ordinarily be able to attend these professional events, by offering accommodation support. Our continued support for professional development activities has greatly advanced the skills of both new and experienced teachers and continues to add enrichment to the field.

Apart from the professional development efforts, the NALRC continues to add more resources to our material development objectives. Material development for African languages continues to be an important need for our field, more so as the African language field transforms and employs up to date/modern and relevant teaching methods. Teaching materials also have to evolve to reflect modern teaching trends and considerable effort has been taken this year by the center in this regard. There are several new publications at various stages of production to be published this year. We are currently working on Pre-K – 5 textbooks for Kiswahili and Yoruba, Wolf textbook in our “Let’s Read Series”, A Reference Grammar Yoruba book, and a new elementary IsiXhosa textbook. This year also saw us carry out several reprints of some of our popular textbooks (Tusome Kiwahili, Af Soomali and Nanu deeg Wolof). We are also proud to add new brochures to our lineup for Amazigh, Edo, Kamba and Ruyankore.
My continued gratitude and appreciation to the NALRC National Advisory Board and our Local Advisory Board for their contribution and guidance for our work at the center. Thank you to the wonderful staff of the NALRC for all their dedication and hard work. The details of the major accomplishments of the NALRC this year in the areas of professional and materials development, conferences and other NALRC initiatives are all highlighted in this edition. In addition, it gives an account of the activities and projects that are currently taking place. It also highlights on what we are yet to do. We will continue to appreciate your feedback and comments as they assist to strengthen our center and the field of African languages.

Asante, E seun, Jerejef, Medasi, Shukran, Zikomo, Maita, Thank you.
NALRC PROJECTS

The National African Language Resource Center was established in September 1999 with a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The NALRC’s mission is to improve the accessibility of African languages in the United States by promoting and strengthening the African language teaching profession, and by developing resources that support the teaching, learning, and research of African languages.

The Center strives to serve the entire community of African language educators and learners in the United States by sponsoring a wide range of educational and professional activities designed to improve the accessibility and quality of African language instruction in the United States. It facilitates dialogue among teachers, learners, and administrators from a wide variety of cultural and institutional perspectives. Further, the Center encourages a variety of pedagogical approaches to accommodate the diversity of learners and integrate the teaching of language and culture.

During the thirteenth year of funding, the Center continues its activities and services in the following areas:

1. National African Language Program Coordination
3. Research in African Language Pedagogy
4. African Language Program Development, Administration, and Evaluation
5. Professional Development for African Language Educators, Coordinators, and Directors

National African Language Resource Center (NALRC) Activities:

1. National African Language Program Coordination

African Language Program List
The NALRC updates this list on a regular basis so that information about programs in African languages can be available to universities and colleges planning to start their own African language programs. This list also helps individual language learners find local institutions offering courses in their language of interest. This list has been kept up-to-date with the help of student workers at the NALRC and individual institutions who contacted us to be added to the list. The latest list (updated in spring), can be viewed on the NALRC website: http://nalrc.wisc.edu.

2. African Language Material Development and Dissemination

This is one of the highest priorities for the NALRC because the need for teaching materials is great. Through the tremendous efforts of diverse scholars and African language teachers, the NALRC has contributed to the development and dissemination of language teaching materials ranging from commonly taught African languages, such as Swahili, to less-commonly taught African languages like Somali. The NALRC has published 18 Let’s Speak Series textbooks, two Let’s Read Series textbooks, one Let’s Communicate Series textbook, seven Learners’ Reference Grammar textbooks, one bilingual dictionary, 18 journals, 10 companion audio CD-ROMs, and six language flash card multimedia CD-ROMs spanning 15 languages. In addition, the NALRC has completed 52 language brochures. The following is the list of all the African language materials that have been developed and published by the NALRC:

[Images of various language materials]
NALRC: African Language Materials

Textbooks published by the NALRC

Let’s Speak Series (Beginner Level)
- Tiyankhule ChiChewa (2011) by David Sani Mwanza and Alick Kadango Bwanali
- Natulande iciBemba (2011) by Shadreck Kondala and Kelvin Mambwe
- Ka Anyi Suo Igbo (2011) by Anita Mpofu
- Asikhulume SiSwati (2010) by Betty Sibongile Dlamini
- Asikhulume isiNdebele (2010) by Anita Mpofu
- Nanu Degg Wolof (2009) by Omar Ka
- Beto Tuba Kikongo (2008) by Mazemba A. Nzwanga
- Mu Zanta Da Harshen Hausa (2008) by Ibro Chekaraou
- Af Soomaali Aan Ku Hadalno (Hadallo) (2007) by Abdullahi Abdinoor
- Bua Sesothe (2006) by Rampasane Chaphole
- Ma Yenka Akan (Twi) (2006) by Seth A. Ofori
- Ngatitaure Shona (2006) by Aquilina Mawadza
- A Re Bueng Setswana (2005) by Sheila Onkaetse Mmuse
- Masikhulume isiZulu(2005) by Thandiwe Nxumalo and Dumisile N Mkhize
- Let’s Speak Amharic (2005) by Bezza T. Ayalew
- Tósolola na Lingála (2004) by Eyamba Georges Bokomba and Molingo Virginie Bokamba
- Dardasha Egyptian Arabic(2004) by Mustapha Mughazy
- Asikhulume isiZulu (2005) by Thandiwe Nxumalo and Dumisile N Mkhize
- Let’s Speak Amharic (2005) by Bezza T. Ayalew

Let’s Read Series (Intermediate Level)
- Ngativerenge Shona (2006) by Aquilina Mawadza

Let’s Communicate Series (Advanced Level)
- Tuwasiliane Kwa Kiswahili (2006) by Alwiya S. Omar and Leonce F. Rushubirwa

Learners’ Reference Grammar Series
- Amharic Learners’ Reference Grammar (2005) by Bezza T. Ayalew
- Shona Learners’ Reference Grammar (2005) by Peter Jamali, Antonia Folárin Schleicher and Aquilina Mawadza
- Zulu Learner’ Reference Grammar (2005) by Audrey N. Mbeje
- Bamanakan Learners’ Reference Grammar (2003) by Amadou Tidiane Fofana and Mamery Traoré
- Pulaar Learners’ Reference Grammar (2002) by Amadou Tidiane Fofana and Antonia Folárin Schleicher

Bilingual Dictionary
- Wolof Lexicon and Grammar (2006) by Sana Camara

Others
- The Pedagogy of African Languages (2000) by Antonia Folárin Schleicher & Lioba Moshi

Journals
- Ede: Journal of African Language Learning and Teaching (JALLT)
  - JALLT Vol 1 (Spring 2001)
- Journal of the African Language Teachers Association (JALTA)
  - JALTA Vol. 1.2 (Spring 2000)
  - JALTA Vol. 3 (Spring 2003)
  - JALTA Vol. 6 (Spring 2005)
  - JALTA Vol. 7 (Fall 2005)
  - JALTA Vol. 8 (Spring 2006)
  - JALTA Vol. 9 (Spring 2007)
  - JALTA (Lang. Specific (Kiswahili) Vol. 1 (Spring 2011)

- The Pedagogy of African Languages (2000) by Antonia Folárin Schleicher & Lioba Moshi

Journals
- Ede: Journal of African Language Learning and Teaching (JALLT)
  - JALLT Vol 1 (Spring 2001)
- Journal of the African Language Teachers Association (JALTA)
  - JALTA Vol. 1.2 (Spring 2000)
  - JALTA Vol. 3 (Spring 2003)
  - JALTA Vol. 6 (Spring 2005)
  - JALTA Vol. 7 (Fall 2005)
  - JALTA Vol. 8 (Spring 2006)
  - JALTA Vol. 9 (Spring 2007)
  - JALTA (Lang. Specific (Kiswahili) Vol. 1 (Spring 2011)
Journal of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (JNCOLCTL)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 1 (Spring 2004)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 2 (Spring 2005)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 3 (Spring 2006)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 4 (Spring 2007)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 5 (Spring 2008)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 6 (Spring 2009)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 7 (Fall 2009)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 8 (Spring 2010)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 9 (Fall 2010)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 10 (Fall 2011)
- JNCOLCTL Vol 10 (Spring 2012)

NALRC Annual Bulletin
- ULIMI 2000 Vol 1
- ULIMI 2001 Vol 2
- ULIMI 2002 Vol 3
- ULIMI 2003 Vol 4
- ULIMI 2004 Vol 5
- ULIMI 2005 Vol 6
- ULIMI 2006 Vol 7
- ULIMI 2007 Vol 8
- ULIMI 2008 Vol 9
- ULIMI 2009 Vol 10
- ULIMI 2010 Vol 11
- ULIMI 2011 Vol 12
- ULIMI 2012 Vol 13

Multimedia Projects
Vocabulary Flash Card CD-ROMs in 15 African Languages

Companion Audio CD-ROMs
- Let’s Speak Igbo: Ka Anyi Suo Igbo Audio CD-ROM
- Let’s Speak IciBemb: Natulande IciBemb Audio CD - Rom
- Let’s Speak Ndebele: Asikhulume isiNdebele Audio CD-Rom
- Let’s Speak SiSwati: Asikhulume SiSwati Audio CD-ROM
- Let’s Speak Wolof: Nanu Degg Wolof Audio CD-ROM
- Let’s Speak Swahili: Tuseme Kiswahili Audio CD-ROM
- Let’s Speak Amharic: Amharic Audio CD-ROM
- Let’s Speak Egyptian Arabic: Dardasha Audio CD-ROM
- Let’s Communicate Swahili: Tuwisiliane Kwa Kiswahili Audio CD-ROM

Brochures
- Acholi
- Afrikaans
- Amharic
- Arabic
- Bamana
- Bemba
- Beti & Kpelie
- Ewondo
- Chichewa
- Dinka
- Edo
- Ewe
- Fang
- Fon
- Fulfulde, Moor, & Dioula
- Hausa
- Igbo
- Latest African Language brochures from NALRC.

Online Materials
- Je K’A So Yoruba Online
- ULIMI Online Vol 1 Issue 1
- ULIMI Online Vol 1 Issue 2
- ULIMI Online Vol 1 Issue 3
- ULIMI Online Vol 2 Issue 1
- ULIMI Online Vol 2 Issue 2
- ULIMI Online Vol 2 Issue 3
- ULIMI Online Vol 2 Issue 4
- ULIMI Online Vol 3 Issue 1

Materials in Progress
The NALRC has been working on new materials through different scholars and African language instructors. The following materials which are in different stages of production will soon be available to the general public:
- Yoruba Learners’ Reference Grammar
- Let’s Speak isiXhosa (IsiXhosa Elementary textbook)

NALRC’s Outreach Activities:
- Organization of Summer African Language Camps for K-12 in Kansas City, MO; Kansas City, KS; St. Louis, MO; Columbus, OH; Chicago, IL; Washington, D.C.; Boise, ID; New York, NY; (in conjunction with Dr. Olatunde Sowemimo, 2000)
- Oral Proficiency Interview Training (2005)
- SCALI Instructors Workshop (2006-2007)
- Ohio University LCTL Professional Development Training (2008)
- Training for Teachers of LCTLs in South Africa (2008)
- JNCL – NCLIS Executive Committee Meeting (2009-2012)
- UMD – NFLC STARTALK Advisory Board (2009)
- Teaching African Languages Online Course (2009)
- Overseas Flagship Trip to Nigeria and Tanzania (2009-2010)
- ACTFL Training Workshop (2010)
- Training of Trainers’ Workshop (2010)
- Summer Institute for African Language Instructors (2000-2012)
- Technology Workshop for African Language Instructors (2009-2012)
• NFLC Symposium (2011)
• ACTFL Board meeting (2011-2012)
• The Open Language Summit (2011)
• ODNI Heritage Community Liaison Council Meeting (2012)
• STARTALK Directors Conference (2009 – 2012)
• African and Asian Languages LEARN Conference (2012)

NRC and Program in African Language (PAL) Reviews
Review of the UW-Madison Study Abroad Program in Cape Town, South Africa, and Stellenbock, South Africa

Consultancies of the Establishment and Evaluation of PALs
• Consultant to Evanston High School in Evanston, IL- Starting an African Language Program for High School Students (October 2000)
• Consultant to Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ - Developing a viable Title VI African Studies Program (2001)
• Consultant to Fort Valley University in Fort Valley, GA- Evaluating their African Languages and African Studies Programs (September 11 and 12, 2003)
• Consultant to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign- Evaluating their Less Commonly Taught Languages Program (December 12, 2003)
• External Evaluator for the South East Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) (August 2004)
• External Evaluator for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign- Evaluating their African Languages Program (September 2004)
• External Evaluator for the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS- Evaluating their African Languages Program (September 2005)
• External Evaluator for the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute (SCALI) at Indiana University (July 2005 and August 2006)
• External Evaluator for Cornell University in Ithaca, NY- Evaluating their Africana Studies Center and African Languages Program (November 2008)
• External Evaluator for the University of California-Berkeley- Evaluating their African Studies Program (2008)
• External Evaluator for the University of California-Los Angeles- Evaluating their African Studies Program (May 2009)
• Consultant to the National Foreign Language Center (NFLC)- Developing an Online Database for Yoruba Language Learning and Teaching Materials

Interviews and Other Evaluations
• Interviewed by WORT on NALRC (September 1999)
• Interviewed by Wisconsin Week on NALRC (September 1999)
• Interviewed by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on NALRC (October 1999)
• Interviewed by the Daily Cardinal on Yoruba Tones and Drums (October 1999)
• Consultant to Lionbridge Corporation in San Francisco, CA- Translating Data and Checking the Linguistic Accuracy of Data (2000)
• Language Tester for the Federal Bureau of Investigation – Administering a Language Proficiency Test in Yoruba to Prospective FBI Job Applicants (2001)
• Executive Director for the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) (2004)
• Grant Proposal Reviewer for the International Institute on Education- Reviewing National Security Education
The 15th Annual Conference of the National Council of the Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) was held at the Madison Sheraton Hotel in Madison, Wisconsin, April 26-29, 2012 under the theme “Promoting Advanced Language Proficiency and Intercultural Competency in LCTLs. The conference was organized by the NCOLCTL Secretariat from its University of Wisconsin-Madison office.

It was held in conjunction with the annual meetings and conferences of several NCOLCTL affiliate organizations, namely: the African Language Teachers Association (ALTA), the South Asian Language Teachers Association (SALTA), the Modern Greek Language Teachers Association (MGLTA) and the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asia Languages (COTSEAL). This year’s conference brought together language teachers and professionals as far afield as Egypt, Greece, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Turkey, Tanzania, and United Arab Emirates as well as from across the United States.

Major sponsors of NCOLCTL 2012 were the Qatar Foundation, National African Language Resource Center (NALRC), National Language Service Corps (NLSCorps) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). Other sponsors included the University of Wisconsin Madison’s International Institute/ Division of International Studies, University of Wisconsin’s Center for South Asia, the Center for International Business Education and Research at University of Wisconsin (CIBER), the University of Wisconsin’s Center for European Studies, ChinaSprout Inc., and Susan Schmidt.

There were three pre-conference workshops held on Thursday April, 26, 2012. These were an OPI Familiarization Workshop led by Dr. Maureen Weissenrieder from Ohio University (NCOLCTL’s first full day workshop), in collaboration with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). In this workshop, Dr. Weissenrieder introduced the ACTFL proficiency guidelines, the ACTFL rating scale and the ACTFL OPI. Participants were able to view demonstration interviews and discuss the implications of the ACTFL Proficiency Scale and OPI for establishing goals and for planning curriculum, instruction and assessment.

Dr. Jacques du Plessis from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee led a technology workshop entitled “New Technologies and Language learning.” In that workshop, Dr. du Plessis showed and introduced diverse technologies that can support language learning and teaching and participants had some time to familiarize themselves with some of the tools. Dr. Wafa Hassan from Michigan State University led the workshop entitled “Best Practices and Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language: Implementing Standards-Based Curriculum.” Dr. Hassan’s workshop was an interactive and hands-on experience introducing standards-based thematic units developed for teaching Arabic as a second language for the secondary levels.

On Thursday evening, Dr. Alwiya S. Omar (the NCOLCTL Vice President), along with all the NCOLCTL organizational affiliate presidents in attendance, welcomed their members during the 2012 Conference Welcome Reception.

The morning of Friday April 27, 2012, saw the official opening of the Conference. Welcome remarks were delivered by University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Dean of the Division of International Studies and Vice Provost for Globalization, Dr. Gilles Bousquet and the NCOLCTL President, Dr. Catherine Ingold. Immediately following the welcome remarks, Dr. Richard Brecht, Director of the Center for Advanced Study of Language (CASL) at the University of Maryland, delivered the keynote address entitled “On the Future of NCOLCTL and the LCTLs: A Comprehensive, Cohesive and Collaborative Effort.”

Dr. Bill Rivers from the National Language Service Corps (NSLCorps) delivered the first plenary session of the conference entitled “The Language Enterprise in the US: The Public and Private Sectors”. Later that day, the second plenary session (a Flagship panel), chaired by Dr. Sam Eisen from the National Security Education Program (NSEP) was also conducted. Other members of the panel included Dr. Dan Davidson from Bryn Mawr College, Dr. Alwiya S. Omar from Indiana.
University, Dr. Gautami Shah from University of Texas-Austin, and Dr. Nahal Akbari from the University of Maryland. Each of these panelists highlighted the impressive results and successes achieved in their various Flagship programs.

The 13th NCOLCTL Walton Award Dinner was held on Friday, April 27, 2012. The Walton Award is presented to an individual whose career has been distinguished by selfless service and noteworthy contributions to the fostering of less commonly taught language initiatives. This prestigious award was named after the late A. Ronald Walton whose tireless efforts on behalf of less commonly taught languages are remembered fondly by all who knew him. Dr. Frederick H. Jackson from the National Foreign Language Center (NFLC) was the 2012 recipient of the Walton award. The evening kicked off with an impressive performance by the Madison West High School Taiko Group and a graceful Indonesian celebratory dance by Emmanuella Datu from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Several recognition plaques to honor some NCOLCTL sponsors were presented before the Walton Award. The festivities concluded on a congratulatory note as guests were given an opportunity to offer their congratulations to Dr. Jackson in the 78 languages represented in the banquet hall that evening.

Saturday proved to be a very schedule-packed day with an opening plenary session by Dr. Henk Haarmann from the Center for Advanced Study of Language (CASL) who gave an insightful presentation entitled “Stimulating the Mind and Brain to Learn Words”. That evening, the 15th NCOLCTL Delegate Assembly met during which various committees were formed and tasked to spearhead various NCOLCTL projects for the coming year.

One more plenary session was conducted on Sunday by Dr. Dave McAlpine (ACTFL President) in which he highlighted the newest documents and plans for Language education coming from ACTFL. There were over 140 sessions conducted at the 2012 NCOLCTL Conference. At the close of the 2012 NCOLCTL Conference, Dr. Alwiya S. Omar transitioned from being the NCOLCTL Vice-President to begin her 2-year term in service as NCOLCTL President. Dr. Catherine Ingold resumed her service as the NCOLCTL Immediate Past President. Dr. Jacques du Plessis is the new NCOLCTL Vice-President and Dr. Wafa Hassan and Dr. Yea-Fe Chen resumed their terms as NCOLCTL Member-At-Large Executive Board Members.
The NALRC held its annual Summer Institute program from May 21 - June 1, 2012 in Madison, Wisconsin. The institute was an intensive two week training session for professors and educators of African languages from all over the world. The institute focused on applying field-tested and proven second language acquisition techniques to the field of African language pedagogy. The instructors, Steve Timm and Joe Nosek, brought invaluable experience to the program from their extensive work as teachers in the field of English as a second language. Steve Timm used Italian as an example language, and gave the class several lessons in basic Italian to demonstrate different teaching techniques and exercises.

Each program participant subsequently had several opportunities to conduct mini-lessons in their own respective target languages to practice and employ the techniques being taught in the class. They then had the opportunity to receive feedback and constructive criticism from the program participants, many of whom were learning these languages for the first time. Nearly all of the participants noticed highly noteworthy improvement and achievement in their teaching throughout the course of the program. The opportunity for collaboration and group discussion was invaluable to the participants over the course of the two weeks they spent in Madison.

The two week program was not all spent in the classroom, as participants took a trip to the Vilas Zoo on Saturday May 26. There was also a small get together that same evening, where the Institute director, Professor Antonia Schleicher, hosted the participants and their instructors at her house. There was enough food (a Nigerian dish) and drink to go around, and participants had fun. The dinner ended with renditions of the National anthems of different countries present in the target languages at the institute.

The institute concluded with an awards ceremony on June 1st, 2012 in Bascom Hall at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The ceremony included African music, cultural performances by the program participants, reflections on their experiences, and a special presentation by the instructors to honor the participants and commend them for all of their hard work. The occasion also presents the opportunity for the NALRC to recognize two of its staff who had just graduated from the UW-Madison – Holly Rubish and Kevin Barry. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Professor Antonia Schleicher, director of the National African Languages Resource Center, and a dinner provided by Buraka Restaurant.

The following fellows received certificates of completion from the NALRC Summer Institute:

- Oluwabunmi Opeyemi Oyebode - Obafemi Awolowo University - Yoruba
- Emmanuel Amo Ofori – University of Florida – Gainesville – Akan/Twi
- Taiwo Aderemi Olunlade – Lagos State University – Yoruba
- Onibon Nosiru O. – Lagos State University – Arabic
- Brenda Wawire – University of Mississipi – Swahili
- John Muchera - University of Mississipi – Swahili
- Makda Weatherspoon – Cornell University – Arabic
- Mustapha Hashim Kurfi – Boston University – Hausa
- Philothe Kabasele Mwamba – University of Illinois – U-C – Swahili/Lingala
- Hicham Assaoui – University of Arizona - Arabic
- Oladipupo Oyeleye – University of Wisconsin – Madison - Yoruba
Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to thank our host on behalf of the participants for the opportunity given to us to attend the 2012 Summer Institute. We thank you for inviting us to come and learn. We thank the United States Department of Education for providing funding for the National African Language Resource Center (NALRC) and the University of Wisconsin - Madison. We thank the management of this University as well for hosting this educative program. We shall forever remain grateful for remolding us as tools for effective communicative teaching methods and delivery. We are proud to say that we have passed through the Summer Institute and the Institute has passed through us. It is a case of mission well accomplished. We thank the Director of the NALRC, Prof. Antonia Folarin Schleicher, and her husband. We thank Assistant Directors Akinsola Ogundeji and Nyasha Gwaza, and other staff members like Kevin Kayode, Emmanuella, Holly, Julia, and John for their support. We are grateful for your indefatigable efforts. We thank our experienced instructors, Steve Timm and Joe Nosek, for their passion, hard work, promptness, patience, sense of humor, and good attitude. We thank the NALRC management for giving us accommodations, breakfast, tea and coffee, lunch, T-shirts, the NALRC bulletin, flash cards, books, and journals. We plead that the project should be sustained because it is a way of reaching out to the whole world. From my personal experience, I am convinced that I have gained a lot from the program. The program is useful for first and second language teaching.

I wish everybody, especially my colleagues, a safe journey back to their different destinations.

Finally, we thank God for His mercy. We thank all of you for your kindness. Goodbye.
The NALRC hosted the 2012 Technology Workshop from May 29th to June 1st at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Workshop participants consisted largely of African language instructors within and outside the US. Professor Jacques du Plessis from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee trained the teachers to use several tools effectively in enhancing the teaching and learning of language.

During the five-day workshop, Professor Jacques demonstrated how to create a short pictorial video in the instructors’ native languages through user-friendly online tools such as Youtube, Prezi, Irfanview, Camtasia, Audacity, Jing and Screenr. Overall, the goals were to create and screen capture Prezi, create and upload videos to YouTube, and render YouTube in Prezi.

On the first day, the participants were introduced to Prezi, Dropbox, Audacity, and Irfanview and set up accounts for future use. These tools offer many useful functions. Prezi enables teachers to create unique online presentations, Dropbox provides online storage to save files in different formats, Audacity is used for sound editing, Camtasia is an online tool for video/audio recording and editing, and Irfanview allows teachers to edit pictures for classroom use. Using an HD flip camera, the participants created a short video in their native languages. After the break, the participants were divided into groups to capture videos inside or outside the classroom. By the end of the session, the instructor offered insightful feedback to every video production, making the participants more aware of how to create an effective video for classroom use.

On the second day, the participants were trained to transform a basic story into a functional narration. First, the participants translated the famous children’s story of the three little pigs into their native languages. After translating the story, they cut it into sections and put those sections into different slides using Prezi. Next, the instructor guided the participants in developing the slides by adding colors, images, and sound. Then, the participants adjusted the images using Irfanview and recorded their voices using either Audacity or Camtasia. Having collected the necessary components of a pictorial video, the participants put them together using Camtasia. By the end of the day, participants had learned plenty of tips and tricks to make quality pictorial videos. On the next day, participants developed their story in the video project. During the day, the participants worked both independently and collaboratively to finalize their projects.

Finally, on the last day of the workshop, the participants completed their project by putting together all the new sets of technology skills learned during the workshop to consummate their project task.

An awards ceremony was held in Bascom Hall on June 1st, 2012 to celebrate the completion of both the 2012 Technology Workshop and the 2012 Summer Institute. Opening remarks were given by Professor Antonia Schleicher, NALRC Director and Professor of African Languages and Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Professor Dustin Cowell, Chair of the Department of African Languages and Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Participants of the Technology Workshop and Summer Institute gave cultural performances and reflections on their programs. Closing remarks and thanks from the Technology workshop were given by Boshra El-Ghazoly and Mor Gueye. The reception was also in honor of departing NALRC student assistants Holly Rubish and Kevin Barry for their services.
The following fellows received certificates of completion from the NALRC Technology Workshop:

**Mor Gueye** –
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign - Wolof

**Boshra El-Ghazoly** –
Indiana University - Arabic

**Gabriel Ayoola** –
University of Wisconsin – Madison - Yoruba

**Olusegun Soetan** –
University of Wisconsin – Madison - Yoruba

**Emuobonuvie Ajiboye** –
Delta State University, Abraka - Urhobo

**Barbara Naa Amanuah Tetteh** –
Akan (Twi)

**Samuel Darkwa** –
University of Wisconsin – Madison – Akan (Twi)

Reflection on the Technology Workshop by Mor Gueye:

Good evening. We greatly and gratefully express our satisfaction to have been given the opportunity to participate in this year’s Technology Workshop in Madison, a nice city “built between two lakes”, to paraphrase photographer Jeff Miller in his title to a famous picture showing a place nicely but dangerously lost between Lakes Mendota and Monona.

One of the many interesting aspects of the Technology Workshop is its connection to the Summer Institute. If one has previously attended the Institute, participating in this workshop is a continuation of a skill-and-knowledge integration about language teaching. It has been interestingly noted that, after working on integrating the teaching of the four skills, the inclusion of instructional technology in language teaching will not only show its relevance but it will also widen participants’ horizons in exploring new and more creative strategies for successful classroom activities and tasks. That connection is smoothly done and we acknowledge the excellent job of the organizing committee, the instructors and the staff of both the NALRC and the NCOLCTL under the supervision of Professor Schleicher.

In this year’s Technology Workshop, we have been exposed to an integrated use of various tools and applications whose usefulness is beyond measure. In addition to fine-tuning pictures and videos through applications such as JING, CAMTASIA, AUDACITY, IRFANVIEW, compiling a final video that combines written, audio, and visual elements of a given language is more than making a successful YouTube material linked to a PREZI file. It is an excellent remake that integrates productive and receptive language skills necessary for our students to build their proficiency during the process of acquisition. To put it sarcastically, removing the background in a picture of a smiling little pig is possible with a small touch in a funny view via I RFANVIEW. For these various aspects mentioned above, we countlessly appreciate the help and guidance of the instructor- Jacques Du Plessis - to whom we wish a safe trip to Kenya. More than the skills and knowledge we have learned with his assistance, we have noticed an interesting sense of pedagogy of effective patience. Our progress has also been improved through a mutual connection among participants and with the care of the staff working with us since Tuesday.

With due respect to your attention, we conclude by recommending participants of the Summer Institute to plan on attending the Technology Workshop in the future. It is worth considering.

Thank you very kindly.

Participants at NALRC Technology Workshop works on individual project with the assistance of John Adeika - NALRC Technology Coordinator.
Reflection on the Technology Workshop by Boshra El-Ghazoly:

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. I would like to make use of this opportunity to express my thanks and deep gratitude to Professor Schleicher and Mr. Ogundeji for allowing me to be part of this very rich experience. I would like to extend my thanks to Professor du Plessis as well for the organization, resourcefulness, patience, creativity and encouragement that he emitted in the classroom. I would like also to thank John Adeika for technology tips given during the finalization of my project work.

Today, I feel so privileged that I am with you here at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and that I completed the Language Technology workshop. It needed to be said, and speaking for all of the participants who joined the language training sessions here in the summer of 2012, I would like to say that the various types of language teacher training and development that the NALRC has been offering throughout the years, either through the summer institute or various language teacher training workshops, will remain to be a once in a lifetime experience for each and every participant at both the professional and the personal levels. That is why when we meet supervisors or senior colleagues anywhere in the US we are advised to come here to the University of Wisconsin-Madison where the NALRC is. I am leaving this place a much, much better teacher, equipped with knowledge of so many up-to-date tools, software (online and offline ones), creative ideas, and troubleshooting skills that will enhance my teaching experience for many years to come, God willing.

I am also very glad that I got the chance to meet colleagues from Senegal (Mour), from Nigeria, (Segun Soetan, Gabriel Ayola, and Emuobonuvie Ajiboye), from Ghana (Samuel Darkwa, and Barbara Tetteh), and also from Indonesia (Emmanuella Datu).

Shukran shukran Gazilan

Vote of Thanks by Emuobonuvie Maria Ajiboye:

We wish to appreciate the indefatigable team that worked tirelessly to equip us with first class and state-of-the-art techniques for teaching African languages: Prof. Jacques du Plessis, John Adeika, and Emmanuella Datu.

They were very patient with us as we struggled with the various packages. We appreciate their individualized approach to instruction. It was amazing!

Our thanks also go to the Assistant Director of the Institute, Akinsola Ogundeji who never left any stone unturned to ensure we were abreast with every arrangement before, and during the workshop. “E ku iṣe, sir”.

We will not fail to appreciate the Director of the Institute, Prof Antonia Schleicher for this powerful package, and ourselves, too, for being present emotionally and physically.

Finally, we appreciate God Almighty for the grace to be here and His great provisions. We pray that when you hear from us subsequently you will be encouraged by the outcome of this outcome in our various locations.

Barbara Tetteh Captures an image using a pocket camera during the Technology Workshop.
The NALRC had the opportunity to be represented at The Heritage Community Liaison Council Meeting, hosted by the office of the Director of National Intelligence in Tyson Corner, Virginia on April 5th, 2012. ODNI serves as the umbrella for twenty-one members of heritage communities, where the NALRC is one of those communities. Other communities include Somali American Community Association (SACA), Indonesian Muslim Association in America (IMAAM), American-Arab Anti Discrimination Committee (ADC), Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), and others.

The Heritage Community Liaison Council serves as a forum for sharing and updating information among members and intelligence community recruiters. This council was created by ODNI to embrace Heritage Americans communities and to promote more employment opportunities within the federal government.

NALRC director, Professor Antonia Schleicher, attended the meeting, which featured a Special Guest Speaker, two panel discussion sessions, one breakout session and five presentations. Some of the topics included “Heritage Community Organization Spotlight”; “Teaching Foreign Cultures to National Security Professionals”; “IC Heritage Council Opportunities”; and “Security Reform Research”.

The Heritage Community Liaison Council Meeting was held from 1:00 pm until 5:30 pm. Updates from ODNI/
Human capital, Intelligence Community Recruitment Committee and Foreign Language Program Mission were presented to explain current information on purposes, policies and employments to the members associated. Members are encouraged to engage in the federal government employment opportunities to promote cultural understanding and to eliminate cultural bias.

Inaugural African and Southeast Asian Languages LEARN Workshop
June 18-19, 2012

The inaugural African and Southeast Asian Languages LEARN Workshop was held July 18-19, 2012 in Madison, WI at the Madison Sheraton Hotel. This workshop was organized by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and co-sponsored by the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLECTL). The purpose of the LEARN workshop series is to provide language professionals with a venue to interact with their colleagues where they can discuss and explore issues related to the science and technology of foreign language education. The target audience for these workshops includes instructors, course developers, and other language professionals from U.S. government affiliated institutions.

The National African Language Resource Center (NALRC) Executive Director, Professor Antonia Folarin Schleicher, gave opening remarks and the keynote presentation “Language and Culture: The Right Level, the Right Mix” on July 18, 2012. Dr. John Hartmann, professor, Northern Illinois University, gave the second keynote presentation on the second day “Mixing it up: Customizing Components of CAI for a Target Audience of Novice Learners, with Implications for Higher-level Instruction”. Nyasha Gwaza gave a presentation to the attendees highlighting the activities of the NALRC. Mary Jo Wilson from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, UW-Madison gave a presentation highlighting the activities of the South East Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI). The NALRC also exhibited its resources and products during the workshop.

A broad and varied array of presentations was given
at the workshop by various personnel in different government agencies and departments which included the DOD, CASL, NSA, DLIFLC and FSI. These presentations addressed issues in the teaching of less-commonly taught languages and included topics such as “ Appropriateness of the Use of Authentic Materials in a Foreign-Language Classroom”, “Best Practices to Obtain Copyright Permissions: a Case Study of DLI”, “Mapping as a Supplement to Language Instruction”, “African Language Familiarization: A Course for Students New to African Language Study”, “A Dynamic Approach to Prioritizing African Languages” and many others.

The 2012 NCOLCTL Swahili STARTALK was held July 9th-27th, 2012. Swahili instructors from various institutions around the US participated in the three-week program. The first week of the program was an online Teacher Training Course, which covered many theoretical concepts. The participants were able to complete this portion of the training from their respective home bases. The remaining two weeks of the training were held at the Helen C. White Building on the University of Wisconsin – Madison campus.

The sessions were conducted by three Master Teachers, Dr. Alwiya S. Omar, Dr. John Kiarie Wa Njogu, and Dr. Antonia Schleicher. In the first week of the residential program, there was a large emphasis placed on numerous Second Language Acquisition theories and standards. Additionally, the participants learned the importance of teaching language lessons in context, and how to create effective lesson plans for the various proficiency levels of Swahili classes.

During the third week of the program, volunteer non-Swahili speaking students, primarily from the University of Wisconsin – Madison, joined the program so that the participants were able to employ the theoretical skills they had obtained during the previous weeks. Each participant created multiple teaching demonstrations that they taught to the volunteer students. Once they finished their lessons, participants were able to receive beneficial feedback from the other participants, their instructors, and the volunteer students.

An awards ceremony and dinner was held to conclude the intensive three-week program. During the ceremony participants and volunteer students delivered reflections about the program. Moreover, each participant received a certificate of completion from NCOLCTL.

The following individuals received certificates of completion from Swahili STARTALK:

Anne Waliaula – University of Wisconsin - Madison
Jonathan Choti – Michigan State University
John Muchira – University of Mississippi
Brenda Wawire – University of Mississippi
Elias Magembe – Foreign Service Institute
Farida Doherty – Boston Public Schools
Edwin Okong’O – University of California - Berkeley
Carolyne Aru – Bridgewater State University
Jane Clayton – Columbia University

Reflection on STARTALK by Farida Doherty:
STARTALK - in my mind, there is no doubt that it is a “star”! Our group came in as rookies who struck out a few times and came out of it with some home runs and grand slams! That is what STARTALK is all about, to train us well and to ensure that we leave here with the right skills in our satchel to go around the country and teach our students to become proficient in Swahili. That is our goal now. Professors Schleicher, Omar and Kiarie, thank you for making that possible. You are the best!

When I heard of the Swahili STARTALK program, little did I know that it would enlighten me and change my style of teaching Swahili for the better. Saying that was the impact that it has made on me is an understatement. I am leaving tomorrow convinced that I will be able to teach Swahili to my high school students and produce proficient Swahili speakers without teaching them grammar explicitly. Okay, professors, you have succeeded in changing my mind, no explicit teaching of grammar!!!! – thank you.

So what have I learned at STARTALK. First, its principles, though not totally unknown to me, have been brought into focus for teaching less commonly taught languages. They are formally defined and well presented, to be effective tools to use in our classrooms. The use of the target language as over 95% percent of class content is impressive – we did it this week and it worked. The communicative approach and backward design all make sense and will absolutely help me in my teaching of English as a second language when I go back to Boston.

If I didn’t mention the one-week online course, I would do the whole program a disservice – the online course with its theories, videos and student surveys were very useful, and I plan to go back and revisit them again.

After many years of teaching English As a Second Language, I started teaching Swahili voluntarily to my students in an after school program. This training has helped me to become a more effective Swahili instructor. I am now going to apply for a high school grant to teach Swahili in the Boston Public schools. We do not have such a program in Massachusetts. I am confident that I will be able to train other teachers who are interested in teaching Swahili in Boston to help them become better Swahili instructors too. Thanks to the training from NCOLCTL/STARTALK, this will be possible. I plan to continue to be a member of this great organization.

Another aspect of this summer STARTALK program was meeting and working with all the participants who came from different parts of the states. I must say it was one of the best experiences I have had. We had wonderful times agreeing and disagreeing. I learned so much from each one of you. You are true professionals and thank you for being my colleagues and friends. I hope we can continue with our collaboration.

Finally, I wish to thank professor Schleicher for making all this possible, for being so patient and firm in wanting us to be the best before you sent us back home. Thank you to Professor Omar, for sharing with us your knowledge and experiences, your modeling of lessons for us, for your guidance, vitality, and encouragement. We enjoyed hearing you sing and dance every day. Professor Kiarie, thank you for helping us digest theory and put it into practice. Your help and guidance during our lesson preparation was very helpful. I want to thank the staff for all their help, and the volunteer students who took time from their summer vacation getting up early in the morning to participate in our micro-teaching. Your input will us become better teachers. I thank you for taking time to give us the feedback that we learned from.

I want to end by thanking NCOLCTL/STARTALK for making this training possible and I look forward to a call back next year. I will end with a Swahili proverb: Penye mafundi, hapakosi wanafunzi. Kwaherini na asantenii.
ASA Conference November 16-19, 2011

The National African Language Resource Center was represented by John O. Adeika at the 54th annual African Studies Association conference, held in Washington D.C. at the Marriott hotel from November 16-19, 2011. The conference was captioned “50 Years of African Liberation”.

The NALRC representative arrived at the venue on Wednesday, the 16th and set up the NALRC display booth that very day. NALRC publications and materials displayed included: brochures, the “Let’s Speak”, “Let’s Read”, and “Let’s Communicate” series textbooks, the Wolof Lexicon and Grammar textbook, the “Learners’ Reference Grammar” series textbooks, and some of the organizational journals.

The NALRC booth was conspicuously marked with our center’s banner and the NCOLCTU/ALTA 2012 Conference poster. Other items on display were various textbooks and Multimedia materials published by the Center, various language brochures, NALRC colorful pens, Role play cards and copies of ULIMI – the NALRC bulletin.

The NALRC booth experienced remarkable traffic during the conference. We had over one hundred participants. All of them without exception commended NALRC’s efforts in making language resources available to language scholars in the United States. Some of them indicated their intentions to help in publishing more brochures and textbooks that are not yet available.

Conferences are one of the focal points for the dissemination of the NALRC annual bulletin that is available in printed copies, and online and downloadable forms. During this conference, over two hundred copies of the bulletin were distributed to the booth visitors and the conference participants in general. Every booth visitor was given a copy of the bulletin and a pen.

Contacts were made with some of the scholars that attended the conference for collaboration in the production of language learning resource materials. These are scholars who indicated their interest in further production and distribution of language resources.

The LRC Directors’ meeting and the ASA Board of Directors plenary meeting was attended on behalf of the NALRC Director on November 17 and 18 respectively. The ASA stance on military grants was discussed extensively in the two meetings. The final decision was made at the plenary meeting, where it was reinstated that ASA members should abstain completely from any form of military grant which stands to jeopardize African unity.

The next ASA conference titled “Research Frontiers in the Study of Africa,” which will be the 55th Annual Meeting, is slated to be held on November 29 - December 1, 2012 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

ACTFL Conference November 18-20, 2011

Prof. Antonia Schleicher and Akin Ogundeji represented the National African Language Resource Center (NALRC) at the 2011 American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Annual Convention and World Languages Expo (Denver 2011), which was held at the Colorado Convention Center from November 18 – 20. The theme of this year’s convention was Empowering Language Educators through Collaboration. Schleicher attended the ACTFL
Board of Directors meeting on Monday November 14 and the ACTFL Delegate Assembly meeting on Friday November 18. She, together with Alwiya Omar of Indiana University, Gautami Shah and Meng Yeh, both from Rice University, presented a paper titled “Reinforcing the 5 Cs through Storytelling: Collaborative Language Teaching and Learning” on November 18.

The NALRC didn’t have a separate booth this year as it had to abide with the plan of a joint booth with other Language Resource Centers. This is a result of a 50% cut in funding which affected the body as a whole. The effect was that 15 LRCs shared two booths and a few tables, which barely held a handful of materials. The NALRC was only able to display the latest edition of its bulletin - Ulimi and a couple of our colorful African language brochures. None of the Center’s new textbooks was exhibited.

A good number of conference attendees and visitors, who were mostly foreign language teachers and scholars alike, visited the joint LRC booths daily throughout the conference period. NALRC staff - Akin Ogundeji and staff of other LRCs made it a point of duty to explain the objectives, achievements and future projects of the NALRC and that of other Language Resource Centers to all the visitors. Most of the visitors took some of the exhibited materials home as souvenirs or teaching aids. The NALRC bulletin and brochures were very useful here.

This year’s conference was a success in spite of the budget crunch and the NALRC is looking forward to the next one, coming up in November 2012 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

ACTFL Conference November 18-20, 2011

The Director of the National African Language Resource Center (NALRC), Antonia Yetunde Folarin-Schleicher was on Thursday, 9th August, 2012 inducted as a Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Letters (NAL). The event which took place at the main auditorium of the University of Lagos, Nigeria was part of the Fourteenth Convocation and Investiture of the Fellows ceremony of this prestigious body, which is the highest body of academics in the Humanities in Nigeria.

Highlights of the day included the Presidential address which was delivered by Professor Ben Elugbe - the outgoing President of the Academy and a convocation lecture, titled: ‘Between Ocean and Desert: Thoughts on Literature and Experience in the West African Sub Region’, delivered by Professor Francis Abiola Irele - a Fellow of the Academy and the current Provost of the College of Humanities, Management and Socio Sciences, Kwara State University, Nigeria. Four new regular fellows inducted together with Antonia Schleicher (the only overseas inductee) are: Professor Sola Akinrinade, Professor Oladele Layiwola, Professor Francis Egbokhare and Professor Akachi Ezeigbo.

Antonia Schleicher, who is also the Executive Director of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) has by this singular honor joined the crème of Nigerian Professors abroad, such as M.C. J. Echeuro, Isidore Okpewho, Niyi Osundare, Toyin Falola and Biodun Jeyifo who are also overseas Fellows of the Academy.

The Nigerian Academy of Letters was founded in 1991 at a meeting of Deans of Faculties of Arts in Nigerian Universities. It consists of all recognized learned societies in the Arts and bodies like the Historical Society of Nigeria, Linguistics Association of Nigeria, and Literary Society of Nigeria among others. The Academy’s foundation Fellows include re-known scholars, such as, Professors Ayo Bamgbose, J.F Ade- Ajayi, J. P. Clark – Bekederomo, Wole Soyinka, and Chinua Achebe.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nalrc moves to its new home!

This is to formally announce that the National African Language Resource Center (NALRC) is moving this fall from the University of Wisconsin – Madison to its new home at Indiana University, Bloomington. Look below for our new contact address and don’t forget: “It’s the same Center just a change of address”.

Translations/Interpretations

The NALRC provides quality services in the area of translation and interpretation of various African languages. If you need these services, please contact us. We have a resource list of translators and interpreters, not restricted to African languages, and open to anyone who speaks a less commonly taught language. If you want to be included in the list, please let us know.

Job Opportunities/Advertisements

Many scholars, instructors, and students in the field of less commonly taught languages visit the NALRC website. Please inform us of any African language-related vacancies that you want to fill in your programs. We will be happy to advertise them at no cost.

Upcoming Conferences

We urge our readers to take note of the following dates for upcoming conferences so that you can plan ahead and attend these very important events in the upcoming academic year 2012-2013:


For more information on anything in this newsletter, including conference dates, or to learn more about the NALRC, please contact us by e-mail: nalrc@indiana.edu

Questions? Comments? We’d love to hear from you!
National African Language Resource Center (NALRC)
Eigenmann Hall, Rm. 701
1900 East 10th Street
Bloomington, IN 47406-7512
Tel: (812)-856-4199
Fax: (812)-856-4189
E-mail: nalrc@indiana.edu