



ARTS MULTIMEDIA LANGUAGE FACILITY

AMLF Newsletter

FALL 2016



Message from the Director

Dear colleagues and students,

Welcome to the fall issue of our Arts Multimedia Language Facility (AMLF) Newsletter.

The 2016-2017 academic year brings a great variety of new projects, events, and collaborations for the AMLF users, both faculty and students. But before announcing our program for the Fall semester, I would like to look back at our summer and share our accomplishments and findings.

First of all, I would like to invite you to explore our redesigned website which not only provides you with all the useful information you need to know about our facilities, software, policies and procedures, but also displays of all the events organized at the AMLF. Take time to explore our new section on online language learning resources for all twenty languages taught by the Faculty of Arts.

The other important project that kept us busy last summer was the designing of two modern multifunctional rooms: a lounge and a conference room. We believe that this new addition to the AMLF space will open more possibilities for social and pedagogical activities to enrich your language learning experience at McGill. They are already very popular and extensively used by language departments for conversation groups.

In addition, our new team is now formed and it is my pleasure to introduce you to our lab attendants who will be assisting you during your lab sessions at the AMLF this year. This newsletter is also a great opportunity to inform you of all the upcoming events we planned for you for Fall 2016, and to invite you to try new tools for language learning and teaching.

Finally, you will find some suggestions for professional development opportunities. There are still a couple of days left to submit a proposal for the 6th International Conference on Second Language Pedagogies that will take place at McGill in April 2017. I am sure that you have interesting pedagogical and research projects to share!

Best wishes,

Natallia Liakina
Director, French Language Centre and Arts Multimedia Language Facility

NEW WEBSITE

Rediscover the AMLF revamped website and its new section offering a repertoire of online Language Learning Resources for 20 Languages taught at the Faculty of Arts

After a summer of researching and gathering language technology resources, along with the goal of helping students in their second language learning process, we are proud to present the new AMLF's Language Learning Resources page. The new website page offers free online and mobile tools that students can use outside of their language course to consolidate and enhance their learning.



Students will be able to navigate through all languages taught at McGill University through the different categories of resources available such as: dictionaries, learning platforms and grammar tools to name only a few. In addition, a Multilingual section with resources covering multiple languages, as well as a section dedicated to less commonly taught languages, should provide students with an extensive list of supplementary material which we hope can accompany them in their second language learning.

This project, led by Natallia Liakina, the AMLF Director, and funded by the Arts Undergraduate Employment Fund, was realized by our two enthusiastic and dedicated research assistants, Pierre-Gabriel Dumoulin and Joannie Poisson Proulx, students from Département d'études françaises. We would like to recognize the outstanding work of Alexandre Nunes, our talented and creative web designer, as well as the generous collaboration of the Faculty of Arts language instructors Tomoko Ikeda (Japanese), Sun-Young Kim (German), Yasuko Senoo (Japanese), Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi (Persian), Valentina Vinokurova (Russian), Miwako Uesaka (Japanese), and the valuable contribution of our 2015-2016 AMLF team.

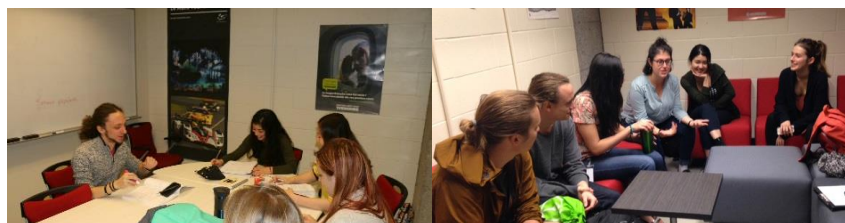
<https://www.mcgill.ca/amlf/resources/language-learning-resources>



NEW SPACE

AMLF Lounge and Conference Room for Faculty and Students

Even if more and more resources are available online and can be accessed from anywhere via personal devices, we are happy to see that all our labs are regularly reserved for language classes, testing, and movie screenings. Two newly renovated multifunctional rooms – a lounge and a conference room – are already very popular and serve as a meeting place for conversation groups.



Looking for a place to work on a multimedia project for your language class, watch a movie, or meet for a tutoring session? Thanks to the generous support of the Arts Undergraduate Improvement Fund (AUIF), we now have a modern and well-equipped space for you.

For more information, visit: <https://www.mcgill.ca/amlf/resources>

NEW TEAM



Our lab attendants, Sydnee and Jingzhou, working on the fall issue of the AMLF newsletter.

This Fall, nine McGill students will be working at the AMLF help desk. We are happy to welcome back Anees, Konstantin, Sydnee, and Thomas, our experienced lab attendants from last year. Lu Ya, Mohammad and Jingzhou are new at the help desk, but not to the AMLF. Both of them, like Konstantin and Sydnee, used and continue using our language lab while taking French language classes. Humayun, and Saranya just joined the team and they are already involved in various tasks. All members of the team have a unique set of skills which allow them to be actively involved and lead a variety of projects, such as programming an online reservation system for the AMLF, designing a website for 6th International Conference on Second Language Pedagogies, organizing special events, and designing and editing a variety of documents. Having the coordinator of LingoBuddies, a student run organization aimed to improve language learning experience among students, as part of our team, will also bring the collaboration of the AMLF and LingoBuddies to a new level. They also speak a great variety of languages such as Japanese, French, Swedish, Bulgarian; Italian; Hindi, Tamil, Mandarin, Urdu, Punjabi, Spanish, and Pushto.

NEW EVENTS

Language Learning and Technology
Professional Development Series

The AMLF Language Learning and Technology professional development series will continue this Fall. We are happy to announce two upcoming events, so you can already reserve the dates in your busy agendas.



On Thursday, **October 27th, 2:30 - 4pm**, **Dr. Ludmila Klimanova**, Russian language program coordinator in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, will be leading a workshop on project-based language learning and technology.

Two weeks later, on **November 10th, 4:30pm**, don't miss a research talk on task-based language teaching by **Gabriel Michaud**, FRSL coordinator in the French Language Centre.

Interested in presenting your research project in Winter 2017? Contact Natallia Liakina, the AMLF Director, at natallia.liakina@mcgill.ca

Training for Language Instructors

On June 17th, Michael Butler, Educational Technology Consultant for the AMLF, presented a workshop on Microsoft Office Mix and OneNote in the hopes of giving second-language instructors some ideas as to how these tools might be incorporated into their teaching.



Feedback and suggestions from attendees has been very encouraging, and more workshops are planned for the coming year.



A **CAN-8 pedagogical training session** will be held on **Friday, October 28th, 1:30 - 3pm**, on the topic of creating listening exercises that are graded automatically by the CAN-8 system, using the multiple choice Item type.

Language Learning Tools Workshops for Students

At the end of the summer semester last June, the AMLF prepared a workshop on online resources in French. Students were invited to discover free online resources complementary to their language courses. These resources included online dictionaries as well as relevant cultural websites about Quebec and the francophone space at large.



Following this, a second workshop will be held on **November 10, 5:30-7pm, at the AMLF**. Again, the objective is to provide tools to students who would like to know more about the language, and who wish to pursue their learning outside of the classroom.

NEW TOOLS

YABLA – Language Immersion Online for Spanish, French, German, Italian and Chinese

FREE TRIAL EXTENDED TILL DECEMBER 31ST, 2016!

It's no wonder that a 2-year empirical study from Iowa State University (Cristina Pardo-Ballester) indicated a "significant gain in listening and speaking" when language learners integrated Yabla's web-based immersion program into their curriculum. Yabla offers an immersive approach to language learning through an extensive collection of videos exclusively featuring native speakers. Included are smart subtitle technology, a unique video player designed for learners, and a variety of game activities. Teachers are able to assign videos to students and track their individual progress. Yabla is also proud to employ a lead developer, Sam Lazarus, who attended McGill as an undergraduate.

To create an account: https://www.yabla.com/subscribe_join.php

Thank you, Yabla team, for this generous offer and for your contribution to this newsletter!



Professional Development Opportunities

Follow FREE Webinars on Language Learning and Technology

The International Association of Language Learning and Technology (IALLT) webinar series

As described at the association's website:

The IALLT webinar series offers engaging, interactive professional development workshops on topics related to language teaching, technology, and language centers. While participation in the webinars is open to all, access to archives of the sessions are restricted to IALLT members.

Upcoming Webinar: **Tuesday, October 18, 2016: Promoting Student Engagement in a Hybrid Language Course**

Register online: <http://iallt.org/resources/webinars/>

Pearson's World Languages Webinars

Pearson Education offers free professional development for language instructors. Each 40-minute session features distinguished speakers offering innovative pedagogical ideas, and best practices to help you discover new directions for your classroom teaching.

Upcoming Webinars: **Thursday, October 13, 2016**

Register online: <http://www.pearsoned.com/events-and-webinars/learning-makes-us-webinar-series/humanities-social-sciences-language-and-english/world-languages/>

Share your research

6th International Conference on Second Language Pedagogies (SLPC6)

hosted by the French Language Centre

Meaningful and authentic interactions in and beyond the classroom

April 27-28, 2017, McGill University

Proposal Submission Deadline: October 15th, 2016

View the full call for proposals at <http://www.slpconference.ca/slp62017/>

CALICO 2017 Conference

Multilingualism and Digital Literacies

May 16-20, 2017, Northern Arizona University

Proposal Submission Deadline: October 31st, 2016

View the full call for proposals at <https://calico.org/page.php?id=690>



IALLT 2017 Conference

June 20-24, 2017, Concordia College

Proposal Submission Deadline: November 30th, 2016

View the full call for proposals at <http://iallt.org/conferences/>



XVIIIth International CALL Research Conference

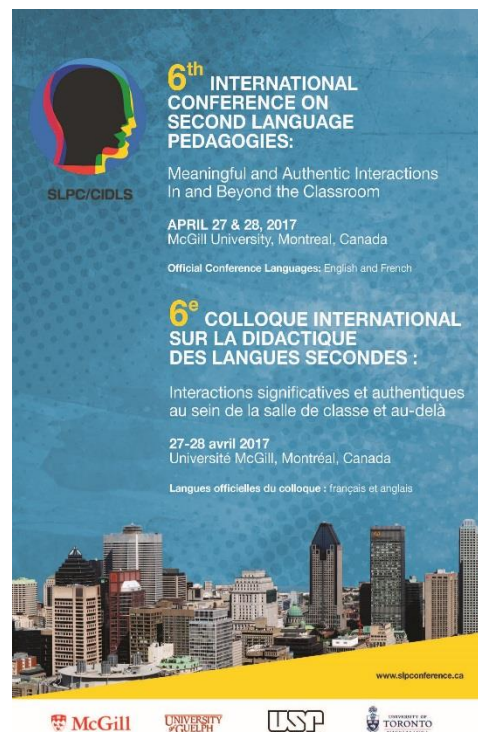
CALL in CONTEXT

July 7-9, 2017, University of California Berkeley

Proposal Submission Deadline: January 30th, 2017

View the full call for proposals at:

<https://lists.lsit.ucsb.edu/archives/appling/2016-July/001128.html>

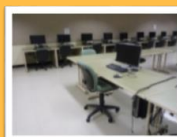


RESERVATIONS

reservations.amlf@mcgill.ca

WEBSITE

www.mcgill.ca/amlf



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McLennan Library
Building

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