Juniata’s Language in Motion Awarded $150,000

Language in Motion, Juniata College's successful language and culture outreach program that uses study-abroad returnees and international students to make presentations on language and culture in area classes, has been awarded a grant of $150,000 for 2006-08 from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations.

This grant provides funds for three major purposes:
1) To enhance Language in Motion at Juniata, including both the student presentations and professional development opportunities for teachers;
2) To identify ways to measure the impact of Language in Motion on teachers and other constituents; and
3) To establish institutional and individual partners who will form a core national consortium to disseminate the program, customizing it to the diverse needs and opportunities within their respective service areas.

Professional development opportunities for teachers will include increased scholarship funding for the three summer study-abroad programs for teachers in France, Germany, and Guatemala, an annual language and culture teaching institute at Juniata, and scholarships for local teachers to attend state and national conferences. In addition, there are funds to acquire language and culture teaching materials to be shared by all participants.

In September, Juniata hosted representatives from eight other institutions that are interested in replicating Language in Motion in their areas. These schools represent a range of institutional types, community types, and regions of the country; among them are three Pennsylvania schools: Lock Haven University, University of Pennsylvania, and Westminster College. The Westminster replication will be piloted beginning in January.

Meanwhile, Juniata students on exchange at the Philipps-Universität in Marburg, Germany, are doing presentations this semester in German high schools as part of Juniata's first international replication.

Additional partnering schools are also being sought. If your college or university is interested, please contact Deb Roney, director, at 814-641-3493 or via email at roneyd@juniata.edu.