It’s been a busy summer at ALTEC! We have several new developments to share with you as fall begins.

Major renovations over the summer have transformed ALTEC’s spaces. The Mac Lab in Hellems 145 is now a laptop-checkout lab with collaboration stations for group projects. New furniture provides easy reconfiguration possibilities for lectures, workshops, film viewings, small conference sessions, and class meetings. Hellems 145 can be reserved for class and special event usage through ITS, and will continue to be a shared lab space for both enhanced student usage and instructional technology projects.

One of the three development stations behind Hellems 152 is now a sound recording studio for audio, internet, and video design projects. This space creates exciting new possibilities for project development. ALTEC welcomes foreign-language and SLHS graduate students and faculty of all ranks to use our state-of-the-art equipment for instructional design and creative work.

The Foreign Language Technology Program received graduate school approval last spring, and is now recognized as a formal non-credit program. Three graduate students completed the FLTP this summer, and we wish them the best as they enter the job market this fall.

Last but certainly not least, our search for a new ALTEC director met with success! Dr. Mark Knowles will be coming from the Assistant Director position at Yale’s Center for Language Study to join CU as ALTEC’s new permanent director as of October 1st. We welcome him to ALTEC and look forward to working with him in the years ahead.

Yours,
Heather Beasley, Ph.D.

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Fall Language Classes
Classes Start Sept. 8- Oct. 31
Cost: $65

Full Course List: altec.colorado.edu/languageclasses
Contact: david.nicoll@colorado.edu
303-492-8224

Brave the World.

ALTEC is offering 8 week non-credit language courses available ONLY to CU retirees, faculty, staff, graduate students and their spouses.
Labs and Renovations

By David Nicoll
Resource Coordinator

“Studio A” - Brand new state-of-the-art recording studio.

ALTEC: Mac Lab
Hellemis 145

The ALTEC/ITS Computer lab is undergoing a complete remodel to be transformed into a multi-purpose “smart” classroom. It will be available this September as an open lab for student use and by reservation for language classes.

Students can complete their assignments by checking out a laptop or using one of the iMac collaboration stations. Faculty can reserve the room in advance to show foreign films, coordinate group projects, and access the internet. An ALTEC attendant will be present at all times to provide assistance.

ALTEC Studio A: Language Meets Recording Technology
Hellemis 152:A

Completed this July, the ALTEC voice recording studio (named Studio “A”) provides faculty and students with the latest voice recording software and equipment. Create and record original language materials like listening comprehension exercises, tests, or interviews using cutting-edge programs and industry standard gear (Pro-Tools, Reason, Garage Band, M-box, Shure mics). Mission control consists of a 24-inch iMac which keeps the process accessible and intuitive. You provide the voice and concept and we’ll provide the instruction.

ALTEC: Multimedia Library
Hellemis 159

Whether you need to check out a film or place one on reserve, our staff are standing by and ready to assist. Visit our website to search the library database or, if you would like to make a specific request, you can download the course materials request form at:

http://altec.colorado.edu/forms.shtml

Note: Submit requests for new materials to your department course fee representative. The representatives meet monthly to vote on submitted requests.

ALTEC: PC Classroom
Hellemis 152

Hellemis 152 is a PC classroom equipped with the latest technology including 24 Dell computers, multi-system VCR and DVD players, and an overhead data projector. Language faculty, instructors, and graduate student TAs and GPTIs may reserve the room for class sessions that require usage of the computers or media equipment.

Reservations are made on a first-come, first-serve basis. Instructors of foreign language film classes are also eligible to reserve the room.

For reservations: email altec@colorado.edu or call 303-492-8224.
ALTEC offered a two-day Summer Institute on Language Technology for K-12 teachers in June 2008.

Foreign language teachers came from all across the Front Range area to receive hands-on training on how to use various technologies to develop foreign language instructional material. Guest speaker Dr. Ann Keller-Lally, Assistant Professor of German at the University of Northern Colorado, gave a lecture on using films in the foreign language classroom. Participants were able to receive recertification credit for attending the event. It was the first time ALTEC opened its workshops to the K-12 community and the responses were very positive.

We are pleased to announce that three of ALTEC’s Foreign Language Technology workshops can now be completed online!

While the Foreign Language Technology Program has been growing steadily since its curriculum was revamped in 2006, scheduling has remained a challenge.

These online workshops make it possible for graduate students to participate in the FLTP around their busy schedules. The modules are entirely self-paced and asynchronous. Students can receive credit by completing and submitting the assignments included within each module.

The three workshops currently available are: Teaching with the Web, Blogging, and Sound Editing with Audacity.

Edwige Simon (FLTP Coordinator) and Sue Burke (Graphic/Web Developer) presented this project at the MERLOT International conference in Minneapolis August 2008.

By Edwige Simon
FLTP Coordinator

http://altecolorado.edu/online_modules/Teaching_web
http://altecolorado.edu/online_modules/blogging
http://altecolorado.edu/online_modules/audacity

By Edwige Simon
FLTP Coordinator

Responses to CU/K-12 Summer Institute

“Thanks for your flexibility, your patience & the thought that went into our packets, the snacks & lunch and all the good material you provided us with!”

“I would like to see more workshops in the future...I think this is something wonderful that you’ve started.”

“Thank you for all of the time that all of the instructors put in to make this a rewarding and worthwhile learning experience. You were all very patient and helpful!”

“Thanks for all your hard work. K-12 teachers appreciate having the opportunity to learn within our field.”
Congratulations to María Sáiz, Maggie McCullar and Dorismel Díaz-Perez who have successfully completed the requirements to obtain the Foreign Language Technology Certificate. Their portfolios are showcased on the ALTEC website.

As recipient of this year’s Best Portfolio Award, Maggie McCullar (Ph.D. candidate in the Spanish and Portuguese department) received a complimentary copy of the Adobe Web Design Suite.

ALTEC developed a three-week online French course this summer.

Edwige Simon (ALTEC) developed the course content in collaboration with Carmen Grace (French and Italian).

This non-credit class provided undergraduate students with an opportunity to reactivate their knowledge of French before taking 3000-level courses in the fall.

For three weeks, students watched video clips, read articles, listened to music, wrote essays and engaged in online discussion with their classmates and instructor.

Preliminary results are very encouraging and ALTEC is hoping to be able to expand this pilot to other foreign languages next year. Please, contact us if you wish to be involved in this project!

To view the material: http://summer-french.blogspot.com

FLTP Portfolio

By Edwige Simon
FLTP Coordinator

Coming Soon!
Indonesian Podcasting

Listen to interviews from local and remote native speakers.