

# Creating Federal-State Synergy for Increasing Multilingualism

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Presentation to the Interagency Language Roundtable  
February 23, 2024  
Presenters: Tom Haines and Lorie Roule

# Agenda

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Introduction

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What's Happening at  
State and Federal Levels

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Panel

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Wrap up

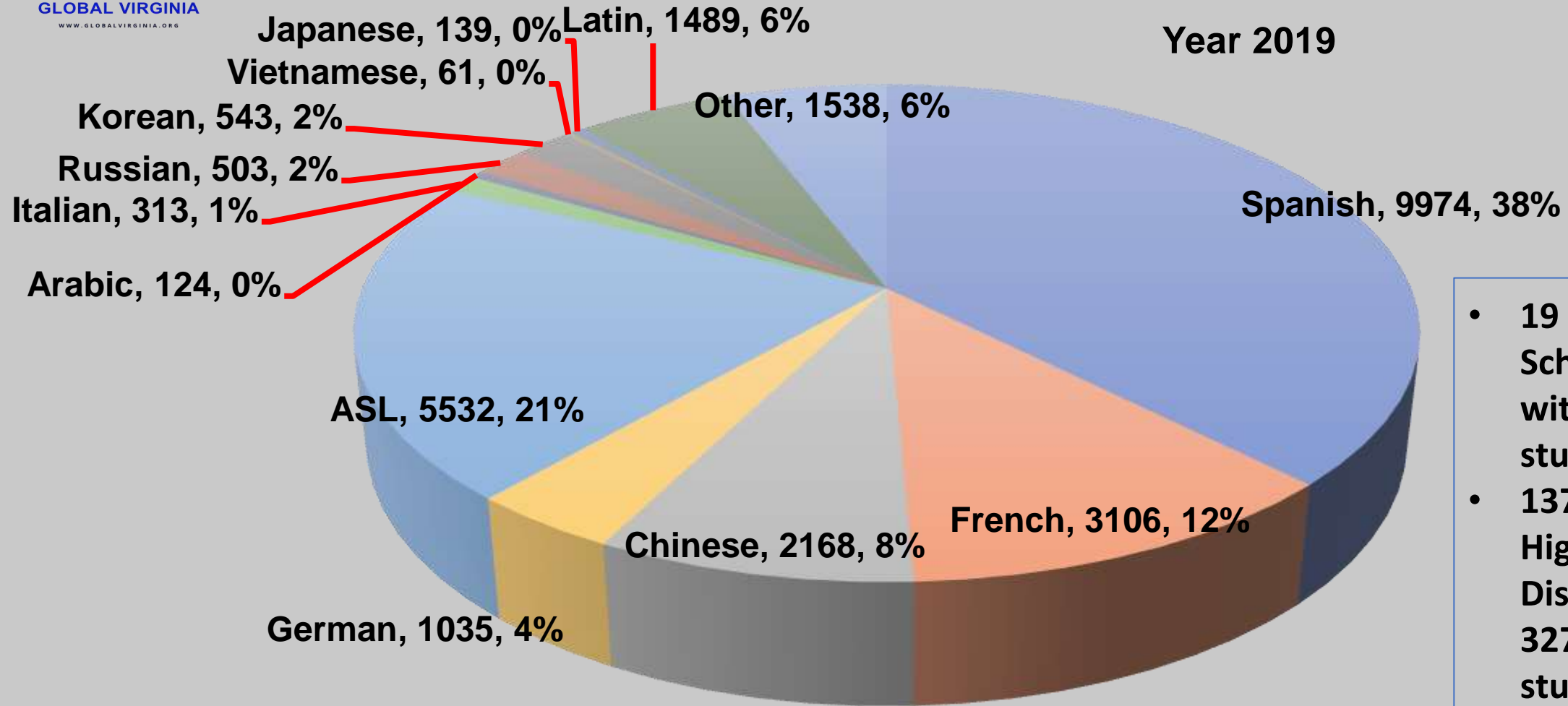
# Global Virginia

## OUR GOALS



- We are a non-profit, non-partisan, organic grassroots association committed to improve our state's global competitiveness through world language study and use.
- We aim to bring together government, academic and business communities, and other private non-governmental organizations to
  - Raise awareness,
  - Advocate, and
  - Collaborate in building global competency for all Virginians

# VA HS Enrollments by Language



- 19 Elementary School Districts with 66,609 students
- 137 Middle & High School Districts with 327,179 students

Spanish French Chinese German ASL Italian Arabic  
 Russian Korean Vietnamese Japanese Latin Other



# At the State Level – Advocacy and Awareness

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- Outreach to legislators, politicians, business community, educators and administrators
- Proposing and opposing legislation, for example:
  - Opposition to proposed legislation to eliminate or replace world language requirements
  - Support to proposed legislation to increase funding and resources for world language programs: NSLI-Y grant and fund program, expanded Dual Language Immersion programs
- Liaise with similar and like-minded organizations, such as language-focused organizations in Virginia, e.g. FLAVA, SCOLT, VADLEN, VOWLS, etc.
- Liaise with national-level advocacy organizations, such as ACTFL, JNCL-NCLIS
- These organizations are primarily within the education space; Global Virginia aims to broaden stakeholder connections to include government and business.

# At the Federal Level – Programs to Build the Language Pipeline

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- **DoD:** World Language Readiness and Advancement Act (WLARA), STARTALK Grant Program, National Security Education Program scholarships, fellowships, and Language Flagships, Project Global Office (GO), etc.
- **DoS:** International Exchange Programs, such as National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y), The Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Abroad Program, the John S. McCain International Scholarship for Military Families, etc.
- **DoED:** Fulbright-Hays and Title VI grant and fellowship programs, including Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships, and the Language Resource Centers (LRC) program, etc.
- **JNCL-NCLIS:** Language Advocacy with Congress, including the World Language Education Assistance Program (LEAP) Act, Bilingual Education Seal and Testing (BEST) Act, etc.

# VA BIG PICTURE

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- VA has various language programs, but are we teaching the right languages needed by national security and at the right levels in K-16
  - Advocating for increasing less commonly taught languages
  - Languages taught in VA public schools
    - Governor's Language Academy – great opportunity but are the right languages being taught
  - Seal of Biliteracy – are we capitalizing on linguistic talent by recognizing and rewarding seals of biliteracy
  - Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Programs – proven to be effective in 12 districts and over 70 reported programs in the state
  - Study Abroad Programs, such as NSLI-Y



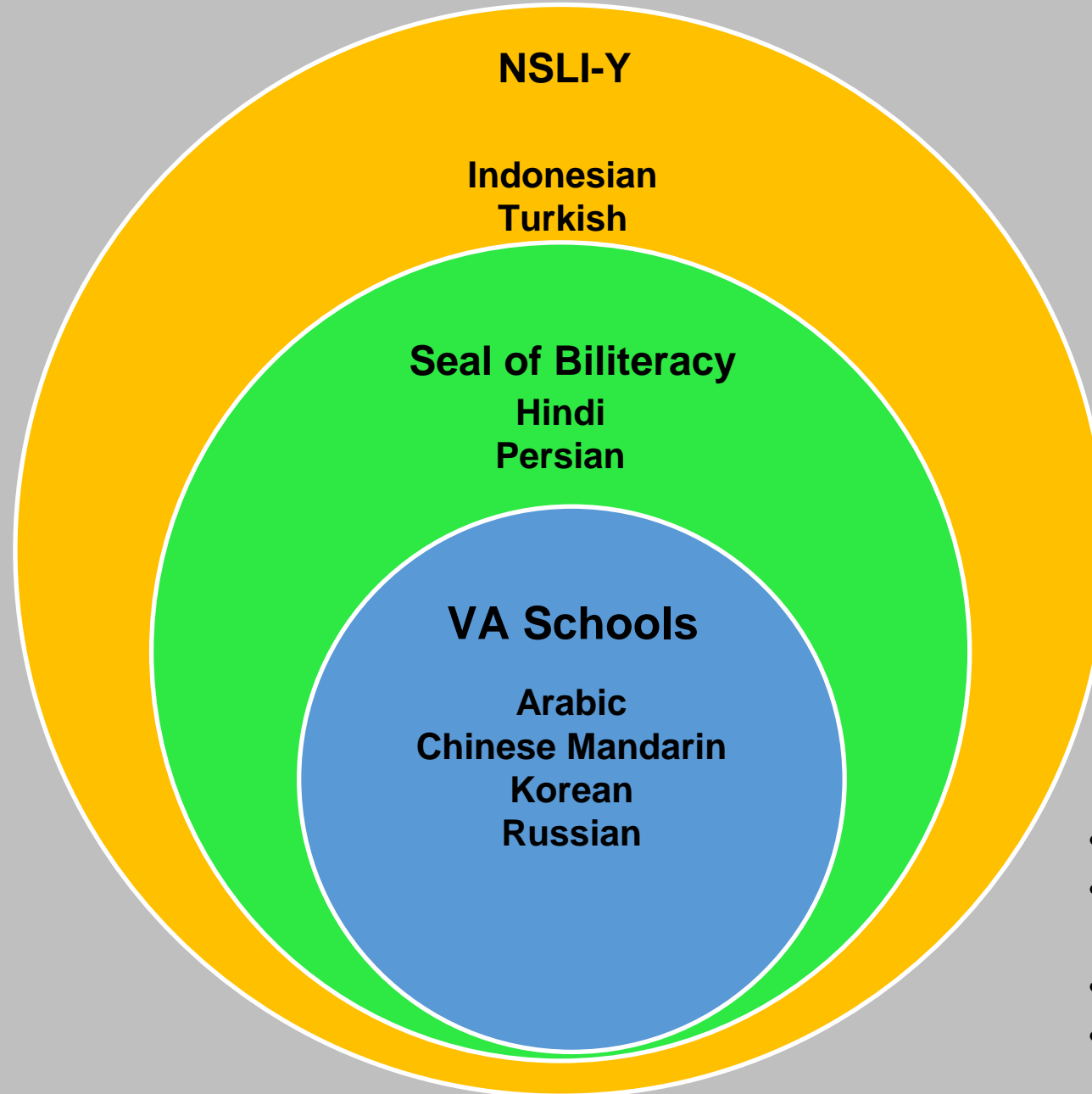


# Two Case Studies in Synergy: NSLI-Y and VA Seal of Biliteracy

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- Approximately 5% (66K) of VA students study language in elementary school and 25% (327K) of VA students study language in middle and/or high school (2018-2019)
- DoS NSLI-Y Program – How do we get more students to apply and expand programs taught in VA schools?
  - Only 143 students per year on average (last 3 years) apply to NSLI-Y and only 37 students on average participate as finalists in the NSLI-Y program
  - Of the 8 NSLI-Y languages, only 4 are taught in VA public schools
- State Seals of Biliteracy – How do we ensure recognition for this honor from future employers, including USG?
  - On average over 7K seals of biliteracy in 29 languages are awarded to VA students demonstrated ACTFL Proficiency–Intermediate Mid, AP-3, or IB-4
  - Linguistic wealth that needs to be capitalized on





### VA Seal of Biliteracy Awardees (2022)

- Hindi
- Persian
- Arabic
- Chinese Mandarin
- Korean
- Russian

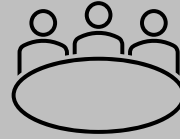
### VA NSLI-Y Participants (2022)

- Indonesian-0
- Turkish-2
- Hindi-3
- Persian-2
- Arabic-9
- Chinese Mandarin-11
- Korean-7
- Russian-8

### VA Student enrollments (2019)

- Arabic-124
- Chinese Mandarin-2168
- Korean-543
- Russian-503

# Panel



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**Dr. Michael F. Bunting**, George Mason University, Assistant Dean for Research, Director of Research Development for National Security, College of Engineering and Computing

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**Ms. Carolyn Collins**, U.S. Department of Education, International and Foreign Language Education (IFLE)

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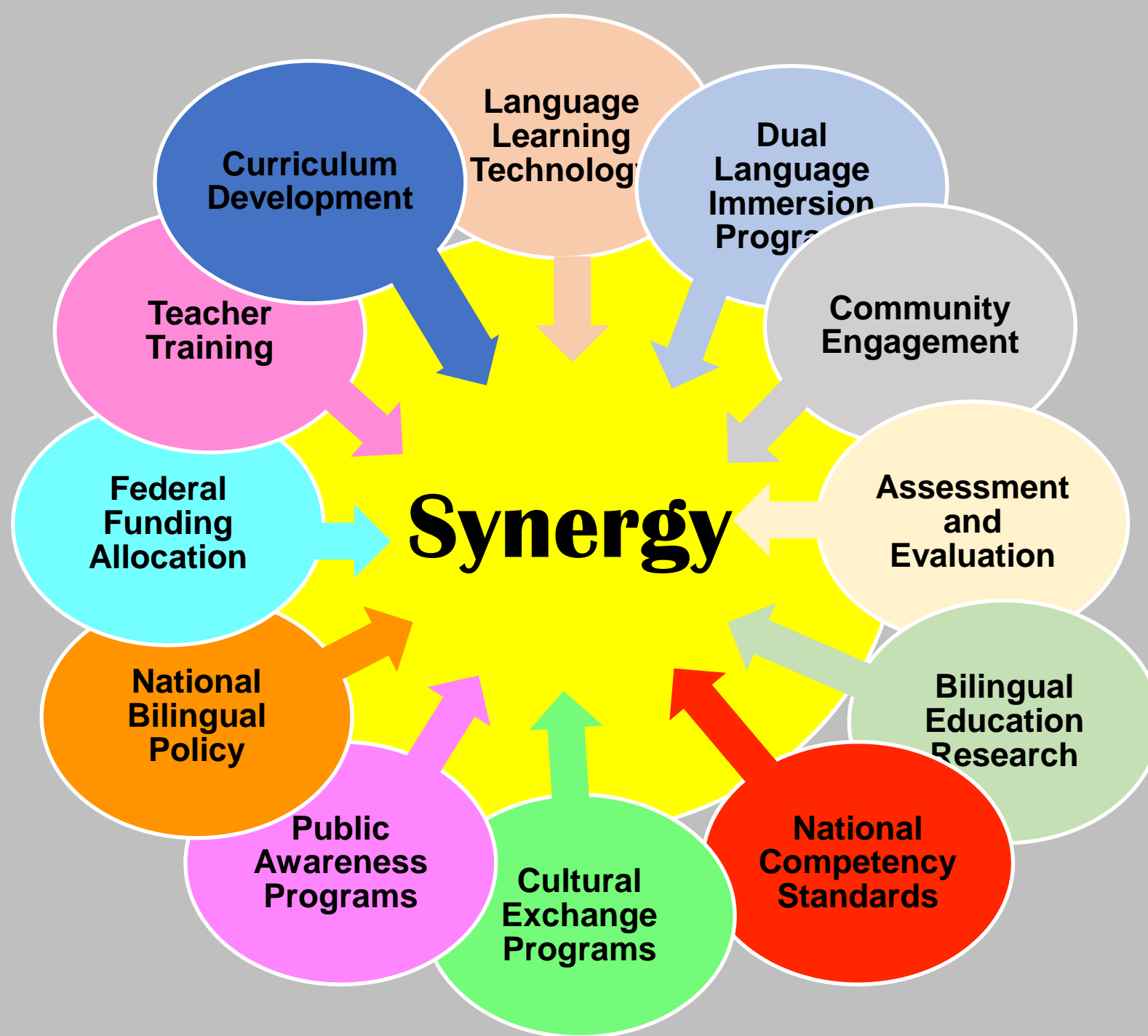
**Dr. Lisa Harris**, Virginia Department of Education, World Languages Coordinator

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**Dr. Gregory Jones**, Fairfax County Public Schools, World Languages Coordinator (retired)

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**Ms. Ewa Zeoli**, ODNI, IC Human Capital, Foreign Language Group



# Wrap Up

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Involved in hiring for language or supporting language programs at the federal level

*WE WANT TO  
HEAR YOUR  
IDEAS ABOUT  
CREATING  
SYNERGY*

Involved in any aspect of creating, advocating for, and/or managing language programs or strategy

*WE WANT TO  
LEARN MORE  
ABOUT WHAT  
YOU ARE DOING  
AND YOUR IDEAS.*

Interested in getting personally involved

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