

## NETWORK UPDATE

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Networking. It all sounded so simple when we first started using our modems. Our students would link to native speakers using their language skills in "authentic contexts" for joint projects. Those initial class projects eventually led to collaboration with distant colleagues as well as to partners for our classes. The success of these intimate learning circles of students and instructors whetted our interest to discover what else was out there on the Net. The possibilities kept expanding. Our first listserv was a revelation, a place where we could not only share common interests, but also delete what seemed irrelevant to our needs—what a sense of power! Then along came the gophers transforming the Net into an enormous information resource...

Gradually, however, the enormity of the Net began to take its toll. Information overload, the lack of time for exploration, and of adequate maps to sources of information caused pangs of frustration. Many of you work in an environment similar to ours where there is no official resident expert to help you connect to the information you need. This is where we can help you. In this column we hope to demystify the routes to relevant information for language instructors and students. But to do this, we also need your collective experience. Please, we entreat you, feel free to share with us your

discoveries on the Internet, your applications of networking in your classroom and in your scholarship so we can share them in turn with our readership. Let's share our networking as individuals with others in the profession to expand our knowledge and vision of how to best serve our students.

### NETBITS

Just a reminder that one of the most valuable resources on the Internet is the LLTI listserv. Here you will discover a wealth of valuable information on software, hardware, language labs and foreign language talk. Most important, it is a forum where you can post your questions or initiate a debate. If you would like to receive LLTI as a digest, send mail to:

listserv@dartcms1.dartmouth.edu

from the mail address where you usually get your LLTI mail. In the body of the mail message place the command: SET LLTI DIGEST. You will receive one mail message a day which consists of all the postings to LLTI for that day assembled into one

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message and indexed. If you want to change back to immediate delivery later, send the command: SET LLTI MAIL and you will receive each mail message as soon as it is posted by the sender. If you do not want to receive mail for a certain period of time, and do not want to unsubscribe type: SET LLTI NOMAIL. This will allow you to remain subscribed, without receiving mail. The setting is particularly useful if you are going out of town for a time and want to avoid returning to an overload of messages. To resume the mail delivery, type once again: SET LLTI MAIL. Remember to place all commands in the body of the mail message, not the subject line.

### ***FUNDING FOR UNLIMITED FREE ACCESS ON THE INTERNET***

The International Internet Association has received funding to provide Internet access to users in the domestic U.S. Call (202) 387-5445 to apply for a userid, a password and phone number to use the Internet via a master node in Washington, D.C. When you call to apply, you will reach a voicemail message informing you that due to overwhelming response, you can expect a 3-week response rate.

### ***IECC***

The "International Email Classroom Connections" mailing list is a meeting place for teachers seeking partner classes for international and cross-cultural electronic mail exchanges. This list is for subscribers and contributors who are looking for an entire class of email partners in an international or cross-cultural context. IECC should not be used for individual penpals. The use of any language is acceptable. IECC is not a moderated list—this means that postings to the list are distributed automatically to all subscribers.

When posting to the IECC list, remember to include the following information:

- Your name
- Name and location of your educational institution
- Name of your discipline (if appropriate)
- Academic level of your students (college/university, graduate school, high school, continuing education, elder hostel, etc.)
- Number of your students

You may also state your preferences for a partner classroom such as:

- Academic level
- Country/Culture (area within a country if appropriate)
- Discipline (if appropriate)
- Language
- Number of students
- When you would like to connect (e.g. spring semester, July, anytime)
- Other preferences (e.g. native Spanish speakers, Brazilian citizens, Japanese-Americans, rural residents, etc.)

To subscribe, send a message containing the word "subscribe" to: [iecc-request@stolaf.edu](mailto:iecc-request@stolaf.edu). To contribute send a message to: [iecc@stolaf.edu](mailto:iecc@stolaf.edu).

### ***BALZAC***

BALZAC is a new electronic discussion group dedicated exclusively to the exchange of ideas, of information and references regarding French and Francophone literature. Located on a server at the University of Montreal, BALZAC is open to all instructors, researchers, and students of French literature regardless of their theoretical point of view or methodology.

To subscribe, write to: [balzac-l-request@cc.umontreal.ca](mailto:balzac-l-request@cc.umontreal.ca). To send a message to all subscribers write to:

balzac-l@cc.umontreal.ca. The message will be sent automatically to all the members of the group.

Although BALZAC is primarily a French listserv, contributors in all languages are welcome. For further information write to:

Michel Piersens  
Département d'Etudes francaises  
Université de Montréal  
email (personal address)  
piersens@ere.umontreal.ca

### **FROGNET**

FROGNET, an initiative of La Mission Scientifique de l'Ambassade de France now distributes French news electronically in two formats: a daily French news review in French, and "News from France" in English once every two weeks. For general information on how to subscribe, send an email message to:

frog@guvax.acc.georgetown.edu  
or write to:

Bruno Oudet  
Attaché Scientifique  
Ambassade de France  
4101 Reservoir Road NW  
Washington, DC 20007-2176  
(202) 944-6237

Two additional listservs, FROGTALK and FROGJOBS from the Mission Scientifique use the following convention for subscription. To post to the list you must send email to: FROGJOBS@yukon.cren.org. To subscribe, you must send email to: listproc@yukon.cren.org with the message: subscribe frogtalk last name first name; or, subscribe frogjobs last name first name.

### **LASNET**

A listserv from the University of Texas provides a list of contacts for those in Latin American studies. It is in the form of a simple directory with names, addresses, (email and snailmail), and areas of interest. The Internet address is as follows: lasnet@emx.cc.utexas.edu. Send as your first line of text: LASNET-REQUEST. You will receive a reply with further instructions on becoming a listed member of the LASNET directory.

### **LATIN AMERICAN DISCUSSION GROUPS**

The following list of discussion groups from Latin America was compiled by Molly Molloy at the New Mexico State University Library, Las Cruces, NM 88001, email mmolloy@lib.nmsu.edu, (505) 646-6931. As many of the services are constantly in a state of flux, they may not be active at this time.

1. ACTIV-L: Peace, Democracy, Freedom, Justice

To subscribe:  
listserv@mizzou1.missouri.edu

To send messages to the list, write to:  
activ-l@mizzou1.missouri.edu

This is a very busy list covering all kinds of progressive/radical political issues. Of interest to Latin Americanists because of the many activist/human rights groups that post news and bulletins from numerous Latin American countries, it is also an excellent source for news from El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Peru and other countries. The listserv includes postings from environmental, trade, and development organizations.

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### 2. ARGENTINA

To subscribe: [argentina-request@asterix.eng.buffalo.edu](mailto:argentina-request@asterix.eng.buffalo.edu)

Post messages to:  
[argentina@asterix.eng.buffalo.edu](mailto:argentina@asterix.eng.buffalo.edu)

A separate address is used for news:  
[argentina-noticias@ois.db.toronto.edu](mailto:argentina-noticias@ois.db.toronto.edu)

This is an Argentinean discussion and news group.

### 3. BORIKEN: Puerto Rico Culture & Society

To subscribe, send message to:  
[LISTSERV@ENLACE.BITNET](mailto:LISTSERV@ENLACE.BITNET)

Post messages to:  
[BORIKEN@ENLACE.BITNET](mailto:BORIKEN@ENLACE.BITNET)

For other list and subscription information contact: Rafael Pirazzi,  
[r\\_pirazzi@upr1.upr1.clu.edu](mailto:r_pirazzi@upr1.upr1.clu.edu)

This is a general discussion of Puerto Rican society and culture. The ENLACE listserv, located at the Universidad de Puerto Rico also administers several other discussion groups on other issues.

### 4. BRAS-NET: Brazilian Discussion Group/Network

Note: Non-European users should subscribe by sending a message to:  
[bras-net-request@cs.ucla.edu](mailto:bras-net-request@cs.ucla.edu)

European users should send a message to:  
[bras-net-request@uk.ac.man.cs](mailto:bras-net-request@uk.ac.man.cs)

Several other Brazilian interest groups exist. To get more general information on these other lists, try sending an email message to: [GOMIDE@BRFAPESP.BITNET](mailto:GOMIDE@BRFAPESP.BITNET) or to: [listserv@fapq.fapesp.br](mailto:listserv@fapq.fapesp.br)

### 5. CARECON: Caribbean Economy

To subscribe: [listserv@vm1.yorku.ca](mailto:listserv@vm1.yorku.ca)

Post messages to:  
[carecon@vm1.yorku.ca](mailto:carecon@vm1.yorku.ca)

This list is a discussion of issues related to the Caribbean economy.

### 6. CENTAM-L: Central America Discussion Group

To subscribe:  
[listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu](mailto:listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu)

Post messages to : [centam-l@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu](mailto:centam-l@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu)

This is a very active discussion group for people from Central America and others interested in the region. Many members are students in the United States from Central American countries. News, human rights reports and other information are posted regularly from the region.

### 7. CHILE-L: Chile Discussion Group

To subscribe, send message to:  
[LISTSERV@USACHVM1.BITNET](mailto:LISTSERV@USACHVM1.BITNET)

Post messages to:  
[CHILE-L@USACHVM1.BITNET](mailto:CHILE-L@USACHVM1.BITNET)

This is a general discussion on Chile.

### 8. CLACSO-INST-L: Red Electrónica de Ciencias Sociales en América Latina—Institutional Information, and

[CLACSO-ACCESO-L](mailto:CLACSO-ACCESO-L): Regional Social Science News

To subscribe: [listserv@ax.ibase.br](mailto:listserv@ax.ibase.br)

Post messages to:  
clacso-inst-l@ax.ibase.br, or  
clacso-acceso-l@ax.ibase.br

Address questions to: Gustavo Navarro,  
RTGUS@ARCRIBA.BITNET or  
rtgus@criba.edu or, clacso@ax.apc.org

New lists announced in April 1993.  
CLACSO-INST-L will include an elec-  
tronic newsletter, "Carta de CLACSO."

#### 9. COMEDIA: Hispanic Classic Theatre

To subscribe:  
listserv@arizvm1.ccit.arizona.edu

Post messages to:  
comedia@arizvm1.ccit.arizona.edu

This is a discussion of Hispanic classic  
theater.

#### 10. ECUADOR: Ecuadorean Network

Post messages to:  
ecuador@skat.usc.edu

This is an excellent source for news from  
Ecuador. Daily news bulletins from  
"Diario Hoy" are posted to the list.

#### 11. ESPORA-L: Spanish-Portuguese History

To subscribe:  
listserv@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu

Post messages to:  
esporal@ukanvm.cc.ukans.edu

Here one can find a multilingual discus-  
sion and exchange of information on the  
history of the Iberian peninsula in Por-  
tuguese, Spanish, English, Catalan, etc.

#### 12. FOLLAC: Folklore Latino, Latinoamericano y Caribeño

To subscribe, send a message to Emily  
Socolov at:  
owner-follac@ccwf.cc.texas.edu

Post messages to:  
follac@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu

Moderator's address: University of  
Texas—Austin, Folklore Studies.

This is a mailing list for the discussion  
of Latin American Folklore. The multi-  
lingual list began in spring 1993. It is  
described as a mailing list for "all people  
interested in the folklore and traditional,  
expressive culture of the hemisphere."

#### 13. GNET: Global Networking

To subscribe, send message to:  
gnet-request@dhvx20.csudh.edu

This list posts announcements of re-  
search papers and other documents  
available from the GNET Archives, an ftp  
site dhvx20.csudh.edu. The archive con-  
tains many papers on global networking,  
the use of networks in less developed  
countries, communication in interna-  
tional development, and other related  
topics.

#### 14. HILAT-L: Higher Education in Latin America

To subscribe, send a message to:  
LISTSERV@BRUSPVM.BITNET

Post messages to:  
HILATL@BRUSPVM.BITNET

For information contact:  
Simon Schwartzman, Universidade de  
São Paulo, Research Group on  
Higher Education,  
SSCHWART@BRUSPVM.BITNET

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The list was intended as a means of information interchange about research on higher education in Latin America by disseminating information about research projects, publications, and meetings.

### 15. IBASE-TEXTS-L@ibase.br: Brazilian Institute of Social & Economic Analyses

To subscribe, send message to: [listserv@ibase.br](mailto:listserv@ibase.br)

Post messages to: [ibase@ax.ibase.br](mailto:ibase@ax.ibase.br), or [ibase@ax.apc.org](mailto:ibase@ax.apc.org)

This list contains texts prepared by the Brazilian Institute of Social and Economic Analyses, IBASE, a non-governmental research, service and consultancy organization based in Rio de Janeiro. IBASE prepares information packages in several formats including text, video, radio, etc. on Brazilian social, economic, political and cultural issues. IBASE's main goal is democratization of information.

### 16. LATAM-INFO: Latin America Academic Information

To subscribe, send a message to: [latam-info-request@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:latam-info-request@mailbase.ac.uk)

Post messages to: [latam-info@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:latam-info@mailbase.ac.uk)

The listserv is based in the UK and disseminates information and discussions on matters of common concern to subject specialists, librarians, students and others in Latin American studies.

### 17. LATCO: Business & Trade with Latin America. Portland, Oregon: Latin American Trade Council of Oregon

To subscribe, send a message to: [lserv@psg.com](mailto:lserv@psg.com)

To post messages, write to: [latco@psg.com](mailto:latco@psg.com)

Produced by the Latin American Trade Council of Oregon

Moderators: Tom Miles, [tmiles@well.sf.ca.us](mailto:tmiles@well.sf.ca.us) and Walter Morales, [walter@psg.com](mailto:walter@psg.com).

This is a multilingual discussion list for trade and economic data, analysis, opinions and experience, sources of information about Latin American business and industry, conference announcements, etc.

### 18. MCLR: Midwest Consortium for Latino Research

To subscribe: [listserv@ibm.cl.msu.edu](mailto:listserv@ibm.cl.msu.edu)

Post messages to: [mclr@ibm.cl.msu.edu](mailto:mclr@ibm.cl.msu.edu)

This is a dialogue among Latinos living in the United States.

### 19. MEXICO-L: Knowing Mexico: People, Places & Culture, Monterrey, Nuevo León, MX: ITESM

To subscribe: [listserv@tecmtym.mty.itesm.mx](mailto:listserv@tecmtym.mty.itesm.mx)

Post messages to: [mexico-l@tecmtym.mty.itesm.mx](mailto:mexico-l@tecmtym.mty.itesm.mx)

This is an active list with members from many countries, all with an interest in Mexico. Predominately in Spanish, it is a good source for getting network information on Mexico.

### 20. NATIVE-L: Indigenous Peoples Information

NAT-LANG: Languages of Indigenous Peoples

soc.culture.mexican

NATCHAT: Indigenous Peoples Discussion

soc.culture.caribbean

alt.culture.argentina

Note: Three separate lists available for subscription via:  
listserv@tamvm1.tamu.edu

soc.culture.portuguese

soc.culture.spain

Post messages to:  
native-1@tamvm1.tamu.edu, or  
natchat@tamvm1.tamu.edu, or  
nat-lang@tamvm1.tamu.edu

Note: To read USENET news, you must have access via a news reader on your local system or through access to another system. To find out about local access, contact your computer center.

These lists deal with various issues related to indigenous peoples worldwide. Politics, culture, and information sources are all discussed. The participants include academics, activists, students, etc. It is a good news source for information on the environment, human rights, politics, etc., in Latin America, and especially for Guatemala, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru and other countries with large indigenous populations.

These newsgroups discuss almost anything relating to society, politics, travel, culture, etc., for the regions described. Most of the discussions are in Spanish and English. Much information is cross-posted to other lists. At least one of these, soc.culture.mexican contains a FAQ (frequently asked questions) file that provides a lot of good information.

#### 21. PERU: Discussion Group

To subscribe, send message to:  
owner-peru@cs.sfsu.edu

Post messages to: peru@cs.sfsu.edu

List administrator: Herbert Koller  
herb@busybe.sf.ca.us

This is a general discussion on Peru. It often includes from 5 to 10 news postings daily from various wire services and international newspapers and is mostly in Spanish.

#### MINITEL UPDATE

Minitel Services Company has just announced interconnection with the Internet through Videotex Development Corporation and DELPHI, a leading online service. This means that all Minitel users can exchange messages with more than 20 million users on Internet including government, research and corporate systems or commercial services such as America Online, Prodigy, CompuServe, MCI Mail, AT&T Mail and other commercial systems. In addition, Minitel users can easily connect to remote networks using Telnet, download programs and files using FTP and communicate real-time on Internet Relay CHAT (IRC).

#### 22. USENET NEWS on Latin America newsgroups.

soc.culture.latin-america

The new connection has important implications for the U.S. and French educational communities, which will now be able to conference and share resources.

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The DELPHI conduit provides full Internet access, not just email. This means that all Minitel users will have new avenues for finding valuable French-related databases and services. Here in the U.S., Minitel users can review a README FIRST section providing necessary tips for novices, scan a Member Directory for fellow Minitel users, send email, search Favorite Hosts to find French-related databases or join worldwide discussions on French culture. They can also use DELPHI's online support to exchange messages with the Internet Special Interest Group (SIG).

To connect to the Internet via Minitel, simply type INTERNET at the MSC Main Menu. A prompt will ask new users to register before using Internet Mail and services in the DELPHI Internet SIG. The Internet service is priced at \$1.15 per minute for users in North America. There are no monthly fees or start-up costs. Billing options include prepayment or direct bill accounts using Visa, Mastercard or American Express. French Minitel users can access the Internet via 3619 USNET with their Minitel terminal. The price for the service in France is 2.19 francs per minute to the end user.

Free emulation software is available from Minitel Services Company for modem-equipped IBM or MAC computers. For information write to Minitel Services Company, 888 Seventh Avenue, New York,

NY 10106, phone: (212) 399-0080, FAX: (212) 399-0129.

FRANCEMONDE represents a low-cost option for educators who want to take advantage of a limited number of Minitel services. For only \$.19 per minute, users can access AFP (Agence France Press), AE (Annuaire Electronique), EDUTEL (a school exchange area), LETUDIANT (a student magazine) and FRANCEUSA (a pen pal exchange) and more. Contact Minitel Services Company at the address listed above for more information.

The "MINITEL Teacher Guide" contains useful strategies, teaching tips and information for classrooms using the Minitel. It can be obtained by writing to Adam STEG, Bureau Audiovisuel, 300 Poydras, Suite 2105, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 529-7502.

HyperTel is a HyperCard stack available to Apple Macintosh users that presents eighteen Minitel services useful in the classroom. The simulation format allows users to get experience navigating the Minitel services before going online. It can be ordered from MiniTeach International, Box 23054, Des Moines, IA 50325, (515) 225-6026.

*Contributions/suggestions for the "Network Update" column may be sent directly to Juliette Avots or Mim Grodberg. Mailing address: Wellesley High School, 50 Rice Street, Wellesley, MA 02181; email: javots@lucy.wellesley.edu and mgrodberg@lucy.wellesley.edu*