

# GUIDING AND EMPOWERING LANGUAGE LEARNERS

## Learning Consultation at FSI- Traditional Program and New Trends

School of Language Studies

Foreign Service Institute

Department of State

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# Presenters

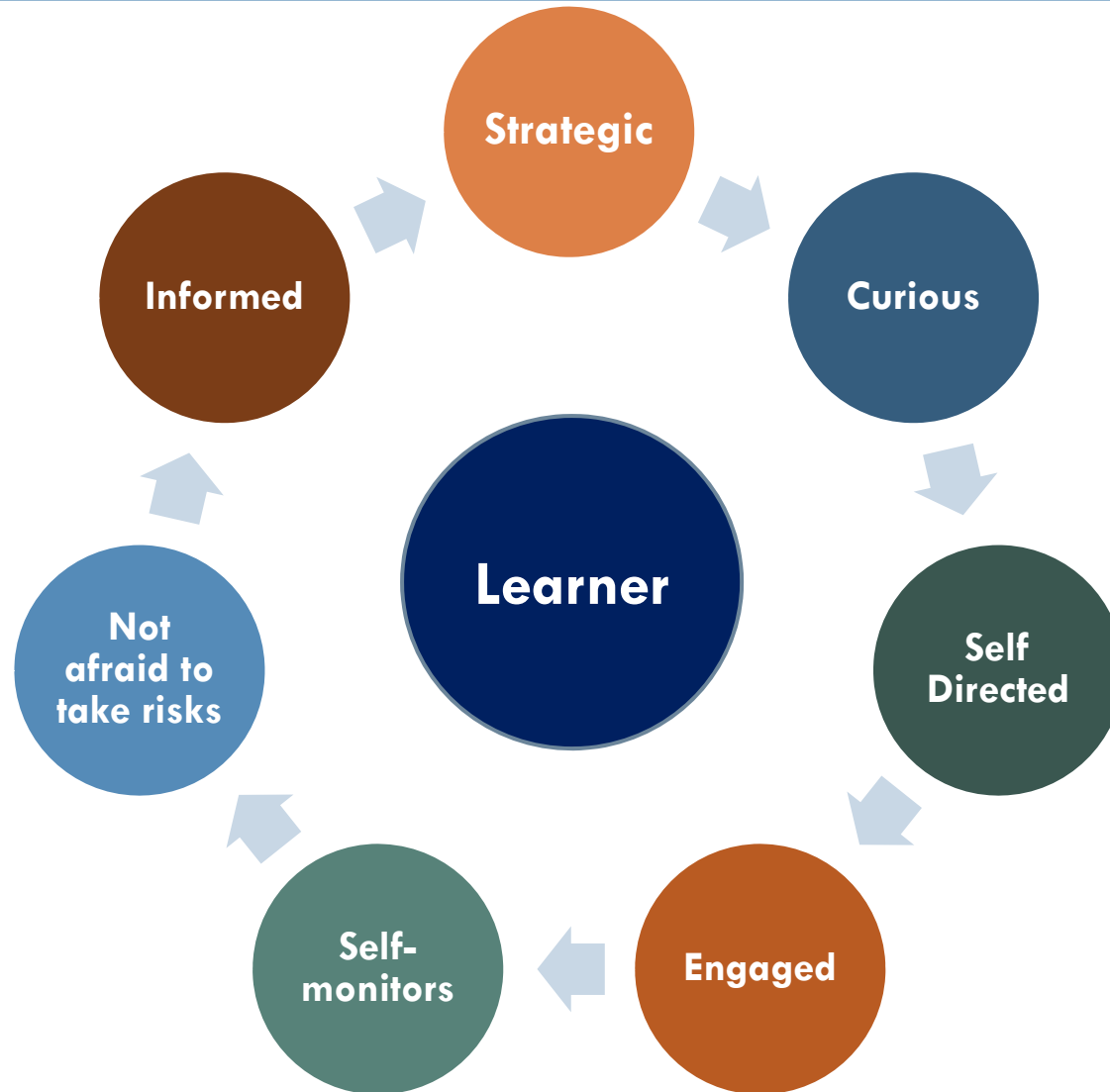


- **Eileen Kaht** (Team Lead, LCS)
- **Elina Karmokolias** (LCS Counselor)
- **Ling Wang** (LCS Counselor)
- **Niloofar Agah** (LCS Counselor)

# Fostering Autonomy in the FSI Language Learner



# Characteristics of an Autonomous Learner



# Activating Metacognition in the FSI Language Learner



# A winning formula for many

Engaging  
metacognition +  
strategy coaching



Moving to  
autonomy



Successful  
language  
learners who  
meet the goal!



# Others need continued support

Guidance and support



“Auxiliary metacognition”



Successful language learners who meet the goal!



# The SLS Learning Consultation Support Network



- ❑ **4 LCS Counselors**
- ❑ **2 LCS Support Staff**
- ❑ **45 Full-time Learning Consultants**
- ❑ **20 Part-time**
- ❑ **Others also do coaching and counseling**

**1300-1500 students annually**



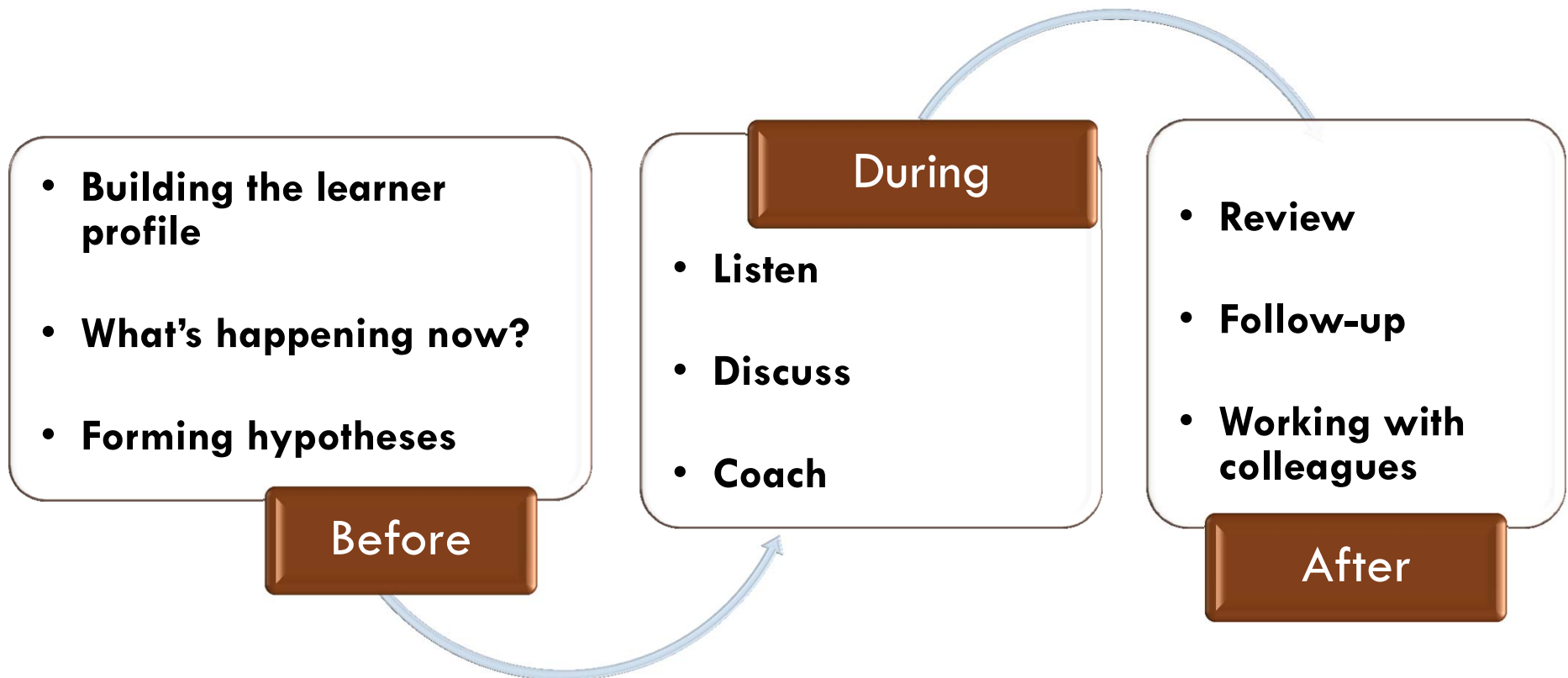
# The team approach or solo



# Individual Consultations



# The Consultation Process



**Understanding  
learning**

The diagram features a horizontal bar at the top, split into an orange segment on the left and a blue segment on the right. Below this bar, two 3D orange figures are shown; the one on the left is holding a large brown puzzle piece. Four arrows originate from the figures: a green arrow points from the puzzle piece to the 'Understanding learning' oval; a yellow arrow points from the figure on the right to the 'Managing self-study and resources' oval; a grey arrow points from the figure on the right to the 'Emotional Concerns' oval; and a blue arrow points from the figure on the left to the 'Interpersonal Dynamics' oval.

**Managing self-study  
and resources**

**Emotional  
Concerns**


**Interpersonal  
Dynamics**

# Brown Bags: Reaching more learners on key topics

FSI/SLS/CSD—Brown Bag Sessions for Students

## **“5 Brain-based” Study Strategies**

**For Efficient Language Learning**



**What research  
tells us about:**

- Reviewing vs Testing
- Time on Task
- Intensity vs  
Variation of Activities

**Wednesday, May 27  
in room F-1617  
10:40 AM & 1:40 PM**

Join us for an informal 50 minute brown bag session.

For more information, please email: [FSISLSConsultation@state.gov](mailto:FSISLSConsultation@state.gov)

# The power of our work lies in...



- Personal interaction
- Listening
- Space for reflection
- Perspective adjustment
- Coaching for strategies and balanced self-study
- Information and ideas

# Current Trends



- Recognizing the essence of our work
- De-emphasizing “learning styles”
- Science of memory and learning
- Emphasizing feedback
- Merging roles
- Rotational Learning Consultants
- Training teachers

# Contacts



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