

NLT Technology Beyond FY 2005

Last update: 7 June, 2005

Introduction

This report lists the efforts currently under way by the four NASA Learning Technologies projects to progress the project deliverables and technologies beyond FY 2005 funding. As new efforts are undertaken this report will be updated.

Information Access, Johnson Space Center

The following activities that may result in FY 2006 funding are under way:

- Establish an open-source site and community for the IAL software. This is in progress at the JSC Tech Transfer Office.
- The project team is currently in partnership with the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) and the NASA Space Science Brokerage Southeast Research Clearing House (SERCH). Discussions are underway for collaborative activities with the NASA Student Observation Network (SON) and the Sun-Earth Connection program, and the space science Education/Public Outreach (E/PO) segments of the SWIMM mission. There is no funding associated with any of these.
- IAL software is a key component of the Rocket On! program of the National Federation of the Blind. Dr. Shelton has recently trained two people on the use of MathTrax for use in the program's Rocket Camp. There is no funding associated with this.
- The IAL team will provide the keynote speech to the Exceptional Needs Working Group conference in July. Opportunities for funding may arise from this.
- IAL has been included in an internal proposal to the Goddard Center Director to incorporate IAL technology into software that supports the Student Observation Network activity Radio Jove. The proposal was accepted with reduced funding, and none for IAL.
- The project has partnered with a group from the Georgia Institute of Technology in a research proposal to NSF on audible graphs. If funded, the project would receive support to integrate the MathTrax sound package(s) into Georgia Tech's audible graph research tool which they would then use to identify psychoacoustic best practices for presentation of audible graphs.

Scientific Visualization Studio, Goddard Space Flight Center

The following activities that may result in FY 2006 funding are under way:

- The SVS technology will be merged by the end of the year with product-delivery mechanisms of the separately funded Scientific Visualization Studio. As a result, any SVS customers who wish to use the capability will have access to it. At this time, no customers the project has approached have expressed interest in using this capability as a delivery mechanism. The current plan is to serve the existing LTP animations

until the end of this fiscal year while evaluating the viability and desirability of continuing to serve these WMS-based animations beyond the current funding cycle.

- As of this year, the SVS is part of a group responsible for software support to the NASA high performance modeling community. For that group, the SVS is creating a WMS server to serve satellite and global modeling data on demand to that community. This will be a separate server from the existing LTP SVS Image Server and should come on line within the next month (6/05).

Virtual Lab, Kennedy Space Center

The following activities that may result in FY 2006 funding are under way:

- The full set of project deliverables is scheduled to be complete in early 2006, so this project will naturally extend into FY 2006 using FY 2005 money.
- The project has established an open-source site and is working to build a community around the technology and its software and specimen library.
- Proposal submitted to Earth Science and Education to create and evaluate in the classroom simulation modules using Virtual Lab.
- Beckman Institute, the primary contractor for the Virtual Lab deliverables, will be making the technology an integral part of their on-line offerings. They plan to maintain and carry forward the technology, subject to funds available from their sources.

What's The Difference

The following activities that may result in FY 2006 funding are under way:

- Proposed with NASA Explorer Schools to add math data sets within the Solar System Data set. Middle school pre-algebraic concepts such as measurement, data analysis, problem solving, ratios and proportions will be addressed. The proposal was funded at \$250K over two years to develop this curriculum, the data set, and the supporting modifications to the application.
- Working with the Australian Centre for Astrobiology to create Astrobiology datasets.