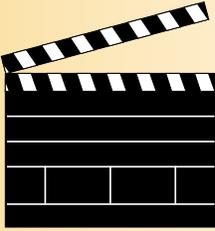


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Director's Corner

We would like to welcome you to the first edition of The ADL Dispatch; a resource for the most current information about the ADL Initiative. We will share with you our news and upcoming events.

Enjoy!

Dr. Robert Wisner

Letter of Agreement Between the DAC and the JADL Signed



**Joint ADL Co-Lab
Orlando, Florida
15 January 2008**

The Joint Advanced Distributed Learning Co-Laboratory (Joint ADL Co-Lab) and the Defense Ammunition Center (DAC) signed a Working Level Letter of Agreement (LOA).

The Letter of Agreement establishes a mutual agreement between the Director, Defense Ammunition Center and the Director, Joint Advanced Distributed Learning Co-Laboratory. The objective of the agreement is to cooperate in the application of advanced instructional technologies and knowledge management practices associated with the Advanced Distributed Learning vision for support of the Joint Warfighter's Mission.

This arrangement will facilitate a collaborative and functional environment between the Defense Ammunition Center and the JADL Co-Lab, for the research and development of new ADL advanced concepts.

Ammunition, explosives, and other hazardous materials are an essential commodity for Warfighters to successfully perform their mission. The hazards associated with the manufacture, storage, transportation

and disposal of these items make them unique among all of the logistical supply classes. Both current and future operational challenges require ammunition professionals to continually improve their educational and training standards by enhancing individual knowledge, skills, and abilities to achieve desired outcomes in decisive operations.



Mr. Gary Carney, Dr. Robert Wisner, Mrs. Jean Burmester

The Warfighter relies on a skilled cadre of ammunition professionals to ensure that the right quantities of the right ammunition are available in the right location at the right time. In a similar manner, the ammunition professional has come to rely on a wide array of distance learning products, electronic performance support tools, and knowledge networks to receive the right information to make the right decision at the right time.

The Defense Ammunition Center is charged to support the transformation of our military forces using power of information by creating, storing, imparting, and applying knowledge to enhance the ability of ammunition personnel to perform in joint operations.

E-Learn 2007- World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, & Higher Education



**ADL Co-Lab Hub
Alexandria, Virginia
15 November 2007**

Dr. Traci Sitzmann, a Research Scientist and leader of the Training Evaluation Team at the ADL Co-Laboratory Hub, was a keynote speaker at the E-Learn Conference (<http://www.aace.org/conf/eLearn/>) in Quebec City on 18 October 2007. E-Learn is an international conference with over 60 countries represented to discuss solutions for

overcoming challenges related to online learning including sessions on using SCORM compliant learning management systems and developing SCORM conformant instruction. Traci presented research on the effectiveness of online training and shared a no-cost intervention strategy that can be incorporated in online courses to improve learning outcomes. If you would like to request a copy of the material presented at the conference, Dr. Traci Sitzmann can be reached at traci.sitzmann.ctr@adlnet.gov.



Dr. Traci Sitzmann

E-Learning Summit Held at Workforce ADL Co-Lab



**Workforce ADL Co-Lab
Memphis, Tennessee
30-31 October 2007**

The E-Learning Summit is one of the primary outreach activities of the Workforce ADL Co-Lab. Every two years, E-Learning professionals meet on the University of Memphis campus to discuss advanced distributed learning issues and participate in workshops. Hosted by the Workforce ADL Co-Lab, the Summit takes place in the FedEx Institute of Technology complex. This event focuses on both practical and high-level discussions about the current state and future of E-Learning.

The first E-Learning Summit in 2005 featured three workshops:

- 1) SCORM Sequencing & Navigation EDGES: Emergent Designs with Granularity past the Ends of SCORM
- 2) Authoring Tools for Advanced Learning Environment with Standards
- 3) E-Learning Solutions in Industry.

The 2005 E-Learning Summit attracted over 70 participants. The participants came from many different industries, and from various parts of the United States and beyond. Some of the papers presented were published in the IEEE Learning Technology Task Force Newsletter (<http://lttf.ieee.org/>).

The second E-Learning Summit was held 30-31 October 2007. The focus of this Summit was on SCORM tools and utilities. The theme of the Summit was "Tools for SCORM: What We Have and What We Need."

The Summit was again sponsored by the University of Memphis and by the Advanced Distributed Learning Initiative. Over 120 professionals came from the United States, Europe, and Asia to the FedEx Institute of Technology. The participants represented

various companies, government agencies, non-profits, educational institutions, and vendors.

The participants spent two days in high-level discussions and panel presentations. Highlights of E-Learning Summit 2007 were keynote addresses from Dr. Robert Wisher, Director of the ADL Initiative, and Paul Jesukiewicz from the ADL Co-Lab Hub.

A highlight of the Summit was a full-day pre-conference training seminar about SCORM. This seminar included the history and background of SCORM, how it works, why it is important, and where the standard is headed in future technical development. The seminar accommodated 25 participants, and filled up very quickly.

The final component of the Summit was a discussion of "what's next" for E-Learning standards. At the conclusion of the E-Learning Summit, the participants were surveyed. The sessions and particularly the workshops were rated as highly relevant and informative. The E-Learning Summit organizers were pleased with the event and the momentum generated as plans are made for the 2009 E-Learning Summit.

I/ITSEC 2007

Orlando, Florida
26-29 November 2007

The Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) promotes cooperation among the Armed Services, Industry, Academia, and various Government agencies in pursuit of improved training and education programs, identification of common training issues, and development of multi-service programs.

The theme for I/ITSEC 2007 was "Maintaining the Edge...Transforming the Force."

I/ITSEC is one vehicle for helping to provide the very best of training equipment, cutting edge educational methodologies, and simulation technologies for our warfighters. I/ITSEC focuses on training concepts and technologies that provide continuous, pervasive, and institutionalized training. Training technologies range from large-scale trainers to methods and standards for incorporating web-based training. Military organizations come to I/ITSEC to find the resources that they will need to adapt to the new tasks and threats of tomorrow.

This year the ADL Initiative booth attracted over 800 visitors. The booth featured a 4-console gaming center, a presentation area, visitor's reception desk, and two HD monitors for providing ADL demonstrations. One of the week's highlights was a visit and tour by the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defense. These key staffers were escorted through the booth by Mr. Dan Gardner and Dr. Robert Wisher.

Many experts in the education and training field noted there is a lack of research (literature review of empirical studies) about game-based learning. Dr. Rick Blunt, Director ADL Plans and Programs, presented a paper entitled "Does Game-Based Learning Work? Results from Three Recent Studies"; the paper serves as a means of providing

answers to both skeptics and supporters on the relationship between the use of video games and learning as measured on standardized tests. The bottom line – students in classes using games scored significantly higher means than classes that did not. There were no significant differences between genders or ethnicities, though students 41 and older did not do as well with games in the classroom environment.

Some of the key presentations made at the booth were the NATO Training Group (Geir Isaksen), the TNO HLA-SCORM Interface (Leo de Penning) and the JKDDC-JKO Portal Demo (Marty Vozzo). Furthermore, The ADL conducted two



ADL Initiative Booth featuring a 4-console gaming center

prototype IPT meetings "live" at the booth to encourage outside participation. A 90-minute Tutorial entitled, "Delivering Learning Content Using the Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Registry," was presented by Nina Pasini-Deibler. The tutorial was well attended, and there were many follow-up questions in the presentation room and later in the booth.

Wayne Gafford, Director of the Job Performance Technology Center presented on S1000D. The presentation covered the following:

- Life cycle logistics data impact analysis web service. The web service demonstrated how the use of S1000D can improve training content change notification procedures.
- Improved maintenance-based simulations. This presentation demonstrated improvements to simulations through integrating S1000D data modules into the interface.

- Acquisition for the S1000D data. This presentation wrapped up with tips and guidelines for procuring integrated S1000D/SCORM data that could result in the above projects.

Level of Participation:

Several members of the ADL Co-Lab Hub and the Joint ADL Co-Lab presented papers during I/ITSEC.

▪ Delivering Learning Content Using the Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Registry

Susan Marshall, PEO STRI/Joint ADL Co-Lab; Nina Pasini Deibler, Joint ADL Co-Lab/Stamley Associates

▪ Learner Assessment Data Models for Standardizing Assessment Across Live, Virtual and Constructive Domains

Brent Smith, ECS; Chris DuBuc, ECS; Dean Marvin, Joint ADL Co-Lab/Stamley Associates

▪ Integrating Didactic and Experiential Training: Round Pegs in Square Holes?

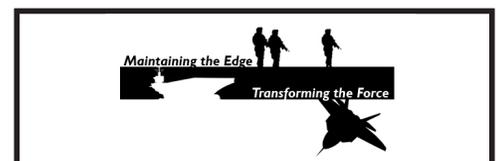
Shawn A. Weil, Aptima, Inc.; Gilbert Mizrahi,

Aptima, Inc.; Dean Marvin, Joint ADL Co-Lab/Stamley Associates

▪ A Web Service Architecture for Integrating Didactic and Experiential Learning

Virginia Travers, BBN Technologies; R. Bruce Roberts, BBN Technologies; Christopher Guin, BBN Technologies; Ray Tomlinson, BBN Technologies; Jacob Marks, Joint ADL Co-Lab/Stamley Associates

The ADL Initiatives participation in I/ITSEC was a tremendous success. With so many meetings, IPTs, demonstrations, paper/tutorial presentations, and discussions at the booth, there were numerous and beneficial activities packed into the four-day event.



ADL Initiative Booth I/ITSEC 2007 in Review



PHILIP V. W. DODDS



Philip Van Horn Weems Dodds, an adjunct staff member of the Institute for Defense Analysis and the chief technical architect for the Defense Department's Advanced Distributed Learning Initiative passed away October 6, 2007.

Philip was a Core ADL Team Member and was instrumental in designing and developing the ADL's Shareable Content Object Reference Model (SCORM), meeting an architectural requirements known throughout the ADL community as the "ilities": accessibility, interoperability, durability and reusability.

An avid woodworker and sailor, Philip was also known for playing the guitar and being an impromptu musical paragon at his residence. Philip was also proud of his role in an impromptu musical gathering at his residence. Philip was also proud of his role in the movie, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." As vice president for engineering, he was sent to the set of the movie to program the ARP space synthesizer to play the five tones that communicated with the mother ship in the movie. During that time, Steven Spielberg, the film's director, offered Philip a role in the movie as the ARP technician. Philip accepted the offer and, as a result, has a short speaking role at the end of the movie.

The ADL Registry (ADL-R) was Philip's last major contribution to the ADL Initiative. The ADL-R infrastructure is envisioned to lay the foundation for designing and deploying Internet and Web services that will enable accurate, precisely focused, and contextually correct discovery and retrieval of learning content objects.

We will all miss Philip and hope that others will follow his lead and extend the contributions to the education and training community that he initiated.



DoD Delegation Visit Workforce ADL Co-Lab



Workforce ADL Co-Lab Memphis, Tennessee 30-31 January 2008

Representatives from the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) visited the Workforce Advanced Distributed Learning (WADL) Co-Lab in Memphis, Tennessee 30-31 January 2008. The representatives were Dr. Paul Mayberry, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Readiness, Mr. Dan Gardner, Director of Readiness and Training Policy and Program, Mr. Joe Camacho, Program Manager for the Joint Knowledge Development and Distribution Capability (JKDDC), and Dr. Robert Wisher, Director of the ADL Initiative for the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).

The purpose of the visit was to explore new avenues of collaboration among the DoD, the WADL Co-Lab, and Institute for Intelligent Systems (IIS) at the University of Memphis. Close collaborations have the potential to dramatically advance workforce training and readiness initiatives in DoD. The IIS, which is part

of the FedEx Institute of Technology in Memphis, is a leading research center for learning, language, and communication technologies. The WADL Co-Lab was established by researchers in the IIS.

The DoD delegation spent the day interacting with dozens of WADL faculty, staff, and graduate students. The researchers described and demoed their recent implementations of learning technologies (such as AutoTutor, MetaTutor, ARIES, and iSTART) which use animated pedagogical agents to promote deep learning and reasoning about science and technology. There were demos of automated tools for language and text analysis (Coh-Metrix), multi-channel communication (iMAP), eye tracking, and detection of emotions from dialogue, facial expressions, speech parameters, and body posture.

Mr. Camacho, presented information about JKDDC and Joint Knowledge Online (JKO) to the researchers during the visit. Dr. Graesser and Dr. Hu presented research, development, and services capabilities of the WADL Co-Lab. The visitors also met with President Raines of the University of Memphis, the Provost, the Vice Provost of Research, and the Director of the FedEx Institute of Technology. The delegation took a tour of the FedEx Hub sorting facility. Dr. Mayberry exchanged ideas with the FedEx executives about workforce training issues.



Members of the visiting DoD Delegation



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Upcoming ADL Related Conferences & Events in 2008

Multi-Service Gaming Discussion Meeting and Lunch

03 March / Orlando, FL

During this meeting, guest speaker Dr. Rick Blunt will address the formation of the DoD Game Community and the ADL Game Roadmap.

www.adlnet.gov

DoD M&S Conference

10-14 March / Orlando, FL

This is the Department of Defense's key event for bringing Modeling and Simulation (M&S) professionals together to gain insights into ongoing policies, plans, and emerging technologies.

www.ndia.org

LETSI Event

13 March / Seoul, Korea

The program consists of plenary discussions and Working Group meetings. The KIEC will also co-host an Open Forum, consisting of an International Workshop with presentations, panel discussions, and case studies.

www.letsi.org

ADL Hub Open House

10 April / Alexandria, VA

An all day event to include tutorials and tours.

ADL User's Group Meeting

24-25 April / Alexandria, VA

The immediate goal of the ADL Users Group is to re-establish a senior level cadre of Government members responsible for policy and implementation of ADL across their Service.

www.adlnet.gov

ITEC 2008

10-12 June / Stockholm, Sweden

ITEC is the only conference and exhibition outside the USA, dedicated to defence training, simulation and education.

www.itec.co.uk

Academic Fest

08-09 July 2008 / Madison, WI

This event will feature conversations and demonstrations of the latest educational technology advances, including the use of SCORM, repositories, course management systems, and "Web 2.0" tools for online learning.

www.academiccolab.org

GLS Conference

(Games+Learning+Society)

10-11 July 2008 / Madison, WI

The GLS Conference is about real-life people playing real-life video games, and what they learn from doing it.

www.glsconference.org/2008

Implementation Fest

25-28 August / Orlando, FL

The yearly event, hosted by the Orlando-based Joint ADL Co-Lab, provides an in-depth analysis of the state-of-affairs surrounding the military's internet-based instructional tools. It also highlights the significant challenges facing our military around the globe and how to more efficiently provide distributed learning to Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen - and provide it anytime and anywhere.

www.jointadlcolab.org

I/ITSEC 2008 (Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference)

01-04 December / Orlando, FL

I/ITSEC promotes cooperation among the Armed Services, Industry, Academia, and various Government agencies in pursuit of improved training and education programs, identification of common training issues, and development of multi-service programs.

www.itssec.org

SCORM[®]

Sharable Content Object Reference Model

ADL Releases Updates to SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Software

04 December 2007

The ADL Technical Team announced the release of the following SCORM 2004 3rd Edition products:

- SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Conformance Test Suite Version 1.0.2 (Self Test)
- SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Sample Run-Time Environment (RTE) Version 1.0.2

ADL has collected and analyzed issues reported by members of the ADL Community through "Ask the Experts." The updates to these products represent maintenance releases to address defects and add enhancements to the previous versions. ADL recommends upgrading to this version to take advantage of these corrections and enhancements.

SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Conformance Test Suite Version 1.0.2 (Self Test)

This version of the Conformance Test Suite (Self Test) includes resolutions to issues identified with the SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Conformance Test Suite Version 1.0.1 (Self Test), and incorporates a renewal to the Java Certificate enabling the application to read/write on the local system. The issues addressed by this version of the Conformance Test Suite (Self Test) are documented as Known Issues, as well as in the Readme document provided with the software. This release of the

SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Conformance Test Suite (Self Test) supersedes all previous versions.

SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Sample Run-Time Environment (RTE) Version 1.0.2

This version of the Sample RTE includes resolutions to issues identified with the SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Sample RTE Version 1.0.1. The issues being addressed by this version of the Sample RTE are documented as Known Issues, as well as in the software Readme document. This release of the SCORM 2004 3rd Edition Sample RTE supersedes all previous versions. Refer to the Readme file provided with the software for further details on the capabilities and development history of the Sample RTE.

These products are available for the ADL Community to continue testing of their learning products against the SCORM 2004 3rd Edition specification.

The ADL Technical Team encourages users to provide feedback through "Ask the Experts" on any additional problems encountered or suggestions for improvement.

LibSCORM Now on Source Forge



Academic ADL Co-Lab Madison, Wisconsin 23 March 2007

LibSCORM is a library to assist E-Learning content developers in creating SCORM-conformant courses. It implements common shareable content object tracking and communication functionality. Features like timing, bookmarking, and navigation are built in.

There are few free tools available that help SCORM 2004 authors convert existing content or create new HTML or Flash SCOs. Additionally, the output from tools that do exist isn't always SCORM compliant, and leaves the SCORM author little room for tracking complex information about the learner's interaction with the SCO.

LibSCORM provides a set of HTML and Flash templates that implement common SCO Tracking and Communication functionality. It allows HTML and Flash developers to easily implement both single-page and multi-page SCO's using shared code that is known to be SCORM compliant. Features like timing, bookmarking, and navigation are built in. For advanced users, the library provides an object oriented interface to all SCORM runtime functions.