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## Federal Virtual Worlds Challenge Finalists Announced

**Orlando, Fla.** – After receiving an impressive array of entries to the 2012 Federal Virtual Worlds Challenge, the Army Research Laboratory's, Simulation and Training Technology Center is pleased to announce the finalists! Competition was fierce as each entry demonstrated either truly engaging learning material or immersive spaces.

The annual event is led by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's, Simulation and Training Technology Center. Entry criteria are intentionally unbound to encourage creative results. This year two focus areas were highlighted, Engaging Learning and Holodeck - Making it So.

Finalists are provided travel accommodations to demonstrate their entries at the Defense GameTech User's Conference ([gametechconference.com](http://gametechconference.com)) 28 March 2012, in Orlando Florida and will receive their trophies on 29 March. Winners will be awarded \$1000 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, \$3,000 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, \$5,000 for 1<sup>st</sup> place and a \$25,000 Grand Prize awarded in each focus area.



**SFC Paul Ray Smith Simulation & Training Technology Center**

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The finalists in alphabetical order are:

### **Engaging Learning Focus Area**

#### **Distributed Learning:**

- Collaboratively Programming Robots in Virtual Spaces - Michael Vallance, Future University Hakodate, Japan
- Creative Learning in a Wet Lab - Donald Bickley and Dr. Julie Fronzuto, Assistant Professor of Biology, Prince William Sound Community College in Valdez, Alaska
- Maya Astronomy Center Phases 1 & 2 - Beverly G. McCarter

#### **Concept Building:**

- Interactive Graphic Novel Approach to Guided Learning – Dr. Parvati Dev and Dr. Wm LeRoy Heinrichs - CliniSpace
- Prisoners' Dilemma Virtual World Layered Simulation Prototype - Kay McLennan, Ph.D., Tulane University & MOSES Developer/Liaison
- SciEthics Interactive - Dr. Larysa Nadolny, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

#### **Familiarization:**

- Canadian Virtual Naval Fleet (CVNF) - Guy Boulet
- Club One Island Healthy Living - 2b3d, DeVaneaux Enterprises, Club One Fitness
- USAFA Virtual Campus Tour by Designing Digitally, Inc. - Orientation Learning - Andrew Hughes

### **"Holodeck - Making it so" Focus Area**

- MicroCave - Jeremiah Isbell
- TerraViz - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Fragile Earth Studios
- The CyberSim Holodeck - Robert Daniel

This organization is enthusiastic about the use of an innovation challenge as a means of demonstrating cutting edge technology in virtual environments. You are encouraged to be part of next year's challenge. Additional information is available at

[www.fvwc.army.mil](http://www.fvwc.army.mil)

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