

The Role of Education and Training

Valerie J. Harvey R.T.(R), Ph.D.
Computer & Information Systems
Robert Morris University
Software Development Education Team Chair,
WorldVistA

Resources

- Resource Listings on WorldVistA web site
- Catalog, annotate, review existing documentation and courseware from VA
- Identify and prioritize projects for revision of existing documentation and/or courseware
- Design and development of a new courseware system for distance learning in M, VistA, VOE

Education Team Priorities for 2006 from Rick Marshall, WorldVistA CTO

- Plan and execute a VistA Community Meeting in June at Robert Morris University. [being done now]
- Set up and run a VistA demonstration site at Robert Morris University. [in planning]
- Improve on the VistA Curriculum for all five tiers of expertise:
 - Users, expert users, system managers, troubleshooters, and package developers
—previously outlined by WorldVistA's VVSO project.
- 4) Investigate the creation of publications that could be used to help train new VistA experts.
- 5) Help document VistA's software lifecycle standards and educate the VistA community about them.
- 6) Build up the membership and effectiveness of this team.
- 7) Create a network of universities interested in working with or teaching VistA.

Role of Education and Training

- Vital to dissemination and maintenance of technology
- Needs appropriate educational model to support WorldVistA as a process, rather than as a product; therefore needs integral articulation with software development process to assure that education and training are up to date
- Needs appropriate sharing model among institutions and organizations doing training
- Needs capability to assist with systems and facilitate education/training in adopter countries as required

Principal Suggestions So Far

- New M textbook(s), VistA textbook(s)
- Distance Learning Systems (preferably open source)
- Certification models and programs
- Research papers to describe WorldVistA life cycle model, economies, etc.
- EHR Research involving WorldVistA, VOE
- Models of use in medical, nursing training

Suggestions, 2

- Support and work with Open Forum for WorldVistA
- E-health university – possibility of working with VA
- Documentation organized according to life cycle needs
- Job expertise database
- VistA for teaching informatics
- Address usability of existing documentation

Suggestions, 3

- Continuing education credits for WorldVistA meetings!!
- Research the accreditation process for VistA-related training
- Review/investigate competency centers outside the VA (Medsphere, HITS, GMU, Shepherd U, U of Hawaii, RMU, etc.)
- Plan for VVSO training