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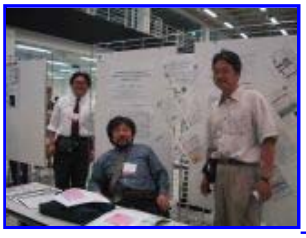

with Helpers**Below: Posters; ***with an FSU friend

Development and Evaluation of Introductory IT Self-training System for Life-long Learners

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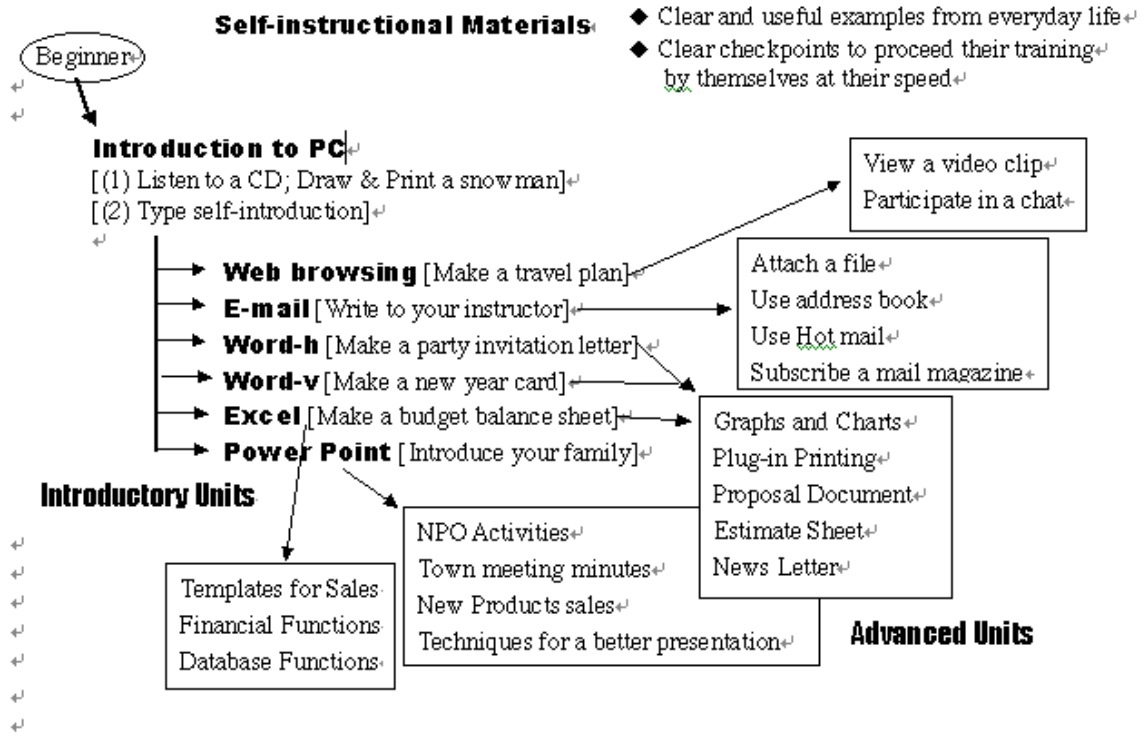
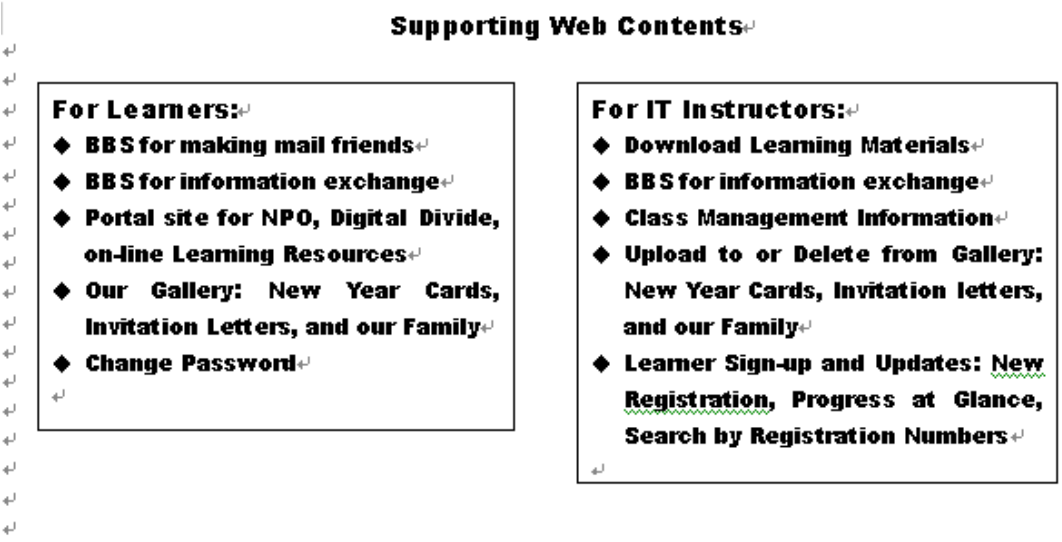
Abstract: As a contract research trusted by Digital Communities Promotion Office (DCs), a set of self-instructional materials for beginning users of computers and network has been designed, developed, and pilot-tested. The materials, which are distributed in both print and Web format, cover such basics as Introduction to PC, the Internet (Web browsing), E-mail, Word, Excel, and Power Point, all of which are introduced using clear and useful examples from everyday life. Clear checkpoints are given so that the beginners can proceed their training by themselves at their speed. A three-day training program has also been designed and evaluated to prepare those who are interested in involving in local community activities to be a licensed IT teacher. Characteristics of both instructional materials and training program will be summarized as to how this new set of life-long educational opportunity is different from traditional learning materials which can be seen in Japan. The process of material development and the results from field studies will also be reported. Future plans to utilize this system through the network of Non-profit organizations throughout Japan will be discussed so that the aim of this effort to bridge the Digital Divide can be accomplished.

Poster 1



Poster 2



Poster 3

IT Teacher Qualification Forms (Proposed)

Form 1: Learner Level Skills
- [Form 1-1] Checklist for all learner -level products (or Certificates for all courses)
- [Form 1-2] Performance Test Observation Checklist

Form 2: Understanding of NPO
- [Form 2-1] Lecture Report for "What NPO is all about"
- [Form 2-2] Participation Report for NPO Activities

Form 3: Understanding of IT Classes
- [Form 3-1] Lecture Report for "What is IT Classrooms"

Form 4: Skills to be an IT Teacher
- [Form 4-1] Self Checklist to be an IT Teacher
- [Form 4-2] Peer Checklist of Practice Teaching
- [Form 4-3] Report of Practice Teaching with recommendation from the supervised IT Teacher

Form 5: Web Contents Utilization Skills
- [Form 5-1] Checklist for Practice of Web Utilization

Form 6: Technical Support from NPO
- [Form 6-1] Lecture Report for "Getting technical support from NPO"
- [Form 6-2] Participation Report for NPO Supporting Activities (optional)

Poster 4

Introductory IT Self-training System

Self-Check, Self-Pace Learning for Satisfaction:
A System for Steady Learning
- Learning Material for Independent Learning
- Presence of IT teacher: Just-in-time Help & Praise
- Checklist to monitor progress

Community of Peer Learners: Reason to Continue Coming
- Peer Check to involve in each other's Learning Activities
- Learning Tasks from everyday life: something to show to each other

Networking among Classrooms:
Sharing and Exchanging products and ideas
- Upload outputs on the Web (by IT Instructor)
- Distant friend-making opportunities via BBS system