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SoftChalk Announces the 2010 Lesson Challenge Winners

-Recognizing the top SoftChalk Lessons and Courses of 2010-

Richmond, Virginia, U.S. – April 1, 2010 – SoftChalk, LLC, a leading developer of content authoring software for [eLearning](#), today announced the four winners of its annual Lesson Challenge. SoftChalk hosted this challenge to recognize leaders within its user community who are creating innovative learning content.

The Lesson Challenge, an online contest that ran from early November to mid-January, gave SoftChalk enthusiasts a chance to use their learning content for something besides engaging students –cash prizes. Authors could submit an unlimited number of lessons or courses into one of the four categories: K12, Higher Ed, Corporate or Full Lesson. The Challenge was well received with over 60 submissions covering a variety of subject areas, including science, health, training, mathematics and even coaching.

Susan Deihl, Marketing Director of SoftChalk said, “We were thrilled to have such a large response for our second annual Lesson Challenge. The Corporate and Full Course categories were new this year and the submissions we received in those categories show how diverse SoftChalk-authored content can be. The quality of the content made it extremely challenging for our volunteer judges to choose the winners and honorable mentions so being in either of these categories is a huge achievement.”

The top lessons and courses were reviewed by a panel of educators including Dr. Steven Holland, Professor, Muscatine Community College; Diane L. Jackson, Training Manager, Quality Matters; Dr. Anne Loochtan, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Mercy College of Northwest Ohio; Jacqueline C. McNair, Program Coordinator, Health Information Technology, Baltimore Community College; Dr. Grazyna Nowak, Associate Professor, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; Dr. Brit Watwood, Online Learning Specialist, VCU Center for Teaching Excellence.

The judges reviewed lessons based on specific evaluation criteria including the alignment between assessments, activities, resources and learning objectives, appropriate use of media, appropriate organization, promotion of learner engagement, the use of measureable learning objectives and evidence of originality and creativity. The highest-scoring lesson from each of the categories was chosen as the winner.

2010 SoftChalk Lesson Challenge Winners:

Best K-12 Lesson

Title: Basic Arithmetic: Decimals

Author: Marilyn Larsen, College of the Mainland

Best Higher Ed Lesson

Title: Introduction to Dental Terminology

Author: Richard Foster, Guilford Community College

Best Corporate Lesson

Title: Swine Flu (H1N1 Influenza) Preparedness

Author: Michelle Leavitt, NetLearning, a part of Cengage Learning

Best Full Course

Title: BIOL 133: Principles of Microbiology

Author: Derek Weber, Raritan Valley Community College

2010 SoftChalk Lesson Challenge Honorable Mentions:

Twila Masaschi, Georgia Virtual School; Jeff Giddens, Georgia Virtual School; Amy Ferguson, Richland College; Marilyn Larsen, College of the Mainland; Derek Weber, Raritan Valley Community College; Cheryl Thompson and Sue Goldman, State of New Mexico Human Services Department; and Linda Stricklin, Lewis-Clark State College Workforce Training.

SoftChalk hopes that the winning lessons will inspire other SoftChalk users to create innovative learning content and discover why “If it’s not easy, it’s not SoftChalk!”

For more information or to view the winning lessons, visit

<http://www.softchalk.com/lessonchallenge>.

About SoftChalk, LLC

SoftChalk, LLC is an award-winning provider of eLearning software for worldwide education and business institutions. Specializing in the development of intuitive, easy-to-use tools, SoftChalk products allow instructors to create powerful and professional-looking content for eLearning and smart classrooms in K-12, higher education and corporate training. For more information, visit www.softchalk.com.

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