Rebecca Tortell

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Objective

To join a technical publications team, and apply my scientific and technical experience to the creation of exceptional documentation.

Skills

Technical Communication

- Procedural documentation for internal use ("Using the Stanford EEG Lab")
- Technical reports for audiences of mixed expertise
- Detailed documentation of experiment methods for official review
- Introductory "how-to" guides and user manuals ("Basic Statistics for the Social Sciences")
- Primary author of peer-reviewed scientific publications (see Publications, below)
- Effective communicator with technical and non-technical colleagues alike

Computer

- Adobe Framemaker
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe Dreamweaver
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel
- Apple OSX
- Windows 2000/XP
- Matlab
- SPSS 13.0/Syntax
- C++
- Java & Javascript
- Python
- HTML/CSS
- PHP

Research

- Proven ability to balance multiple projects on tight deadlines
- Lab management and shared resource coordination
- Developing modular code-bases for scientific devices
- Owning protocols, from proposal through implementation to final reports
- Analytical problem-solving skills in multiple domains
- Expertise in statistical analysis and data acquisition methods
- Highly organized, tactful, and sensitive to participant needs

Languages

- English (native)
- French
- Mandarin
- Italian

Education

San Jose State University, 2009 – present

- M.S./ Software Engineering, 2012 (expected)

UC Berkeley Extension, Sept. – Nov. 2007

- Technical Communication I, final grade A

Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, 2001 - 2005.

- B.A./ Cognitive Science and Psychology, May 2005
- Cumulative GPA 3.50/4.00

Experience

Stanford University Psychology Department

Lab Manager/Research Assistant, Nov. 2006 - present
Manager of multiple experimental protocols for Stanford's Mind, Brain and Computation research group. Wrote EEG procedure manual currently in use by Stanford Psychology Department. Documented new experiment procedures for internal review. Modified existing experiments, requiring rapid learning of new software and sensor methods. Sourced, built and developed code libraries for multiple data acquisition systems. Designed and built website for PDP lab group (http://pdplab.group.stanford.edu).

USC Institute for Creative Technologies

Research Analyst , Jul. 2005 - Oct. 2006
Led experiment design on the Sensory Environments Evaluation (SEE) and Adaptive Training Systems (ATS) projects. Interviewed programmer/SME on the use of in-house technology. Responsible for data acquisition and analysis. Primary author of related publications for scientific and non-scientific audiences. Assisted in preparing grant proposals for new avenues of research.

Intern Research Analyst, May - Aug. 2004
Responsible for experimental design and direction on the SEE project. Reduced and analyzed experimental data, and prepared results for publication and internal review. Retooled the statistical analysis procedures of ongoing studies.

Publications

McMahan, A., & Tortell, R. (2004). *Virtual reality and internal experience*. VR 2004. Chicago, IL.

Tortell, R., & Morie, J. F. (2006) *Videogame play and the effectiveness of virtual environments for training*. Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation & Education Conference 2006. Orlando, FL.

Tortell, R., Luigi, D. P., Dozois, A., Bouchard, S., Morie, J. F., & Ilan, D. (2007). *The effects of scent and gameplay experience on memory of a virtual environment*. Virtual Reality 11 (6), p. 61 - 68.

Morie, J. F., Williams, J., & Tortell, R. (2007*). Would you like to play a game? Experience and expectation in game-based learning environments*. In O'Neil, H., & Perez, R., editors, Computer Games and Team and Individual Learning. Oxford, UK: Elsevier Science.

Gao, J., Tortell, R., & McClelland, J. L. (2008). *Integrating reward and stimulus information in a perceptual decision making task*. Neuroscience 2008, Washington, D.C.

Gao, J., McClelland, J. L., Rorie, A., Tortell, R., & Newsome, W. (2009). *Decision making without bounds? Evidence from humans and monkeys.* Cosyne 2009, Salt Lake City, UT.