



# On Learning: The Future of Air Force Education and Training

Maj Gen Erv Lessel
Air Education and Training Command
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#### Vision



Develop America's Airmen Today ... for Tomorrow

"Technological change is accelerating. To accomplish the Air Force mission in an environment of accelerating change, we will need to recruit, train, and educate Airmen with agile minds and cutting edge skills."



STEPHEN R. LORENZ
General, USAF
Commander, Air Education and Training Command

"Delivering unrivaled Air, Space and Cyberspace Education and Training"

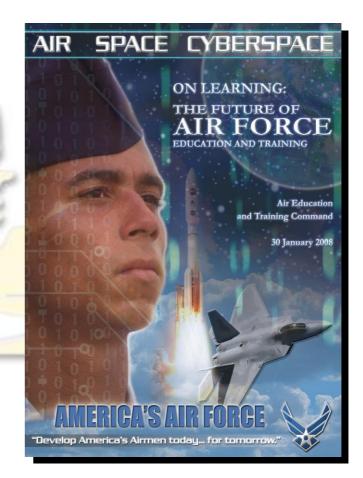


#### **Overview**



Develop America's Airmen Today ... for Tomorrow

- Imperatives
- Future Environment
- Learning Concepts
- MyBase
- Recommendations
- Challenges
- Way Ahead
- Program Status



"White Paper"

#### **Knowledge is power!**

#### **Imperatives**



Develop America's Airmen Today ... for Tomorrow

#### The AF needs:

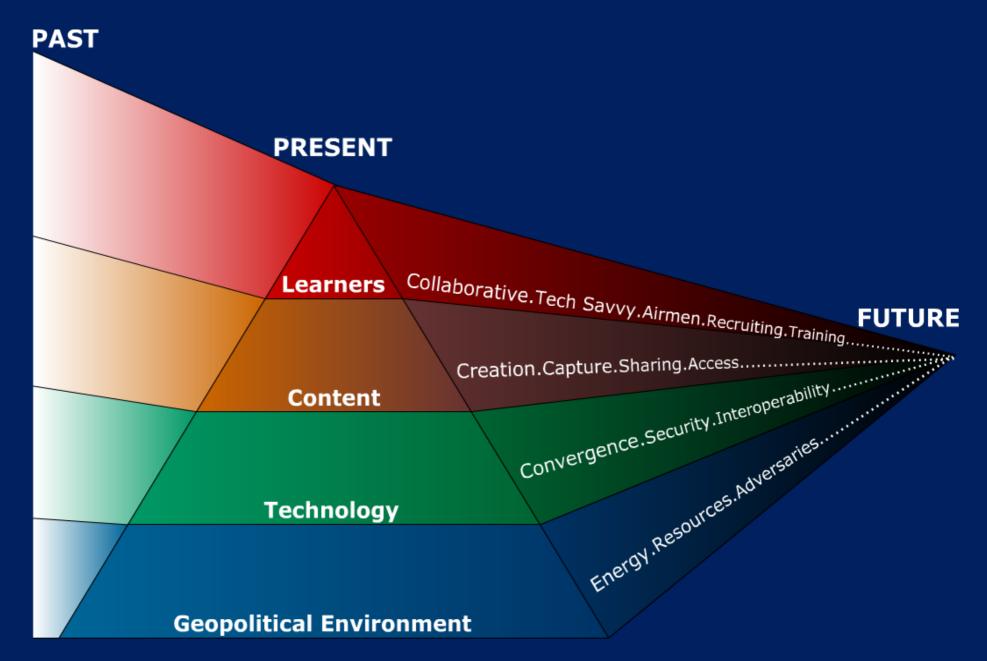
- 1. A common vision for the future of E&T
- 2. A strategic implementation plan to achieve the vision
- 3. A **systematic approach** for inserting and integrating technology into E&T
- 4. An enterprise-wide architecture for E&T
- 5. An **investment strategy** for resourcing E&T transformation
- 6. Closer integration of training and operations
- 7. A commitment to start now

#### The future is now!



#### **Future Environment**







#### The Future USAF Worker



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#### Today's Cyber Teenager - Tomorrow's Knowledge Worker





### **Today's Airman**







#### **Technology**



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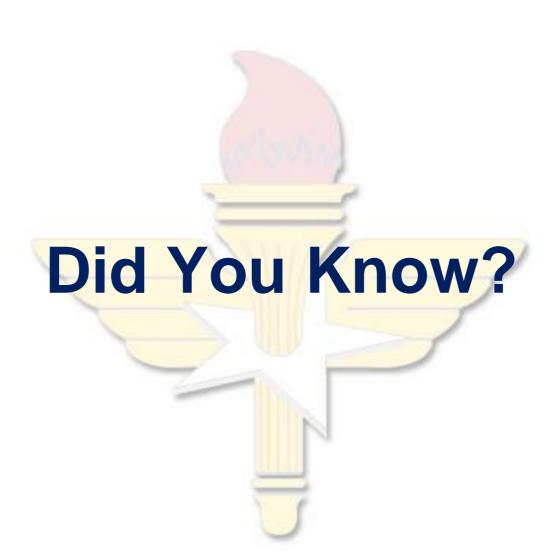


Technology will "not" be the limiting factor



#### **Future Environment**







#### **Learning Concepts**



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- Knowledge Management
- Continuous Learning
- Precision Learning
- Learner-centric
- Knowledge base
- Knowledge on demand
- Cognitive/affective domains
- Live, virtual, constructive mix
- Knowledge-enabled Airmen



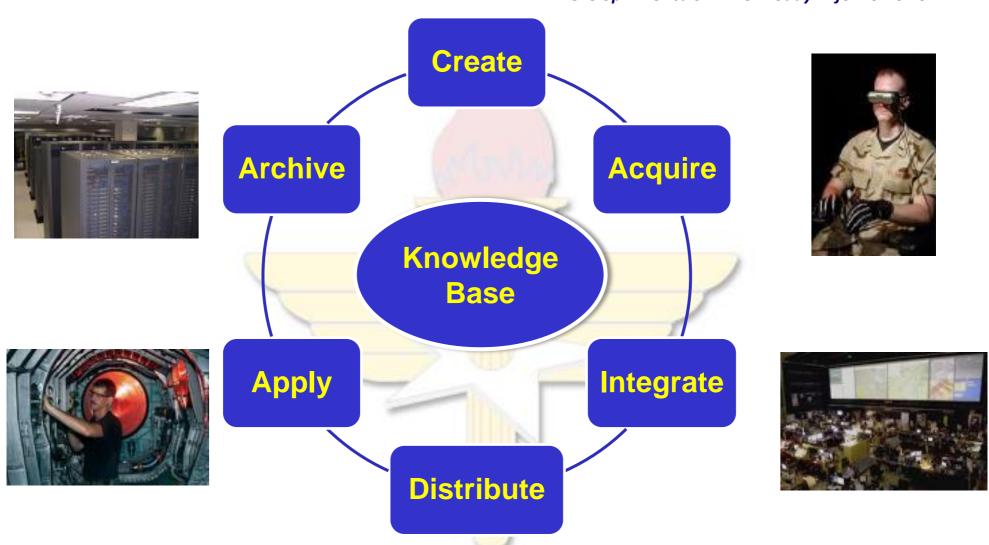
**Air Force 2.0: The New Learning Organization** 



#### **Knowledge Management**



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"We must develop and field systems that are not just network-centric, but knowledge-centric."



#### **Knowledge Management**



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- Learning culture
- Learning organization
- Leverage learning networks, expert systems and communities of practice
- Enterprise-wide knowledge base with authoritative data
- Knowledge-enabled Airmen
- Create, acquire, integrate, distribute, apply and archive knowledge



"Man's flight through life is sustained by the power of his knowledge."



#### **Open Courseware**







### **Continuous Learning**







#### **Continuous Learning**



Develop America's Airmen Today ... for Tomorrow

- Recruit those best able to learn and operate in the future AF
- Learning every day learning for life
- Learning driven by AF requirements (push) and learner needs/desires (pull)
- Relies on training, education and experiential learning
- Complements "Continuum of Learning" for force development
- Closer integration of education, training and operations
- Builds intellectual capital for the AF





**Knowledge-Enabled Airmen are the key to flexibility** 

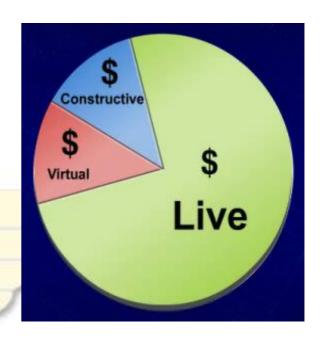


#### **Precision Learning**



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- Right mix of live, virtual and constructive means
- Right knowledge and skills
- Customized learning based on learner needs and aptitudes
- Learning delivered when, where and how required
- Tailored to achieve desired learning outcomes



"Take advantage of every opportunity to increase your knowledge."



#### **Precision Learning**



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- Right use of technology and media for education & training
- Collaboration and professional networks
- Mission essential competencies
- Expert systems and mentoring
- Current, authoritative data
- Rapid incorporation of lessons learned



Learner-centric focused education and training



#### **LVC Training**

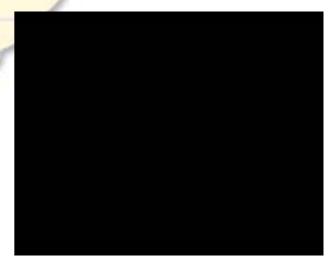


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- 4 F-16s live flying at Luke
- 2 F-16s simulators flown at Mesa
- 2 F-16s computer generated at Mesa
- 4v4 flown on Barry Goldwater Range
- Connected through Link 16
- Full debrief/after action review capability
- Fight's on!







Right mix of live, virtual and constructive training

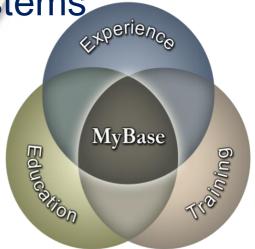


#### **MyBase**



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- Virtual, exploratory and interactive environment
- Supports mix of live, virtual and constructive education and training
- Learner interface providing access to AF knowledge bases and management systems
- Supports continuous, life-long learning
- Integrates existing systems
- Enables precision learning
- Platform for collaboration



#### "Welcome to MyBase!"



#### **MyBase**



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**Education & Training** 



**Operations** 



**Recruiting/Public** 

**Enterprise-wide learning environment** 



#### **Vignettes**



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- Vignette 1: MyBase Public
  - Recruiting
  - Public Awareness
- Vignette 2: MyBase Training
  - Squadron Officer School
  - Technical Training
- Vignette 3: MyBase Operational
  - Rehearsals
  - Operations





#### "Warriors enlist here!"



#### Recommendations



- Strategic Implementation Plan
- Strategic Communication
- Functional Area Analysis
- Chief Learning Officer
- Knowledge Base
- Knowledge Management
- Knowledge Transparency
- Key Technologies
- Systematic Application of Technology
- Resource Learning Technologies

- MyBase Virtual AFB
- Cyberspace Pilot Project
- Develop af.edu
- Concept Studies
- Learning Experiments
- Force Development
- Requirements and Acquisition Process
- Change Management
- Right-size Capacity
- Evaluation and Assessment



#### Challenges



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- Transforming the learning environment for the learners of tomorrow
  - Defining the new knowledge concepts for learning
  - Defining the new technologies required
  - Defining how to organize for effective learning
- Increasing effectiveness
- Increasing efficiency

Greatness depends on courage in the face of challenges



#### Challenges



Develop America's Airmen Today ... for Tomorrow

- Meeting generational needs by transforming the learning experience
- Focusing *learning investments* budget, manpower and POM
- Systematically inserting technology
- Ensuring security of content distribution
- Changing the culture
- Managing change

The Air Force must become an agile, knowledge-enabled organization in order to maintain global vigilance, global reach and global power.

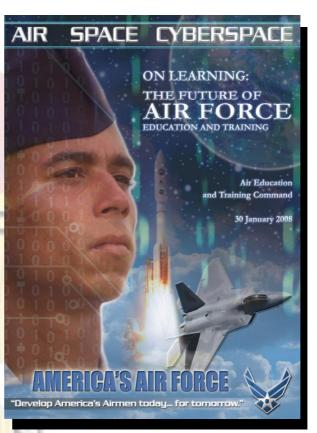


### "Excellence in Learning"



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http://www.aetc.af.mil/library/whitepaper.asp

"Delivering unrivaled Air, Space and Cyberspace Education and Training"



#### Way Ahead



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- Focus Areas
  - Instructional Design
  - Knowledge Systems
  - Virtual Environments
  - Mobile Learning
  - Simulations and Gaming
- Initiatives
  - Support Efforts
  - Study Efforts
  - Projects and Programs
- Advanced Learning Technology Demonstrations (ALTD)

"The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time." Abraham Lincoln

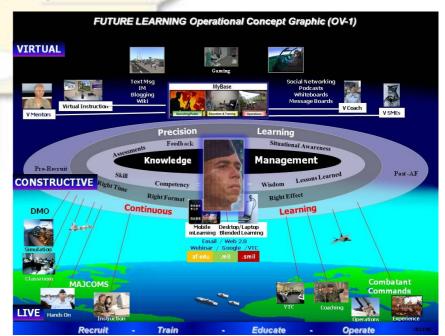




#### **Support Efforts**



- Strategic Communication
  - 70+ Briefings
  - Engage Industry, Academia, Services and MAJCOMs
  - Partnering with AFRL, HQ AFMC, DAU, AFA and others
  - AETC Symposium
- Governance
  - AETC Council, Board and Working Groups
- Organize
  - Strategic Implementation Plan
  - Innovation Process
  - Future Learning Division
- Resource
  - Funding
  - Manpower





### 2009 AETC Symposium



Develop America's Airmen Today ... for Tomorrow

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center San Antonio, TX

15 – 16 January 2009

Over 70 Seminars in 6 sessions

More than 70 Booths and Demonstrations

AETC/AFA Ball - 1,500 attendees

#### **Guest Speakers:**

- General William M. Fraser III
  - Air Force Vice Chief of Staff
- General C. Robert Kehler
  - Commander, Air Force Space Command
- Major General William T. Lord
  - Commander, Air Force Cyber Command (P)





#### **Implementation Plan**



- Near-term (FY09)
  - Strategic Communication
  - Planning
  - Governance
  - Resourcing
  - Organization and Processes
  - Integration
  - Show early successes
- Mid-term (FY10-11)
  - Institutionalize Future Learning within AETC
- Long-term (FY12-15)
  - Institutionalize Future Learning across the Air Force



#### **Maturity Model (Notional)**



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**L&D** Attribute of Greatness

Mission Alignment of L&D

**Operate** 

**Competency Management** 

Content - Information Management and Access

Governance & Management

Behavior & Culture – Human Capital Optimization

**Technologies** 

Delivery

Performance Measurement and Reporting

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**Next Task:** 

Identify target levels for each attribute

- 1 AETC 2009 Baseline
- AETC 2015 Target
- A Best of the Best

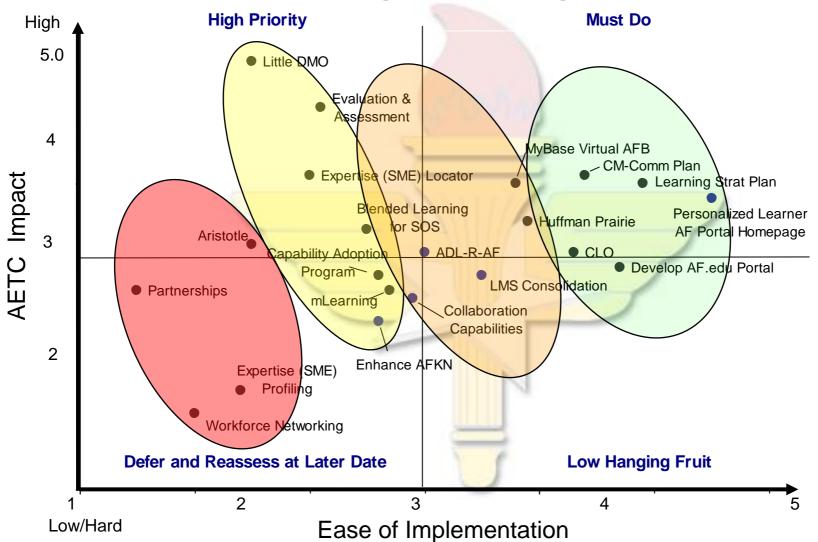


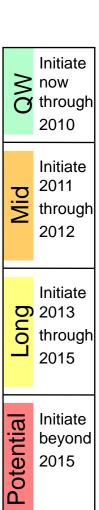
### **Evaluating Learning Initiatives**



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#### (Notional)





### **Study Efforts**



- Completed:
  - Airmen and Technology (AETC/SAS)
- In-Progress:
  - Blended Learning (University of Texas)
- Planned:
  - Customized Learning
  - Measuring Learning Success
  - Follow-on Airmen and Technology Studies
  - Virtual Training Technologies (AF Science Board)



### **Airmen & Technology Study**



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#### **Summary Views:**

97% said it was important to integrate new technologies to enhance training and performance 95% said it was important to develop innovative approaches for education and training

#### **Technology:**

51% of the young subgroup participated in internet gaming

52% said high-speed internet service was available to them

90% indicated a PC/laptop should be used in training in some way

94% reported using blogs

#### **Training:**

27% agreed their current technical training course should be held online

45% felt virtual environments would enhance operational training and personnel issues

65% felt online gaming provides encouragement to join the military

70% would be willing to complete some BMT courses over the internet prior to in residence

#### **Virtual Environments and Avatars:**

93% felt a view of bases online would be beneficial

60% felt large-scale virtual operational exercises online would enhance readiness

58% felt avatars could be effective mentors

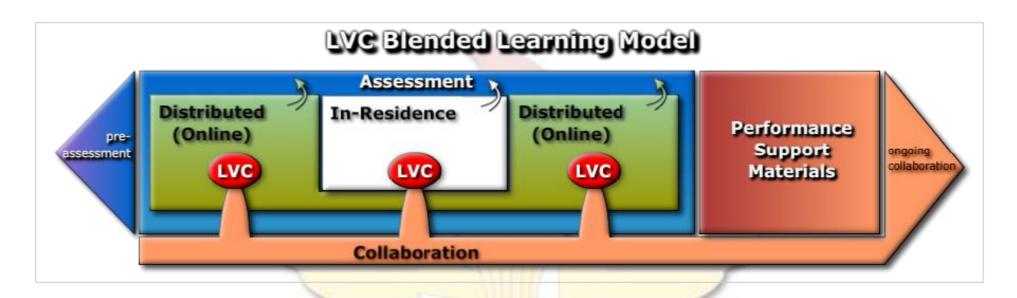
54% of those familiar with avatars felt their use would enable more effective learning

40% felt avatars could foster esprit de corps



### **Blended Learning for SOS**





- Developing methodology to determine LVC "right mix" based on expected learning outcomes
- Study utilizes SOS as a case study for applying methodology to convert existing courses into an active Blended Learning program
- Increases course effectiveness, maximizes enrollment and reduces costs
- Study success could be applied to a much broader range of PME courses



#### **Projects and Programs**

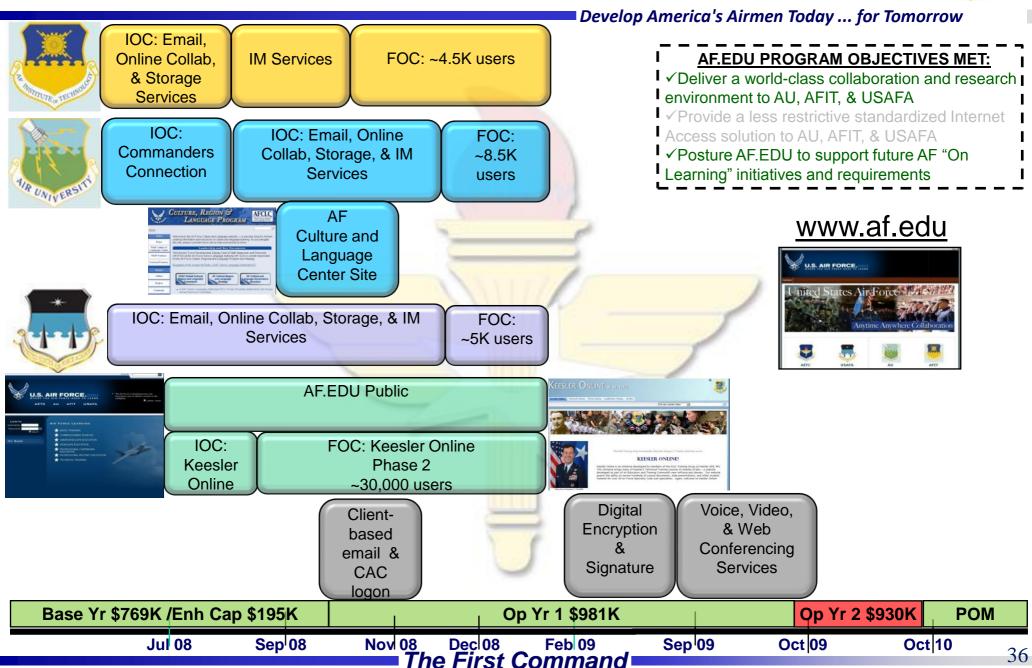


- In Progress:
  - AF.edu (A6)
  - Huffman Prairie (AU)
  - MyBase Public (AU)
  - MyBase Education & Training (81 TRW)
  - ADL Course Conversion (A2/3)
  - "Classroom of the Future" (82 TRW)
  - "Keesler Online" (A6 and 81 TRW)
- In Planning:
  - Mobile Learning Recruiting (AFRS)
  - Mobile Learning Flight Line Mx (A4)
  - "Little DMO" (TBD)
  - Air Force Game (TBD)



## Spiral 1: Collaborative Environment Capabilities & Milestones







#### **Huffman Prairie**



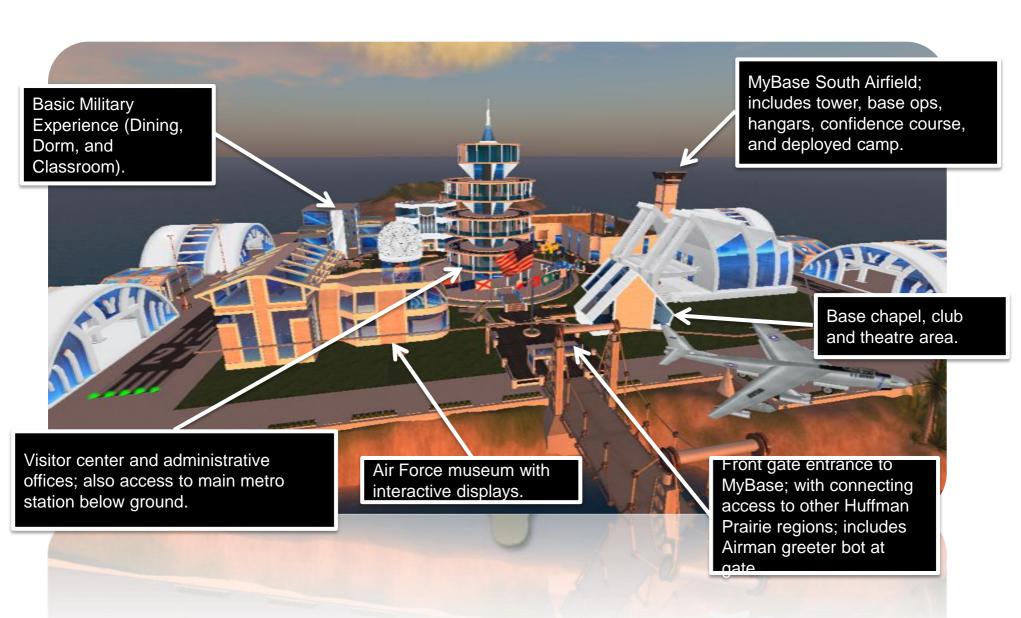




### MyBase – Public



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The First Command



#### MyBase – Public







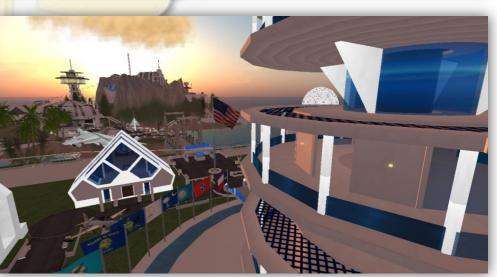
### MyBase - Public













### **MyBase** – Public







### **MyBase – Education & Training**



- Concept study to support Future Learning Systems
- Develops MyBase concept and conducts Cyberspace Pilot Project
- Request For Information (RFI) published 15 Apr at FedBizOps.Gov
- Transition two traditional courses into prototype online 3D virtual learning environment (MyBase)
- Operate 24/7 synchronous & asynchronous
- Interactive video/audio training
- Virtual environment with avatars
- Online collaboration and live working groups
- Meet course certification requirements
- Statement of Need (SON) released in Sep
- In Source Selection
- On contract Dec 08





#### **ADL Course Conversions**



- AFSO21 submission to invigorate Advanced Distributed Learning conversions of in-residence courses
  - Save \$11M+ annually in TDY costs
- Targeted only advanced and supplemental training
  - Initially ≈ 3300 hours
- Courseware must be engaging, interactive, effective and contain advanced features (collaboration, simulations, etc.)
  - Fully aligned with "Future Learning" vision
- Hosted on AETC's ADLS
  - 800,000+ registered users





### Mobile Learning (mLearning)



- mLearning project for AFRS recruiters and recruits
- Deliver learning whenever and wherever needed
- Ensure access to Knowledge Base information
- Enable quick, informal learning "on the go"
- Enable communication and collaboration
- Deliver learning content through videos, simulations and text messaging
- Matches learner needs

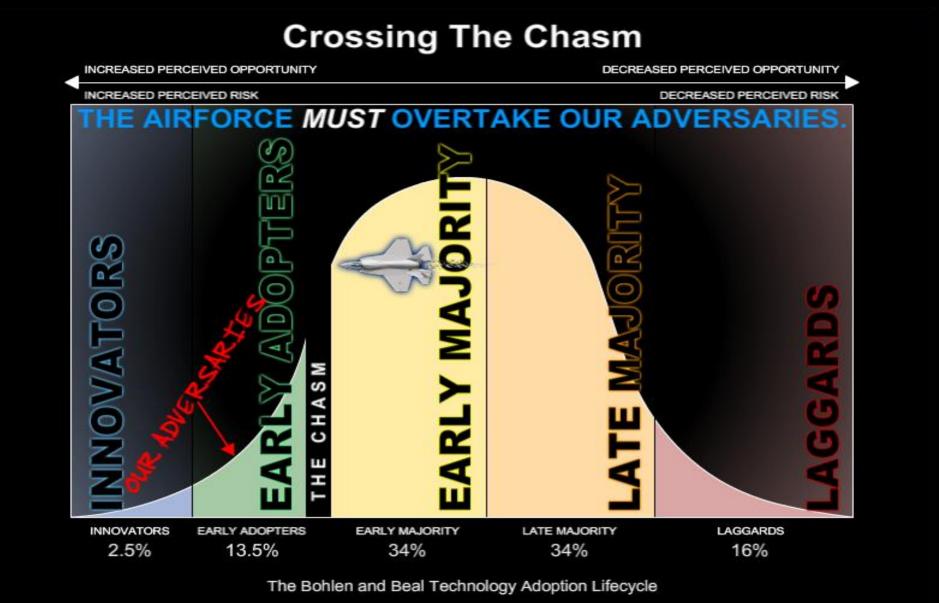






#### If not now...when?







#### Conclusion



Develop America's Airmen Today ... for Tomorrow

"The Air Force's greatest asset – our Airmen – is a vital resource in our nation's defense and the key to winning today's fight. Our vision to deliver unrivaled air, space and cyberspace education and training must be as innovative and adaptive as our Airmen. Through developing and implementing advanced, creative learning today, we will build a solid and secure tomorrow."

STEPHEN R. LORENZ
General, USAF
Commander, Air Education and Training Command

"We need to be on the cutting edge."





## Air Education and Training Command

"The First Command"