Brian Spradlin

TE 891 80 – Field Experiences in IT

Action Plan

My field project will be to complete an online training program for the food safety program in the Lincoln-Lancaster county Health Department. Presently, the Health Department provides group training for approximately 30 people at a time in face-to-face classes. The basics of proper food preparation and proper cleanliness are covered in order to gain a “Level 1” food preparation permit. The goal of the project is to create a website with the equivalent information that will include a final test to give users their permit to work in Lancaster county. Three levels (wait staff, cook staff, and management) will be available to an online user.

The objective is to have the website running so that new food service employees can receive the proper training to safely prepare food on their own time. The website will be online 24-7 and can be completed at the user’s leisure. Approximately one and a half hours of time will be needed for each “level” of training that the user wishes to pursue.

The website will be a mixture of text-based information, video/narrative instruction and Flash-based activities. The information will be presented in small chunks within each level, building upon previous chunks to create a complete knowledge of a subject area by the end of each level. A final test will be given at the end of the level in order to determine how well the information has been learned. If the final test is not passed with an 80% or greater score, the user will be sent back to the start of the training to review all of the previous information before being able to take the test again.

The ultimate goal is to be able to train a much larger number of food handlers in Lancaster county than face-to-face trainings could provide. The ease of access, being online, should make it convenient for a larger group of people to learn the materials at their own pace. It should also be able to reinforce the ideas and knowledge that each worker should have with more consistent structure than a face-to-face class can offer.

The project is currently over 90% completed. It will be launching in mid February, 2010. It will be the culmination of a 15 month project with one other coworker and two outside contract team members.