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The view, opinions and/or findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy, or decision, unless so designated by other documentation.

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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)

Work by Dr. Durlach and his collaborators is summarized here
The creation of a serious journal for continuing publication for peer-reviewed papers seemed essential for development of the field (both technically and academically.) Thus, the funds in the grant were used to support the creation of a journal rather than a book. The journal is "Presence: teleoperators and virtual environments," published by MIT Press. The work performed to start the journal has occurred in two phases. The first consisted of establishing the journal as an organization entity. The second, which has only been completed within the past month, consisted of generating the first issue.

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Final Report for Air Force Grant AFOSR-90-0312

Initially, this grant was directed towards the preparation of a book on teleoperator and virtual-environment systems, with emphasis on the human-machine Interface issues that arise in both types of systems. Based on the PI's experience at the Santa Barbara Conference in 1990 (chaired by the PI and by Tom Sheridan, and sponsored by the Engineering Foundation), it was clear that a publication which dealt with both types of systems and encouraged interaction between the disparate "cultures" associated with the two types of systems (the culture of mechanical engineers vs that of computer scientists and media people) would benefit research and development in both areas.

During the course of this work, however, it became apparent that the basic goals of this work could be better served by creating a periodic journal rather than a book. Not only was the area developing so rapidly that much of the information in the envisioned book was likely to be outdated within a year or two, but no appropriate journal was available for the field. The creation of a serious journal for continuing publication of peer-reviewed papers seemed essential for development of the field (both technically and academically). Thus, the funds in the grant were used to support the creation of a journal rather than a book.

The work performed to start the journal has occurred in two phases. The first consisted of establishing the journal as an organizational entity. The second, which has only been completed within the past month, consisted of generating the first issue (a copy of which is enclosed). Discounting the work by the MIT Press and the work performed by the authors in writing the articles for the first

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issue, over 80% of all the work performed to date in both phases has been performed by the PI and his secretary.

In Phase One, this work involved identifying and acquiring appropriate personnel (Editors-in-Chief, Associate Editors, Editorial Board); selecting, and negotiating with, an appropriate publisher; and preparing a detailed proposal describing the envisioned journal for the selected publisher. In addition, efforts were devoted to the raising of additional funds to support the work. The publisher selected was MIT press, the personnel selected are identified in the enclosed copy of the first issue (the PI assumed the role of Managing Editor), and $10,000 additional funds to help initiate the journal were obtained from MIT and Boston University.

In Phase Two, the work involved collaborating with MIT press in designing and advertising the journal, soliciting contributions to the journal, reviewing articles, selecting (and pestering) other reviewers, dealing with authors over suggested revisions, preparing a variety of materials for the journal (co-authoring a short article, writing editorial materials, etc.), soliciting advertisements for the journal, and selecting material for the cover.

The results of all this work are shown in the enclosed copy of the first issue. Some of the comments we have received on this issue are attached. Also attached is a summary of the relevant fiscal information.

Expenditures

Air Force Grant AFOSR-90-0312

Super Auditory Localization

June 1, 1990 - February 28, 1992

N.I. Durlach P.I. 0.39 man months	$3,391
N. Luongo, Secretary 0.11 man months	263
Tech. & Admin Support	360
Employee Benefits	1,662
Operating Expenses: Phones, Xerox, Postage, Office Supplies	673
Direct Costs	6,349
Indirect Costs 57.5% of Direct Cost	3,651
Total	**$10,000**

Presence: Has all the things one
looks for in a truly great and promising
journal*:

- Fine editors and board
- Super cover
- Superior graphics
- Good abstracts before articles
- Great page layouts: with netter than usual
type size and fonts, line length and line
spacing. All making for high legibility.
- Good spread of articles
- Forum: cool, with fun stuff
- Reviews: neat
- Ads: I even liked them

Since it just came today, I havn't done more than
give it a scan, but it looks inviting.

Keep it coming!

I speak with the authority of having been the
Managing Editor of the APA journals for six years.

Hello Nat,

I don't know if you have had any feedback on the Premier issue...
Without exception it is the best single source of information I have
seen on VR todate. No bullshit. You're off to a great start.

Dr. Durlach,

I just saw the first edition of Presence, and was quite impressed. We
have a lab subscription here at the Visual Systems Lab, and I thought
that I would be reading that. However, I was so impressed with the
what I saw that I want my own copy. I will be sending in a subscription
request, but want to make sure that it will start with the first
edition. Is there an email address at which I can communicate with the
subscription crew?

Thanks for your attention,

NAT--
        CONGRATULATIONS ON THE FIRST ISSUE OF PRESENCE.   IT LOOKS
TERRIFIC.

    REGARDS, BOB.

Hi Nat:

Just got Presence #1 in the mail. Congratulations (to us all) on a
superb job.

I'm proud of it.