Disney Imagineering VR Studio

- **Disney Imagineering** designs the most complex and innovative rides for the Disney theme parks.
- In 1998 Disney opened **DisneyQuest** in Florida, the world largest arcade for virtual rides and virtual reality entertainment.
- **VR Studio** within Disney Imagineering developed the VR technology.

Panda 3D – The Beginning

- The virtual rides of DisneyQuest were produced using a new graphics engine developed by Imagineering, called **Panda 3D**.
- The first VR ride they developed using Panda 3D was **Aladdin's Flying Carpet** (1998).
Panda 3D – The Engine

- Panda 3D is a 3D engine "and more".
- The engine is written in C++.
- It is easy to load models and characters into the engine (there are many converters available).
- Originally being a commercial engine, there are many tools with Panda 3D, e.g. for supporting content preparation and for profiling.
- The engine already contains modules for more than graphics, including sound and music, as well as simple physics.
- At run-time the engine interprets a program written using the Python scripting language, which essentially coordinates the application: Sets up the user interface, feeds data to the engine and defines the interactivity.

Panda 3D - Free

- In 2002 Imagineering released the Panda 3D code to the public. Now under a modified BSD license.
- The code continues to be developed at Imagineering and at the CMU Entertainment Technology Center where it is used for teaching the development of interactive digital entertainment.

Panda 3D – Game Development

- Panda 3D is still used at Disney to develop games, including Toon Town Online (the first MMO for kids)....
...and most recently “Pirates of the Caribbean Online”.

At Reykjavik University we use Panda 3D both for teaching and research. Proven to be very straight-forward to use, but also very powerful.
Research Project:
CADIA Populus
Claudio Pedica

Previous VE Course Projects (Spring 2007)

Programming Assignment:
The Amazing Race
Guðný and Freyr

Previous VE Course Projects (Spring 2008)

Programming Assignment:
Eystastökkvarinn
Arnar og Bjarki

Programming Assignment:
Hrólfur og Eva
Bjarni
Panda 3D – Web Site

http://www.panda3d.org