



CBILSpace Currents

Computer Based Instruction Lab ♦ School of Medicine

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Respiratory Curriculum Goes "Electric"

by Jeanne Schlesinger, M.Ed.

"Electrification" of the M-II Respiratory course began in June, 1999. The Vice President for Health Sciences, Hermes Kontos, M.D., Ph.D., and the Senior Associate Dean of the School of Medicine (SOM), Heber Newsome, M.D., wanted the SOM to have a complete course that was available to students in an electronic format, either on the World Wide Web (WWW), on a CD-ROM, or both.

Jim Messmer, M.D., M.Ed., Associate Dean for Medical Education, contacted Course Director Paul Fairman, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine, and Margaret Grimes, M.D., Associate Professor of Pathology, Co-Course Director of the M-II Respiratory Course, to determine if they were willing to work with CBIL and the Curriculum Office to pilot the electronic course. M-II Respiratory was the obvious choice because over the past several years the course content had been carefully reviewed by the Course Directors and teaching faculty to synthesize the information into the most important concepts for the second year medical students. In addition, an electronic exam had already been administered in the course in 1998-99, another is planned for this academic year, and the course is relatively short at three weeks.

Once Respiratory was chosen as the pilot project, a planning meeting was held to explore possibilities for enhancing the curriculum in an electronic format. The goal was to exploit the capabilities of the

computer to enhance students' learning and provide greater accessibility while continuing to focus the material presented to a manageable amount that second year

medical students need to know.

There was consensus that the process should be more than an exercise in converting a paper syllabus to an electronic one.

The 1998-99 syllabus covered more than 30

different sections with 19 different faculty teachers. The electronic course is approximately the same length, but is organized into 27 topics and enhanced with color pathology images, interactive sections, lung sounds, and links to related respiratory web sites. It will eventually contain short video clips to illustrate key information. Additional features are indexing, linking of objectives to content, and easy access to topics and glossary for review.

As the Respiratory curriculum is being moved to the WWW, detailed learning objectives have been written for each topic to focus the content on exactly what the students are expected to learn. These objectives are linked to the appropriate sections of the content so students can go directly to the areas needed for study.

Another step in the process of "electrification" is securing copyright permission for all pictures and graphics. Because this is a pilot project and will serve as a model for future courses, care is being taken to document the process and explore the

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Telemedicine Update

by Kelly Jones Fisk

Since the telemedicine project implementation in July 1995, the VCU telemedicine program has conducted more than 1,800 patient consultations with two remote sites. Plans are underway to add H.323 desktop videoconferencing with the Virginia Department of Health with the three sites in Lancaster, Danville, and Scott Counties. The H.323 standard uses IP protocol over Ethernet and token ring LANs and Internet connectivity, using a standard desktop computer.

During the month of October, the Division of Addiction Medicine conducted 12 perinatal addiction education sessions to seven different community service boards (CSBs) in the central and southwest regions of Virginia. Six of those seven CSBs are within the Appal-Link Telepsychiatry Network. Fourteen more sessions were conducted in November on the treatment of HIV/AIDS. Program Coordinator was Martha Kurgans, Department of Psychiatry and Medicine. These educational outreach sessions are grant funded.

The telemedicine suite currently located in Hunton Hall is undergoing new configuration and physical space design. In planning for the new space in the Gateway Building, efforts are being made to house one full-time and two part-time employees. In the Gateway Building, slated for completion in June, 2001, there will be two consultation suites and an interactive conference room.

On October 21, the Telemedicine projects were featured as part of the MCV Hospitals Quality Day exhibit in the Medical Sciences Building. Telemedicine statistics, maps of the telemedicine network, and articles relating to the projects were distributed. A videotape of the telemedicine projects ran during the exhibit. ♦

CBIL December/January Schedule

| | |
|--|--|
| Monday, December 13 | CBIL will host a holiday open house from noon until 2 p.m. Please stop by for refreshments. |
| Wednesday, December 15 | CBIL will be closed from 7:45 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. for the M-I Gross and Developmental Anatomy computerized examination. |
| Friday, December 17 | CBIL will again be closed from 7:45 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. for the M-II Respiratory computerized examination. |
| Friday, December 17 | CBIL will close from 4:45 p.m. on for the holiday break. |
| To provide study space for students during the break, the lab will be open these days: | |
| December 20 - 22 and 27 - 29 | From 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. |
| Monday, January 3 | From 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. |
| Tuesday, January 4 | Regular hours resume |

CBIL Welcomes International Visitors

by Roberta McKnight, M.Ed.

Zviad Kirtava, MD., Ph.D., visited the VCU School of Medicine (SOM) during a recent visit to the United States. Dr. Kirtava is the Director of the National Information Learning Centre (NILC) in Tbilisi, Georgia. During his visit to this country, he presented information about the Georgian NILC at the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Conference in Washington, DC.

Dr. Kirtava visited the VCU SOM because of his interest in reviewing telemedicine resources and medical distance learning applications that are currently in use or under development. He discussed and previewed videoconferencing software and learning strategies applicable to low bandwidths of 64 - 128 kbps within mountainous environments. Additionally, Dr. Kirtava was given a tour of the CBIL facilities and

shown a variety of programs produced by the staff of CBIL and the Office of Faculty and Instructional Development.

Dr. Kirtava was accompanied in his visit to MCV by Rita Purcell-Robertson and Roberta McKnight, who are collaborating with the Republic of Georgia to provide medical and nursing resources on behalf of the Partnership for Peace Information Management System (PIMS).

The Republic of Georgia is a test bed site for PIMS, which is installing a wireless WAN to support telemedicine with additional support from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS). Other guests who toured CBIL included Alexey Bortikev and Olga Uzrantseva from Moscow, Russia, Alexander Bazarjian from Armenia, and Kahchik Muradian from the Ukraine. ♦

CBIL Completes Two CBI Programs for the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO)

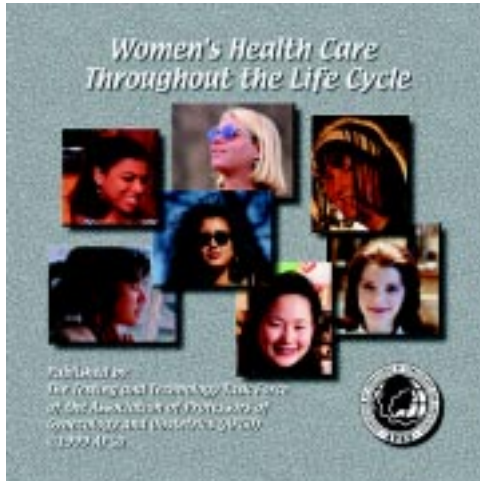
by Jeanne B. Schlesinger, M.Ed.

CBIL's development team has just completed two CD-ROMs for APGO. CBIL contracted with APGO to be the producer of *Women's Health Care Throughout the Life Cycle* and *Infectious Diseases in Obstetrics and Gynecology: A Tutorial*.

The first program provides M-III students with general obstetric and gynecological (OB/GYN) information in case studies that treat seven women over the span of their lives.

The content for this program was developed by the Testing and Technology Task Force of APGO, made up of 17 national OB/GYN faculty, chaired by Jay Bachicha, M.D., University of California at San Francisco, who also served as the CD-ROM Editor.

The infectious disease program is also designed for third year medical students



and provides them with information on infectious diseases encountered in OB/GYN in the form of 37 patient management scenarios. The content for this program

was developed by the APGO Infectious Diseases Task Force, consisting of four national faculty members and chaired by Patrick Duff, M.D., University of Florida.

Involved staff from CBIL and the Office of Faculty and Instructional Development were Jeanne B. Schlesinger, M.Ed., Instructional

Developer; Chris Stephens, Applications Developer; and Caroline W. Williams and Lillian T. Tran, Development Assistants.

Each program can be purchased for \$150 from APGO by visiting their web site at <http://apgo.org/resources/>. They also can be accessed from the CBIL network under the Educational Applications folder. ♦

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best ways to enhance the curriculum. This was a transition year where students received their paper syllabus and had the option to choose whichever method or methods best facilitated their learning – paper syllabus or World Wide Web.

The course runs November 29 - December 17, 1999. Student evaluation will be conducted using electronic surveys and focus groups. Faculty also will be surveyed and interviewed. These data will provide important guidance for the ongoing improvement of the site and for planning of additional online courses.

Team members working with the faculty on the "electrification" include Robby Reynolds, Curriculum Specialist in the

Curriculum Office, who assisted faculty in reviewing objectives and refining syllabus content; and the CBIL development group, Jeanne Schlesinger, Instructional Designer, Brenda Seago, CBIL Director, Chris Stephens, Applications Developer, and Carrie Williams, Multimedia Editor.

We appreciate the leadership of Drs. Fairman and Grimes and the other faculty members in accepting the challenge to "electrify" an entire course. If you want to review the site, contact CBIL at 8-8319 or Robby Reynolds at 8-1278 to obtain the password. ♦

Histology CD-ROM Now Complete

by Jeanne B. Schlesinger, M.Ed.

M-I Histology in the new millennium begins on January 3 and the first CBIL CD-ROM of the century will be the new *Visual Histology* program, Version 2.0. Students will find in this complete histology program the 21 sections covered in the M-I Histology course that relate to the cell, tissue, and organ systems in the human body.

Visual Histology, Version 1.0 was distributed last January and contained 10 of these 21 sections. In addition to M-I medical students, graduate microscopic anatomy students and first year dental students will also receive this CD-ROM. The Anatomy Department project directors for this program were Alice S. Pakurar, Ph.D. and John W. Bigbee, Ph.D. Contributing Anatomy Department faculty were John W. Bigbee, Ph.D., Oliver Bogler, Ph.D., Jack L. Haar, Ph.D., Thomas M. Harris, Ph.D., Randall E. Merchant, Ph.D., Alice S. Pakurar, Ph.D., Andras K. Szakal, Ph.D., and Richard C. Zug, Jr.



CBIL and Faculty and Instructional Development staff included Jeanne B. Schlesinger, M.Ed., Instructional Developer; Chris Stephens, Applications Developer; Caroline Williams, Lillian Tran, and D. Judson Smith, Development Assistants.

Each student will be given a copy of the CD-ROM, paid for with student technology fees. *Visual Histology*, Version 2.0, is also available on the CBIL network, in both its PC and Macintosh versions. ♦

Staff Update . . .

Carol Hampton, M.M.S., presented an overview of telemedicine to the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education on October 4, 1999 at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. Kelly Fisk, VCU Telemedicine, and Chuck Doarn from the MEDITAC NASA project were live via videoconference in Richmond to answer questions about telemedicine and the NASA/VCU project. Also, on October 11, both programs were featured as part of the Internet 2 (I2) Megaconference with some 150 universities around the world that featured H.323 technology applications.

Brenda Seago, M.L.S., M.A., attended the annual meeting for the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MAC/MLA) on October 6 - 9, 1999 in Wilmington, NC.

Carol Hampton, M.M.S., presented a poster entitled "Pathways to Leadership Conference: A Women in Medicine Multi-Organizational Collaboration" at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) annual conference in Washington, DC on October 23 - 27, 1999. The poster was produced by Carol Hampton, VCU; Claudette Dalton, M.D., UVA; Adair Heyl, Ph.D., EVMS; Dianne Cane, M.D., Medical Society of Virginia; and Judy Chin, M.D., Richmond Academy of Medicine. Carolyn Stone also attended the conference on October 25.

Jeanne B. Schlesinger, M.Ed., Chris L. Stephens, Brenda L. Seago, M.L.S., M.A., and Carol L. Hampton, M.M.S., presented an electronic poster entitled "Producing a CD-ROM with Computer Based Instructional (CBI) Programs for Medical Students" at the AAMC Annual Conference in Washington, DC on October 23 - 26, 1999.

Rachel Ballard and Deborah Clark represented CBIL at the Virginia Library Association (VLA) Annual Conference in Hot Springs, VA on October 28 - 30, 1999.

Carol Hampton, M.M.S., facilitated a workshop entitled "Healthcare Services: Providers, Users, Prison Protocols" at the First Annual Arizona Corrections Telemedicine National Conference in Phoenix, AZ on November 23, 1999.

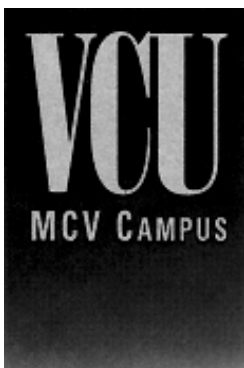
Welcome to:

- Deborah Clark who has joined the CBIL staff as a Library Assistant. Deborah is also working in telemedicine on a part-time basis, and will be handling patient consults and distance learning sessions.
- Huy Nguyen, who is our new Information Technology Analyst. Huy worked for CBIL as a VCU computer co-op student before accepting this full-time position.
- Tri Nguyen, who joined the CBIL staff in August as a computer co-op student worker.
- Carrie Williams, who joined the SOM faculty as an Multimedia Editor for the Office of Faculty and Instructional Development, effective November 15, 1999.

Congratulations to Rachel Ballard, who recently had her position in CBIL upgraded from Library Assistant to Library Specialist.

Best wishes to Cronin Warmack, CBIL's former Information Technology Analyst. Cronin left in September to join the faculty of Woodberry Forest, a boys' college preparatory school in Orange County, VA.

Goodbye to Kelly Jones Fisk, who left VCU at the end of November after seven years. Kelly started working in Continuing Medical Education and moved over to the Telemedicine Technical Manager position in May of 1997. Kelly joined NetTalon Securities, Inc. conducting sales and marketing for a new Internet based software. ♦



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