Teaching a Worldwide Medical School Pathology Course Online—Lectures and Labs

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DISCLOSURES:

1) No trees or copyright lawyers were harmed or killed in the production of this multimedia presentation.

2) Nothing in this presentation is intended for hawking my goods, and is purely educational.

3) I am a rogue professor who refuses to be victimized, as students are, by greedy profit driven schools who violate the Hippocratic oath every day.
Give me a fish, and I’ll eat for a day....
BACKGROUND

• 30 years of clinical practice
• 10 years of teaching medical school
  – USA
  – Caribbean
  – Online
• 4 years of global teaching
  – YouTube videos
    • 7.5 million views
    • 800 educational pathology videos
    • 9000 medical “student” subscribers
  – Medical school pathology lectures
  – Real-time Webinars
Totally “FREE” Method: (2009-2010)

- SKYPE + DIMDIM
- Limit: 20-25 attendees
- Requires audio bandwidth sharing
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaY-0UGuido
WEBINAR® METHOD
(2010-2011, and 2011-2012)

- About 1 dollar per attendee per session
- Webinar by Citrix, not generic webinar
- UNLIMITED attendees
- No bandwidth sharing required
- Security hierarchy
  - Organizer
  - Presenter
  - Panelist
  - Attendee
- Principle: Whatever is on professor’s monitor will be seen by student attendees, and whatever he says will be heard by all.
CEREBRAL REQUIREMENTS, PROFESSOR:

“LECTURE”

GENERAL PATH
SYSTEMIC PATH

LAB:

Histology
Histopathology
1500 Pages of Paper

22 GB of FLV, WMV, AVI files (140 hours)
WHAT IS A “.FPX” FILE?

• It is an image format like .jpg or .GIF, but HUGE in memory, because it is a digitization of an entire microscopic slide which can be zoomed to high power.

• It was made famous by the University of Iowa’s virtual histopathology website for online viewing.

• ONLINE viewing vs. OFFLINE viewing

• The FPX files can be obtained free by politely requesting them from the University of Iowa (or me).

• You can view them OFFLINE with a free OFFLINE viewer called LivePix
True “PEERer” to “PEERer” NETWORKING!
Work while you travel!
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

**Professor**
- PC or Mac
- Microphone
- Speakers
- Broadband Internet connection
  - DSL
  - CABLE
  - T1, T3
- Powerpoint for lectures
- FPX OFFLINE viewer (i.e., “LivePix”) for labs
- Webinar® account, and 10 minutes of training on how to use it.

**Student Attendee**
- PC or Mac or iPod or iPad or iPhone
- Microphone if students want to ask questions live during session
- Wi-Fi connection is OK
- Eyes
- Ears
- Mouths (optional)
FOUR LEVELS of CONTROLLABILITY

• **ORGANIZER**
  – Can do everything

• **PRESENTER** (i.e., “professor”)
  – Can profess, show powerpoints, talk, ask questions in chat or voice mode to anybody

• **PANELIST**
  – Can talk voice (if not muted), listen, see presentation

• **ATTENDEE** (i.e., “student”)
  – Can learn, listen, see, hear, chat in voice or text mode
WEBINAR
CONTROL
PANEL,
PRESENTER
WEBINAR CONTROL PANEL, ATTENDEES
STATS FROM 2010-2011 GLOBAL COURSE

• Over 1000 registered attendees
• Students from 72 countries
• 140 hours of lectures and labs as 70 two-hour sessions every TUE and THU at 9-11 AM CST
• ~10% of the students attended live sessions, 90% preferred watching the 22 GB of video archives at www.gopathdx.com
• No tuition
• No exams
• No grades
• All chapters of Robbins 8\textsuperscript{th} Edition covered, 1500 pages, 10 general chapters, 19 systemic chapters, 500 MB of powerpoint slides, 500 pathology slides in lab
• Hundreds of massive gratefulness letters from students!
• The most fun I ever had! (professionally)
Congratulations to one of our students who ranked #1 in Pathology in her mid year exams out of 2000 students and received an overall whopping 99% !!!!!
Elena Rodriguez
ADVANTAGES

......of WEBINAR

• Convenience
• Cost
• Audio
• Visual
• Letterman’s Top 102

......of “JAILBOX”

• none
Letterman’s 102 Reasons Why Jailboxes Suck

1. Too Inconvenient
2. Too Expensive
3. Too Distractive
4. Too unethical, violating Hippocratic Oath to share knowledge freely
5. Gas too expensive
6. You have to get out of bed
7. You can’t talk in class
8. You can’t hear professor if you’re in the back row
9. You can’t see the tiny powerpoint text from the back row
10. You have to get dressed
11. You have to shave
12. You have to comb your hair
13. You have to leave the room to pee
14. You can’t feed your baby
15. You can’t scratch your butt
16. You can’t pass gas too loudly
17. You have to fight traffic
18. You have to risk traffic tickets, even from the damn campus police, whose salary you pay
19. You have to waste time driving
20. You have to get off your sofa
21. The professor might get angry if he sees you laughing
22. You can’t listen to loud music during class
23. You are not allowed to eat
24. You can’t smoke
25. You have to find parking
26. You can’t kiss your boyfriend/girlfriend/mother/dog/baby during class
27. You can’t be in bed with your fiancée/wife/friend during class
28. You can’t walk/feed/kiss your dog during class
29. You are forced to be in the same room with people you may not like
30. You can’t soak in a bathtub during jailbox class
31. You can’t walk out of class screaming “bullshit”
32. If you fall asleep you can’t snore
33. You can’t belch (eructation)
34. You can’t tell the professor to shut up for a minute while you catch up with your notes
35. Your microscope was stolen
36. Your microscope was broken
37. You could not afford a microscope
38. Somebody stole your slides
39. You lost your slides
40. Your slides got cracked
41. Formaldehyde fumes make you sick
42. Xylene is carcinogenic
43. Your microscope bulb burned out
44. You have to waste a lot of time adjusting the focus on your microscope
45. And do it all over again if you want to show it to different eyeballs
46. Your lab instructor only talks to the pretty girls
47. Your lab instructor doesn’t know what the hell he is looking at under the microscope too
48. The fuse on your microscope blew
49. Lab instructor too busy to get to your table
50. You forgot your microscope drawer key
51. Somebody keeps sneezing and coughing to annoy and infect you
52. You forgot your locker combination
53. You overslept and got a ticket speeding to class
54. You can’t turn the lecturer’s volume up
55. You can’t turn the lecturer’s volume down or off
56. The parking lot is too cold to walk from
57. The parking lot is too rainy to walk from
58. You are afraid your fellow students will see you on a bad hair day
59. You can’t invite only your friends to sit with you in class
60. You can’t party during class
61. You can’t ask your friend 20 rows down a question
62. You have to turn off your damn cell phone.
63. You can’t put on makeup during class
64. You can’t scream at your kids during class
65. You can’t read a newspaper in class, or play Angry Birds, or Solitaire, or Mah Jong
66. The class is scheduled for the damned school’s convenience, not yours
67. You can’t have a beer
68. You can’t get up at 3 AM to replay lecture parts
69. You might be able to ask your professor questions verbally, but not in text
70. You can’t talk to your friends to ask them what the hell is the professor saying
71. You can’t google
72. You can’t Wiki
73. You can’t YouTube
74. You can’t Facebook, or Twitter
75. You can’t shop online during a jailbox class
76. You can’t carry the archived lecture on your iPod, Droid, or flash drive, or SD chip
77. You can’t watch reruns of Dexter or Sopranos during jailbox class
78. If you give your professor online tuition money, he will get all of it, not 5%
79. Online has no attendance requirements or exams, you just use it as an optional resource to pass Step One. If you claim you need exams, there are 9 USMLE sources I can refer you to, most free.
80. If you want that Kumbaya feeling by having your closest classmates hold hands with you during class, invite them over to your living room, you can even hold their hands, which the jailbox doesn’t allow, naked even
81. Your professor doesn’t have to shave, or even put on deodorant if he chooses not to
82. Your professor doesn’t have to get dressed, or even get out of bed
83. Your professor doesn’t have to fight traffic
84. If your professor thinks he can profess better laying down for better brain perfusion, he has that choice
85. Your professor can read notes, without you knowing
86. Your professor is not mortally distracted by seeing students sticking out their tongues
87. Your professor does not have to wonder of the dean or chairman is chumming his class
88. Your professor does not have to listen to live lame excuses like “The Dog Ate My Homework”
89. You can email or text questions while they are still FRESH in your mind during class
90. You do not have to switch rooms, or even seats, between lecture and lab
91. All of your prof’s preparations are done in the sanctity of his own home without distractions
92. Prof can say anything he wants (TRUE academic freedom) online in his own home, and only be answerable to the person who matters, i.e., his wife
93. 95% of all tuition costs can be eliminated
94. So much needless wasteful money, time, and energy is wasted getting your ass onto the lecture hall seat
95. Prof can eat, drink, be merry, during his hard work
96. So can you
97. You can play rock and roll before, during, or after class and/or break
98. You can take a shower during break, or even during class if your iPad is waterproof
99. Jailbox claims to serve its customers but does everything at ITS convenience, not YOURS
100. Ask your dean: “What percentage of my tuition dollars go to my teachers?” Be prepared to get kicked out of school.
101. For the most obvious demonstration of the evils of jailboxes, please watch Pink Floyd’s “Another Brick in the Wall” video on YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_bvT-DGcWw
102. 100% of all online course is delivered by an MD, board certified pathologist, with 30 years of medical practice experience and 50 years of teaching experience, not an MBA, CEO, lawyer, graduate student, or a gang of inconsistent bozos, or researchers who are forced to teach for free, therefore, where is your damn tuition money going anyway?
What should we do about our crippingly expensive jailboxes?