

Faculty Learning Community: Developing Information Technology for the Improvement of Teaching

Purpose

This learning community will provide faculty members an opportunity to develop information technologies in medical education for the purpose of improving teaching. As the community develops it may decide to narrow its scope. Once the group begins they will choose the specific approach they would like to take from among the many possibilities within information technology, including web-based learning, e-learning, blended learning (a combination of traditional methods and face to face methods with e-learning), and medical multimedia (multimedia applications in medical education).

Resources

A small amount of funds are available (about \$1000) to purchase resources, including meals, for this learning community. In addition, educational resource persons (Dr. Tiberius and other members of the Educational Development Office) will help the group obtain the needed resources.

Eligibility

Any faculty member at the UMSM may apply.

Due Date

Applications are due July 1st.

Activities of the Learning Community

Although the specific activities will be negotiated with the members of the community, the following list of activities will be suggested to the group.

- Explore the use of new information technologies to support medical education.
- Use multimedia to enhance medical education.
- Build an Internet based resource and knowledge exchange aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of teaching;
- Evaluate the usefulness of the resource.
- Publish or present the results.

Community Leader

Dr. Jorge Ruiz has agreed to lead the group. Dr. Ruiz is currently the project director for Geri-U, The Online Geriatrics University (<http://www.geri-u.org>). GeriU is a web-based Learning Management System (LMS) for medical and nursing students, fellows, and faculty to learn, seek information, and discuss their experiences and concerns regarding the care of the elderly. He is a Medical Informatics fellow (Marine Biology laboratory and National Library of Medicine) and member of the American Medical Informatics Association. He is currently part of a collaboration developing a Mini Mental State Examination and a pain assessment learning objects. His training includes medical informatics courses, basic and advanced Macromedia Authorware (an educational authoring software).

He was part of the team that develop an online exercise (Digital Learning Object) to teach trainees the basics of performing gait and balance evaluations of patients at high risk for falls, a

computer assisted tutorial in dementia care for LPNs and CNAs in nursing homes. Formerly he was program director for the T-Care, Telecare Urban Home Health Program, at the Miami VA Medical Center, a care coordination model aided by telemedicine with a web-based interface.

Application Procedure

Briefly describe the nature of your teaching or web experience. (Use other side if necessary).

Why do you want to join the Faculty Learning Community on web-based teacher education?

Send your application to:

Richard Tiberius, Ph.D., Director, Educational Development Office, 1600 N.W. 10th Avenue,
RMSB, Room 2181, Miami, Florida 33136

[Questions should be directed to Richard Tiberius at rtiberius@med.miami.edu]