

QUT Digital Repository:
<http://eprints.qut.edu.au/>



Dallemagne, Catherine and Richardson, Neil A. and Weyand, Peter (2009)
Histology challenge : an interactive program for 1st year students. In: FASEB
Journal, April 18-22, 2009, New Orleans, LA.

© Copyright 2009 [please consult the authors]

632.14

Histology Challenge: an interactive program for 1st year students

Catherine Dallemagne¹, Neil Richardson¹ and Peter Weyand¹

¹ QUT, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

ABSTRACT

Our students come from diverse backgrounds. They need flexibility in their learning, and opportunities to review aspects of curriculum they are less confident with. An online teaching and learning programme called the Histology Challenge has been developed to supplement learning experiences offered in several first year anatomy and anatomy&physiology units at QUT. The programme is designed to be integrated with the existing Blackboard sites.

The Histology Challenge emphasises the foundation concept that a complex system, such as the human body, can be better understood by examining its simpler components. The tutorial allows students to examine the cells and tissues which ultimately determine structural and functional properties of body organs. The program is interactive, asking students to make decisions and choices, demonstrating an integrated understanding of systemic and cellular aspects. It provides users with the ability to progress at their own pace and to test their understanding and knowledge. For the developer the learning activity can be easily controlled and modified via the use of text files.

There are several key elements of this programme, designed to promote specific aspects of student learning. Minimum text is used, instead there is a strong emphasis on instructive artwork and original, high quality histology images presented within a framework that reinforces learning and promotes problem solving skills.