

# Computers in the Classroom and Electronic Notes

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## What is a Tablet PC?



Tablets now have DVD-CD reader/writers.

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- Eleven first year veterinary students used tablet PCs for the 2003 fall semester; now have almost 100 students in the first three years
- Fujitsu Tablet PCs with custom Vet Ed Tablet interface provided by Animal Care Training initially; now students chose from other sources

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Dr. Jo Ann Eurell



First Year Class Notes	Dictionary E Textbooks
Second Year Class Notes	Flashcards
Third Year Class Notes	Differential Diagnosis Generator
Equine Clinical Atlas	Hill's Clinical Atlas
Equine 5-Minute Consult	Small Animal 5-Minute Consult
Product Label & MSDS	Pfizer Pain Atlas
Internet	Desktop/Resources

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Fall    Spring    Other

Gross Anatomy I	Histology Dev Anatomy	Neurobiology
Physiology I	Clinical Orientation I	

Information     Menu

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### Additional Resources available on the VetEd Tablet

- All core class notes – provided by CVM
- Windows Journal
- Dorland's Medical Dictionary
- Five Minute Veterinary Consult
- Hill's Clinical Atlas
- Plumb's Veterinary Drug Handbook

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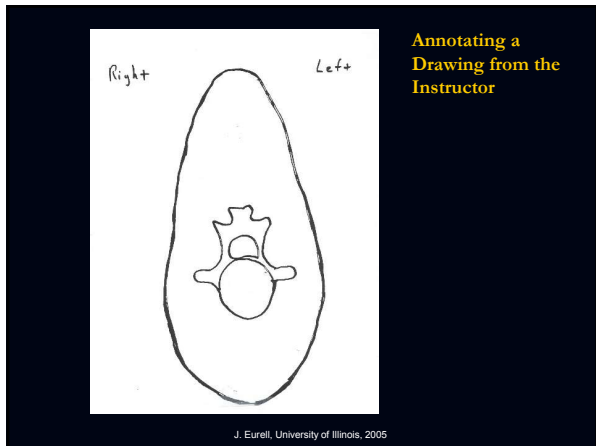
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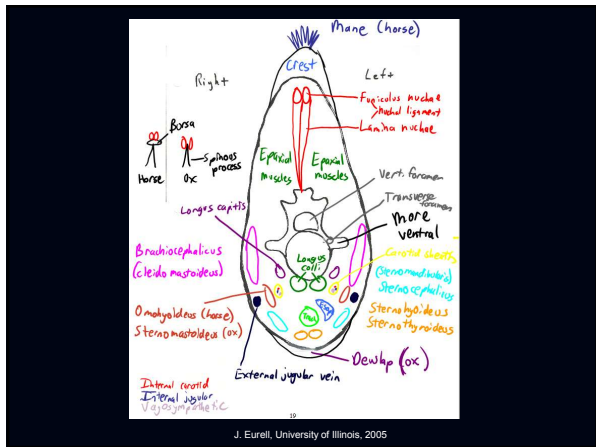
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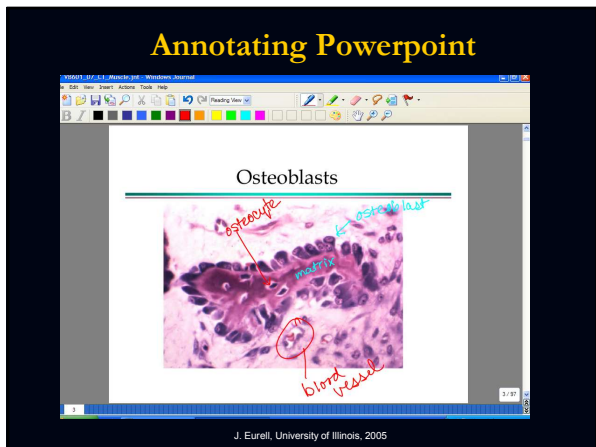
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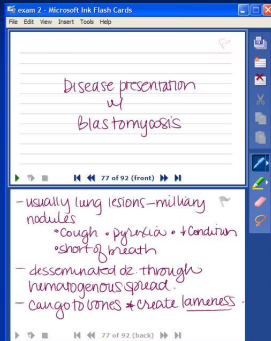
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## Ink Flash Cards



Available as a free download from Microsoft as part of their Education Pack for the Tablet PC.

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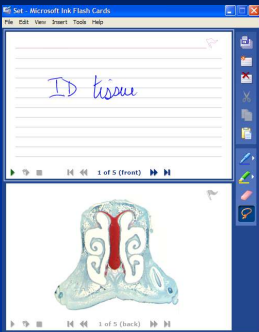
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## More on Flash Cards



- Support images
- Have pen and highlighter tools
- Can review manually or timed

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## Advantages of the Tablet PC

- Students can annotate notes and Powerpoint slides and save their annotations – in **color**.
- The information is “**key word**” searchable in Windows Journal.
- Eliminates the need for carrying around large notebooks of paper notes.
- Allows a “work anywhere” method of study.

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## Status of the Project at the U of I

- The project has continued into its third year this fall.
- The presence of the tablets has stimulated in-class use of laptops.
- Class notes for three years of core courses have been produced and distributed in .jnt and .pdf format.

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## How do we produce the electronic notes?

- Faculty were requested to submit their notes in electronic form.
- Notes were submitted via electronic drop box or on CD or flash drive.
- Original files were converted to .jnt (tablet) and .pdf (other computers) by the ISCAVMA E-notes committee
  - **IMPORTANT** – NO ORIGINAL FILES WERE DISTRIBUTED! IMAGES ARE EMBEDDED IN THE .jnt AND .pdf FILES.
  - Conversion is done from the original program by “Print to Journal Note Writer”
  - Files are left in .jnt format vs. template format
- Electronic notes were distributed to the students via CD and authenticated website.

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## Is this “extra work” for Faculty?

- Conversions were done for the faculty from the same files that they had already developed for their classes
  - Paper notes – Word, WordPerfect
  - Powerpoint
- They were requested to **Number** their files in order of presentation: 01\_<file name>
- What about last minute changes and updates?
  - Changes/updates can be submitted, converted, posted to the website and students notified that the changes are available

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## Distribution through the Electronic Notes Website

- Semester note files and updates can be downloaded from a secure website.
- Only members of the class can get to the website through authentication.
- Better than emailing large attachments.

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## What about copyright clearance?

- Electronic notes fall under the same need for copyright clearance as paper notes.
- Our campus copyright clearance office assists faculty.

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## Digital Rights

- Some faculty are concerned about ease of access and potential redistribution of content
- Copyright statement
  - Copyright © 2005 – All Rights Reserved. The contents of the syllabus, class materials (including audio-visuals and computer files) and lectures for this course are copyrighted. They are intended for the student's private use and may not be reproduced without the permission of the professor who authored the material.

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## Electronic Notes Problems

- Faculty are not aware of the program.
- Faculty are resistant to release their original files because they don't understand the process.
- Faculty don't have their notes in electronic form.
- Conversion and distribution of the notes is an intensive process that requires knowledge of the curriculum and an understanding of how the computers are used in the classroom.

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## Conversion and Distribution Issues

- At the University of Illinois, we continue to work on the infrastructure needed to carry out this task.
- An ISCAVMA student committee works with the Faculty, Office of Student Affairs, and Computing Services.

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## Pros for a Student Electronic Notes Committee

- The students understand the tablet PCs.
- They know how they would like to have their notes organized on the computer.
- They know who is teaching in the various courses.
- They have the time to go "door to door" to solicit and collect notes.
- They can find the time on breaks to do the conversions.
- They are present in the class and attune to needed updates.
- They can help with explanation to incoming students (presentation at interviews) and 1<sup>st</sup> year note orientation-getting the first year students up and running by their first class.

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## Cons for a Student Committee

- Some faculty are reluctant to release their original files to students.
  - Solution: Redistribution of copyrighted course material without the instructor's permission is an honor code violation. Signed release statements may be needed.
- Need access to hardware and assorted software to do the conversions.

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## Hardware and Software Issues

- Vendors
  - We need collaborators to handle the ordering and repair
    - Ordering has many variables and the students need to know what they need
    - Downtime has to be limited- temporary loaner computers are needed
  - Hardware contact person within the college needed
    - Students need help with repairs and other hardware issues
- Computing Services
  - Need help with distribution/update website, hardware "crisis recovery," connections to email/wireless
- Student bookstore – availability of electronic resources?

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## Physical Plant Issues

- Power in the classrooms - needs to be available
- Establishing study areas with computer use in mind

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## Questions?

- My email is [jeurell@uiuc.edu](mailto:jeurell@uiuc.edu).
- Students who are willing to answer questions:
  - Erin Lindblad - [ehollim2@uiuc.edu](mailto:ehollim2@uiuc.edu)
  - Rachel Shaff - [rshaff2@uiuc.edu](mailto:rshaff2@uiuc.edu)
  - Teresa Lehnhardt - [tlehnh2@uiuc.edu](mailto:tlehnh2@uiuc.edu)

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