University of Massachusetts Engaging Students: Lecture to Lab

Introductory Biology for Life Science Majors

- 2 Semester Sequence: 750-1000 students
- 2-3 Traditional Lecture Sections/semester
- 1-2 instructors/section

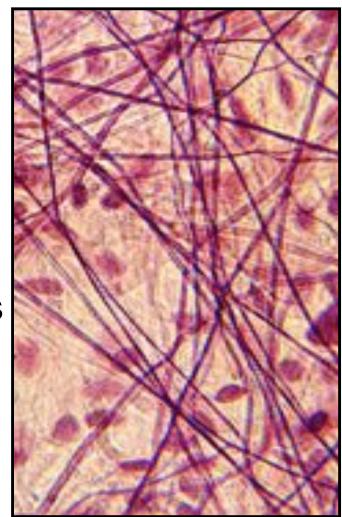
Redesign:

Student engagement, attendance and success Online Preparation to support Active Learning

### Course Redesign: Histology Laboratory Experience

#### Before:

- **Traditional Histology Lab** 
  - Observe prepared slides
  - **Assessment: Practical Exams**
  - Low student engagement
  - Limited student interaction



# Histology: Student Ownership

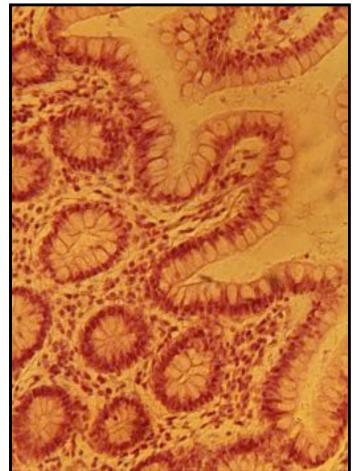
Redesign of Laboratory Component of Histology

Successful Outcomes:

- Increase student learning
- Improve imaging skills
- Increase interest / engagement
- Increase student ownership

Funding:

 UMASS Grant for Professional Development in Teaching

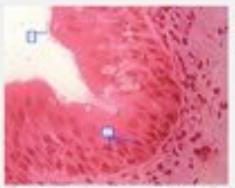


# Histology: Student Ownership

After: Redesigned Histology Lab **Observe prepared slides Assemble Image Galleries** -Capture image: Motic camera -Post image to Web page Assessment<sup>.</sup> -Practical Exams -Image Gallery postings -Group Projects

# Histology: Image Galleries

#### Image galleries



There are 40 images in this gallery Last updated: Sun, 03/09/2008 - 23:56

- Select
- Capture
- Label
- Post

There are 39 images in this gallery Last updated: Wed, 03/12/2008 - 02:24



#### There are 13 images in this gallery Last updated: Mon, 03/10/2008 - 22:10

#### Muscle

Here are images of vertebrate muscle.

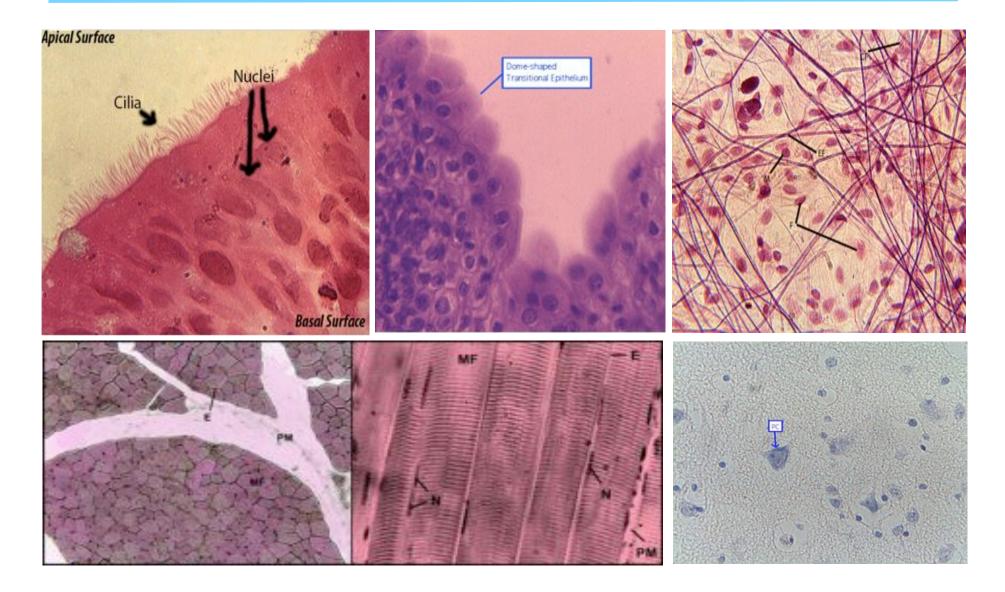
**Connective Tissue** 

**Epithelial Tissue** 

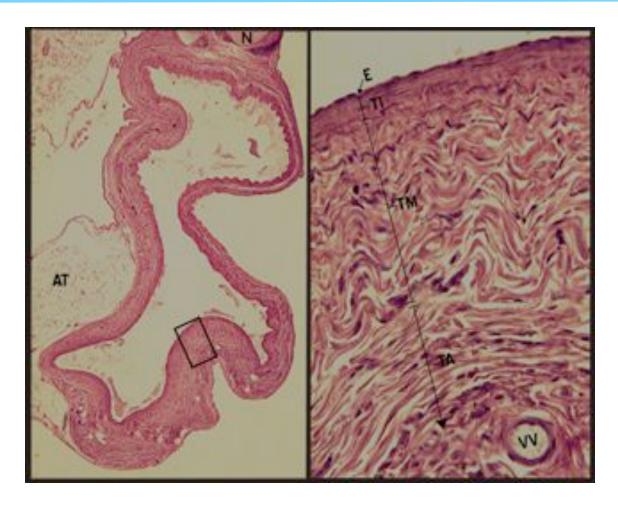
Here are images of vertebrate connective tissue.

Here are images of vertebrate epithelial tissues.

# Histology: Image Galleries



# Histology: Image Galleries

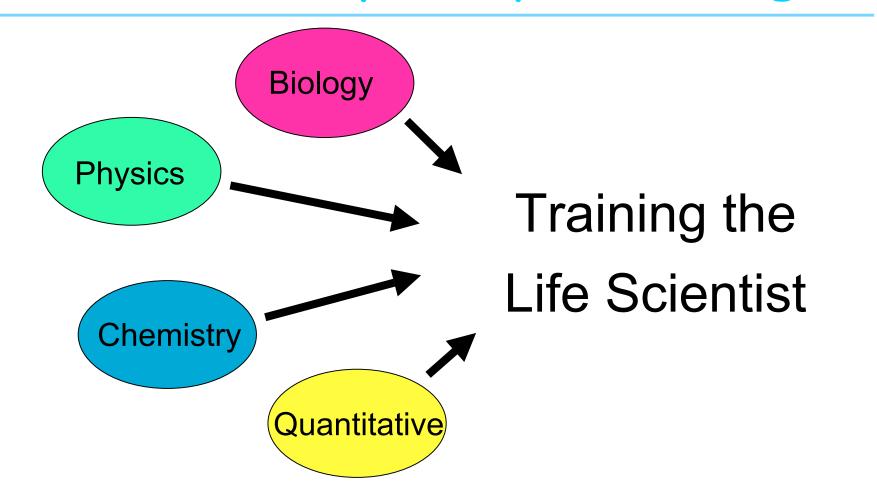


This micrograph was taken from slide #85, in box #16. This is an image of a large vein. Recognizable by its "collapsed" shape. A thin tunica intima (TI), a tunica media (TM), and a very large tunica adventitia (TA) all layer the wall of the vein. The venous endothelium (E) lines the inner wall. Peripheral to the vein is a bundle of nerves (N) along with large amounts of adipose tissue (AT). In the magnified image on the right, there is an identifiable vasa vasorum (VV). (Erik Schmitt – Thu, 03/27/2008 – 02:07)

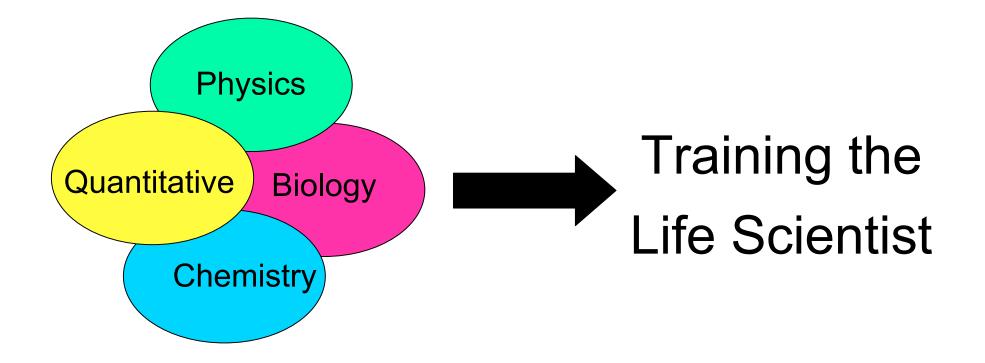
# Histology: Class Poster

Image Galleries: A New Way to Learn Histology Biology 523 Histology				

#### Course Redesign: Interdisciplinary Teaching



#### Course Redesign: An Interdisciplinary Approach



Training Life Science Majors: An Interdisciplinary Approach

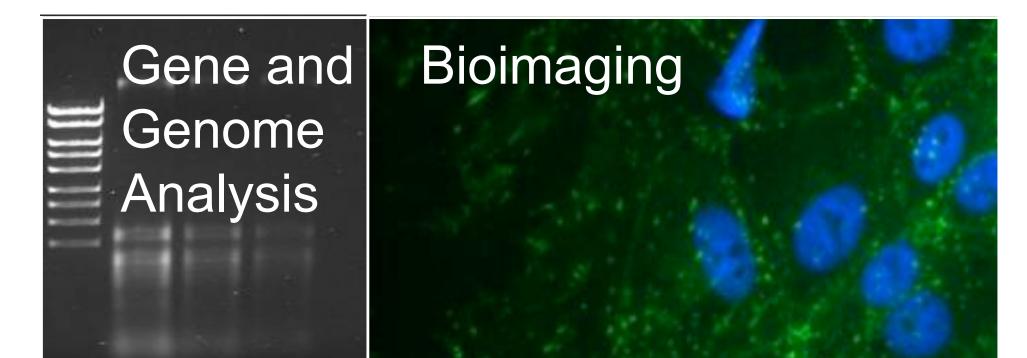
#### Bio2010 Challenge:

- prepare students for increasingly interdisciplinary nature of biological research.

#### Meet the challenge by strengthening:

- connections between biological & physical sciences.
- quantitative and computational skills.

#### Four Interdisciplinary Courses



# Quantitative

Quantitative Systems Biology Biology of the Cell

# Interdisciplinary Lab Courses

Successful Outcomes:

- Increase student learning
- Develop skills of a scientist
- Develop positive attitude about practice of science

Assessment:

- CURE Survey- pretest and posttest surveys
- Midsemester Review
- Student course evaluations
- Instructor and TA interviews

#### Gene and Genome Analysis

CURE Survey Results	analyzing data
Skills: Reported large gains in:	presenting results
(>4 on 5 pt scale;5=very large gain)	computer modeling being responsible for part of project
	working in small groups
	collecting data maintaining a lab notebook

#### Attitudes toward Science

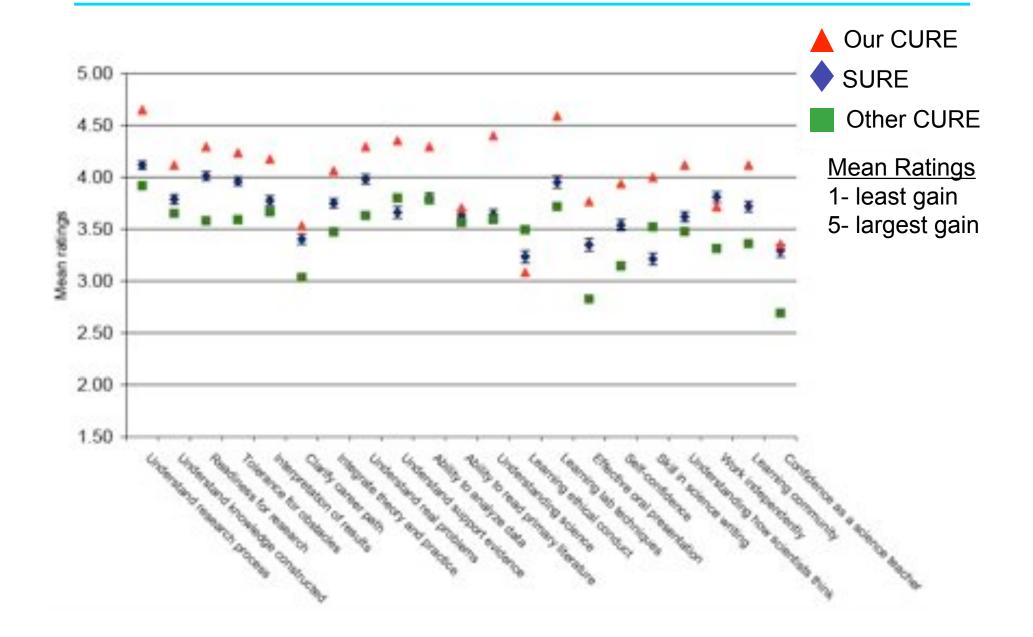
(1-5, 1=strongly agree)	PreCourse	PostCourse
You can rely on scientific results to be true & correct.	2.94	3.18
Career Goals: Plan to pursue life science PhD	2/18	6/13

#### Student and Instructor Feedback: Very high satisfaction

"intensive hands on lab experience"

"encouraged to solve unexpected issues and problems" "liked the independence..felt like we were doing real research"

#### Gene and Genome Analysis



### Interdisciplinary Lab Courses



#### Challenges

ww.maxwaugh.com/youth/tug.html

- Cross departments / colleges
- Departments assign teaching