

Great universities constantly expand their reach by sharing knowledge—among colleagues, among departments, among schools, and finally across countries and continents.

Tufts OCW Newsletter

2009 and 2010
Volume 4, Issue 1
<http://ocw.tufts.edu>

Highlights:

[Tufts OCW in the News](#)

[Course News](#)

[Presentations and Conferences](#)

[OpenCourseWare Consortium \(OCWC\) News](#)

[Open Educational Resources \(OER\)](#)

[Tufts OCW User Comments](#)

[Website Links](#)

[Website Traffic](#)

[Tufts OCW Wants You!](#)

[Support OCW](#)

[About Tufts University OpenCourseWare \(OCW\)](#)

Tufts OCW in the News

Tufts University, one of a group of leaders in the opencourseware community, has committed to become a sustaining member over the next five years in support of the OpenCourseWare Consortium, the non-profit association of global OpenCourseWare publishers. "These commitments demonstrate the strength of the movement," said Stephen Carson, President of the Consortium. "Not only are these universities sustaining their own publications, but they are making meaningful commitments to the global effort to openly publish educational materials."

[top](#)

Course News

There have been a number of course updates to the Tufts OCW site in the past year. The following are new courses or courses with recent revisions:

- Blender 3D Design (School of Arts and Sciences), an updated version of the very popular Three-dimensional Modeling; Animation and Rendering using Blender 3D Software
<http://ocw.tufts.edu/Course/57>
This course offers students an in-depth introduction to the world of computer generated 3-D modeling and animation.
- Biology of Water and Health, (School of Medicine and School of Engineering), a university interdisciplinary course

<http://ocw.tufts.edu/Course/55>

This course encourages and trains students to think outside the box when addressing water-related problems with an interdisciplinary approach.

- Force and Strategy (School of Arts and Sciences), newly added
<http://ocw.tufts.edu/Course/58>
This course examines the political, economic, military, and ethical factors affecting the use and utility of military force in international relations.
- Histology (School of Veterinary Medicine), additional content added
<http://ocw.tufts.edu/Course/4>
This course emphasizes on the structures of the organs and tissues, as well as focusing on the integration of structures with functions, drawing from many disciplines.
- Zoological Medicine 2008, (School of Veterinary Medicine), is an updated version of one our most content-rich and popular courses, Zoological Medicine.
<http://ocw.tufts.edu/Course/60>
This course covers medicine for all non-traditional species, with content as current as December 2009.
- Courses in the pipeline include One Health (University Seminar), a University Seminar which interfaces between research and teaching through trans-disciplinary approaches; Epidemiology and Biostatistics-update (School of Medicine); Implant Dentistry-update (School of Dental Medicine); Geriatric Dentistry-update (School of Dental Medicine), and Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology-update (School of Medicine).

[top](#)

Presentations and Conferences

- Susan Albright, Director of Educational Technologies, Technology for Learning in the Health Sciences, and Associate Provost Mary Lee, MD, attended the Hewlett Grantees meeting at Yale University in April 2010. The foundation announced its new direction, focusing primarily on K-12 open educational resources.
- Associate Provost Mary Lee, MD, was invited to speak at Korea University, Seoul from April 30-May 4, 2010 on "Promoting Active Learning with Technology in Classrooms, Clinics, and Beyond."
- Robbin Smith, Tufts OCW Editor, was SigMaster (co-coordinator) of the NERCOMP Special Interest Group day-long Workshop in the Boston area entitled "Publishing Open Course Curricula: what it is all about and why it matters" on October 22, 2009.
- Associate Provost Mary Lee, MD, attended the OpenCourseWare Consortium annual international meeting in Monterrey, Mexico in April, 2009 and was was the discussion leader for "Open Educational Resources in Health."

[top](#)

OpenCourseWare Consortium (OCWC) News

The 2010 OCWC Conference was held in Hanoi, Vietnam in May 2010. Associate Provost Mary Lee, MD, attended and presented a workshop entitled "Creating a Sustainable National Hub for Sharing OER" with our partners from Christian Medical College in Vellore, India.

The 2011 OCWC Conference will be held in Boston. We're excited to announce that Tufts, along with UMass Boston, will be co-hosting the event with MIT. More details will follow.

[top](#)

Open Educational Resources (OER)

Additional Tufts websites have been added to the [Tufts Open Educational Resources \(OER\)](#) page on Tufts OCW, containing information and links to The Tufts University Center for Engineering Education and Outreach (CEEEO); Boston Subsurface Project; ConStats; Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE); and AquaPedia.

Tufts hosted an *OER in Health* meeting in March 2010. Participants included representatives from OCWC, BU, Johns Hopkins, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, University of Michigan, OER Africa, and the School of Biotechnology and Health en Tecnológico de Monterrey (México). The meeting, a follow-up to a meeting in January 2010, convened to start the process of framing an effort among OCWC members and affiliates to advance the OER in Health agenda.

[top](#)

Tufts OCW User Comments

Some recent comments from Tufts OCW users about our courses:

- "...this OCW [course] offered me different ideas for approaching this subject—even though it is designed for Vet students...it gave me more ideas how to blend these concepts for non vet students —yet keeping the veterinary view in mind."
- "There are topics covered in the Blender tutorials that are unavailable anywhere else. The teaching style is great as well; easy to understand and applicable for what I was trying to do."
- "I was looking for info about renal pathophysiology to prepare a lesson; and the info was right here."
- "I am looking for syllabi and lectures for the undergraduate pathology course I will teach next spring. The information I found on this site was great; though geared to grad students. "
- "I found material that better organized information on motor and cognitive development than the current textbook I am using."
- "Thanks for providing the open courseware related to public health ... direct information on epidemiology."

[top](#)

Website Links

A Tufts OCW link has been added to the Open Access page on the [Tufts Scholarly Communication Wiki](#). The site is dedicated to helping faculty, staff, and students understand how they can protect, utilize, and share scholarly research literature, whether their own work or that of others. Users can navigate the site based on topic, author's rights, copyright, open access, and Tufts policies.

[top](#)

Website Traffic

Fun Facts for 2009:

- The highest daily visit count for the Tufts OCW site was on December 1, 2009 with 1851 visits.
- While most traffic comes from the U.S., the Philippines, the UK, Canada, India, China, Australia, Indonesia, Germany, and Brazil, Tufts OCW had visitors from 210 countries/territories! For example, there were visits from such diverse countries as

1471 visits from Israel
 493 visits from Lebanon
 26 visits from Mozambique
 6 visits from Liechtenstein
 5 visits from Greenland
 2 visits from Turkmenistan

639 visits from Slovakia
 402 visits from Nigeria
 9 visits from the Solomon Islands
 5 visits from Cape Verde
 2 visits from Niger
 1 visit from Cocos [Keeling] Islands

- Visits to the site have continued to steadily increase. The total number of visits in 2009 was 457,329. Traffic to the OCW website increased from the first six months to the second six months by 5.2%. The average number of visits per day improved from 1,056 in Q3 to 1,289 in Q4.
- Visitors reached the Tufts OCW site by using searches with keywords as diverse as "foamy sputum," "oral cancer," "differential misclassification system," "incidence density," "blender," and "rabies pathophysiology"
- While the top traffic source was Google, the next highest traffic source was Google Images (U.S. and international)
- More than 1,000 users filled out the OCW Pop-up User Survey in 2009. In the Survey, the main reason faculty cited for visiting Tufts OCW was for purposes of curricular development
- As well as being accessible from the OCWC website, Tufts OCW has been added as a link on websites such as the Online Education Database; Open Educational Resources Commons, About.com Free Online Learning Classes, and Self Made Scholar Blog.
- It is listed in 101 Killer opencourseware Projects from Around the World: Ivy League and Beyond from The.Edu Toolbox; 100 Awesome Open Courses for Those Who Want to Change the World from Select Courses; in Open HealthWare: Top 50 Open Courseware Classes on Health and Fitness from Nursaholic; and in 100 open courses that anyone can take from elearning gurus.

| Percent (%) of User Visits by Region (out of 24 sub continent regions) from Jan-Dec 2009 | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Regions | Visits | %Visits |
| North America | 250,604 | 54.80% |
| South-Eastern Asia | 42,884 | 9.38% |
| Northern Europe | 28,622 | 6.26% |
| Southern Asia | 23,336 | 5.10% |
| Eastern Asia | 21,127 | 4.62% |
| Western Europe | 14,451 | 3.16% |
| Southern Europe | 12,200 | 2.67% |
| Western Asia | 12,035 | 2.63% |
| Eastern Europe | 10,775 | 2.36% |
| South America | 10,456 | 2.29% |

[top](#)

Tufts OCW Wants You!

We are always looking for new Tufts courses to publish. If you are a Tufts faculty member, we would be happy to provide you with a faculty information packet. Please email ocweditor@tufts.edu to start the process, with "Interest in contributing new OCW course" as the subject line.

[top](#)

Support OCW

If you would like to support Tufts in this exciting educational initiative, please click [contribute here](#). When you reach Step 2 "About Your Gift," skip down to the "Other" field and enter "OpenCourseWare Fund" before

entering the amount of your gift. Or, you may call 800-737-7035 from anywhere in North America or 617-627-2643 from anywhere in the world to make a gift via credit card. You may mail a donation (check payable to "Trustees of Tufts College") to:

Tufts University
P.O. Box 3306
Boston, MA 02241-3306

[top](#)

About Tufts University OpenCourseWare

OpenCourseWare (OCW) is part of the open educational resources (OER) movement in which course content is openly accessible to everyone online. [Tufts OpenCourseWare](#) is a free, online publication of high-quality educational material from a number of Tufts University courses available for use by self-learners, students, and faculty around the world. Tufts OCW is not a distance education program and does not provide university credit or degrees, therefore no enrollment process, fee, or registration is necessary. Tufts OCW demonstrates the university's multidisciplinary approach, and its particular strength in the life sciences. The project exemplifies the international perspective and underlying ethic of service to local, national and international communities that are essential to the identity of Tufts University. Tufts is a member of the [OpenCourseWare Consortium](#) (OCWC), working with other universities "to advance education and empower people worldwide."

[top](#)

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter, please send a request with your email address to ocwfeedback@tufts.edu.

[top](#)

The logo for Tufts University, featuring the word "Tufts" in a blue, serif font.