



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

<http://ocw.tufts.edu>

## **Tufts OCW Quarterly Newsletter** **Spring 2007 Volume 2, Issue 2**

### **Highlights:**

[Four new courses released](#)

[Tufts OCW team presents at International OCW conference](#)

[Number of visits of Tufts OCW site continues to increase](#)

[TUSK presents our open source virtual patient player at Medbiquitous conference](#)

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## **Four New Courses Released March 2007**

- [Renal Pathophysiology](#), Spring 2006 – School of Medicine

This course reviews how the kidneys adapt to extra-renal disturbances and explores disorders that arise from primary defects in kidney function. In addition, the course explores the pathogenesis and therapy of chronic kidney disease and the consequences of kidney failure.

- [Ophthalmology Grand Rounds](#), Academic Year 2006/2007 – New England Eye Center / Tufts University School of Medicine

The New England Eye Center, which serves as the Department of Ophthalmology for the Tufts University School of Medicine, hosts weekly Grand Rounds. This course features a series of patient cases and related information originally presented by residents, fellows and faculty.

- [Population Medicine](#), Fall 2006 – School of Medicine Public Health and Professional Degree Program

The purpose of this course is to shift attention away from the pathophysiologic effects of disease on individuals, and refocus it on a much bigger question: what connection will you and your patients have with the health of the public? In this course, the elderly serve as a model population to explore the intersection between clinical practice and population medicine.

- [Law and Veterinary Medicine](#), Fall 2006 – Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine

This course acquaints students with basic concepts of law as well as ethics, and also seeks to enable students to practice medicine more prudently through application of legal rules. While substantive standards of law are presented, the role of process and creative thought in the development and application of legal and moral principles are also stressed.

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## OCW Consortium (OCWC) Holds Annual International Meeting – Tufts Presents

An international [OCWC](#) Conference was held in Santander, Spain, in May. National OCW consortia from China, South Korea, Japan and Vietnam were represented. University representatives attended from France, the UK, the US, Spain, Venezuela, South Africa, Kenya, Iran and India. Participants represented a range of academic institutions, from private research universities like Tufts, to public universities, open universities, virtual universities, and specialized schools of public health, business, and others. Tufts OCW was represented at the conference by TUSK Director Susan Albright, Tisch College Director Nancy Wilson, and the Executive and Assistant Directors of Institutional Research and Evaluation, Dawn Terkla and Lisa O'Leary. Dawn and Lisa are leading the Consortium evaluation efforts along with representatives from USU. Susan presented open source tools being developed by [TUSK](#) to share virtual patients. The next two meetings of OCWC will be in Utah, in Fall 2007 and in Dalian, China in Spring 2008.

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## Website Traffic Increases in 2007

Traffic to the OCW website increased substantially in the first quarter of 2007, with usage increasing by 31.6%. Through the end of March, 2007, Tufts OCW received 590,442 visits. The average number of visits per day, 1734, increased by almost 500 from the previous quarter. New visitor exposure to Tufts OCW increased with first-time visitors representing at least 64.9% of site activity. January 5, 2007 was the busiest day of the quarter with 5,741 visits. The most traffic comes from these countries, in descending order: the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, China, India, Australia and the Philippines.

The most frequently visited courses were Zoological Medicine, offered by the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, and Three-Dimensional Modeling, Animation and Rendering Using Blender 3D Software, from the School of Arts and Sciences. Course Lecture Notes remain the most viewed content type.

Visit our [profiles page](#) to read comments from Tufts OCW visitors categorized under Administrators, Faculty, Self-Learners, Students and Others.

Regions	Visits	% Visits
North America	353,957	59.95 %
Asia & Pacific Islands	81,562	13.81 %
Western Europe	78,114	13.23 %
Middle East	16,633	2.82 %
South/Central America & Caribbean Islands	16,580	2.8%
Australia	14,483	2.45%
Eastern Europe	12,122	2.05%
Africa	10,867	1.84%
Northern Europe	6,123	1.04%

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## TUSK Presents Open Source Virtual Patient Player at Medbiquitous Conference

TUSK is participating in the development of an ANSI accredited standard for Virtual Patients under the auspices of Medbiquitous. Under an OCW Hewlett Foundation grant, TUSK is also developing an open source player that will be used to play cases posted on the Tufts OCW site. The player will work as reference tool to determine if these virtual patients meet the standard. Other schools have expressed interest in using and further developing the player after its release in September 2007. The player was presented at the Medbiquitous annual conference in Baltimore and at the OCW Consortium meeting in Spain.

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## Tufts OCW in the News

Tufts OCW was mentioned in a Wall Street Journal article [Yale on \\$0 day](#) that appeared on February 15, 2007.

Robbin Smith, Tufts OCW Editor and Curricular Content Specialist, was interviewed by Luke Burns for the February 8, 2007, edition of the Tufts Daily newspaper. Read the article by clicking here: [Around the world, virtual Jumbos log on for class.](#)

[Where the World Can Come to Learn](#) discussed Tufts OCW in the February 2007 Periscope, a publication of the Tufts Human Resources Department.

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## 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](mailto:ocweditor@tufts.edu) to start the process, with "Interest in contributing new OCW course" as the subject line.

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## Support OCW

If you would like to support Tufts in this exciting educational initiative, please visit this [online form](#). 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**

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## About Tufts University OpenCourseWare

OpenCourseWare (OCW) is an educational 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, fees, or registration are necessary. Tufts OCW demonstrates the university's strength particularly in the life sciences and exemplifies the multidisciplinary approach, international perspective, and underlying ethic of service to our local, national and international communities that are essential to the identity of Tufts University.

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