

Trip to Indian River Community College, Fort Pierce, FL

Feb 17-19, 05

Indian River Community College is very innovative in the use of computer and bio technology in the classroom and student study areas.

The computers in the labs were hooked up to textbook links and students had good access to the rooms because of full-time lab specialists. Most of the faculty utilized web-based exercises for lecture, but some still preferred the use of overheads for some presentations. All faculty were skilled at using the smartroom technology and the use of power point presentations. This was partly due to the emphasis placed on use of this technology and the support of computer specialists that would set up or help set up faculty web sights and train the faculty in the use of the equipment.

The anatomy lab was very well equipped and maintained by full time lab specialists who also set up, with the assistance of each instructor, a common lab exam. The students had access to study areas such as our STAR Center and these areas were widely used.

I met some very enthusiastic science faculty that were so willing to share their expertise and web sites they created. From my

observation, I would suggest that the science division of SCC would greatly benefit from having a full time instructional specialist for anatomy and physiology labs, along with increased technological support for construction of web sites, incorporating computer based instruction in the classroom and training faculty in the use of this equipment. I would also suggest that the STAR

Center be equipped with models and have access to web programs for A&P students to use outside of the classroom.

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