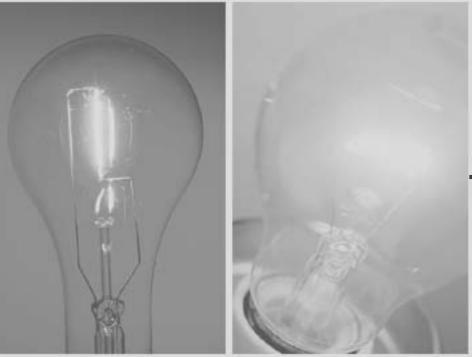
#### La Salle University's Answer to the SLP Shortage



#### The Pre-SLP Program

Barbara Amster, PhD, CCC-SLP, Director of La Salle University's Speech-Language-Hearing Science Programs

# Pre... Pre-SLP Program

- The Master's Program at La Salle was recently accredited
- More than 1500 potential students inquired about our program
- Many did not have the necessary prerequisites to pursue a master's in Speech-Language Pathology
- Many of the students were working professionals and could not go to school during the day.

- The project was funded by a private foundation
- Hired an Instructional Designer, Juliet Fink, Ed.M
- 11 courses were identified as key prerequisites
- The Instructional Designer worked with faculty to adapt face-to-face courses to develop appropriate courses for an online format.
- Faculty was compensated for their time and efforts in developing courses.

# Why the Pre-SLP Program is a Model Online Program

### The Niche:

- Few schools offered these courses online

#### The Program:

We could start programmatically by offering a suite of 11 courses.

#### **The Market Demand:**

- The field desperately needs qualified applicants

#### **The Student Population:**

 Students looking for these courses tend to be older, are working full-time, have families, and needed flexibility.

Barbara Amster, PhD, CCC-SLP, Director of La Salle University's Speech-Language-Hearing Science Programs What do we mean by Online Courses?

#### WebCT Allows Online Courses to Have:

- Multiple Modes of Communication
- Restricted access
- Tests and Quizzes
- PPT, Word, Websites, PDFs
- Assignment Dropbox
- Video and audio.
- Hyperlinks to the Web.

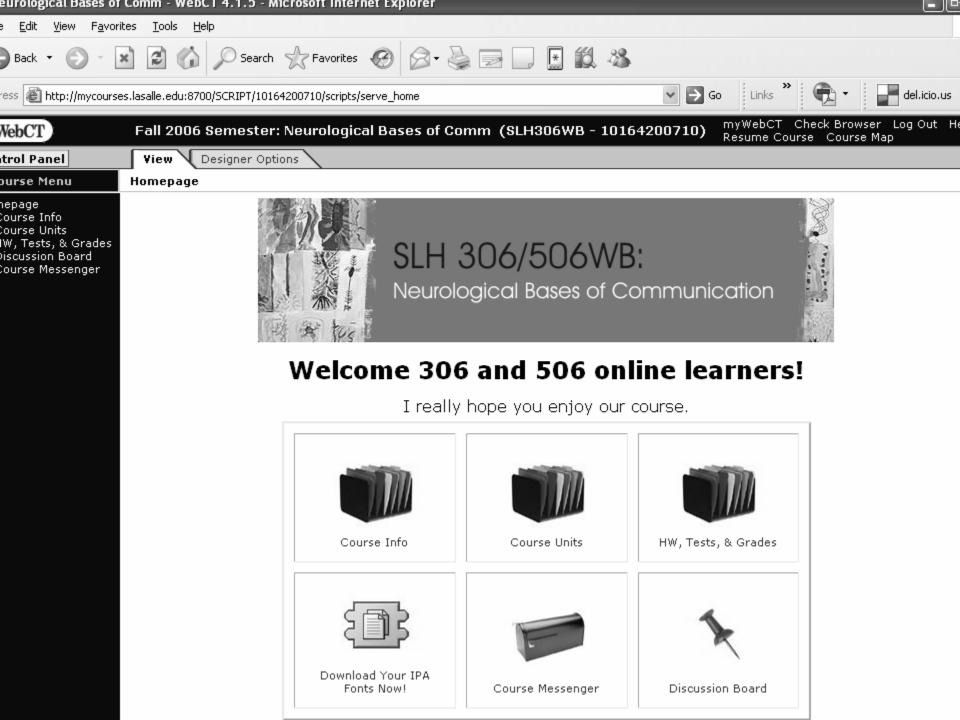


WebCT )	Fall 2006 Semester: SLP: Clinical Procedures (SLH308WB - 10152200710) myWebCT Check Browser Log Out H   Resume Course Course Map			
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urse Menu	Homepage > Course Units > Unit 1: Welcome to SLH 308WB			
epage tact Information rse Units Ilabus Discussions at Room Course Email endar urse Websites Juizzes & Exams Iomework	Welcome to SLH 308! To View the Video You will need to enter the following information. Username: session Password: 2006fall			
lidden	Start Here: Getting Comfortable with WebCT Thoughts for the Course Unit 1 Discussion			
	Practice Quiz Practice Assignment Welcome!			
	Diligence			
	The Buddhist notion of diligence is to delight in positive deeds. Its opposite, called le lo in Tibetan, has three aspects. Le lo is usually translated as "laziness," though only its first aspect refers to laziness as we usually understand it. The first aspect is not doing something because of indolence, even though we know that it is good and ought to be done. The second aspect is faintheartedness. This comes about when we underestimate our qualities and abilities, thinking, "I'm so incompetent and weak. It would be good to do that, but I could never accomplish it." Not having the confidence of thinking, "I can do it," we end up doing nothing. The third aspect refers to being very busy and seeming diligent, but wasting time and energy on meaningless activities that will not accomplish anything in the long run. When we do many things for no real purpose, we fail to focus on what is truly worthwhile and our path has no clear direction.			

truly worthwhile and our path has no clear direction. When we refrain from these three aspects of laziness, we are diligent. -- from Daring Steps Toward Fearlessness: The Three Vehicles of Buddhism by Ringu Tulku Rinpoche, edited and translated by Rosemarie Fuchs, published by Snow Lion Publications



Unit 7: Lecture (printable version)





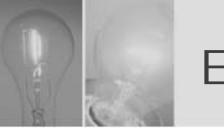
Growing By Leaps and Bounds

- We've gone from **4 to 55** Pre-SLP students in 6 semesters.
- We've sold **301 credits** this semester alone; **36** of these credits are taken by our graduate students.
- We have students from NY, CA, AZ, and Canada.



#### My How We've Grown!

Semester	# of Courses offered	<b>Credits Sold</b>
Spring '05	2	27
Summer '05	2	42
Fall '05	5	196
Spring '06	6	207
Summer '06	5	245
Fall ' 06	6	301
Totals:	26	1018



### Eye to the Future

Maintain and Enhance Quality

Address Faculty Constraints

New Technology

Barbara Amster, PhD, CCC-SLP, Director of La Salle University's Speech-Language-Hearing Science Programs



#### The Pre-SLP Program has helped the University

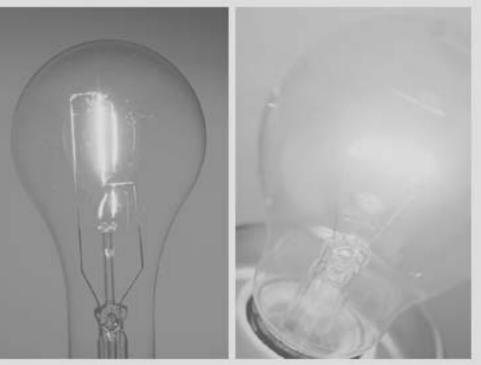
#### • Only 2 courses online

- The SLP faculty had little WebCT experience
- No training or materials for developing or teaching completely online.

# • 11 Pre-SLP courses fully online

- Faculty who have online teaching experience and ENJOY it.
- 1018 credits sold for online courses since Spring '05
- A waiting list ready to start taking online courses.

#### We believe the Pre-SLP program offers a pathway to become an SLP for non-traditional students



# Helping to address the critical shortage of SLPs



"This type of class lends nicely to those that do not live close to the university and that have full time jobs and/or families. It gives them the freedom to get the work completed on their own time schedule."



# "I really enjoyed the class and feel as though I learned just as much maybe even more than going to a face to face class."

"Discipline yourself! There are no classes to 'attend' so the amount of time you put into this course rests solely on you. Don't wait until late in the week to check in on the discussions. You could fall easily behind."



"Discussion boards were excellent. They were easy to understand and fun to participate in. I think they are essential in an online course."



# "I enjoyed taking the course online. There really isn't anything about the lectures that I didn't like."