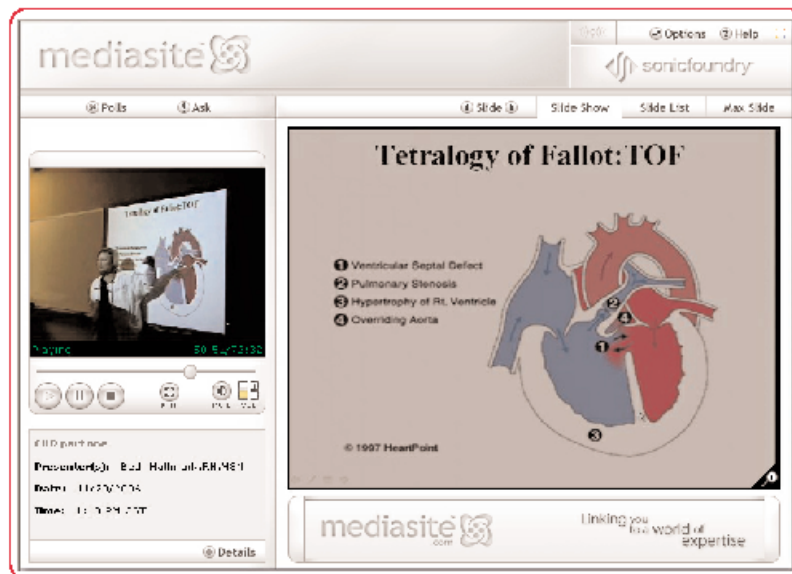


The Challenge

The Belmont University School of Nursing recently relocated to a large, state-of-the-art facility equipped with the latest in medical technology. Among the features of the new building are four simulation labs complete with simulation manikins on which nursing students practice in preparation for working with actual patients. The Belmont School of Nursing is committed to supporting the national initiative for better patient safety and fewer errors. These simulation labs provide a safe environment in which students can gain confidence and hone their skills. Feedback on their performance in the labs and in other hands-on practice is an important part of the overall educational experience. As in most academic environments, the students at Belmont also learn through classroom lectures. Here, concepts presented sometimes can be difficult to internalize in a single session. Copious note taking and asking questions help, but seeing and hearing the material multiple times helps even more.

The Solution

For the Belmont School of Nursing, the answer to providing students with more opportunities for useful feedback on individual skills and techniques and unlimited access to lecture materials is two Sonic



Foundry Mediasite recorders and server software. The Mediasite recorders are mobile units that can be used in multiple locations throughout the facility to capture video and audio along with high-resolution VGA images that can be made available for Internet viewing on demand.

The Mediasite systems are in only their second semester of use in the Belmont School of Nursing, but already are augmenting the educational experience in a number of ways:

- Nursing skills such as blood administration are recorded as nursing professionals demonstrate techniques. These recorded demonstrations are posted to the Internet

where students can review the procedures as many times as needed to understand them fully.

- Lectures are recorded as they are presented then made available for viewing on the Internet. Since the Mediasite systems capture both the presenter and the materials being presented, Belmont is able to use the Mediasite systems to record an instructor as he or she discusses and annotates computer presentations on an interactive Smartboard to present complex concepts more clearly and make the materials available for repeated viewing.

- Students are recorded in the simulation labs as they work with the simulation manikins. The recordings are transferred to CDs so that students can take them home to review how they actually performed



a specific task, evaluate their technique, and understand what they did right or wrong in the process.

The Reviews

According to Beth Hallmark, RN, MSN, lab coordinator at Belmont School of Nursing, students love the around-the-clock access to information Mediasite gives them. They are already enjoying being able to review information critical to their education any time, anywhere they have Internet access. The recorded lectures and demonstrations let students set their own schedules. If a student misses a class, the availability of a Mediasite recording of the actual classroom session means the material is available to them in its entirety and exactly as it was presented. Informal results from last

semester indicate that students actually performed better in classes where they attended lectures in the classroom and then were able to review the sessions as recorded with Mediasite at their convenience.

Interest among faculty is growing too, Hallmark says. Instructors who have seen how easy it is to record sessions are beginning to record more of their lectures and presentations and to look at additional ways to make use of this valuable tool. Plans for the future include increasing use of the systems for applications such as exam review sessions, making more classes available on line, and perhaps extending Mediasite use to the graduate nursing program.