



**VILOS Endorsement**  
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Last week, Adjunct Faculty member, Patty Ley stopped by my office to show me the procedural VILOS (Video Interactive Learning Objects) project that she has been working on for her Lab Techniques course. I was totally amazed by the quality of the video that was developed that will become part of a set of VILOS that students can access for instruction and review in the future.

The need for the multimedia streaming server that can be available to students on a 24/7 basis is an absolute necessity for this college. We have students who study and access Blackboard at all hours of the day and night, so I know that there will be a need for 24/7 availability of VILOS on the multimedia streaming server as well. When I look at the history of usage of Blackboard by my distance learning students, I see access being made at all hours of the day and night that accommodates all the different lifestyles and schedule needs of many working students. When the Blackboard server is **down** before dawn and a student forgets that it is planned to be down, I hear about it from the student. The immediacy of the availability found in 24/7 multimedia streaming video will be a huge asset to students and faculty alike. We live in a world of impatience and immediacy as well as student learning style diversity. We have the potential to meet student and faculty needs continually through use of a multimedia streaming video server.

Distribution of VILOS on **CD/DVD** will be useful for students who may not have access to the Internet. A single CD/DVD has the capacity of holding multiple VILOS keeping the cost of distribution to a minimum and still allowing the VILOS to be available making this a very economical means of distribution. Students may then keep their archived VILOS for their own personal review after completing the course.

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An alternative method of viewing the developed VILOS is the collaborative effort that Ivy Tech Community College has been engaged in with IPFW Cable Access Channel. Through this cooperative effort, IPFW Cable Access Channel is willing to broadcast the **VILOS** at varying scheduled times throughout the week. This not only accommodates various schedules but also serves as a means of publicity to the general public for the Healthcare field to encourage those that might be considering Nursing as a career to pursue.

Support for students and faculty use of VILOS on a portable device such as an **iPod** are without question. When a nursing student is on the clinical unit, there is often no place to store personal items such as the several books that a student might need for resource material while on clinical. Students have taken texts into the clinical areas only to have the texts "**misplaced**" and never found again. I would also hazard to guess that about half of our current students have an **iPod** currently. With video streaming capability and **iPod** availability, faculty and students could access procedural information just prior to carrying out the procedure which will enhance safety and compliance with facility policies--which results in good outcome for the patient. If a student has difficulty with recall of a procedure, the instructor would not have to send the student off the clinical area to access the needed information--the student could access the information for review from their personal **iPod**, or one that the instructor has on the clinical area.

In addition to having ready reference videos of nursing procedures, the multimedia streaming video can also add to the continuity, consistency and standardization of the nursing programs. When the faculty is in the lab, in the classroom and in the clinical area all have access to the same VILOS. The students will also be consistent in the lab, classroom and clinical areas when performing procedures. Expectations would be the **same** across the courses in the nursing curriculum when using the exact **same** set of procedures for all.

Often in the full time program, there may be two semesters between when a procedure is taught in the lab setting and when the student gets the opportunity to perform the procedure. In our part time program, that gap between when a skill is taught in

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lab and when it is performed in the clinical area may grow to three or even four or more semesters. A review device such as VILOS would fit the need for review nicely.

Attendance has become an issue in most programs as students (especially our adult students with families) have lives full of activity and often have conflicting schedules for themselves or their dependents. Capturing the critical points of a missed lecture, or doing a review prior to an exam would be a very good use of streaming video capabilities. In doing so, the college could potentially see improvement in retention numbers as well and students could be better served.

Minimally, I would like the faculty to have the **iPods** to carry on clinical for student use and then also have **iPods** for checkout for those students who do not have them or are absent from class. Availability of **VILOS** on the multimedia streaming server on the Internet, **CD/DVD** for use on student **PCs**, **iPod**, **IPFW Cable Access**, and the innovative 3D **immersive** worlds such as **Second Life** can only enhance and strengthen the skills of our students, enabling them to be more excellent nurses in the clinical areas after graduation thus securing the quality of our healthcare in future years.

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