# Preparing and Presenting an Effective Lecture

There is no cookie cutter approach

### **Know the Material**

- Demonstrate confidence
- Review the material
- Practice your lecture
- Revise if necessary
- Be passionate

### Know the Room

Learn the lecture room

• Arrive early

Walk around the speaking area

• Practice with the AV equipment

# Detach Yourself From Your Own Interests

- Consider the needs of the students
- Don't teach material that's only of interest to you
- Theory and science not applicable to patient care are okay, but ...
- Put yourself in the position of the student
- Know the audience

# Choose Your Material Carefully

Limit amount of material

 Include all necessary material
 If excessive, little is learned

- Limit complexity of material
  - Avoid
  - Simplify
  - Explain

### **Target Audience**

- Any student that wants to learn
- Donald Seldin: "Teach to the least intelligent student in the class. Anyone can teach a genius. What separates good teachers from great teachers is the ability to teach students at the lower end of the class."

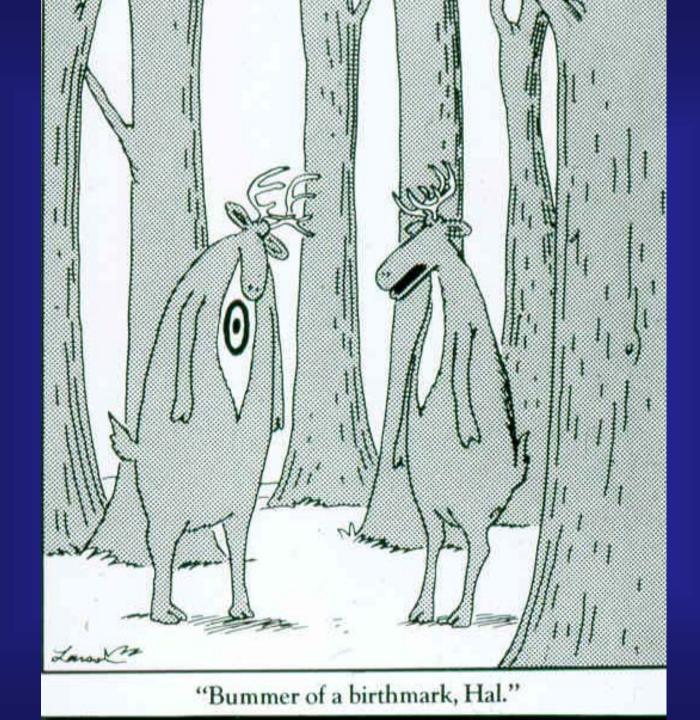
Make the students partners with you regarding the subject

Give them a reason to care

 Explain to the students why they should be interested in the material

- Make eye contact
- Use your hands
- Move
- Face the audience
- Use the laser pointer minimally

- Humor
  - Spontaneous
  - Relevant
  - Balance entertainment with information
  - Medical cartoons available on internet
- Enthusiasm
  - Be interested in material
  - Be interested in teaching



• Pay attention to the audience

 Modify your speaking style and actions based on audience response

 State rhetorical questions from the student's point of view

### Attitude

- Relax
- Exercise
- Mentally walk your way through the experience step by step
- The audience wants you to succeed
- Don't apologize
- Turn nervous energy into enthusiasm
- Gain experience and training

# **Voice Tips**

- Adequate speaking level
- Microphone
- Articulate every word
- Don't speak with too many words in one breath
- Rest your voice
- Keep water available

# Voice Tips

- Avoid alcohol and caffeine before speaking
- Be rested
- Don't smoke
- Avoid eating or drinking just prior to lecture
- Treat or avoid heartburn

- Slides can be deadly
  - Students need to listen to you and think
  - Too many words  $\rightarrow$  too much writing
  - Reflex pathway
- Slides are okay if best for presenting information
  - Not just for your convenience
  - Displaying images
  - Put them in the syllabus or handout

Don't include material you won't discuss

 Distracting
 Don't use old slides

"I apologize for this slide."
Unacceptable expression
Don't apologize. FIX IT!

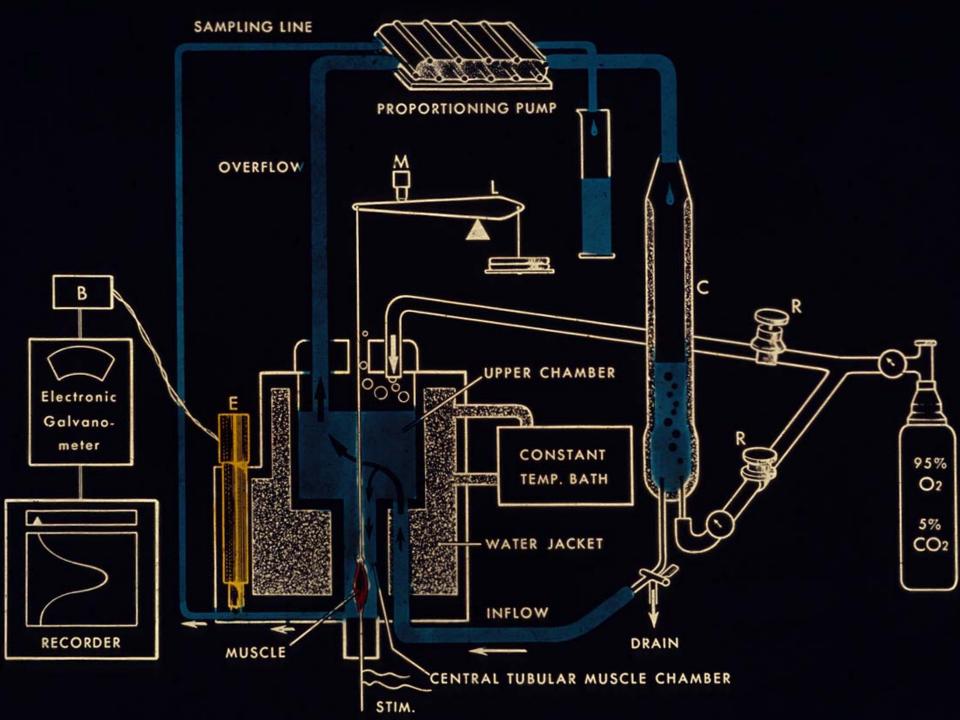
- A font size of 32 is ideal
- 28 font is also easy to see
- Font size 24 is acceptable
- A font size of 20 may be difficult to see from the back of a large room
- Forget about size 16 font or lower, unless it is a disclaimer that you don't want the audience to read

- Keep the background simple
- Use just one or two colors for fonts

   Avoid dark colors
   Use bright colors
- Use light font on a darker background
- Color blind students
- 12 lines per slide, if possible
- List the main point on each bullet, then expand on it verbally
- Minimize movement and audio if it distracts from your message

### **Examples of Bad Slides**

#### We've all used these!



#### Table

#### Resistive Exercise Instructions for Older Participants

- The participant should perform at least a 10-minute full-body warm-up before each resistive exercise session, to include flexibility exercises.
- The participant should be instructed to breathe normally or exhale during muscle contraction, without breath-holding.
- Have the participant maintain a loose, comfortable grip during muscle contraction on each resistive modality.
- The participant should perform lifting movements through a complete range of motion, or their "pain-free" zone.
- Machine and free weights should be lifted smoothly to a count of two, held for a count of one, and then lowered slowly to a count of four.
- All major muscle groups should be exercised—large muscles should be worked before smaller muscles.
- The participant should learn and practice proper form and technique on each piece of strength training apparatus.
- The participant should never drop the free weights or bang the machine weights.
- The participant can avoid injury by adhering to the instructions of the health professional and by adhering to the written instructions at the weight station.
- Resistive exercise should be terminated if the participant develops symptoms of intolerance, such as chest pain, dizziness, faintness, fatigue or joint/muscle pain.
- Never permit the arthritic participant to perform strength training exercises during periods of inflammation.
- The participant should record the amount of resistance (e.g., the number of machine plates, color of elastic band), the number of repetitions and the number of sets performed on a recording form provided by the health professional. This record should be maintained over time to record weight progression or regression.

Source: Verrill, 2001

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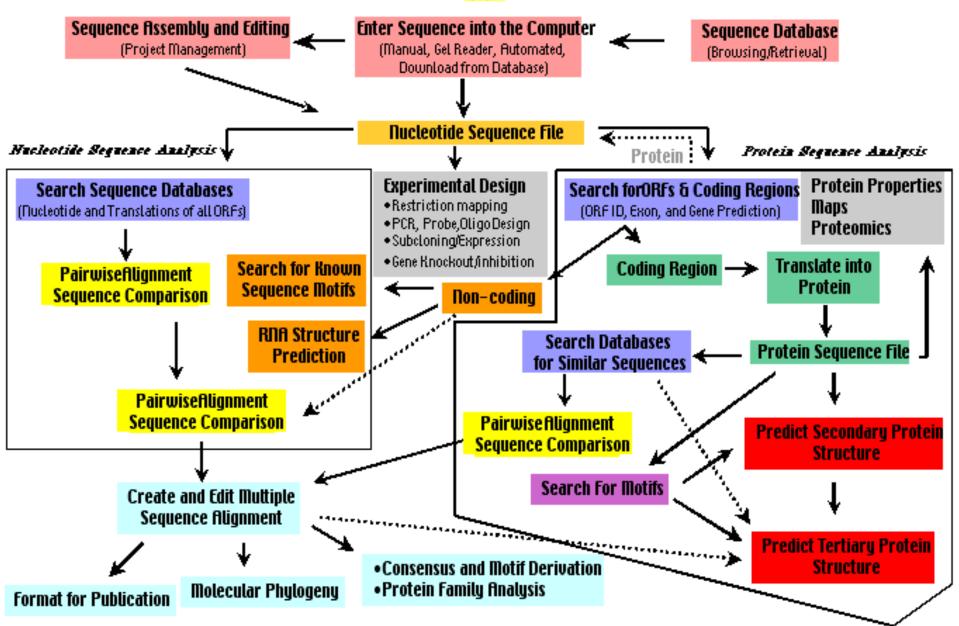
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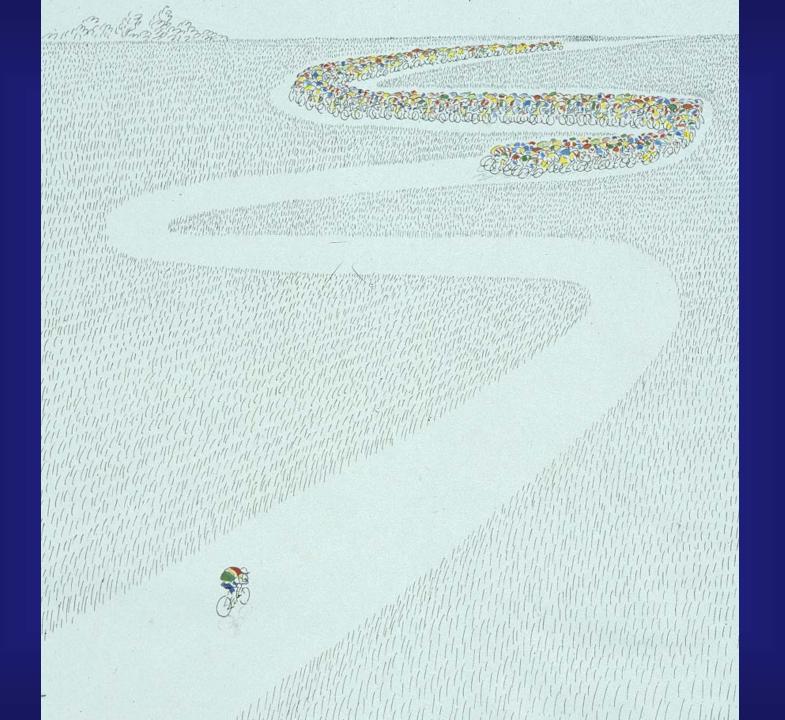
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#### Sequence Analysis Overview Flow Chart

1/30/01





#### Blackboard

- Advantages of the "blackboard"
   You can't write faster than the students can
  - Allow them to relax and listen to you
  - The time and effort it takes to write on the board causes you to limit what you write
    - The material eliminated is generally not missed by anyone

# Above All... Be Yourself