

Free E-learning for DVB members

Electronic-learning (E-learning) has been increasingly promoted as an effective and efficient method of teaching. Research has shown that even surgical procedures taught in a virtual classroom improve and refine the surgical skills of new and experienced surgeons. On-line training provides several advantages. It offers a single experience that accommodates various distinct learning styles, and it can target specific needs and learning preferences of an individual through learning style tests. Online training is self-paced, allowing fast learners to bypass instruction that may seem redundant, while novice learners can go at a slower pace. Online courses provide on-demand availability. The interactivity of modules engages and guides users through the training. On-line training gives confidence to the students through immediate feedback and quick reference materials that are always available. It achieves this by providing consistent content delivery and access on a global scale. E-learning can immediately provide certification upon course completion which provides instant gratification. Web modules, unlike textbooks, can continually incorporate rapid advances in biomedical knowledge and technology without needing to continually purchase new textbooks.

The Veterinary Bioscience Institute (VBI - www.vetbiotech.com) is an online educational company owned by veterinarians dedicated to providing an environment that nurtures and promotes active and self-directed instruction through E-learning and mobile onsite consulting/training services. VBI specializes in the art and science of rodent experimental surgery while promoting the responsible use of animals. The institute encourages communication and interaction throughout the laboratory animal community by providing an online platform. VBI is going through the Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) process which will be completed by the end of this year. This means that all of VBI's courses will be approved for Continuing Education credits for veterinary technician and veterinarians.

As a member of the Delaware Valley Branch (DVB) we would like to provide access to our 'Basic Principles of Rodent Surgery' at no charge to all DVB members. This course is designed for scientists, veterinary technicians, veterinarians and technical support staff who wish to learn the basic principles of rodent surgery. This course is extensive enough for a novice, but also provides an excellent review for more experienced personnel. Information presented in the course will provide participants with the requisite knowledge required by regulatory agencies and the skills necessary to perform basic rodent surgery. Please email Szczepan Baran at szczepanb@vetbiotech.com if you would like access to this course.