

Using videocasts and screencasts to teach laboratory techniques in Molecular Medical Sciences Dr Paddy Tighe and Dr Sally Chappell



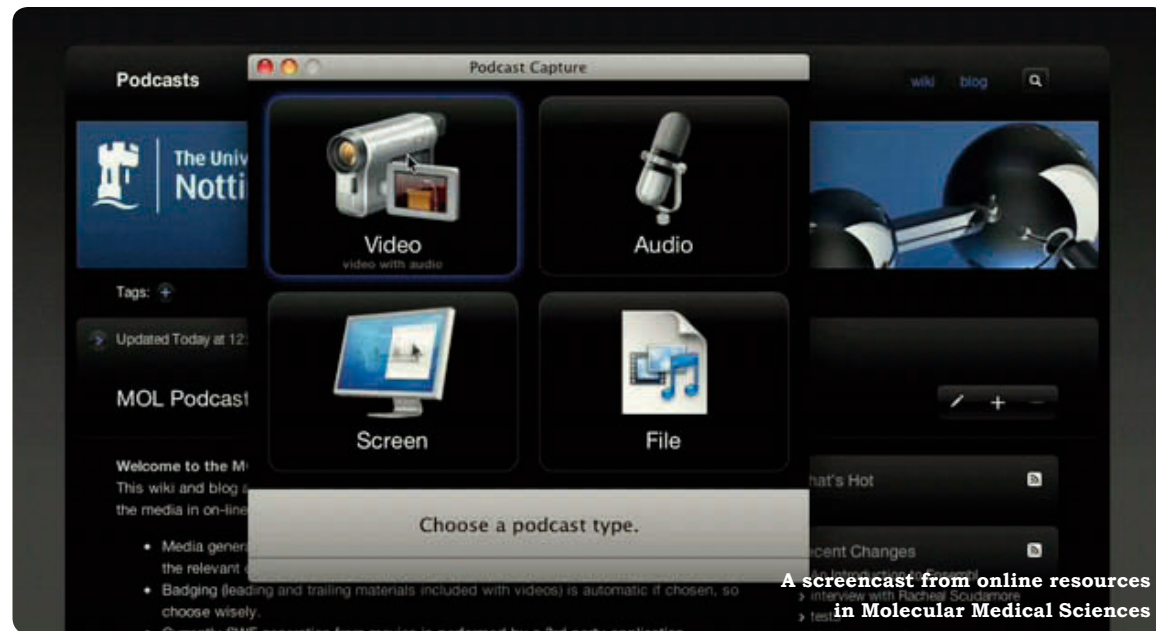
Dr Paddy Tighe

Dr Tighe is Associate Professor in the Division of Immunology (Department of Molecular Medical Sciences) in Nottingham University Medical School. He teaches to both undergraduate medical students and postgraduate Masters students and is a module convenor for several MSc modules. This includes a bioinformatics module which encourages the students to expand their computer skills through online assessments and use of a wide range of mixed media content. He has interests in on-line content delivery systems and learning environments suitable for distance learning.

What was the teaching and learning issue that this initiative sought to address?

We teach a Bioinformatics module. Bioinformatics is the use of mathematical sciences, statistics, and computing resources, along with biological data to try to get a better understanding of how a system works. Due to the nature of the course, there is a lot more supplementary material online than there is for other modules. Students learn how to

'mine' data to actually get the most out of it. The resources we want them to use are quite complex. We haven't got enough time in the module to teach them everything one-to-one, or in a group session. There were two main areas where we felt that new technology could make a significant impact: we wanted a way of showing them how to use the software so that they could get to grips with it; and we wanted to build up a video resource of lab techniques that they could refer to again and again.



A screencast from online resources in Molecular Medical Sciences