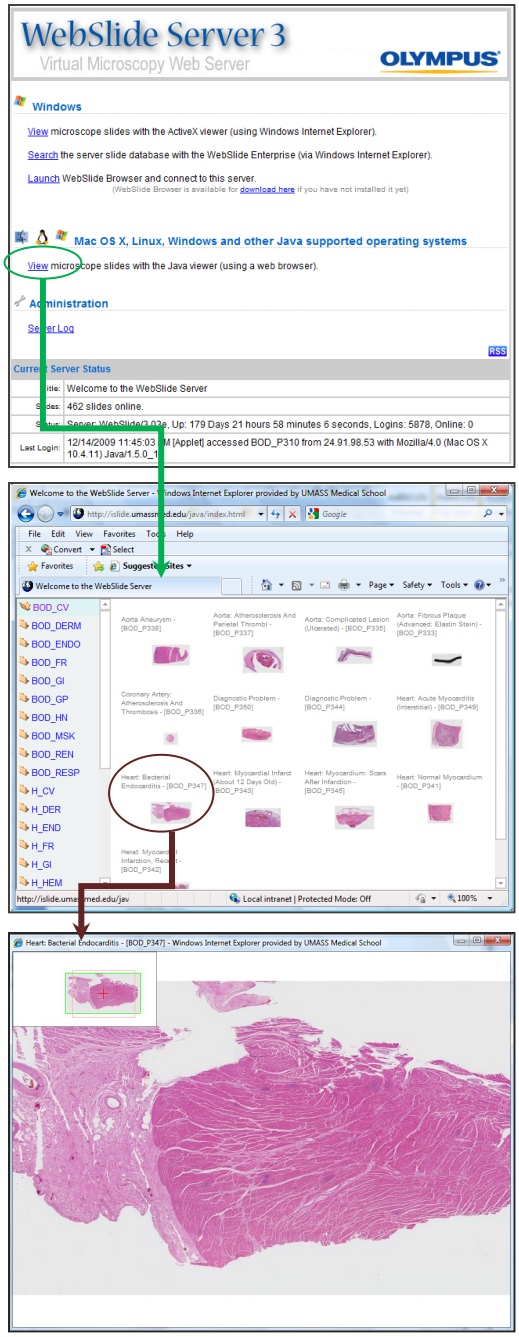
Description

A *virtual slide* is a digitally captured, high-resolution, diagnostic quality image-set of hundreds, if not thousands of graphics taken of a physical glass slide with a special scanner. The digital files are stored on a UMMS server, where they can be viewed via any web browser at *http://islide.umassmed.edu*



Slides can be projected via the classroom computer alone or as inserts to a *PowerPoint* presentation, and are interactive such that users can zoom into and out of captured image.

Strengths & Weaknesses

UMMS users report the following **strengths**:

"*Great because you can view normal and abnormal tissue side by side…facilitates comparisons…*"

"*…essential for histology and pathology…*"

"Very useful for group learning and interaction, remote use, illustrating ideal examples…"

"*iSlide is a great tool! …integrates very well with courses in Blackboard."*

Weaknesses associated with virtual microscopy as reported by UMMS users are that "*students no longer get experience with real slides and real microscopes";* and that because *"…slides are scanned by [an] off site company,* there is*…little control over quality of scan."*

Peer Resources

Susan Gagliardi
Maurice Joyce
John Mark Madison
Lyn Riza
Carrie Saarinen
Thomas Smith

UMMS Information Services Support

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UMMS IS Training web page
Contact the UMMS HelpDesk
View training video