

Final report for 2003, Section 5.b.
Date: September 13, 2004

The two major projects were:

- The Instructional Technologist's development of the **Center for Web-Based Research and Instruction (CWRI)** as a part of the newly updated Faculty Development webpage. It is available at: <http://www.augie.edu/dept/facdev/CWRI.html> . CWRI (pronounced "query") includes links to virtual (or desktop) conferences through HorizonWimba, an desktop lecture provider. It also includes archives from past desktop lectures on topics such as assessment of online instruction and best practices in online instruction. Also available through CWRI are links to online journals including Syllabus, Educause, and the Center for Academic Transformation, as well as links to research on the effectiveness of online instruction.
- Mary Brendtro's participation in online conferences and integration of online resources into her courses. She attended an online, desktop conference via HorizonLive on Best Practices in Web-Based Instruction. She has also integrated a number of online resources into all of her masters' level nursing courses, including links to online resources and use of online discussion forums. Mary is in a particularly interesting position as a result of this grant, in that she has now delivered online instruction using two of the major course management systems, Blackboard and WebCT. She is among a small group of faculty at Augustana who are in the unique position to critically analyze the benefits and drawbacks of, and differences between, various course delivery systems. Ideally, this group can be encouraged to reflect upon ways in which the systems they have used (Blackboard, WebCT, Nicenet, and perhaps others) either encourage or discourage effective implementation.