

## Project Year

2003

## Project Team

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## Project Title

eGuide to Paleoclimates

## Audience

Students enrolled in the *Climates of the Past* course at JHU, as well as other academics in the field

## Pedagogical Issue

Modern paleoclimatological research relies heavily upon knowledge of a broad range of cross-disciplinary concepts in the earth sciences, and upon the analysis and interpretation of increasingly voluminous sets of space-time calibrated data. This reliance on enormous data sets presented a major challenge in planning the curriculum for a new course to be offered in the fall of 2003, *Climates of the Past* (270.377). This subject is traditionally taught with a textbook as the primary class resource. Unfortunately, today, no single published textbook can supply all of the information necessary to study current issues in paleoclimatology.

## Solution

Much of the needed paleoclimatological data is available on the Internet, although in disconnected formats and locations. We need a web-based tool that links the relevant information and research resources into an organized format. Consequently, this project team proposes to create a website, the eGuide to Paleoclimates, in order to provide access to online information and interactive laboratory resources for students enrolled in *Climates of the Past*. The eGuide will be accessed through a WebCT course shell which will include a syllabus, course readings, and a discussion board. The fully operational version of the eGuide will direct students through a series of tutorials for interactive exploration, analysis and interpretation of paleoclimate data (i.e., geological evidence), using resources we propose to develop for the eGuide through the Technology Fellowship grant, as well as those culled from well-authored websites elsewhere on the Internet.

## Technologies Used

Courseware (WebCT development), HTML/Web Design, MatLab, Visual Basic, Photoshop

A link to the eGuide to Paleoclimates is available here:

<http://www.jhu.edu/~lhinnov1/paleoguide/>