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Volume 23, Number 4 2002

Web-based Training Designed for Smaller Libraries in New York

by Denise Garofalo

CLUE2 (CLUE stands for Communities and Libraries United Through Electronic Access) was originally envisioned as a continuation of an LSTA training grant that the Mid-Hudson Library System (Poughkeepsie, NY) had received to help its smaller member libraries develop a Web presence while reaching out to community groups and getting them to turn to the library for help in getting their group's presence on the Web (The first CLUE was not the success the System had envisioned. For more information visit its [Web site](#)).

As grants tend to be, CLUE2 was scaled back when LSTA funding was cut. Mid-Hudson focused on developing Web-based training (WBT) modules. Activities included arranging for a designer to develop the WBT template for the modules, purchasing software, purchasing digital cameras, developing content for the WBT, holding workshops, and getting the developed WBT modules loaded on the Web. After the grant ended, we waited to purchase software to continue developing WBT modules until we had the designer's suggestion; we finally purchased Macromedia's Dreamweaver UltrDev 4.0.

The two WBT modules developed during the grant are "Basic HTML" and "Web Page Maintenance", both aimed to encourage some of the 40 libraries who rely on the "default" pages created for them by Mid-Hudson [see an [example](#)] to customize their Web page and maintain it. The third module developed was "Digital Imaging", which was designed to provide instruction in the use of the five digital cameras provided through the grant.

"Workshop response has been small but enthusiastic," reports Denise Garofalo, Director for Communications Resources for Mid-Hudson. "I hope that once we get the WBT modules published we will be able to reach the staff in our smaller libraries who, for a variety of reasons, are unable (or unwilling) to come to a workshop even if it's held in their neck of the woods."

View the [WBT modules](#). For more information, contact Garofalo at Mid-Hudson Library System, 103 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Phone (845) 471-6060 x.34; Fax (845) 454-5940; or [E-mail](#).

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