Using Inkscape as a Teaching Tool
Teaching Beyond the Podium Podcast

Dr. John Jordi

Inkscape is available for all operating systems and as suitable for users of all skill levels. Sujata recounts, her initial experience learning the tool.

Dr. Sujata Krishna

The learning curve and getting started can be a bit of a challenge, but it is my experience that it is well worth it. If you do not have the funds to buy illustrator, I would say it took me about two hours of playing around with it to be able to produce a graphic that I actually wanted to use in my exam. And most of that time I spent actually in downloading and setting up the program and then just learning how to get started with making some basic circuit diagrams. So I wanted to learn how to make a resistor, a capacitor, this kind of thing. So fairly geometric representations. And then I spent a fair amount of time figuring out how to export it to an EPS, because that was important for me for our exams because the file that I made would then be reduced greatly to be able to fit on an exam, which may have 10 or 20 questions on one piece of paper thereafter. Once you've learned the basics, it's pretty quick and easy, and this is the base for making any other diagrams. So you do have to invest that initial time to get familiar with it.