Computer assisted instruction (CAI) has been available as a teaching methodology for some time. Nursing, however, has been very slow to commit resources to develop this methodology and reluctant to prepare its educators in the technology that would encourage its use. Few studies have been reported documenting the results of CAI and the process necessarily followed when a decision to utilize such a methodology has been made. Although the education of nurses has been cited as one of the most expensive programs within a university, the development of CAI as a teaching strategy has received little attention and encouragement from nursing leadership. The information revolution brought about through the advancement in the technology of computers has made it imperative for nurses to reexamine their positions and determine how best the technology can serve their needs.

The inclusion in this symposium of a workshop on how to develop computer assisted instructional materials was intended to help nurses determine the usefulness of CAI in their own educational arenas. Susan Grobe, Ph.D., has demonstrated that it can be done to the benefit of faculty and students.