Global University System (GUS) - #I

The Global University System (GUS) is a worldwide initiative to establish broadband Internet infrastructure for enhancing e-learning and e-healthcare across national and cultural boundaries for global peace.

The philosophy of GUS is based on the belief that global peace and prosperity would only be sustainable through education. The prime objective is to achieve "education and healthcare FOR ALL," anywhere, anytime and at any pace.

Global University System (GUS) - #2

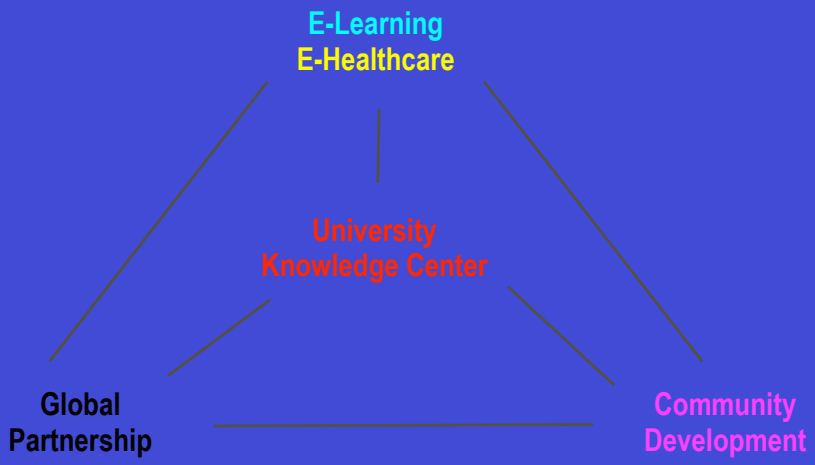
GUS aims to create a worldwide consortium of educational and healthcare institutions and NGOs, particularly benefiting those in remote/rural areas of developing countries for the eradication of poverty and isolation.

Learners in those countries will be able to take their courses, via advanced broadband Internet, from member institutions around the world to receive a GUS degree.

Both the learning (students or lifelong learners) and teaching (professors) societies of partner institutions will also form a global forum for exchange of ideas and information and for conducting collaborative research and development with the emerging global GRID computer network technology.

Thus, the higher education institutions will close the digital divide, act as the knowledge center of their community and lead their development.

University: Leader of Community in the Knowledge Society in the 21st Century



Background and Rationale #1

- The Internet, with its rapidly expanding and improving infrastructure, will be the main telecommunication media of tomorrow.
- The full potential for achieving revolutionary advances in education and healthcare in developing countries cannot be realized with the currently available information delivery infrastructure and at currently prevailing market prices.

Background and Rationale #2

- Improved e-learning requires much better ways of presenting information and of enabling learners to interact with facilitators to enable the learners to process that information into personal knowledge.
- What is needed is both high quality audio/video delivery and high quality interactivity.
- Developing countries need broadband Internet via international satellite and fiber-optic cable.

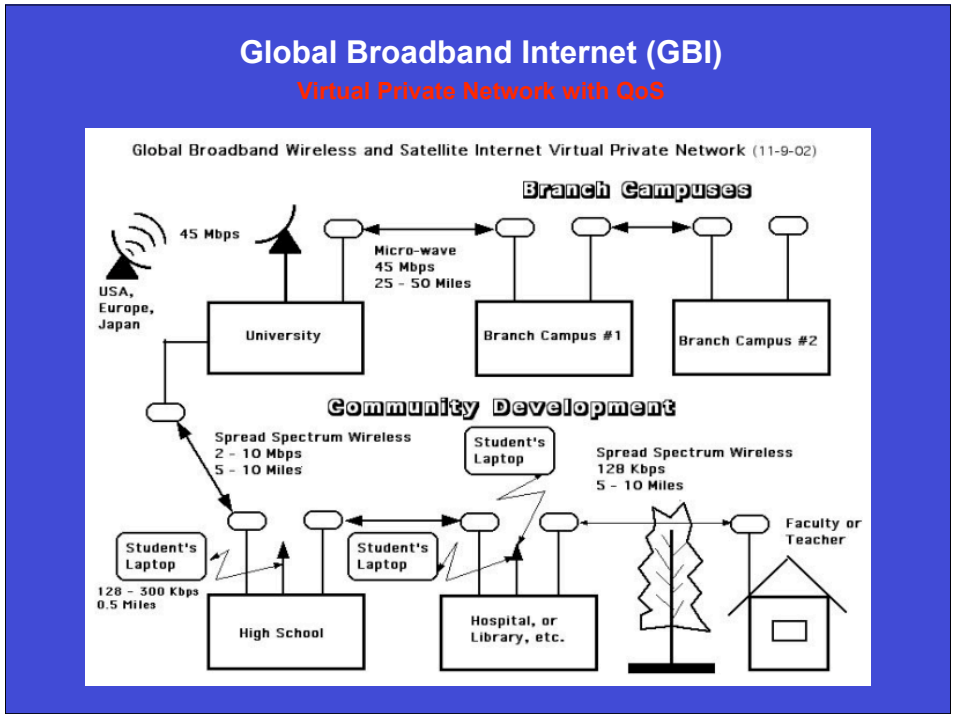
Expected Benefits

- Consortium member universities will be able to build the network of facilitators for support of e-learners,
- Learners may take one course from a university of different country to get his/her degree from the GUS, thus freeing them from being confined with one philosophy of a university and a country,
- The broadband Internet will enable web-based teaching with more interaction among/between learners and instructors compared with less interaction in replicating class-room teaching via analog broadcasting satellite, -- thus stimulating global dialogues among them to attain global peace, (continue)

Expected Benefits (continued)

- Learners and faculties at the member universities can promote exchange of ideas, information, knowledge and joint research and development of web-based teaching materials, community development, and many others locally, regionally and even in global scale,

- Researchers in even developing countries can perform joint collaborative Hi-Tech research and development on various subjects with colleagues in developed countries, e.g., Globally Collaborative Environmental Peace Gaming, micro-biology, meteorology, chemical molecular study, DNA analysis, 3D human anatomy, etc.



1. Satellite linkage:

GUS will be based on regional satellite hubs, typically located at a major university, that connect via high-speed satellite (~ 45 Mbps) to educational resource cites in the E.U., U.S., and Japan. In a sense, the regional satellite hub is to be the major Internet Service Provider (ISP) for not-for-profit organizations in the region, and the gateway to the outside world.

2. Microwave linkage:

Regional hubs link to branch campuses or other regional educational institutions via micro-wave (~ 45 Mbps) over relatively short distances (25-50 miles), if optical fiber network is not readily available.

3. Community Development Network:

Communication from the hub and branch campuses to local sites, over distances up to 10 miles, is to be achieved by spread-spectrum wireless (~ 2-10 Mbps) Internet networks, which do not require licenses in most countries.

4. Wi-Fi connection:

The buildings with a broadband Internet connection will then also become relay points for the low-cost "Wi-Fi (wireless fidelity)" networks at 10 Mbps that are now rapidly appearing in Japan, USA and Europe.

This advanced wireless communication with laptop computer will make e-learning possible for anyone, anywhere, and anytime with capabilities of Internet telephony, fax, voice mail, e-mail, Web access, videoconferencing, etc. This is not only to help local community development, but also to assure close cooperation among higher, middle and lower levels of education.

Financing

- During the Okinawa Summit in July of 2000, Japanese government pledged US$15 billion to close the digital divide in developing countries and for the eradication of poverty and isolation.

- During the G8 Summit in Canada in June of 2002, and at the Environment Summit in South Africa in September of 2002, they also pledged another US$2 billion to aid education and healthcare in developing countries, respectively.

Financing (continued)

- GUS projects will combine (1) the Japanese government's Official Development Assistance (ODA) funds and (2) Japanese electronic equipment with
- (a) the Internet technology and (b) content development of North America and Europe,
- to help underserved people in rural and remote areas of developing countries by closing the digital divide.

GLOSAS Projects

(GLObal Systems Analysis and Simulation Association in the U.S.A.)

http://www.friends-partners.org/GLOSAS/

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