2008-09

SI 575 - Community Information Corps Seminar, Fall 2008

Atkins, Dan

http://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/64948
Introduction to the
School of Information
Community Information Corps
(CIC) 2008

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W. K. Kellogg Professor of Community Information
Professor of Information and EECS
CIC Seminar, SI 575, Fall 08

- Credit: 1.5 units on pass/fail basis based on attendance, participation, and final retrospective paper.

- Visitors are welcome. Volunteering encouraged.
Themes

- Cyberinfrastructure-enabled Openess to Information and Participation

- Literacy

- (cyber) Infrastructure

- Access policies (terms and conditions): financial, copyright

- Authentication of information and people

- Other

- How should we define *community informatics* and how should a specialization in it be defined?
Open Issues

- CIC Activities for the Winter Term - (There will not be a regular seminar)
Community Information Corps (CIC) Fall 2008-09

Introduction

This is a website built and maintained by Dan Atkins to augment other sources of information and participation for the University of Michigan School of Information Community Information Corps.

Other Resources

Community Information Corps Website (for information and collaboration within and outside UM)
CTools Site for Fall Term 2007
CIC Facebook Account
The Alliance for Community Technology

- An alliance between academia, funders, and community-serving organizations to promote more effective use of information and communication technology (ICT) in service of community*. ACT is committed to using information and communication technology to meet real human need.

*Physical and virtual
Guidelines for Selecting Projects

- Potential to improve a communities’ quality of life.
- Potential to create knowledge or practices that can be generalized, transferred, and/or scaled-up.
- Potential, if successful, to be sustainable by others.
- Potential for reciprocal exchange of learning and benefit between partners.
- Uniqueness of opportunity and/or capacity.
Strategic Approach

- **Building human resources, especially leaders, for using ICT in service of communities.**

- **Prospecting for and incubating new opportunities to apply ICT to community serving / non-profit organizations.**

- **Conducting R&D (PQ type) to create knowledge, systems, practice.**

- **Providing technical assistance to partners.**
ACT and CIC Retrospective

- Stakeholder Briefings
- AIHEC Digital Library
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repro Latina</th>
<th>Community Tech Fairs</th>
<th>IT Innovative Adoption</th>
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ACT and CIC Retrospective

Convenings: Digital Collectives in Indigenous Cultures and Communities
ACT and CIC Retrospective

Help with Launch and Guidance of NPower Michigan

ACT and CIC Retrospective

Expert Visitors and Speakers
Welcome to the Virtual Graduate Seminar

Globalisation and the Information Society:
Information Systems and International Communications Policy

Dr. Derrick L. Cogburn
Visiting Assistant Professor
University of Michigan--School of Information
University of the Witwatersrand--Graduate School of P&amp;DM
American University--School of International Service
WKKF PROGRAM IN AFRICA INITIATIVES

www.wkkfafrica.org

Malusi Mpumlwana,
Director of Africa Programs

Mandivamba Rukuni,
Program Director

- Supporting the cyberinfrastructure explorations with CSIR.
- Beginning a knowledge capture, vetting, and reuse system to support Regional Resources Center.
- Advanced aspirations including capture and sharing of tacit knowledge.
- Vlad Wielbut, UM-ACT, to visit end of Oct. 03 for a week on consultation.
- Potential for longer-term links with ACT-SI.
ACT and CIC Retrospective

Community Information Corps Seminar & Special Events
ACT and CIC Retrospective

Supporting the Open Education Resources Movement
CIC at the intersection of ...

Cyber (IT) Infrastructure

Enhancement of community, civil society, social justice, openness to information and participation.

Leadership, Innovation, Transformation
Understanding Infrastructure: Dynamics, Tensions, and Design

Report of a Workshop on "History & Theory of Infrastructure: Lessons for New Scientific Cyberinfrastructures"

Paul N. Edwards
Steven J. Jackson
Geoffrey C. Bowker
Cary P. Knoblauch

January 2007

Source: http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/handle/2027.42/49353
Time-Space Options for Group/Organizational Activity

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>Same</th>
<th>Different</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Same</td>
<td>Audio, chat, video conf., access grid, group aware apps.</td>
<td>Physically together</td>
<td>Physical library or laboratory (drop-in).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Different | Email, threaded-discussions, sequentially shared files. | Relaxing constraints of time and distance (geographical and organizational).

“Distance matters”

“Opportunities beyond being there”

“Better than being there”
Community Information Corps -

Goals

- Affinity group for like-minded people who want to use IT/CI to help enhancement of community, civil society, social justice, openness to information and participation, ....

- Fundamental concepts.

- Exposure to exemplar projects.

- Project and action-based learning.

- Career exploration, building professional identity and relevant social networks.

- Help better define and incubate Community Informatics specialization.

- Support and link with CIC relevant doctoral and faculty research.
Community Information Corps -

**Methods**

- Highly participatory and student driven. Volunteering encouraged.
- Seminar with readings and discussion.
- Use many human assets: students, visitors, faculty, alums
- Websites for information and broadened participation
- Social events
- Use of SI societal engagement mechanisms: PEP, ASB, internships, student initiated ad hoc projects, independent study, etc.
- Link & leverage with other CIC type activities at UM and beyond.
BUFFER
“a new age has dawned in scientific and engineering research, pushed by continuing progress in computing, information, and communication technology, and pulled by the expanding complexity, scope, and scale of today’s challenges. The capacity of this technology has crossed thresholds that now make possible a comprehensive "cyberinfrastructure" on which to build new types of scientific and engineering knowledge environments and organizations and to pursue research in new ways and with increased efficacy.”
Achieving the NSF CI (e-science) Vision requires synergy between 3 types of activities.

Transformative Application - to enhance discovery & learning

Provisioning - Creation, deployment and operation of advanced CI

R&D to enhance technical and social effectiveness of future CI environments

Borromean Ring: The three rings taken together are inseparable, but remove any one ring and the other two fall apart. See www.liv.ac.uk/~spmr02/rings/
Forces on the Future of the University
Per Sr. John Daniels*

- Half the world’s population is under 20 years old.
- Today, there are over 30 million people qualified to enter a university, but no place available. During the next decade this number will grow to 100 million.
- In most of the world higher education is mired in a crisis of access, cost, and flexibility. The dominant forms of higher education - campus-based, high cost, limited use of technology - seem ill-suited to address global education needs in the decades ahead.

To meet this staggering global demand, a major university needs to be created every week.

*Former Vice-Chancellor, Open University, UK & current Pres./CEO of Commonwealth of Learning
How should we define community informatics and how should a specialization in it be defined?

- Tech support for non-profits (grant seekers and makers)
- International development
- Libraries as community “centers”
- Open educational resources
- Advocacy, giving voice
- ....
I want us to work together to build an annotated bibliography of literature defining or characterizing what people are calling community informatics. At the next class come with three such citations to either material that helps define community informatics and/or programs that are developing or supporting people to practice community informatics. Submit all this electronically.