Development and Outlook of Distance Learning in Taiwan

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Outline

 Related Programs and Current Status
 Chinese E-Learning Resources
 E-Learning Literacy
 Outlook
 Conclusion
Distance Learning Development Program

Program duration: 1998-2001

Taiwan Academic Network (TANet) environment

TANet structure and international broadband diagram
Schematic Drawing of Taiwan Academic Network

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Taiwan University
National Chengchi University
Taipei County
(Taipei Municipal Teachers' College)
Taipei County
(Taiwan Normal University)
Keelung County
(Taiwan Normal University)

Chunghsing University

Chungyang University

National High Speed Computer Center

Academia Sinica

Taiwan County
(Taiwan Normal University)

Chungcheng University

National Chengchi University

Taiwan County
(Taiwan Normal University)

Hualien County
(Marine University)

National Chengchi University

Hualien Teachers' College

Chiaotung University

Chungshan University

Tunghua University

Chengkung University

Regional Network ATM SW
County Network
45Mbps

Kaohsiung County
(Takang Primary School)
Taiwan County
(Taiwande Secondary School)
Pingtung County
(Hoping Primary School)

Hsinchu County
(Taitung Primary School)
Hsinchu County
(Tungmen Primary School)

Changhwa County
(Bureau of Education)
Taipei County
(Taiwan Normal University)
Keelung County
(Taiwan Normal University)

Chiayi County
(Tingliu Primary School)
Yunlin County
(Bureau of Education)

Tainan County
(Takang Primary School)
Tainan County
(Bureau of Education)
Chiayi County
(Lantan Primary School)

Taichung County
(Taiwande Secondary School)
Taichung County
(Taiwande Secondary School)

Changhua County
(Bureau of Education)
Taichung County
(Taiwande Secondary School)
Changhua County
(Bureau of Education)

Kinmen County
(Matsu Chieshou Primary and Secondary Schools)
Taoyuan County
(Chungeng Secondary School)

Matsu County
(Taiwan Normal University)
Changhua County
(Bureau of Education)

In July 1998, the “Guidelines for Providing Trial Distance Learning Curricula by Junior College and Above” was enacted, 73 schools offered about 85 on-lines courses in the program.
Distance Learning Development Program (Cont’d)

The Asynchronous (networking) distance learning program was launched after the “Guidelines for Providing Distance Learning Curricula by Schools above Junior Colleges” was announced in 1999.
Distance Learning Development Program (Cont’d)

Guidelines for accreditation of foreign degrees promulgated January, 1999. Maximum credits obtained through distance learning can not exceed 1/3 of the total credits.

In 2000, 87 schools offered 250 on-line synchronous/asynchronous courses.
Distance Learning Development Program (Cont’d)

A total of 24 integration programs and 124 asynchronous distance learning courses have been implemented in this year.
Providence University provides English courses to high schools in offshore islands through www and e-mail
Distance Learning Applications (Cont’d)

Multinational cooperation in English teaching has been carried out between Taiwan (National Sun Yat-sen University and Kaohsiung Girls’ Middle School) and schools from Britain and Japan
National Kaohsiung Normal University and Sanshin Junior College of Home Economics and Commerce had joint projects with U.S. schools.
Distance Learning Applications (Cont’d)

Tamkang University and Kaohsiung Normal University offer non-simultaneous courses, such as “Internet instruction and curriculum design” and “multimedia,” to teachers in offshore islands and remote areas as a channel to pursue further education.
Distance Learning Applications (Cont’d)

National Tainan Teachers College established an Explorative Virtual Elementary and Middle School to provide online multimedia courses and assignment counseling.
E-learning Development Program

Duration: 2001-2005

Key points

Integrate the digitalized exhibits and learning resources of social education organizations under the Ministry of Education (MOE), such as Nation Museum of Natural Science, National Museum of History
E-learning Development Program (Cont’d)

- Set up lifelong learning data banks
- Develop the localized content of the exhibitions of organizations under the MOE
E-learning Development Program (Cont’d)

- Set up learning portal sites.
- Promote diversified learning models.
- Improve the quality of e-learning design, learning activities, and learning resources.
Chinese E-learning Resources

K-12 Learning Resources Website
E-learning teaching resources for lifelong learning
EduCities
Internet exposition
Six major learning sites
Augment Internet teaching materials and narrow the gap between rural and metropolitan areas
K-12 Learning Resource Website (2)

- Exchange teaching and learning experience
- Incorporate IT into the instruction of all subjects

http://content.edu.tw
Internet Teaching Materials
Resources for Lifelong Learning (1)

National Museum of History
- A Wonderful 5,000 Years—Humanity and The Universe
  - http://203.64.118.4/web-title/
- A Wonderful 5,000 Years—Humanity and Self
  - http://203.64.118.4/web-title3/
Internet Teaching Materials
Resources for Lifelong Learning (2)

National Research Institute of Chinese Medicine

- Chinese Herb Cooking for Health
- Curing Maladies with Your Diet
  - http://192.192.9.6/
Internet Teaching Materials
Resources for Lifelong Learning (3)

National Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall
- A sightseeing tour of the Sun Yat-sen. Memorial Hall
- Getting To Know Native Taiwanese Art
Internet Teaching Materials
Resources for Lifelong Learning (4)

National Museum of Natural Science

- Taiwanese Tree Frog and Birds From Kinmen

- The Scientific Wisdom of The Chinese
Internet Teaching Materials
Resources for Lifelong Learning (5)

National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium

Fish World of Taiwan’s Rivers and Lakes

Internet Teaching Materials
Resources for Lifelong Learning (6)

National Science and Technology Museum

Virtual Museums

http://www.nstm.gov.tw
http://www.nstm.gov.tw/vrtour/vrtour.htm
EduCities

Internet group learning: integrating people and educational organizations through the Internet and holding online learning activities

http://www.educities.edu.tw/
Internet Exposition

Distinguishing features of the development of cooperative learning on the Internet in Taiwan: Researching local culture and environment through designated topics and team work, using the Internet as a communication tool, and displaying to the world Taiwan’s Internet-related achievements, including information, environment, and rural education.

http://cyberfair.taiwanschoolnet.org/
The Six Major Learning Websites

- Life Education Web
- Health & Medicine Website
- Natural Ecology WEB
- History & Culture Web
- Arts & Humanities Web
- Science Education Web
The Six Major Learning Websites(2)

- Encourage a positive attitude towards learning by putting teaching materials that encourage cooperative, active, innovative learning online.
- Develop in students the humanistic qualities of the high tech era.
The Spirit behind Setting Up Six Main Learning Sites (1)

These websites are not only for the purpose of transferring knowledge. Our goal is to fuse life and education through the experience of learning activities (e.g., nature ecology tours, art exploration tours)
Sort out and put online data related to theme learning content and experience. Content will be organized bottom to top and set up in a way to ensure that lesson plans, activities, and different views can be passed on.
E-Learning Literacy

Essential supporting measures for promoting e-learning
E-Learning Literacy

Understanding the world of the Internet for primary and secondary students

- The virtual and real Internet worlds
- The rise and management of Internet cafes
- The BBS and its impact
- Types of computer games and how they influence minors
- Applying e-learning resources
E-Learning Literacy (Cont’d)

- Internet safety and security
  - Cultivate correct views on Internet friendships
  - Understand the dangers of one night stands with people met on the Internet
  - Understand and prevent Internet addiction
  - Protect personal information
  - Secure Internet transactions
  - Computer protection and preventing computer viruses
E-Learning Literacy (Cont’d)

Establishing information ethics

- Like the real world, the Internet need entail ethics and rule of law
- Internet copyrights and intellectual property rights
- Understanding positive and negative impact of the Internet. Working together to prevent inappropriate information from influencing minors
E-Learning Literacy (Cont’d)

Cultivating a positive attitude towards learning
- Active, innovative, cooperative learning
- Apply information technologies “properly”
- Fusing life and education through “learning by doing”
Outlook

- Set up distance learning standards and targets for assessing implementation progress. Encourage interschool cooperation as well as course integration and teaching designs to enhance overall teaching quality.
- Push for international cooperation in distance learning.
Outlook (Cont’d)

- Promote cooperative learning as well as the development of humanistic concerns for the Internet. Use research of designated topics and cooperation to probe into the local culture and environment of Taiwan.

- Gradually popularize e-learning teaching materials and key point programs for primary and secondary schools and adult education.
Outlook (Cont’d)

Using websites and Internet educational systems as well as online instruction, discussions, and teaching materials, making the resources of schools and educational facilities (e.g., museums) available to society as a whole and creating an environment conducive to lifelong learning.

Making e-learning available to all.
Conclusion

- Develop environment and mechanisms for education based e-learning
- Use high tech to advance the happiness of humanity as a whole. Use the Internet to increase concern for life