



Barbara Spronk

John Daniel

colleagues at Athabasca University in
the 1970s



The Aga Khan Development Network

Higher Education Forum

Vancouver

27 March 2010

*Distance Education:
Ends, Means, Opportunities, Threats*

Sir John Daniel

Commonwealth of Learning



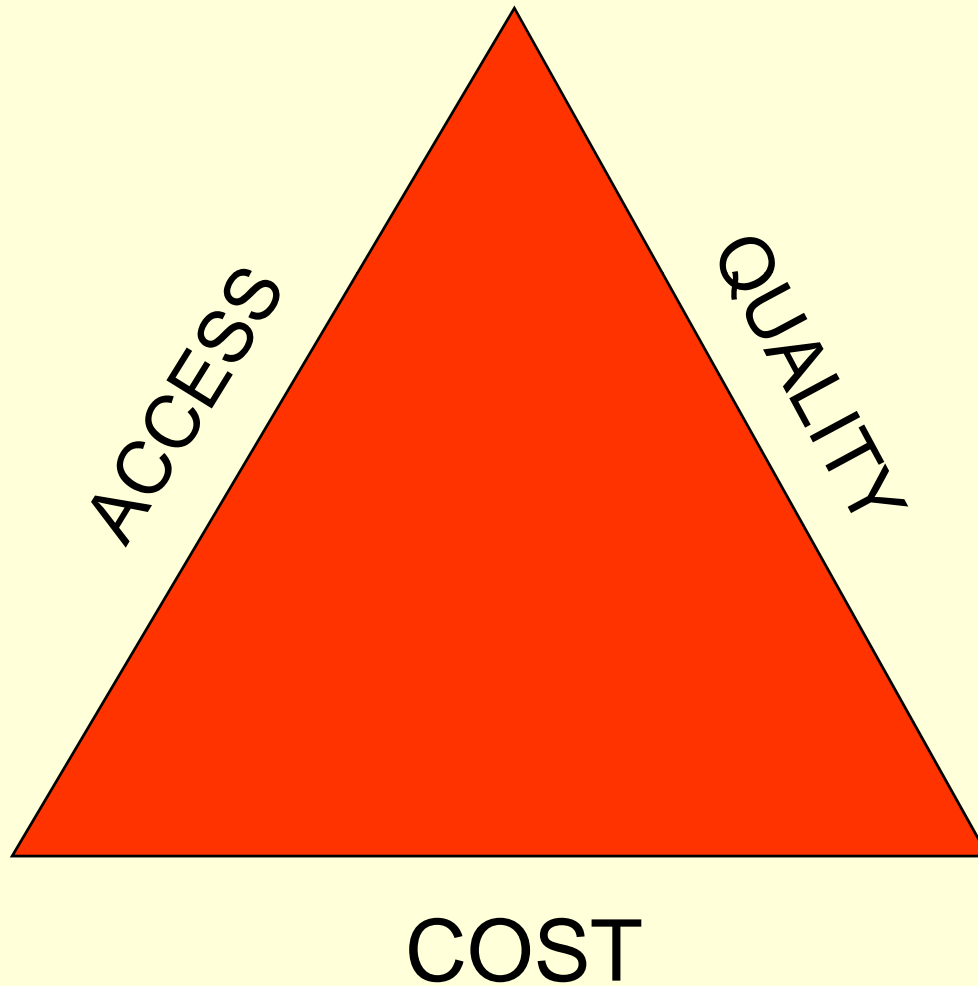
Distance Education:

The Ends

The Central Challenge

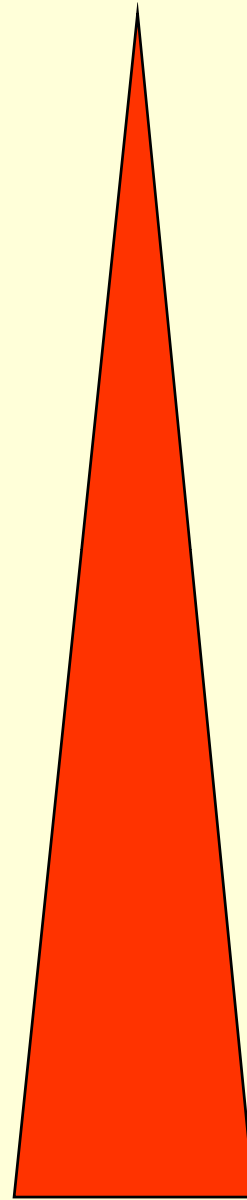
- ACCESS (wider)
- QUALITY (higher)
- COST (lower)

The Iron Triangle



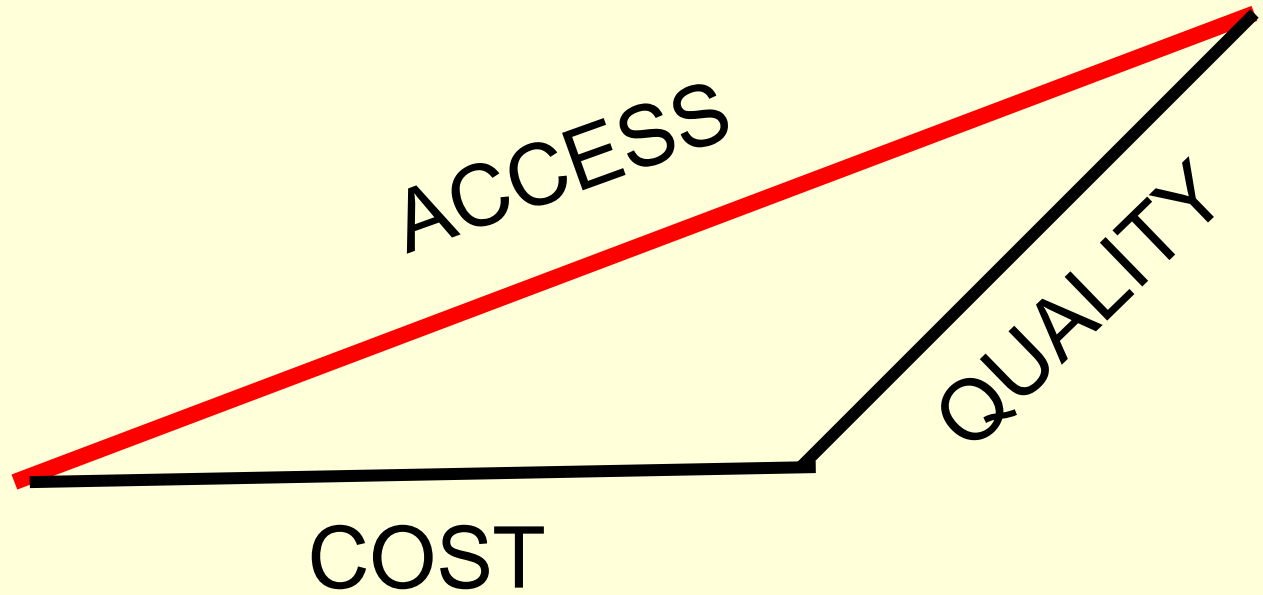
ACCESS

QUALITY

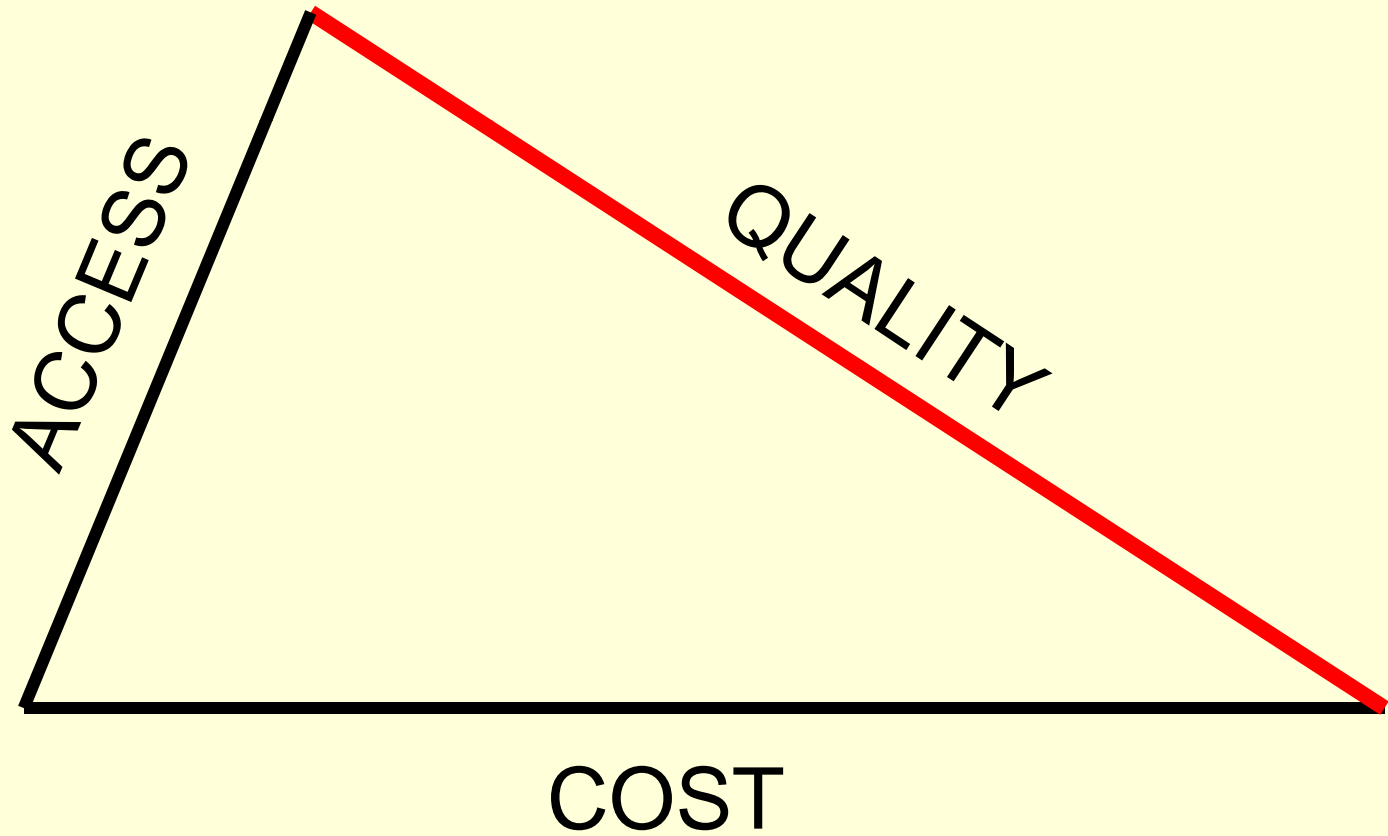


COST

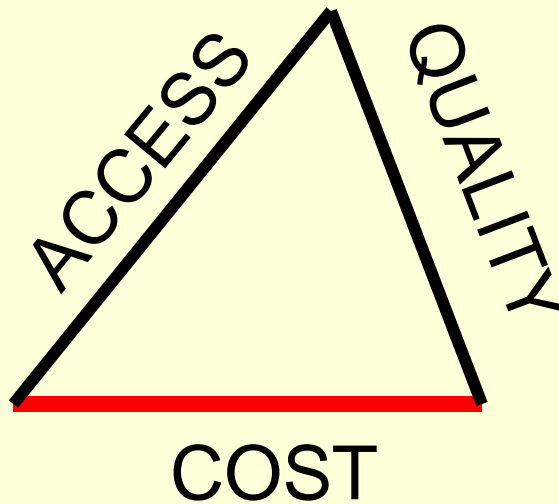
The Iron Triangle



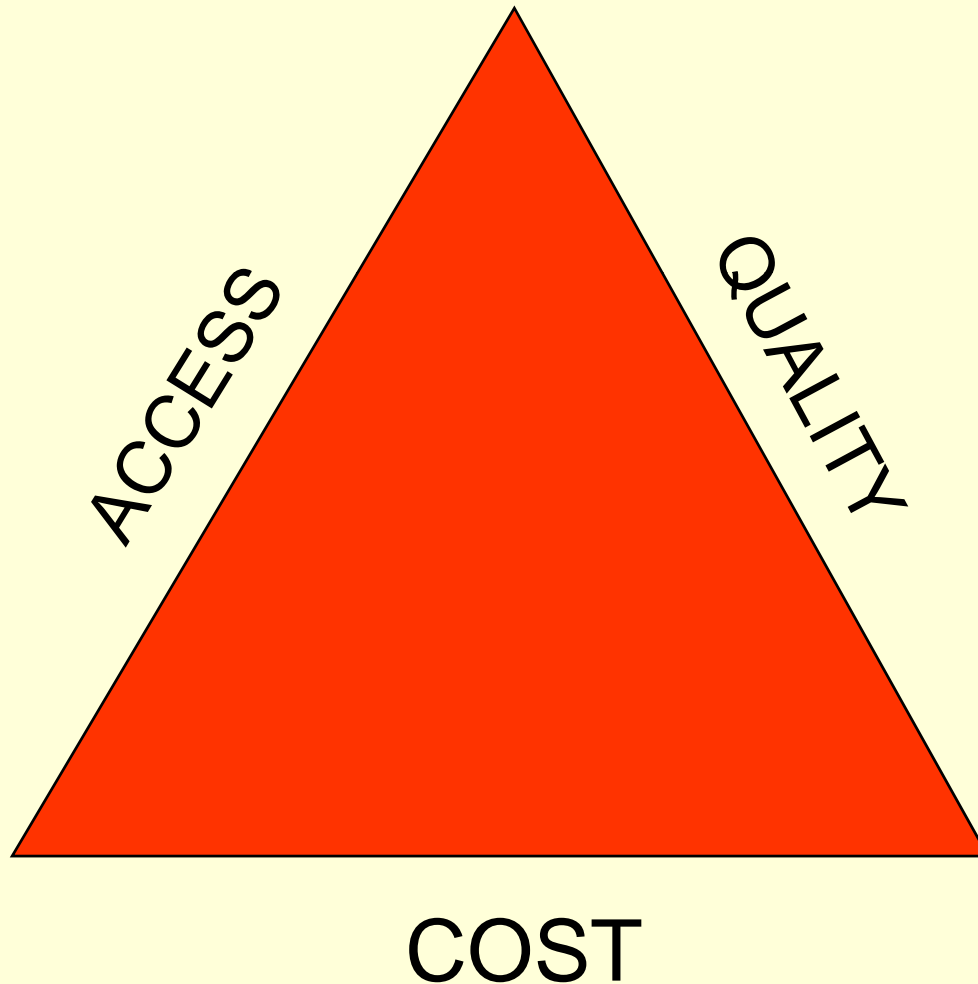
The Iron Triangle



The Iron Triangle

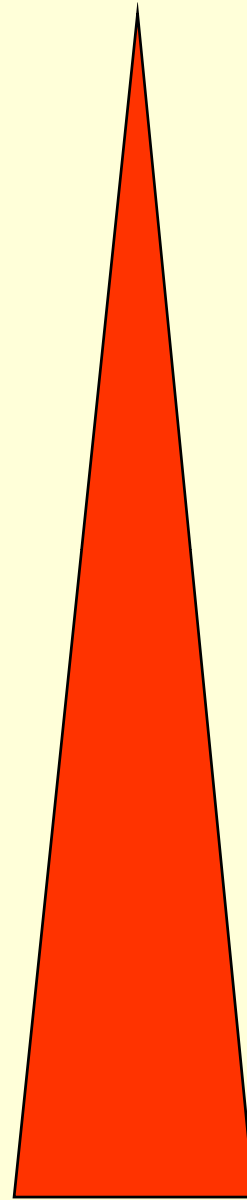


**“an insidious link between
quality and exclusivity”**



ACCESS

QUALITY



COST

The Technology Revolution

- ACCESS (wider)
- QUALITY (higher)
- COST (lower)

ALL AT THE SAME TIME!

Defining Technology

Technology is the application of scientific and other organized knowledge to practical tasks by organizations consisting of people and machines...

Principles of Technology

- Division of labour
- Specialisation
- Economies of scale
- Machines and ICTs



Adam Smith
1723-1790



The Open University

220,000 students for UKOU awards,
of which
>60,000 outside the UK



The Open University

OpenLearn

Making educational resources freely available

BRITAIN'S TOP NINE UNIVERSITIES

Quality Rankings of Teaching

based on all subject assessments 1995-2004
(*Sunday Times University Guide 2004*)

| | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | CAMBRIDGE | 96% |
| 2 | LOUGHBOROUGH | 95% |
| 3= | LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS | 88% |
| 3= | YORK | 88% |
| 5 | <u>THE OPEN UNIVERSITY</u> | 87% |
| 6 | OXFORD | 86% |
| 7 | IMPERIAL COLLEGE | 82% |
| 8 | UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON | 77% |
| 9 | ESSEX | 77% |

...and top for student satisfaction



The Open University

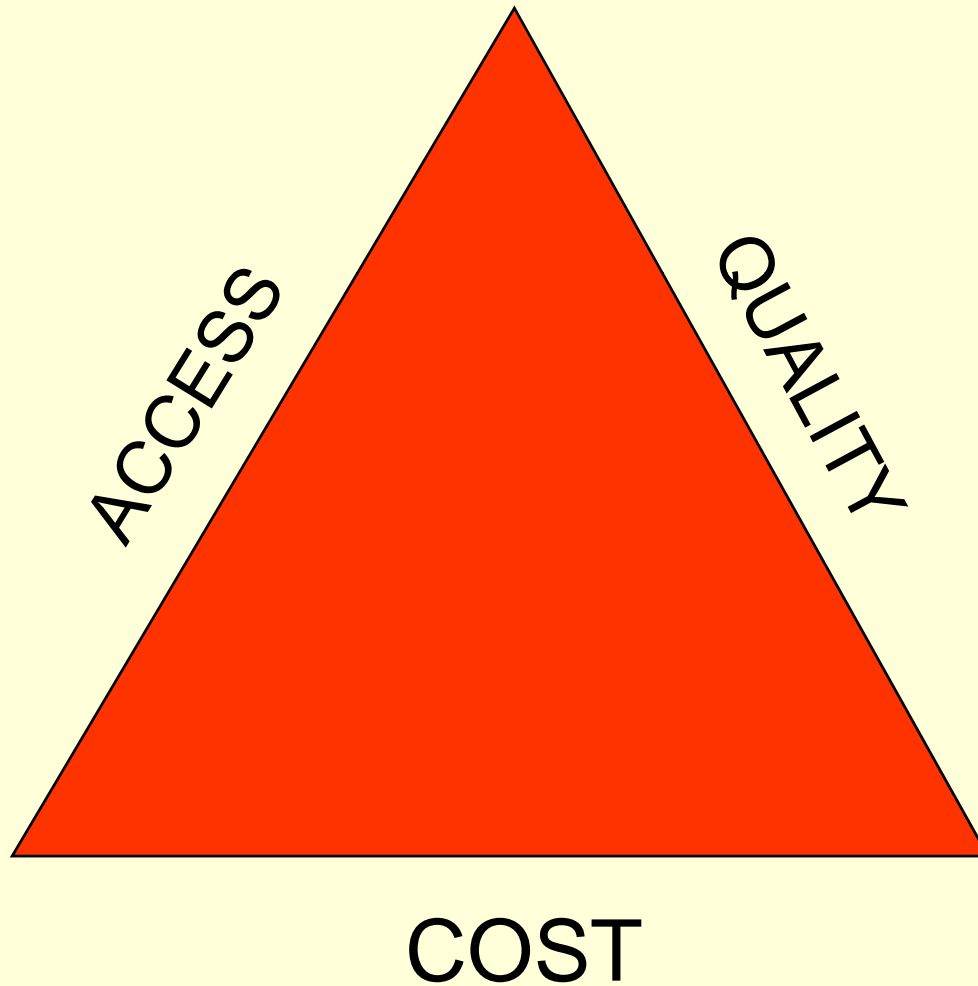
- Costs 60 - 80% of conventional

The Technology Revolution

- ACCESS (wider)
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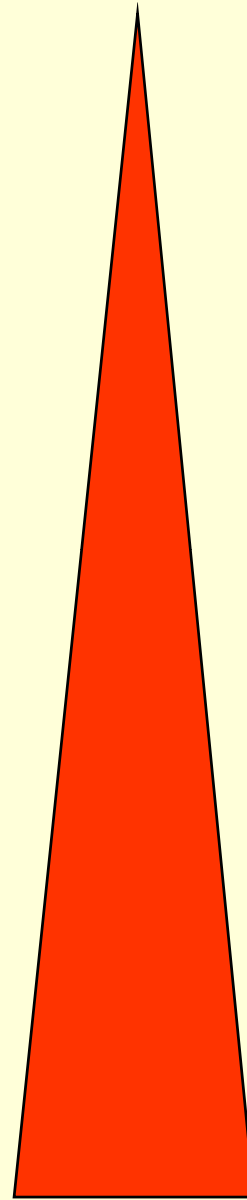
ALL AT THE SAME TIME!

The Iron Triangle



ACCESS

QUALITY



COST

Principles of Technology

- Division of labour
- Specialisation
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Adam Smith
1723-1790

Distance Education:

The Means

DISTANCE EDUCATION

2 approaches:

- Remote-classroom teaching
- Distance learning

DISTANCE EDUCATION

2 approaches:

- Remote-classroom teaching

PROBLEMS:

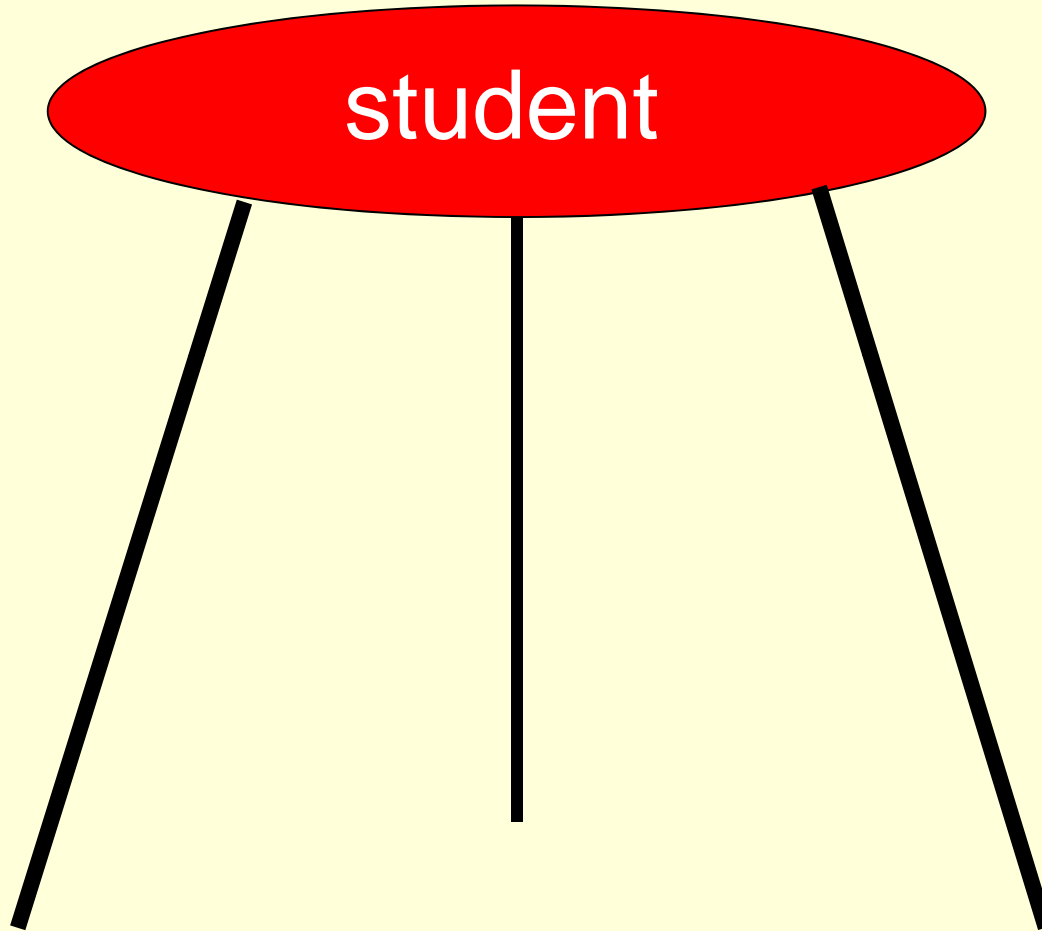
- *expensive*
- *not scaleable*
- *inflexible*

DISTANCE EDUCATION

2 approaches:

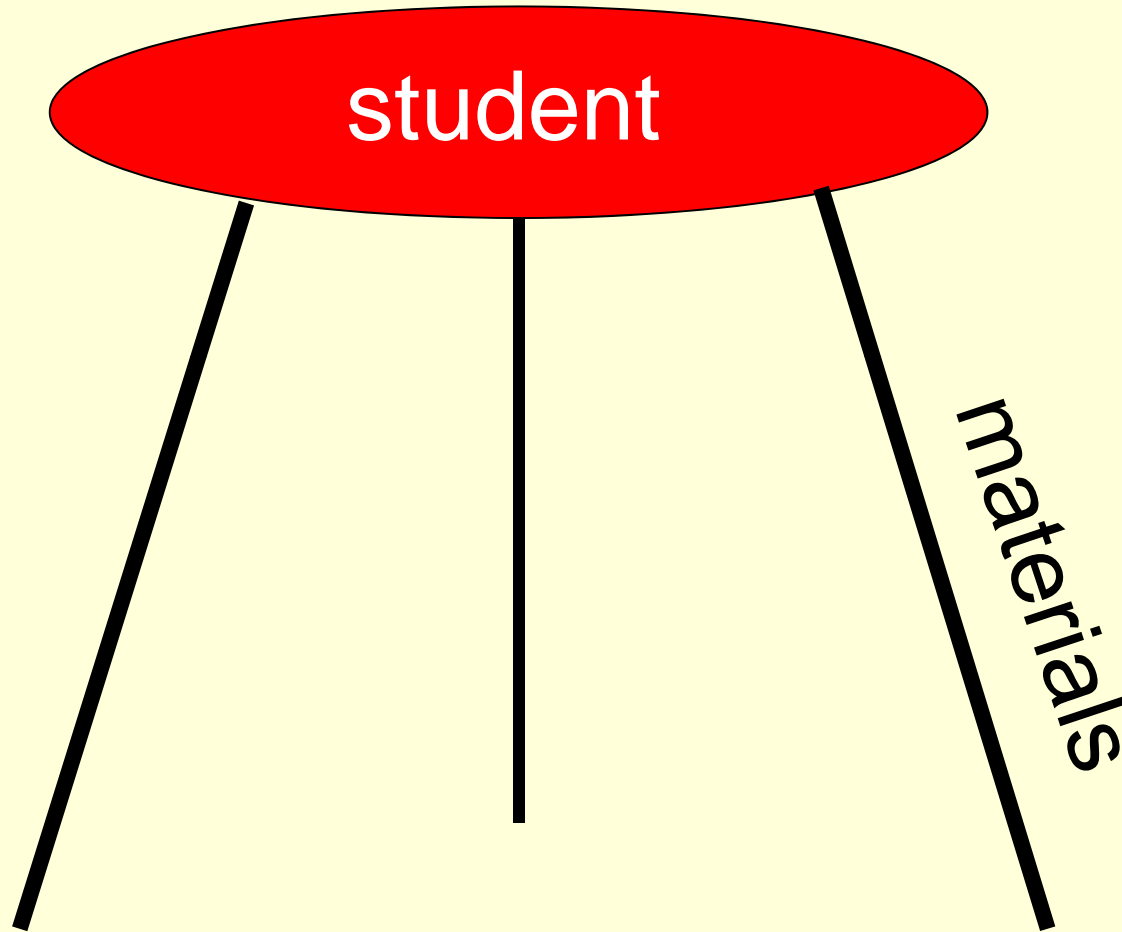
- Remote-classroom teaching
- Distance learning

DISTANCE LEARNING



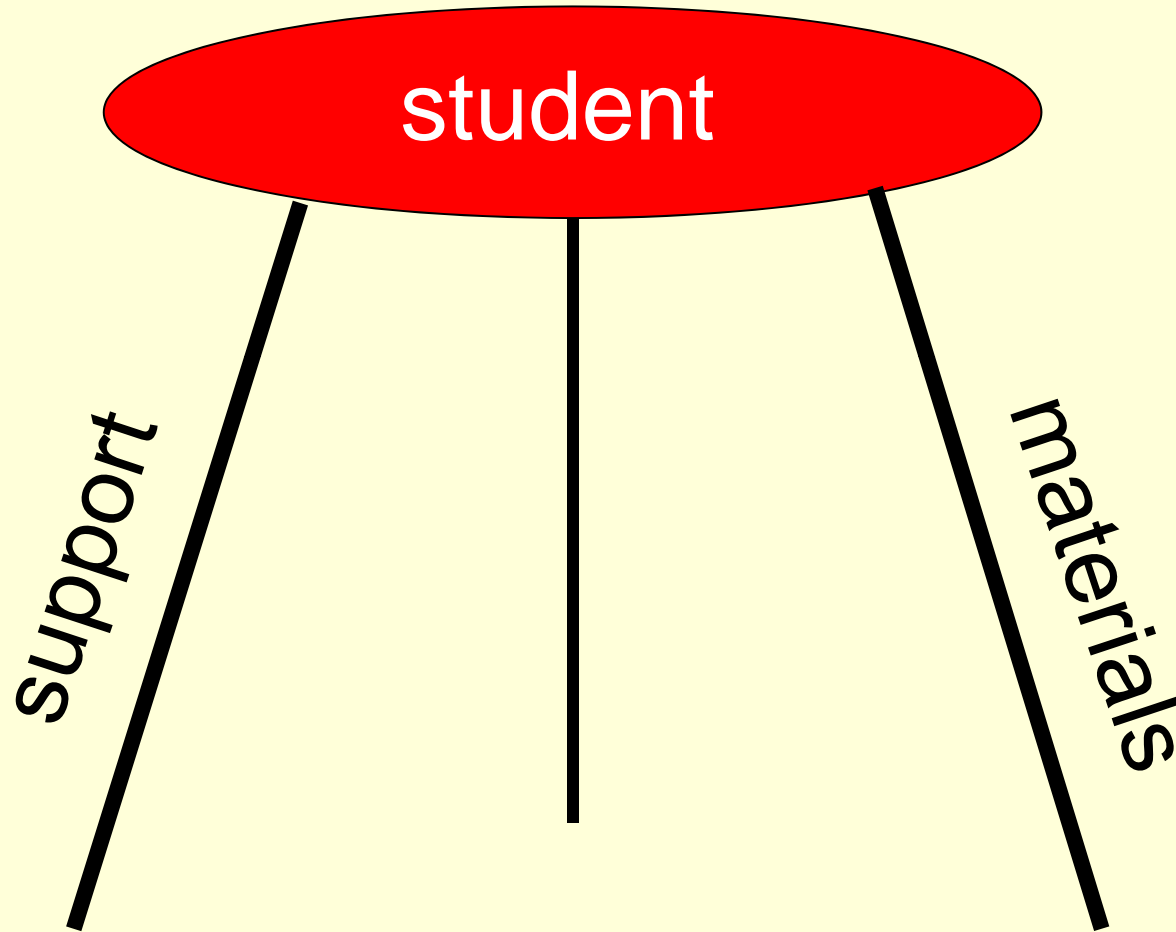
a three-legged stool

DISTANCE LEARNING



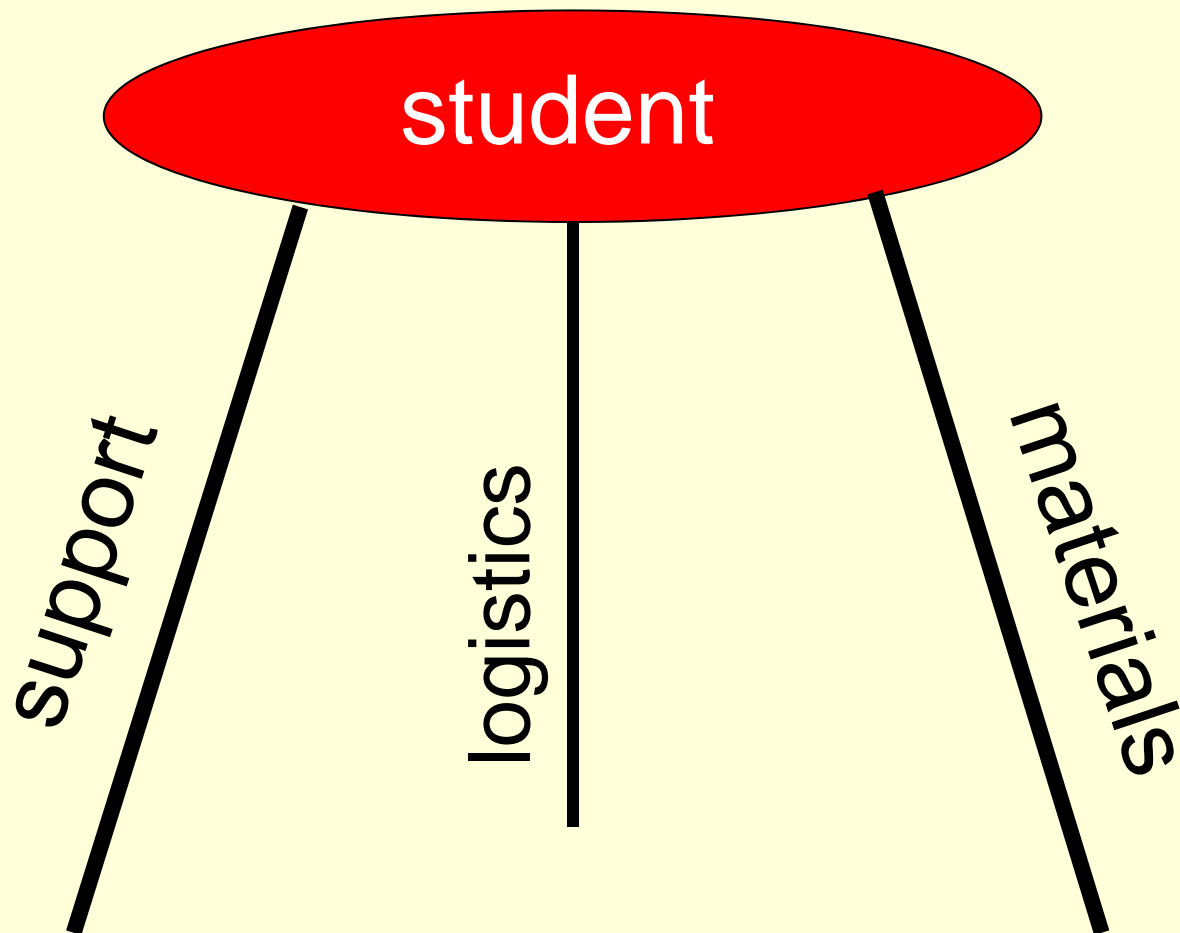
a three-legged stool

DISTANCE LEARNING



a three-legged stool

DISTANCE LEARNING



a three-legged stool

'essential reading for all involved in higher education'
TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT

Mega- Universities & Knowledge Media

Technology Strategies
for Higher Education

John S Daniel

Distance Education: The Opportunities

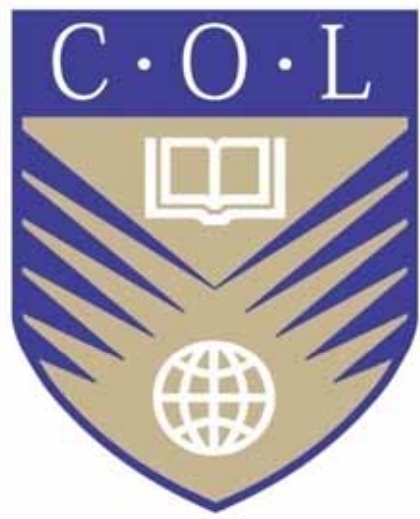
LEARNING MATERIALS

Use media that allow:

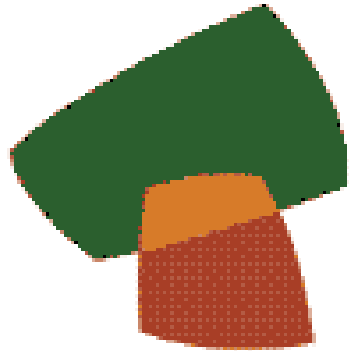
- Economies of scale
- Quality of scale

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

'learning resources in digital formats that are freely available for adaptation and use by anyone'.



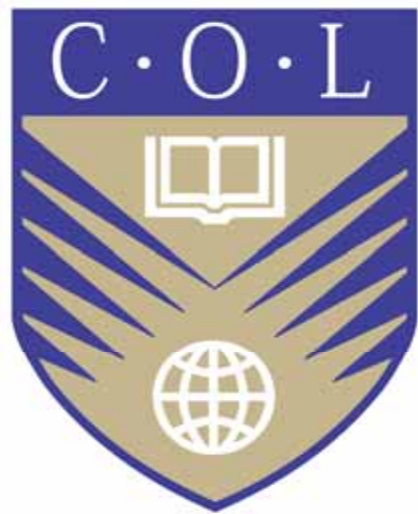
Teacher Education (Abdurrahman Umar)



TESSA

Teacher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa





Integrating eLearning (Wayne Mackintosh)



WikiEdProfessional eLearning Guidebook - WikiEducator - Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.wikieducator.org/Wiki

Navigation: Main Page, Community portal, Current events, Recent changes, Random page, Help, Donations

Contents

- 1 About the eLearning Guidebook
- 2 Main Chapters
- 3 We need your help
- 4 Experimenting with interoperable content
 - 4.1 Cut and paste into eXe if
 - 4.2 Importing text using the Wikieducator iDevice feature
 - 4.3 Creating a Web version of customised content

About the eLearning Guidebook [edit]

Click on this edit tab if you want to work on the whole page

Click on this edit tab to work on a subsection of the page

COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING
Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia

toolbox
http://www.wikieducator.org/Main_Page

WikiEducator

The Community

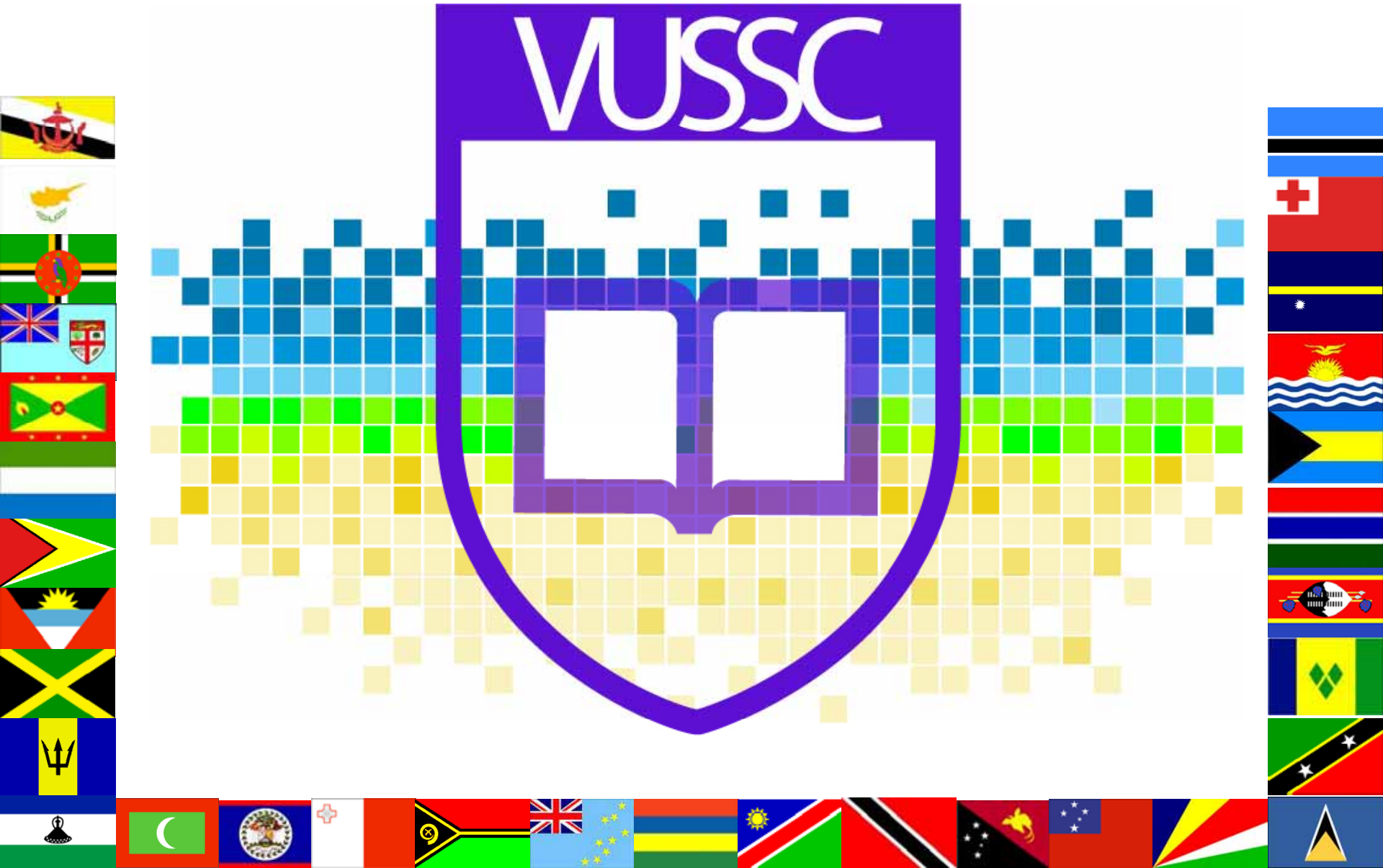


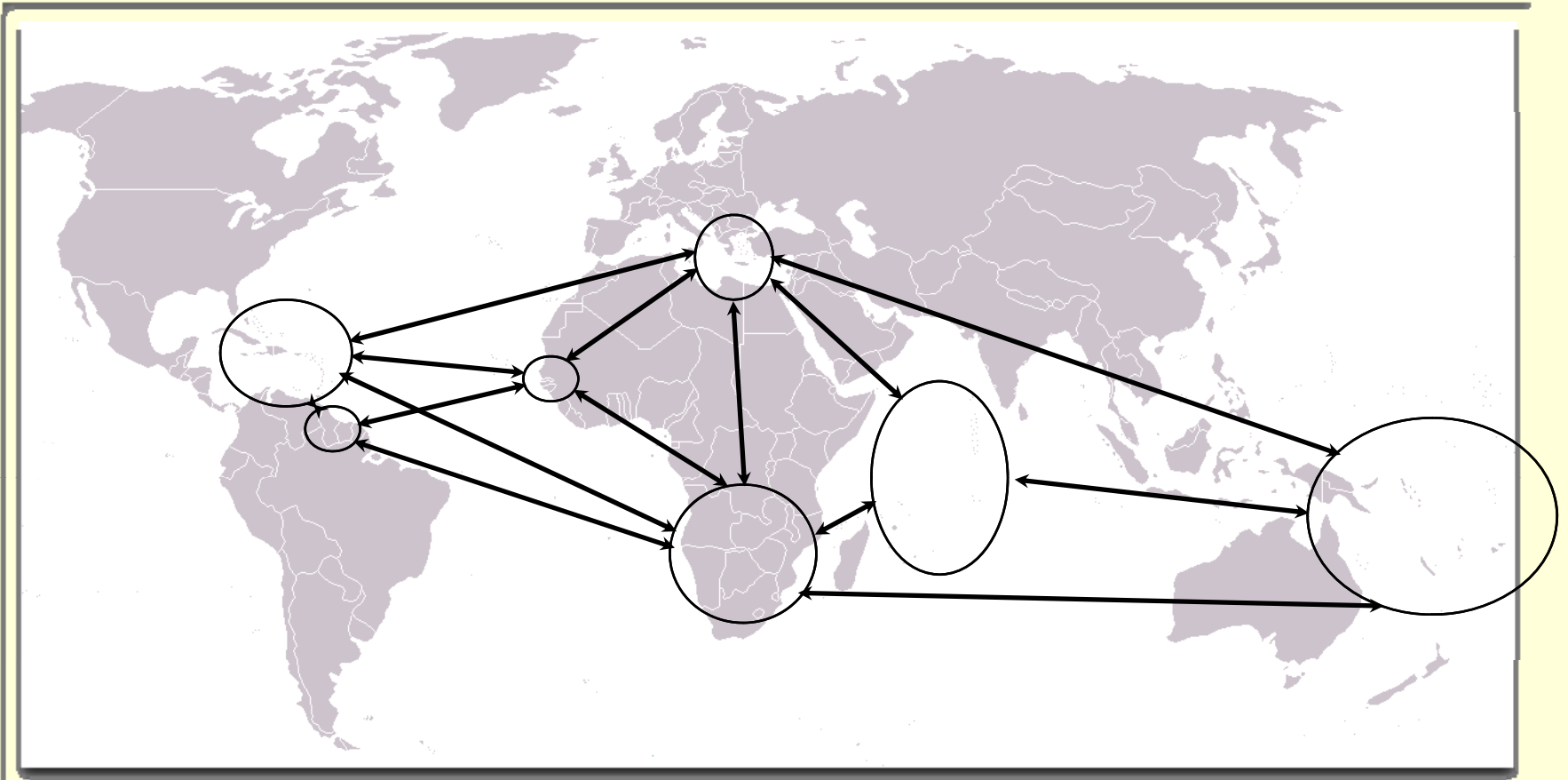
Learning4Content



Learning4Content provides free skills training in Wiki technology for educators in the Commonwealth. In return, educators sign a Learning Contract, agreeing to provide a free content lesson on WikiEducator.

The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth





. . . a linking structure . . .

to help build human capacity and strengthen
countries

Mauritius VUSSC Boot Camp – August 2006



“Eco-tourism”

Maldives VUSSC Boot Camp – March 2010



“Agriculture”

'essential reading for all involved in higher education'
TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT

Mega-Universities & Knowledge Media

Technology Strategies
for Higher Education

John S Daniel

JOHN S. DANIEL

open &
flexible
learning
series

MEGA-SCHOOLS, TECHNOLOGY AND TEACHERS

ACHIEVING EDUCATION FOR ALL

ROUTLEDGE

Distance Education:

The Threats

ODL at scale

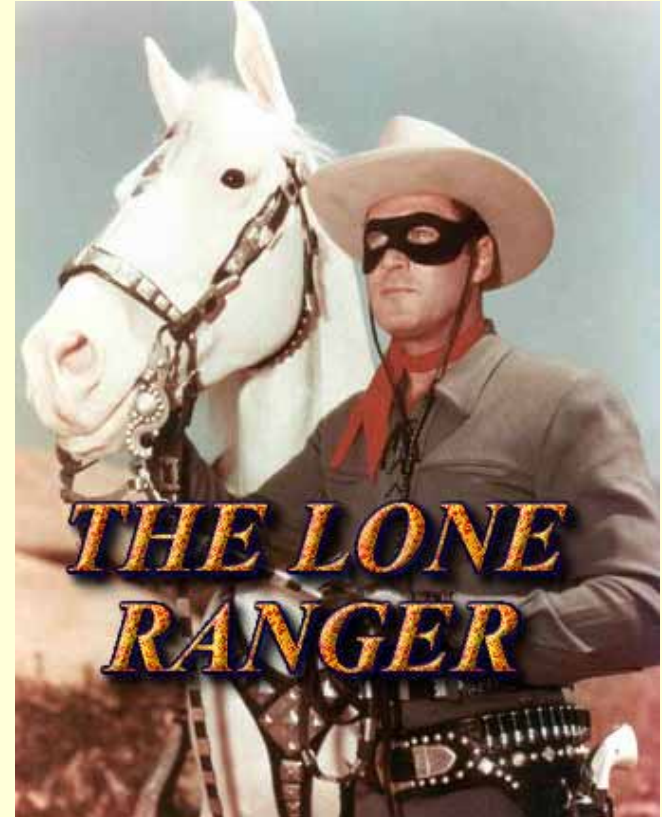
3 sub-systems:

- Administration/logistics
- Course Development
- Student Support

They can continue with the cottage industry approach, with each academic doing their own thing and taking care of every step in the instructional process.



Back to
teaching
as a
cottage
industry?



The "Lone-Ranger"
approach to eLearning
(Professor Tony Bates)

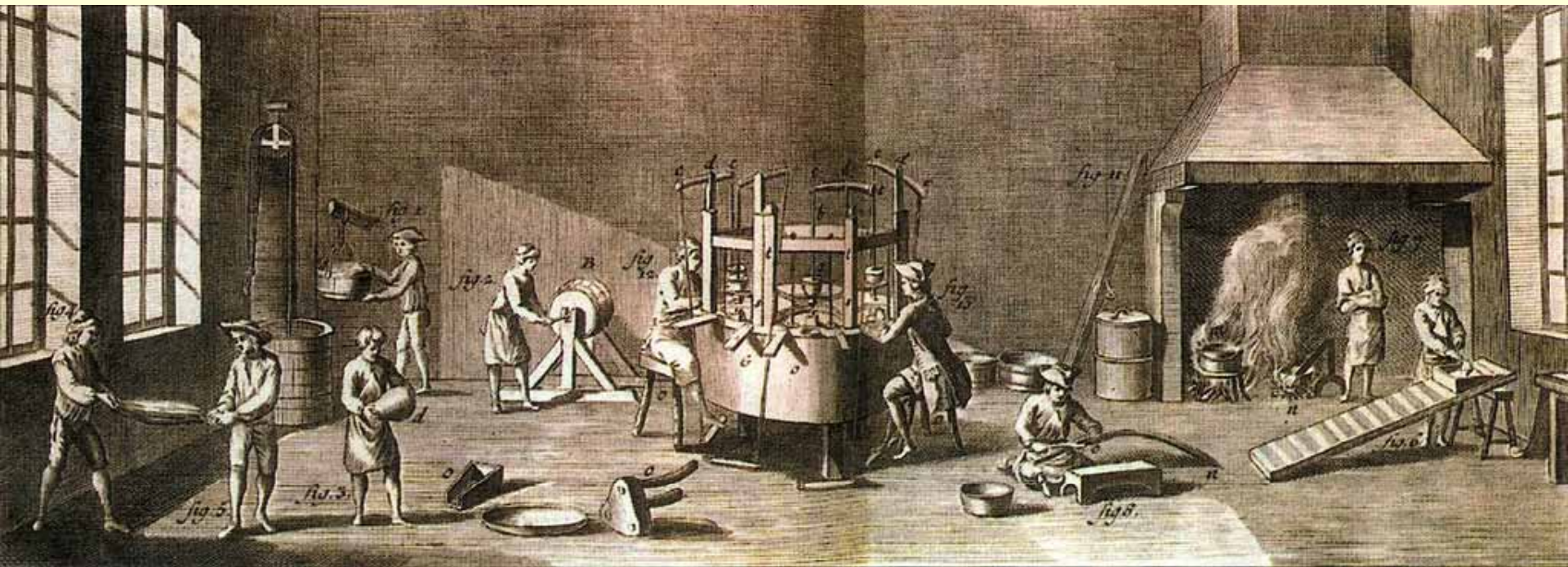
Principles of Technology

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- Machines and ICTs



Adam Smith
1723-1790

THE PIN FACTORY



Adam Smith's Pin Factory



...the monumental function of universities has always trumped considerations of cost-effectiveness...

...send me any studies you have that shows eLearning to have increased the overall cost-effectiveness of an educational institution...

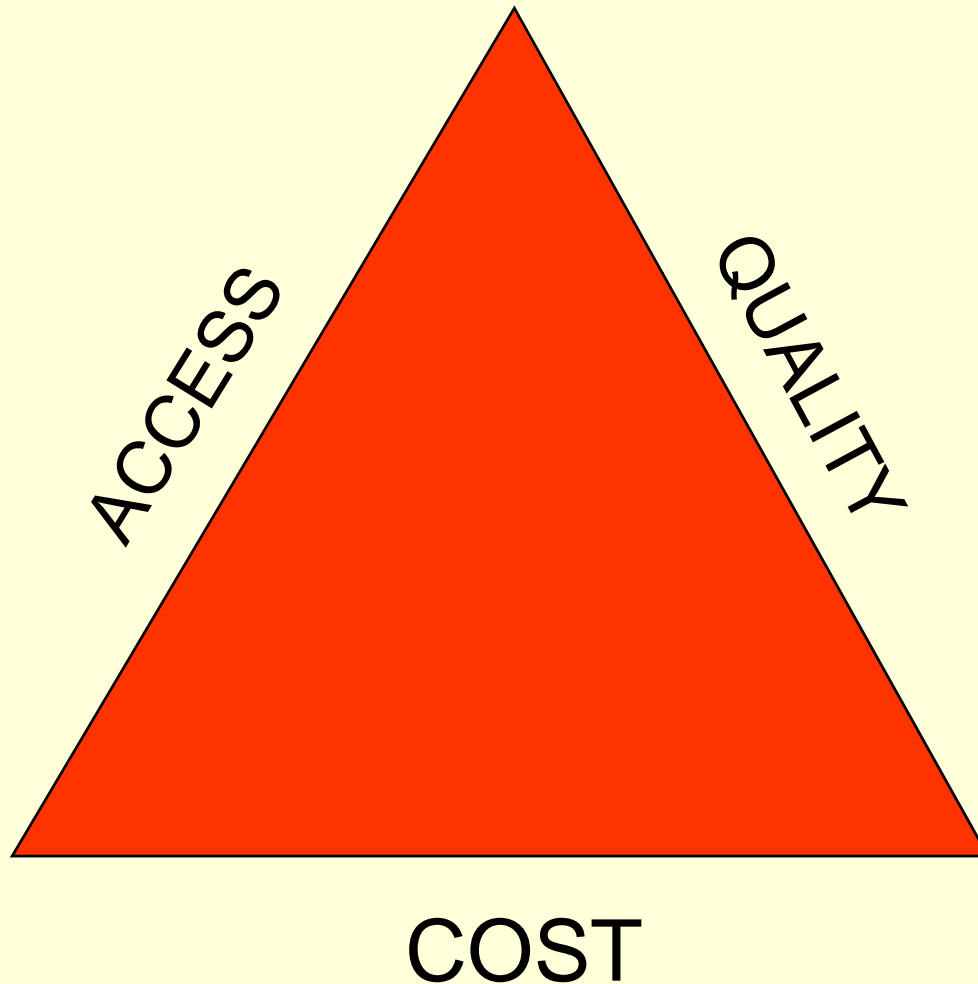
jdaniel@col.org





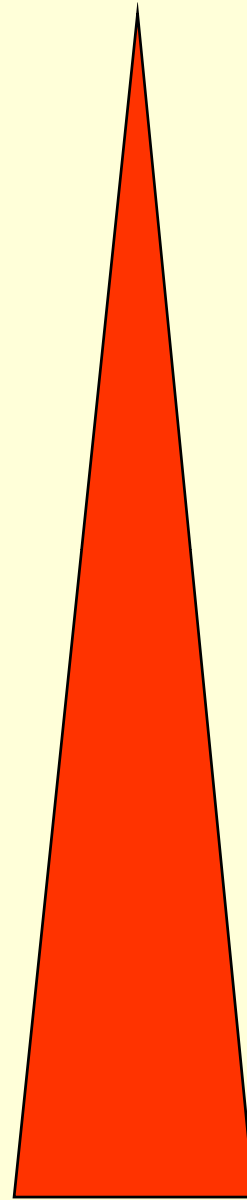
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ACCESS

QUALITY



COST

The background features a green gradient with faint, stylized icons: an open book at the top left, a hand with fingers spread in the center, and a globe at the bottom left. The text is centered and white.

THANK YOU

For text and slides:
www.col.org/speeches