Forging Partnerships for Big Broadband

Presented by Safiya Umoja Noble
Ph.D. Candidate
Graduate School of Library & Information Science
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
snoble@illinois.edu
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Safiya Umoja Noble  •  snoble@illinois.edu

Broadband Highlights in the Stimulus Bill:

- $7.2B for pilot projects/models in underserved/unserved and rural communities
- $250M for education & training/sustainable adoption
- $200M for public computing/libraries/community colleges
- Focus on job creation & employment
- Priorities include tele-health, environment and public safety
Champaign-Urbana Response:

• History of technology innovation:
  - Mosaic and Prairienet
• Early identification by the U of I Director of Networking for CITES
• Formation of UC2B underway
• Activation of CUOA website & forums
• Partnership Developing for Proposal:
  - CITES
  - U-C Independent Media Center
  - Broadband Access Committee
  - Graduate School of Library & Information Science
  - C-U Open Access

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How can we create jobs in this community?

What opportunities could be available to children, young people, families, non-profits, churches and businesses in our community if we had free or inexpensive Internet and computers, technology centers, and places to be creative?

How can we bring stimulus $ to Champaign-Urbana?

Plan to attend the Broadband Teach-In

Learn how Federal Stimulus funds for Broadband/Internet are being sought through a community wide collaboration!

Come hear more and share your thoughts!

Sponsored by the Graduate School of Library & Information Science at the University of Illinois, the Community Informatics Lab, the Community Informatics Initiative, C.U. Open Access and the Broadband Advisory Committee
For more information, contact cuopenaccess@gmail.com

What is the Digital Divide?

Notes for consideration in closing the Digital Divide • Champaign-Urbana, IL

[Current Proposal]

A plan is being developed to build a broadband infrastructure in the "Bradley Corridor," and then on to the rest of Champaign-Urbana.

If successful, we could have high-speed Internet connections to every building and every home. This area covers Lincoln to Mattis, and University to I-74.

This effort could bring state-of-the-art broadband/internet to everyone.

We could also propose educational programs to assist community groups in using the full potential of broadband.

[Thought Starters]

Some ideas to consider – what else do we need in C-U?
1. hiring of local residents – job creation!
2. free or low-cost websites for C-U businesses
3. affordable Internet in the "Bradley Corridor," and then on to the rest of Champaign-Urbana.
4. a free IT department and training for non-profits
5. 2 scholarships to UIUC for local high school grads
6. a community technology center and lab
7. new/refurbished computers and training
8. coordinated e-mail lists to promote events
9. an annual conference on local technology use
10. $1,000 prize for best community application of broadband use (10 year commitment)
11. community ownership in a broadband infrastructure

What do you think C-U needs?
How Can We Create JOBS in our Local Community?

FREE REGISTRATION at www.cuopenaccess.org

[8:30AM – 2PM]
[Saturday]
[APRIL 25 ‘09]

University of Illinois Graduate School of Library & Info. Science
501 Daniel St - Rm. 126
On Campus Between Fourth & Fifth Streets

FOR FREE REGISTRATION VISITING WWW.CUOPENACCESS.ORG & JOINING THE LIST!

[April 25th • 8:30am – 2:00pm]

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Process of Engagement:

• Faculty/Staff/Student Strategic Planning
• Integration with Municipalities
• Grassroots Communication:
  - CUOA website
  - Email lists, Community Activists, 1:1 meetings
  - Minority Contractors Assn., Illinois Black Chamber of Commerce
  - Public forums
  - WEFT radio shows
  - Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club, People’s Potluck
  - Ministerial Alliance & Interfaith Alliance
  - Food Co-op
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Champaign-Urbana Open Access Coalition

Who are we and what are we doing? An emerging inclusive coalition of community organizations and individuals who are exploring the possibilities of open access to broadband and digital inclusion within Champaign-Urbana, focusing on the North End and surrounding rural communities. This website is designed to foster communication and information exchange as this process develops, with the intent of organizing access that is open, affordable (or free) to neighborhoods in C–U that are currently underserved.

CUOA BLOG POSTS
- My account
- Create content
- Feed aggregator

RECENT NEWS
Public Forum on Broadband - Thurs, May 21st 7 pm @ Champaign Library | Wednesday, May 6, 2009 - 12:53pm
Commentary: How About Truly Public Municipal Wireless | Wednesday, April 29, 2009

GET INVOLVED
First, become a member! It’s fast, easy, and good for you ;)
Second, join our mailing lists. The CUOA Mailing list is open to the public

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Desired Outcomes:

- Successful proposal
- Economic recovery and employment
- Meaningful minority business participation
- Free/Affordable network
- Strengthening of community
- Better quality of life in C-U
- Research & modeling for others
- Greater democracy