“Education delivery has the capacity to be transformed, enabling remote and distance learning, completion of homework online and other innovative applications that are currently unable to operate over the existing network.”

Dept. of Business, Innovation & Skills, 2010

IBZL – A thought experiment

What if network bandwidth and latency disappeared as constraints on the internet?

What could we do then?

- The capacity and speed of the internet has increased exponentially over the last 20 years in steps that have unleashed waves of innovation.

- ‘First generation’ broadband gave millions of users ‘always-on’ connection to the net for the first time.

- Unanticipated and disruptive new applications like Wikipedia and YouTube.

- Will ‘next generation’ broadband similarly see wave of disruptive applications?

- What might they look like?

Using the ‘Imagine’ workshop methodology, we have sought to identify new possibilities through positing a world with effectively infinite bandwidth and zero latency. IBZL tries to create the conditions to start that imagining process, and contributing to thinking about the OU’s own work in such a world.
Infinite Bandwidth, Zero Latency: Imagine learning futures
Steve Walker, Simon Bell, Clem Herman, Sarah Davies, Elaine Thomas, Adrian Jackson

1. Reflect and understand
2. Cluster and prioritise
3. Model
4. Continue
5. Reflect and evaluate

Imagine: how
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Real avatars?

Ethical tagging?

Hybrid networked learning?

Preserving an offline space...

Imagine what?

Flying shepherds?
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Ken Eason introducing OU’s Tony Hirst, Clem Herman with Manchester Digital’s Mike Ryan and Shaun Fensom – Future Everything, Manchester 2010

IMAGINE workshops in Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Milton Keynes.

Further reading

