Open-Source Software Institute

OSSI Mission:

promote open-source solutions
within U.S. Government
and Academic Entities

http://www.oss-institute.org

OSSI: Tenets

- OSSI is a forum for exchange of information and promotion of ideals

- An Open-Source ADVOCATE

- R&D FACILITATOR

- POLICY CONSORTIUM

OSSI: Programs

Open Source works for the US NAVY

- U.S. NAVY
  - Naval Oceanographic Office
  - Stennis Space Center
  - CRADA

OSSI/NAVO CRADA

- Technical analysis of NAVO systems
- OSS Methodologies & Techniques within NAVO
- Access to Open-Source Community
- Beta Test Site for OSSI Concepts & Procedures

CRADA Preliminary Findings

- ' OSS Widely Implemented
  - ' Six (6) of Nine (9) Divisions use of Open-Source Software/Linux
  - ' Data-Processing, visualization, clustering, desktop & storage systems
  - ' Additional systems scheduled to port to Open-Source
  - ' Command & IT Staff Receptive to OSS

OSSI Proposed Study

PROPOSED
Longitudinal Study:

Open-Source Software:
A Case Study within
Mississippi's Public School

Mississippi Public Schools:
An OSS Case Study

PROPOSAL
Open-Source Software:
A Case Study within
Mississippi's Public Schools

Coordinated through:
University of Mississippi,
School of Education and
Mississippi Educational Consortium

Technical Advisors:
GNOME Foundation
RED HAT
Open Source Development Group

OSSI Program Goal

Demonstrate and Document
Viability of Open-Source Solution
in Public School Environment

Technological Benefits
Financial Benefits
Flexibility/Scalability of Solutions

Program Director

- Donald Schillinger, 47

- Ph.D. Candidate in Dept of Curriculum and Instruction, School of Education, University of Mississippi

- Full-time instructor/technology consultant/webmaster for UM, School of Education

State of Mississippi

- ' Miss Dept of Education - http://www.mde.k12.ms.us
- ' Economically Challenged Schools - Title 1
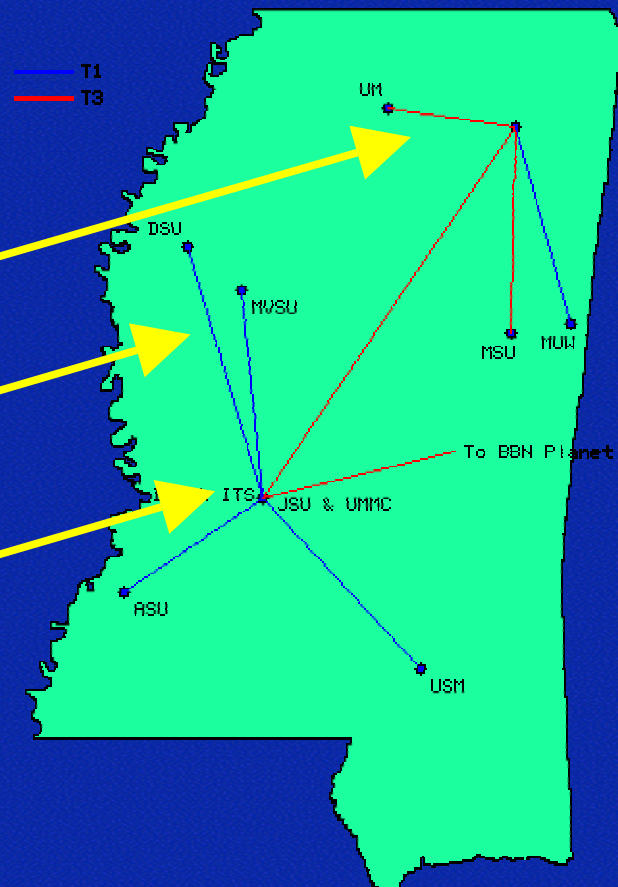- ' Great Need - Great Opportunity

Target Schools/Connectivity

' Three (3) Target Public Schools Districts

  ' 1) High - NE

  ' 2) Challenged - Delta

  ' 3) Control - Jackson/Metro

Program -Core Issues

- Literacy/Reading Skills
    - "if you can't read, then technology is simply an element of entertainment..."
- Math - Spread Sheet
- Visual Arts -Presentation
- Internet Access and Usage -Browser

Initial Efforts

- Interview/Identify Target Schools
  - Administration
  - Infrastructure
  - Student Demographic
- Inventory Existing Labs
  - Hardware/Software
  - Network Connections

- Define App. Plan
  - Applications
  - Initial Customization
- Set-up mirror OSS systems
  - Comparative Analysis of Systems, Apps & Usage for TCO/ROI
  - Attitudinal Survey

Program Challenges

- Resistance - Fear of Change -Admin/Faculty

- Selection & Design of Appropriate Instruments of Measurement

- Instruments of Qualitative/Quantitative Measurements

- Training of System Adminstrators/Providing Support

- Competitive Proprietary Evaluation

Qualitative Measurement

' Qualitative Analysis/Attitudinal Survey

  ' System Administrators, Instructors, Students

  ' Pre-& Post-Use Survey

  ' Ease of Use, Intuitive Nature of Platforms/Applications

Quantitative Measurements

- Comparison of Cost
    - Software Applications
    - Licensing Issues
    - Hardware/software compatibility
- Service/Crash Time
- Scalability
- Security

Timeframe

- Identify Target Schools - July/August
- Inventory Systems - Aug/December
- OSS in Classrooms - Jan 03
- Preliminary Study - Summer 03
- Phase II - Sept 03 - May 04
- Final Study - Summer 04

OSSI

Thank You...

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