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University of Tampere, Finland
Research Centre for Vocational Education & Hypermedia laboratory
UNESCO Chair in Global e-Learning with applications to multiple
domains

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNESCO CHAIR IN GLOBAL E-
LEARNING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPERE, FINLAND
2004**

Establishing the Chair

The Agreement between UNESCO and the University of Tampere was signed by the Director-General of Unesco, Mr. Koichiro Matsuura on the 23rd November 2001 and by the Rector of the University of Tampere, Mr. Jorma Sipila, on the 9th January 2002. According to the Agreement Article 1:

“The University shall, in cooperation with UNESCO, establish a UNESCO Chair in global e-learning with applications to multiple domains (hereinafter referred to as "the Chair") at its Faculty of Education.”

Article 2 of the Agreement defines the purpose of the Chair as follows:

“The purpose of the Chair shall be to promote an integrated system of research, training, information and documentation in the field of global e-learning with applications to multiple domains. It will serve

as a means of facilitating collaboration between high level, internationally recognized researchers and teaching staff of the University and other institutions in Finland and Europe and other regions in the world.”

Article 3 determines the procedure of appointing the Chairholder as follows:

“The University, in consultation with UNESCO, shall appoint the Chairholder who will be selected by means of a procedure to be mutually agreed upon.”

Following this Agreement the University of Tampere in consultation with UNESCO appointed Dr. **Tapio Varis**, professor of media education in the Research Centre for Vocational Education and in the Hypermedia laboratory as the Chairholder for the period 2002-2006. The substantial activities of the Chair started in 2003 and this second annual report of the Chair covers the activities of the year 2004. The Chair was created to promote co-operation with other centres of excellence, especially with the Open University in the U.K. and the Open University in Catalunya (UOC) in Spain. During the year 2004 the Chairholder had two meetings with the representatives of the UOC in Barcelona to plan and implement different activities related to global e-Learning.

As was described in the Annual Report of 2003 of the Chair the main activity of the Chair has been to create the Global University System (GUS) and build the network for this project. The global activities and networks of the Chair are presented by **Dr. Takeshi Utsumi** at (full materials available from this address):

http://www.friends-partners.org/GLOSAS/Global_University/Global%20University%20System/Reference_web_sites.html:

The Global University System (GUS) activities in 2004 include the following:

1. [Synopsis of Global University System](#):
2. [Full paper for The 14th Annual Conference of The Asian Association of Open Universities](#) at The University of

Philippines/Open University Manila, Philippines, 25-27
October 2000

3. "[Building Higher Humanity with a Global University System \(pdf file\)](#)" -- Paper by Tapio Varis for World Forum of UNESCO Chairs, 13-15 November 2002, Paris ([html file](#))
4. "[Creating Global E-Learning and E-Healthcare through the Global University System](#)," -- Paper by Takeshi Utsumi and Tapio Varis for the 3rd eHealth Regional Symposium at Dubai International Exhibition Center, United Arab Emirates, January 26-27, 2003
5. "[Towards Virtual Learning Environments](#)" -- (PowerPoint Slides by Tapio Varis)
6. [Memorandum of Understanding for Partnership:](#)
7. [Global University System: Asia-Pacific Framework:](#)
8. **[GUS/UNESCO/UNITWIN Networking Program](#)**
 - [Signed Agreement by UNESCO and the University of Tampere](#)
 - [Book for UNESCO Conference in Jyväskylä, Finland, 15-18 June 2003](#)
9. [Brief Questionnaires for Importing E-Learning Courses from Developed Countries \(MS/WORD file, 56 KB\)](#)
10. Varis, Tapio, University of Tampere,
Videoconference on "Global University System" with
Taganrog State University of Radio Engineering in Russia,
December 20, 2004
(about one hour duration, QuickTime movie, [626 MB](#) -- click
here to start the movie, but beware of this large size.)

The GUS activities in developing countries include the following:

11. GUS/Brazil/Amazon

- "Community Development with E-Learning and E-Healthcare in Amazon, Brazil"
 - [Grant application to be submitted to Tinker Foundation](#)
 - [Concept Paper to be submitted to the USAID/GDA](#)
 - [Grant application to be submitted to the InfoDev Conference Scholarship Fund](#)
 - [Travel Grant Application to the NSF](#)
- Grass Root Fund of the Japanese Government
 - [Application for Grass Root Fund for the Manaus Community Development Network](#)
- PowerPoint Presentations by Alex Rivas;
 - [Technological Feasibility for Distance Education and Promotion of Sustainable Development in Amazonia](#)
 - [CampusNet Amazonia](#)
- PowerPoint Presentation by T. Utsumi
 - [Latin America and Caribbean Symposium on Education, Science and Culture in the Information Society \(SimpLAC 2002\), Havana, Cuba, 18 to 21 February, 2002](#)

12. GUS/Africa/Malawi

- PowerPoint Presentation by T. Utsumi
 - [At Permanent Mission of Malawi to the United Nations](#)

- Concept Paper: "The Establishment of Maravi-Net (MARNET) and Local Community Development Networks (LCDNs) for E-learning and E-healthcare in Malawi"
[Application for Japan Social Development Fund \(JSDF\)/Seed Fund](#)

13. GUS/Africa/Nigeria

- PowerPoint Presentation by T. Utsumi
 - [Nigerians In Diaspora Organization \(NIDO\)/Americas Professional Summit in Flushing, NY on 4/27/02](#)
- Nigerian National Policy for Information Technology (IT) by NITDA ([pdf file, 200 KB](#))
- Edna Eguh Udobong:
["Conceptual Outline of the Environmental Policy and Development Program"](#)
- Filled questionnaires for Importing E-Learning Courses from Developed Countries
 - Abia University Teaching Hospital (Dated on November 1, 2004) ([MS/WORD file, 84 KB](#))

14. GUS/Africa/Uganda

- Concept Paper: "The Establishment of ICT for E-Learning, Telemedicine, Indigenous Knowledge Promotion and Economic Transformation in Rural Communities of Uganda"
[Application for Japan Social Development Fund \(JSDF\)/Seed Fund](#)

15. GUS/Africa/Ethiopia

- Project Proposal (Draft: 12/27/03) "The Establishment of ICT-Center and Local Community Development Networks (LCDNs) for E-Learning and E-Healthcare in Ethiopia"

[Application for Japan Social Development Fund \(JSDF\)/Seed Fund](#)

- Samudra E. Haque
"Draft Report on Rural Connectivity Planning And Related Locally Sustainable Technologies," Submitted to the Ministry of Capacity Building Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, February/March 2004 ([pdf file, 2.2 MB](#))
- "[International Symposium on ICT Education and Application in Developing Countries](#)," October 19-21, 2004, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

16. GUS/Asia/Cambodia

- e-Healthcare/Telemedicine Reference Material:
Kvedar, Joseph, [Partners HealthCare System](#) of Harvard Medical School

KEYNOTE LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS IN 2004

Media Literacy, Digital Literacy. e-Learning, European Commission, Brussels 27 February

“The Future of Education: The Need for 21st Century Literacies”, ECOLE & ESP, Prague 25 March

Jornada internacional “Universidad y desarrollo en la era de la información: Una perspectiva social del e-learning en la educación superior” Barcelona 26-29 March

“Unelma hyvästä elämästä tiedon ajassa,” ITK Konferenssi, Hämeenlinna, Finland 23 April

“Final Pedagogical Remarks,” JIBS Workshop YLE/EBU, Helsinki, Finland 14 May

Digital Literacy and e-Learning in the Global University, Innovations, possibilities and challenges in the knowledge society
Plenary Session, June 18, 2004 *Virtual Educa 2004, Barcelona*

“Are We Creating a New World?”, SCEPSTA Conference, Tuusula, Finland 21 June

The Use of Information and Communication Technologies to Promote Community and Sustainable Development, *Roundtable presentation in the international forum "XXI Alternative: the social distribution of knowledge"*, International University Book Fair 2004, September 10-19, Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico

“Koulutus kansainvälistyvässä tietoyhteiskunnassa,” Oulu, Finland, 8 October

“Public Awareness in the Knowledge Society,” Tallinn, 14-15 November

Digital literacy: *what we really saw in Diana´s death*, Mindtrek, Tampere , Finland, 12 November

During 2004 Professor Varis, the Chairholder, has held the following major lectures (in chronological order):

Teaching, courses and lectures

Doctoral monthly research seminar on e-learning and media education
January – December 2004, University of Tampere

A course “Social work in a multicultural media society and high-tech culture” Tallinna Pedagoogikaülikool (Tallinn University of Pedagogy, Estonia), 28-30 January and 4-5 November

A Course in “Media Literacy and Media Education,” (20 h) Department of Teacher Education, University of Helsinki Spring 2004

Lectures in the International School of Social Sciences, University of Tampere, on Global Knowledge Society, Spring 2004

Doctoral examinations:

Opponent of the Doctoral Thesis of Anna-Maija Issakainen at the University of Art and Design, Helsinki 12 March

Opponent of the Doctoral Thesis of Eija Timonen at the University of Lapland, Rovaniemi 14 June

Opponent of the Doctoral Thesis of Maija Tammelin at the University of Helsinki, 20 August

Examinations of several masters' thesis

Expert Statements

Statement for a Docent in Helsinki University

Publications in 2004:

Muuttuvat oppimisympäristöt, in "Puheenvuoroja kasvatusalan yliopistokoulutuksen kehittämistä, Tampereen Yliopisto 2004 (together with Heleena Lehtonen and Eero Pantzar)

Gloaali Yliopisto ja rauha, Kosmopolis, Vol 34: UV60/2004, p.151-158

A Social Perspective of e-Learning in the National Education System, Revista de Universidad y Sociedad del Conocimiento, Vol.1, No1, Septiembre de 2004, <http://www.uoc.edu/rusc/1/index.html>

"Towards a New Digital Learning Culture", in "eReflections – Ten Years of Educational Technology Studies at the University of Oulu. Essays contributed by the network builders," edited by Juha Pohjonen, p.99-108, <http://herkules oulu.fi/isbn9514276329>

"Media literacy: State of the Art," European Centre for Media Literacy ECML, <http://ecml.pc.unicatt.it/english>

The Use of Information and Communication Technologies to Promote Community and Sustainable Development, Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa, Mexico

Research work

During 2004 Professor Varis was responsible of or participated in the following research seminars and projects:

MobiLearn, Research workshop in Tampere 23-24 June

European Media Literacy Centre ECML, Workshop in Vienna, Austria 4-5 February

Digital Learning Lab DLL, Workshop in Hämeenlinna, Finland 19 October

Mass media publicity

The Chairholder, Professor Varis contributed actively to the public debate in Finland and abroad through the mass media. His activities included:

The Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE, Radio 1, monthly discussion programme (1 h, broadcast twice every month)

Educational television interviews

Regular newspaper and magazine articles

Other

Negotiations on cooperation of UNESCO Chairs with the Catalunyan Open University in Barcelona, 11 March

The Activities of the Chair have also been promoted by the Visiting Professor Paul Lefrere (UK) and co-editors of the book "Global Peace Through the Global University System" Takeshi Utsumi and Bill Klemm in their various presentations and speeches

FINANCIAL REPORT

According to Article 8 of the Agreement

“The University shall provide a financial report showing the financial support obtained for the Chair from different sources.”

The financial report is available at request.

Tampere 24th January 2005,

Tapio Varis
UNESCO Chair in Global e-Learning
Professor of Media Education
www.uta.fi/~titava