The K20 Initiative brings together Internet2 member institutions, primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, libraries and museums to get new technologies—advanced networking tools, applications, middleware, and content—into the hands of innovators across all educational sectors in the United States, as quickly and as “connectedly” as possible. As of late 2002, there are 25 state k12/k20 networks participating connecting about 9800 K20 institutions—7173 k12 schools, 1482 public libraries, 551 community colleges, 526 four-year colleges and universities, and 102 museums, zoos, aquariums, and science centers.

**Initiative Goals**

- To bring innovators in k12, community colleges, universities, libraries, and museums into appropriate regional, national, and international advanced networking efforts, via the Sponsored Education Group Participant (SEGP) process.
- To encourage and help sustain partnerships among these education institutions, the private sector, and government.
- To enhance teaching and learning by facilitating projects that explore the ways in which advanced network applications, services, tools, and digital content can extend access to education and educational resources.
- To develop mechanisms for timely communication across all educational sectors and regions in order to enable quick, pervasive technology diffusion.

**Project Highlights**

- **Pacific Lighthouse**: CENIC and University of Washington
  - www.pacificlighthouse.info
  - Pacific Lighthouse is a research project being conducted by the University of Washington, the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC), and the Internet2 K20 Initiative. Pacific Lighthouse will explore how to use advanced networking to bring a range of integrated learning resources to the educational community.

- **CAVEapps**: Virginia Tech University
  - CAVEapps is extending the use of collaborative virtual environments for instruction in k12 schools. As an example of how the technology is being used, students from two different schools and a professor, housed in the Virginia Tech-CAVE, interacted in a shared space during a chemistry lesson.

- **Globalization Initiative**
- **Cell Systems Initiative — Labscape**
- **JASON Project**
Globalization Initiative
University of Missouri and the Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet)


The Globalization Initiative, a project implemented by the University of Missouri-Columbia's College of Education (MU CoE), has created a global learning community using advanced technologies and Internet2 to develop and foster school/community relationships, promote cross-cultural learning and experiences, and facilitate comprehensive school improvement. Currently, four schools in Taipei, Taiwan are connected with k12 schools in Missouri, as well as with MU faculty and preservice teachers.

Cell Systems Initiative — Labscape
University of Washington


Cell Systems Initiative’s education mission is to create a virtual education environment that enables learning through the sophisticated use of current and future technologies.

Program Goals

- To bring the laboratory into the classroom, using Labscape computer models and broadband internet connectivity
- To create highly interactive learning tools that make use of Labscape models, computer animations, video-conferencing, multimedia file sharing, touch-screen and voice recognition, broadband Internet2, and wireless technology
- To link student-produced visual models to the data that comprise the body of scientific research

JASON Project
A Multi-State Collaboration

http://www.jasonproject.org/

From the depths of dark oceans to the heights of wet rain forests, from icy polar regions to red hot volcanoes, the JASON Project travels the world, taking students and teachers on an exciting educational adventure by bringing the thrill of discovery into the classroom.

Rhode Island, Maine, and Virginia are partnering with Jason to broadcast the project’s existing satellite delivered video conferences to several k12 schools using Internet2 and their respective state education networks.

Partnerships

The Internet2 K20 Initiative is committed to working with partners across the education spectrum. For instance, the K20 Initiative and the American Library Association’s Office for Information Technology Policy are working to shape a strategy for using advanced networks and applications in public and academic libraries. Another significant partner to the K20 Initiative is The Quilt, a UCAID project whose participants are non-profit advanced regional network organizations dedicated to furthering research and education in the United States.

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