The Oxford Internet Institute

Dr Victoria Nash

ITSS Conference

Keble 2004

Background

- Established 2001

- Support from The Shirley Foundation and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)

- 2001-2002: Acting Director - Andrew Graham, Balliol

- July 2002: Director & Professor of Internet Studies - William Dutton, previously Professor in the Annenberg School of Communication, USC

OII Mission Statement

'To become the world's leading independent centre of excellence in academic research on the impact of the Internet on society, and in informing policy and generating debate.'

Strategic Priorities

Figure 1. Interrelated activities of the Oxford Internet Institute

Research Areas

- Markets, institutions and governance, e.g. e-democracy

- Learning and education, including ICT-based innovations in classrooms

- Science and networks, such as 'e-Science' initiatives using advanced electronic networking

- Everyday life in the household, the wider community and the workplace.

- Emerging policy issues and cross-cutting research themes.

Markets, Institutions and Governance

- Appointment of Stephen Coleman as Cisco Visiting Professor of e-Democracy.

- Recent policy forum on international experiences of e-democracy.

- Current bid to the ESRC on personal identification issues in e-government.

- Appointment of Helen Margetts as Professor of Internet and Society and Stephen Ward as Research Fellow.

Learning and education

- Study of Broadband use in Oxfordshire Schools

- Research on use of VLEs in higher education.

- Recent policy forum on the future of e-learning.

- Appointment of Rebecca Eynon as Research Fellow.

Science and Networks

- JISC funding for research scoping the institutional infrastructure of e-science.

- Appointment of Ralph Schroeder and Alexandre Caldas as Research Fellows.

- Recent bids to funding councils on collaborative use of Virtual Reality environments in social science and design.

Everyday Life

- Oxford Internet Surveys (OxIS) & WIP.

- Resulting analysis of 'Trust in the Internet' for DTI Foresight.

- Qualitative research on households' experience of spam.

- Appointment of Limor Shifman.

Cross-cutting Themes & Policy Issues

- ESRC seminar series: Critical Perspectives on the World Summit for the Information Society.
- Forthcoming policy forum on Internet governance.
- Next Generations: project on child protection and mobile phones.
- Conference 2005: Cyber-safety in a Converging World
- Recent policy forum on Women in the Computing Industries.

Collaboration

- Founding partner of European Internet Co-regulation Network and partner of the World Internet Project.

- Research partners on grant applications from universities across the UK.

- Partners from industry, public sector and civil society on research projects/events.

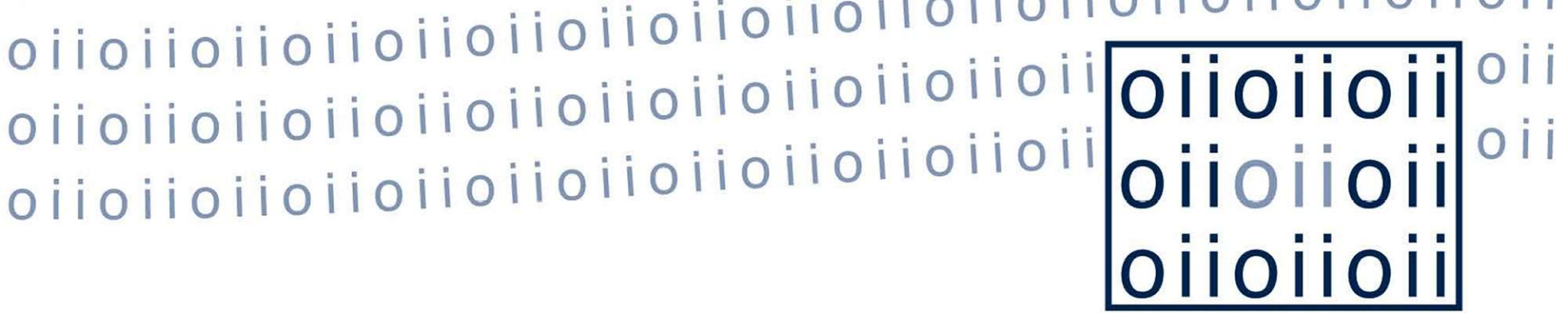- Berkman Center at Harvard are helping to provide teaching for forthcoming Summer Programme.

Teaching

- Supervising PhD candidates and under-graduates admitted through Department of Politics.

- Provided new Research Methods optional paper on 'Social Research and the Internet' for Politics MPhil.

- Working on full paper 'The Internet in Politics and Governance' for Politics MPhil.

- Second Summer Doctoral Programme to be held in July after success of last year's course.

Net-working

- Use of the Internet as a strategic resource.
- IT strategy that encompasses wireless access; media streaming and use of both PDAs and mobiles.
- Macs as well as PCs.
- Re-designed website being coded in ???
- Projects such as Next Generations involve trialling technologies to be studied – bringing in 3G and GPRS phones.

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