

The background of the slide features a dark field with numerous fiber optic cables. The ends of these cables are illuminated, creating a series of bright, out-of-focus circular bokeh lights in various colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The cables themselves are thin and dark, extending from the bottom left towards the center of the frame.

Notes from the Real Time Communications Road Show 2008

University of Sydney
Sydney, NSW – 23 Sept 2008

Points of interest in general discussion session

- **Complexity of room allocation** to “dial in” and how to inform and check available and not in use, maybe allocate to key staff, may call ahead (difficult with automated service), may mute audio and video on connection or not auto answer, may need to build systems that integrate to local scheduling systems. May become clearer after “pilot” in Q4/2008.
- **Terminology** – may need an index of standard terms – e.g. MCU
- **Audio Visual versus IT departments...**
 - UWS see unified communications as a project in itself, from VoIP to Video upgrades, to a new project to bring them together, depends on time and funding. A department are working on bringing projects together but it will be ambitious to succeed .
 - USYD see a large uptake in streaming, people want to do it but not “invest” \$ into it to make it work.
 - Some video endpoints are over 10 years old and is used for “talking head” video conferences.
 - Dealing with hospitals and/or faculties have different ways, solutions, gatekeepers, a nightmare to bring together as groups want “control”
- **Want “AARNet” to provide back up services**
- Codian IPVCR (H.323), Lectopia (local) in use for **lecture capture**
- Jason demonstrated Tandberg Content Server and explained why we have 2 products (Codian IPVCR, Tandberg’s TCS), authentication via “eduroam” or AAF was desired, however getting the product right, easy to use and automated was equally important. TCS and IPVCR should have “search facilities” for that content.



Points of interest in general discussion session

- **Content capture** – one way was to get the lecturer to agree the content made public and that no copyright laws have been broken. Some apps do speech and text recognition, however massive systems are needed and are difficult to implement as content creation “scales”.
- Nick talked about the **JPC presentation** that covered collaboration based on standard tools over the internet. They also showed video conferencing “under water” to talk through marine life to “ask questions” beyond talking heads video conferencing.
- **Students need to be there using these technologies.**
- **UTS** have limited video conferencing, students prefer to see “in real life” as experiences over video have been average.
- **CSU** note it takes a lecturer mind shift, depends on the subject, such as is the case with maths
- **Lectures** don’t like to be “a performer” to record talks, others like it and have “make up” to look their best, who should provide the training? Maybe part of the PD for lecturers to do training in video lectures, with support in place.
- Video is necessary where distance “applies”, then its about managing a “critical” audience, lecturers need feedback to get better interaction, it needs good codecs, training and incentives to fund new equipment.
- **USYD** – had medical students that had the choice of a “live” or “video” lecture and some preferred “video”.



Summary from the day

- NVCS continues and will expand, aim to make video just work with a platform to support beyond H.323 bridges, and to make recording video simple and easy to do.
 - **Working towards ISDN Pilot once Flinders complete their e2e proof of concept**
 - **HD Assessment report to be published soon**
 - **NVCS QA happening soon, please contact us for help, advice, feedback**
- We will continue to capture talks and stream and record live at various bandwidth and frame rates for conferences, we are also making eduroam available where we can.
- VoIP on.net and changes to Gatekeeper services are underway
- Thanks to Steve Junor and the University of Sydney for hosting the event
- Do let us know what we can do next year across 2 days especially a hands on component.
- Would you like to host next year?
- Thanks to my (A&S) team for their talks and making VC on the road a success, and to the keynote speakers

