

**APRUNET – ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKING FOR APRU**

<http://www.apru.org/activities/aprunet.html>

**Introduction and Goals**

APRUNet aims to assist in the development of advanced Internet capabilities among APRU universities and Pacific Rim economies in collaboration with strategic and commercial partners.

The primary goal of APRUNet is to develop teaching and research applications which utilize advanced Internet technologies such as distance learning, virtual conferences, and telemedicine.

**Objectives and Activities**

APRUNet activities include the annual international “Distance Learning and the Internet” Conference, a conference aimed at bringing together distance learning experts, educators and technologists; the Distance Learning Partnership Project, The Grid Graphics Competition, and the APRUNet Newsletter.

**Distance Learning and the Internet Conferences**

<b>6<sup>th</sup> DLI Conference</b> Oct 4-7, 2005	<b>Far Eastern National University, Vladivostok, Russia</b> <a href="http://dli2005@dvgu.ru/">http://dli2005@dvgu.ru/</a> <b>Linking “People through Information Technology Education”</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> DLI Conference</b> Oct 11-13, 2004	Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Program Theme – Distance Learning – Benefiting All  
No. of Participants: 80 (including 19 Universities)

<b>4<sup>th</sup> DLI Conference</b> Nov 30-Dec 2, 2003	National University of Singapore
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Program Theme - Global Knowledge Enterprise – Learning without Walls  
No. of Participants: 69 from 25 Universities

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> DLI Conference</b> Apr 30-May 3, 2002	Australian National University & University of Sydney, Australia
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Program Theme – Human Capacity Development

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> DLI Conference</b> May 8-11, 2001	Kyoto University, Japan
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Program Theme – International University Distance Learning Collaboration: Challenges and Opportunities

<b>1<sup>st</sup> DLI Conference</b> Mar 8-10, 2000	University of Southern California, USA
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<u>Program Themes</u> –
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure Support and Technology Trends in Distance Learning Programs</li> <li>• Distance Learning and Economic Development</li> </ul>

New Conference Feature

The student panel is a new feature of this year’s conference. The panel gave insights into the benefits and challenges of distance learning from the end-user’s perspective. Unique student experiences gave useful indications on progressive developments of distance education and e-learning accreditations in China.

**Distance Learning Partnership Project**

The Distance Learning Partnership Project (DLPP) aims to improve the capabilities of APRU universities and their high school partners to utilize advanced information technologies to improve distance learning, both within their own national cultures and with international partners across cultures. Marine and ocean biology is the content area with biodiversity as the key topic. A student conference will be the culmination of the project.

Partner institutions include: National Taiwan University, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, University of Chile, University of California San Diego, and University of Southern California.

**Grid Graphics Competition**

APRUNet is sponsoring a Grid Graphics Competition “Virtual Environments for Electronic Education” in collaboration with Nanyang Technical University and Grid Singapore. The competition is open to all undergraduate and graduate students. Students will use the Grid advanced computational facilities to design virtual learning, and distance learning, environments.

Awards will be presented at Grid Asia 2005 and at the 2005 “Distance Learning and the Internet” conference.

**APRUNet Newsletter**

A monthly newsletter on topics in distance education is distributed to a large, international mailing list.

**APRUNet Mailing Lists**

- Distance Education Discussion
- East Asian Studies
- Global and Infectious Diseases
- Marine and Ocean Biology

