

**COMMISSION FUNDS COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY
PROJECTS (FY1999-2000)**

The Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission and AT&T Broadband recently gave some local schools, community organizations and the City of Portland a boost toward using advanced communications technology. The Commission granted funds to eight projects that use the cable system's interactive, enhanced capabilities to provide needed community and educational services. Project grants totaled over \$775,000.

GRANT PROJECT SUMMARY

Bureau of General Services, City of Portland: Regional Institutional Network Connection Project

Total Grant Funds: \$280,980
Contact Person: Nancy Jesuale, 823-6971

The I-Net connection project provides open access to the internet for Institutional Network (I-Net) users and integrates the I-Net into the regional public sector telecommunications architecture (the IRNE). The project helps public sector organizations address the problem of exponentially increasing bandwidth needs by leveraging funds and resources of these organizations for higher speed, lower cost communications technology.

Project partners include Cooperative Telecommunications Infrastructure Committee (CTIC). CTIC has membership from the Portland Office of Transportation, Tri-Met and Oregon Department of Transportation.

Matching resources for the project total \$353,000.

Portland Public Schools: Moshi Moshi/Hola Hola Distance Learning Project

Total Grant Funds: \$195,461
Contact Person: Mary Bastiani, 916-5191

This two-year grant wires 300 classrooms in approximately 23 schools to provide an estimated 11,000 students access to second language training. The training accessibility is critical to enable students to meet State of Oregon second-language requirements. Language training programs will be carried over Channel 53 and be received in the classrooms. The project will also help foster partnerships among schools, families, higher education, community based organizations and business representatives in support of sequential foreign language in elementary schools.

Specific project partners include Concordia University, Portland State University and PPS District elementary schools.

Matching resources for the project total \$61,951.

Portland Community College: Digital Video Production for Distance Learning

Total Grant Funds: \$109,657
Contact Person: Jo Ann Davich, 977-4696

This project helps Portland Community College increase access to college programs by underserved and transportation disadvantaged populations in Multnomah County. The grant supports improvements in the quantity and quality of video production and distribution of PCC classes. Distance learning enables students to take classes from home and obtain degrees who might not otherwise be able to study a broad range of technical, scientific and liberal arts subjects. Over 10,000 students are currently enrolled in distance learning, and the number has grown every year.

Project partners are One-Stop Career Centers, PCC faculty and staff and the Video Production Internship Program students.

Matching resources for the project total \$77,715.

Multnomah Community Television: East Metro Auto Cameras

Total Grant Funds: \$65,000
Contact Person: Rob Brading, 491-7636 x318

The East Metro Auto Cam grant allows both the Multnomah County Commission chambers and Troutdale City Hall to have permanent four-camera video production systems. The new systems will increase the audio and video quality of government meetings cablecast from these sites including the Multnomah County Commission meetings and Troutdale City Council meetings. The new equipment is automated so that only one person can operate the cameras. This will allow MCTV to dedicate staff resources to other community events and activities.

Project partners for the grant include Multnomah County and the City of Troutdale.

Matching resources for the project total \$94,418.

Parkrose High School: Non-Linear Edit Technology for Parkrose Community Television

Total Grant Funds: \$58,600
Contact Person: Bob Forrest, 408-2678

This grant provides funding for a full-service audio and video editing suite that meets current industry standards so that students and community members receive training on state-of-the-art equipment.

Project partners include Multnomah Community Television and Multnomah Educational Service District.

Matching resources for the project total \$54,017.

Portland Public Schools: Television Services Master Control Room Project

Total Grant Funds: \$46,150
Contact Person: Peter Scott, 916-5838

This grant provides for an expansion of recording and playback capabilities of the schools. PPS will be able to spend less staff time on recording and playback of programming, and add more diverse programming to the program lineup for Portland Public School Channel 53.

Matching resources for the project total \$35,882

Portland Cable Access: Mobile Public Address System

Total Grant Funds: \$13,434
Contact Person: Robert Skelton, 288-1515 x18

This grant provides portable audio equipment for community producers to use when producing programming outside of the Portland Cable Access studio. Many outdoor and other venues are not equipped with adequate sound systems for video production. This grant allows community producers to have good quality sound on programming from those venues.

Matching resources for the project total \$4,478.

City of Portland: Full Access for Hearing Impaired Citizens

Total Grant Funds: \$6,000
Contact Person: Marshall Runkel, 823-3597

This grant funds an encoder to close caption broadcasts from Portland City Council Chambers on Channel 30. The close captioning allows hearing impaired citizens to understand and participate in City Council meetings without having to attend with an interpreter.

Project partners for this project include the Auditor's Office, Commissioner Erik Sten's Office, the Office of Finance and Administration and LNS Captioning.

Matching resources for the project total \$161,366.