

Future is Wireless

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Abstract

We have almost passed the age of digitalisation as almost all modern communications networks are digital. The latest changes in networking technologies are in wireless networks. These changes would revolutionise learning and teaching and extend opportunities. Satellite communications can provide access to the Internet at a reasonable cost from any remote area without the need for a national network. This would decrease the digital divide. As computers get cheaper and smaller, it is anticipated that all students will have a hand-held wireless computer in the near future that could access the Internet, telephone, television and video networks. These computers will connect to the next generations of mobile cellular networks that are currently being developed. Students can access information and communicate with their teachers anywhere and anytime using their small lap-tops. Many institutions have already started wireless implementation by providing wireless local area networks in their campuses.

Firstly, a brief description of complexity theory will be given, in particular how this has led to the idea of Complex Adaptive Systems (CAS). Secondly, Business Information Systems (BIS) will be briefly described. Third, an attempt will be made to interpret BIS as CAS, and lastly, from this attempt, some tentative implications will be drawn.

The paper is speculative and its main objectives are to stimulate debate and to identify areas of further research.