

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Wireless Cities ... Communities of Interests Conference

Community & Voices

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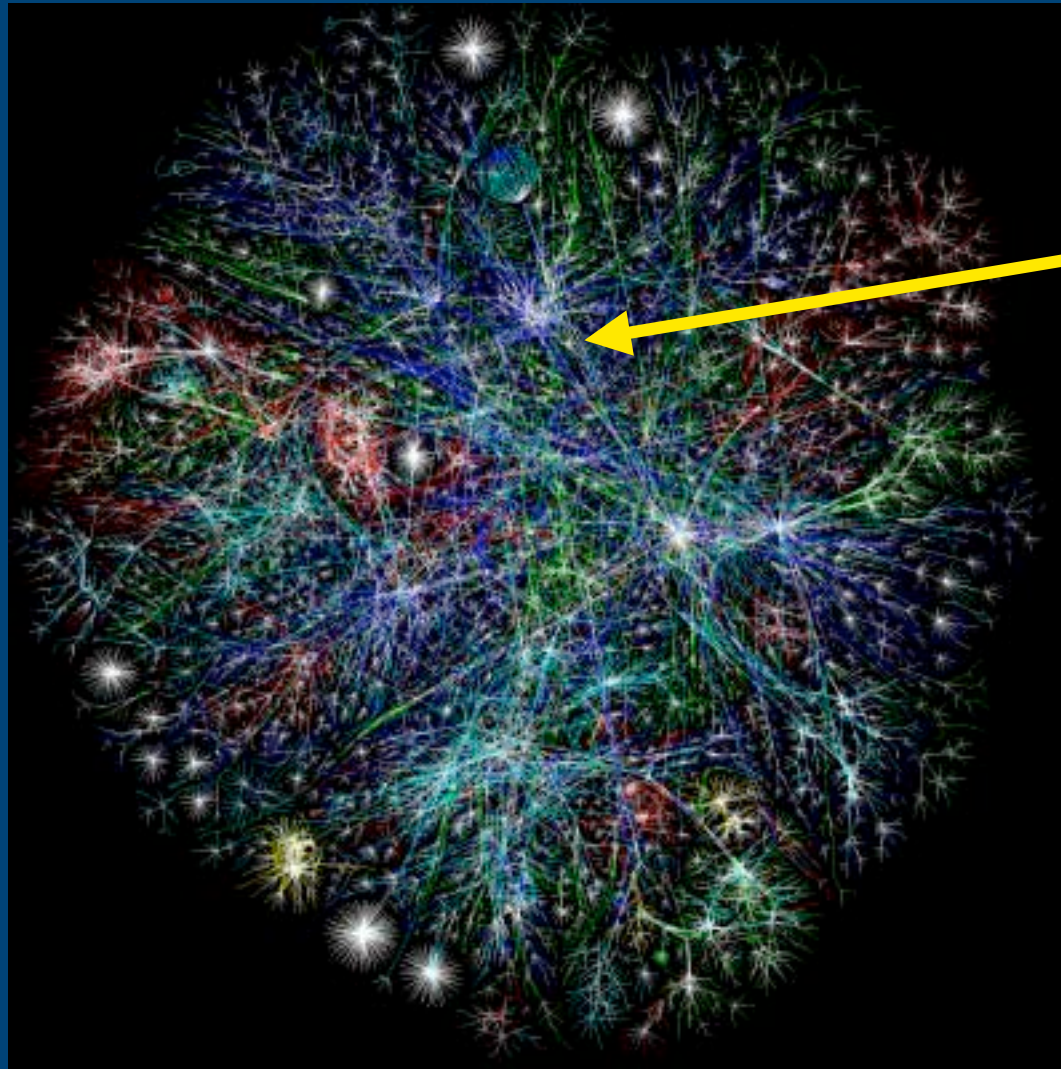




Me

- Peter Fleck
- Webmaster at U of M Cancer Center
- Blogger (pfhyper.com/blog)
- Digital Divide activist

The Internet



We are here

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/1.0/>

The Opte Project
<http://opte.org/maps/>

Talking Points



- How Wi-Fi fosters community
- Wi-Fi and Big Media
- Wi-Fi and community media
- Concept of voices & conversations

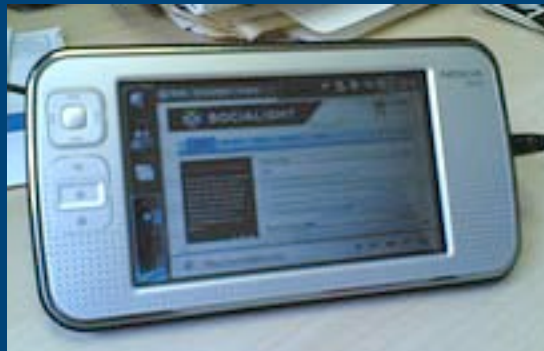
Cheap Ubiquity



Wi-Fi is the easiest and cheapest way to provide ubiquitous Internet connectivity.

We don't have to dig trenches and string wires.

Connect anywhere, any time with a variety of devices



Nokia n800 photo by dan mellinger <http://flickr.com/photos/djm/455730931/>

Cost (Monthly)



- Qwest \$26.99
- Comcast \$42.95
- USI Wireless
 - \$14.95/\$24.95 (current)
 - \$19.95/\$30.95 (when network is completed)

Media



StarTribune.com
Minneapolis - St. Paul, Minnesota
Sunday April 15, 2007

News ▾ Sports ▾ Lifestyle ▾ Entertainment

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Forecast Today for SAINT PAUL, MN

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Dozens detained
at Russia rally



Group claims
BBC reporter
killed



Deaths mar
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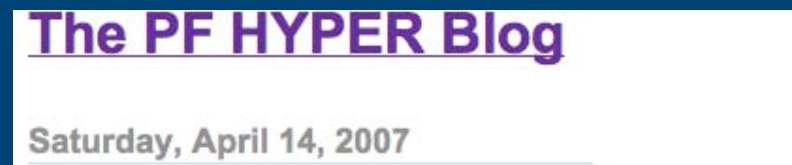
- ▶ China [XML](#)
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**Chinese president calls for
more efforts on sand control,
poverty alleviation**

The New York Times

Sunday, April 15, 2007 Last Update: 6:12 PM ET

media



Citizen media



- Place blogging (placeblogger.com)
- Hyper-local
- Citizen Journalism
- Outside.in
- Buzz.mn

Giving Voice



- It's about voices. Each person in the community can have a voice that is heard by the community and beyond.
- It's amazing.
- It's unbelievable.
- It's scary.

Conversation



- Voices join in conversation.
- We blog to each other and
- We comment on each other's blogs.
- We argue.
- There is conflict, growth, understanding.

All Voices



The conversation must include all voices or at least all the voices that want to participate. We must ensure access for everyone. The Internet must be as ubiquitous as the telephone.

Talking Points Revisited



- How Wi-Fi fosters community
- Wi-Fi and Big Media
- Wi-Fi and community media
- Concept of voices & conversations
- Must ensure that all voices are heard

The End



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