INASP: Effective Network Management Workshops

Unit 2: Why Network Management

About these workshops

Authors:

- Dick Elleray, AfriConnect

    - delleray@africonnect.com
- Chris Wilson, Aptivate

    - chris+inaspbmo2013@aptivate.org

Date: 2013-04-29

Objectives

On completion of this session, we hope you will:

- Know want to get from this course
- Know why we are running this course
- Understand why network management is important in academic institutions
- Know the benefits and value of good network management

We will cover how to achieve these things in the remaining units.

What do you want from this course?

- Make university happy?
- Make your job easier?
- Do a better job?
- Get a certificate?
- Increase your pay?
- Change job?
- Make your institution happier? What do *they* want from you as a result?
- Manage your network better? Why?

We want your university to run better

- Digital library resources
- Access to journals
- Collaboration with other scientists
- Recruitment and retention
- Reduce wasted time waiting for pages to load

Problems caused by poor network management:

- Difficulties in using Internet based information resources and communication tools

    - Digital library resources are under utilised
    - Resource license costs can be less effective
    - Free or low cost resources are difficult to take advantage of
    - The digital library revolution is difficult to participate in

- Continued digital divide
- Under utilisation of ICT capacities and investments

  - Bandwidth charges of $5,000 per month that result in an unusable link – is that money well spent?
  - Infrastructure costs e.g. PC computer labs that users spend most of their time sitting around waiting for pages to display – is that money well spent?
- Impacts on a university's core activities, especially those that require up to date and a wide range of information resources e.g. teaching and research.

Skilled staff leaving the university makes life very difficult for them. Do everything possible to reduce/avoid it!