

April 20, 2005

# A New Model for Open Sharing

**Jon Paul Potts**





I. Vision

II. Implementation

III. Outcomes

IV. What It Means

# Vision — Institutional decision-making

- Fall 1999 — Faculty committee appointed
- Fall 2000 — “OpenCourseWare” concept recommended to MIT President Charles M. Vest
- April 2001 — MIT OCW announced in *The New York Times*

# Vision — Institutional decision-making

*"OpenCourseWare looks counterintuitive in a market-driven world. But it really is consistent with what I believe is the best about MIT. It is innovative. It expresses our belief in the way education can be advanced — by constantly widening access to information and by inspiring others to participate."*

— Charles M. Vest,  
President Emeritus of MIT



# Vision — Vision to reality

- June 2001 — Funding partnership with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
- September 2002 — MIT OCW pilot site- 50 courses
- September 2003 — MIT OCW officially launches 500 courses
- April 2005 — 1,100 courses

# Vision — What is MIT OCW?

- MIT OpenCourseWare IS NOT:*
- An MIT education
  - Intended to represent the interactive classroom environment
  - Degree granting

- MIT OpenCourseWare IS:*
- A Web-based publication of virtually all MIT course content
  - Open and available to the world
  - A permanent MIT activity

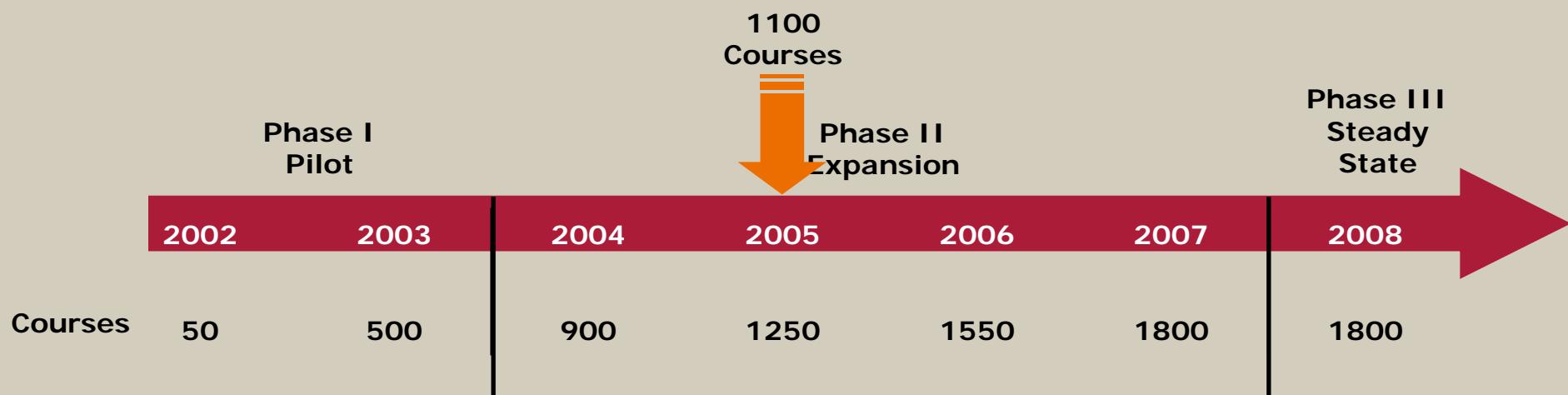
# Vision — Why is MIT doing this?

- > Furtherers MIT's fundamental mission
- > Embraces faculty values
  - Teaching
  - Sharing best practices with the greater community
  - Contributing to their discipline
- > Counters the privatization of knowledge and champions the movement toward greater openness

# Vision — Dual mission

- Provide free access to virtually all MIT course materials for educators and learners around the world
- Extend the reach and impact of MIT OCW and the “opencourseware” concept

# Vision — Where we are





# Implementation

# Implementation — 1100 courses available

## Site Highlights

- Syllabus
- Course Calendar
- Lecture Notes
- Exams
- Problem/Solution Sets
- Labs and Projects
- Video Lectures

COURSE LIST | ABOUT OCW | HELP | FEEDBACK



**MITOPENCOURSEWARE**  
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Welcome to MIT OpenCourseWare a free, open publication of MIT Course Materials. We invite you to [view all the courses](#) available at this time.

**Welcome to MIT's OpenCourseWare:**  
a free and open educational resource for faculty, students, and self-learners around the world. OCW supports MIT's mission to advance knowledge and education, and serve the world in the 21st century. It is true to MIT's values of excellence, innovation, and leadership.

**MIT OCW:**

- Is a publication of MIT course materials
- Does not require any registration
- Is not a degree-granting or certificate-granting activity
- Does not provide access to MIT faculty

Learn more [about MIT OCW...](#)

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**Investing in Open Sharing**  
Demonstrating his belief in MIT and the ideal of open sharing of educational materials, [MIT alumnus Jon Gruber has donated \\$1 million](#) to the OpenCourseWare project.



"If you were to list all the adjectives available in all the languages on earth, it will still not explain completely the user's feelings after viewing this Web site... **Hats off to each and everyone involved in this novel project!**" - Sathappan Ramaswamy, self-learner from India [Read more World Reaction...](#)

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**Reflections from MIT President Susan Hockfield**  


"OpenCourseWare expresses in an immediate and far-reaching way MIT's goal of advancing education around the world. Through MIT OCW, educators and students everywhere can benefit from the academic activities of our faculty and join a global learning community in which knowledge and ideas are shared openly and freely for the benefit of all."

- Susan Hockfield, President of MIT

**Course List** Discover all available courses. **About OCW** Learn more about OCW's expansion... **Help** Answer your questions... **Feedback** Tell us what you think... [Email us](#)

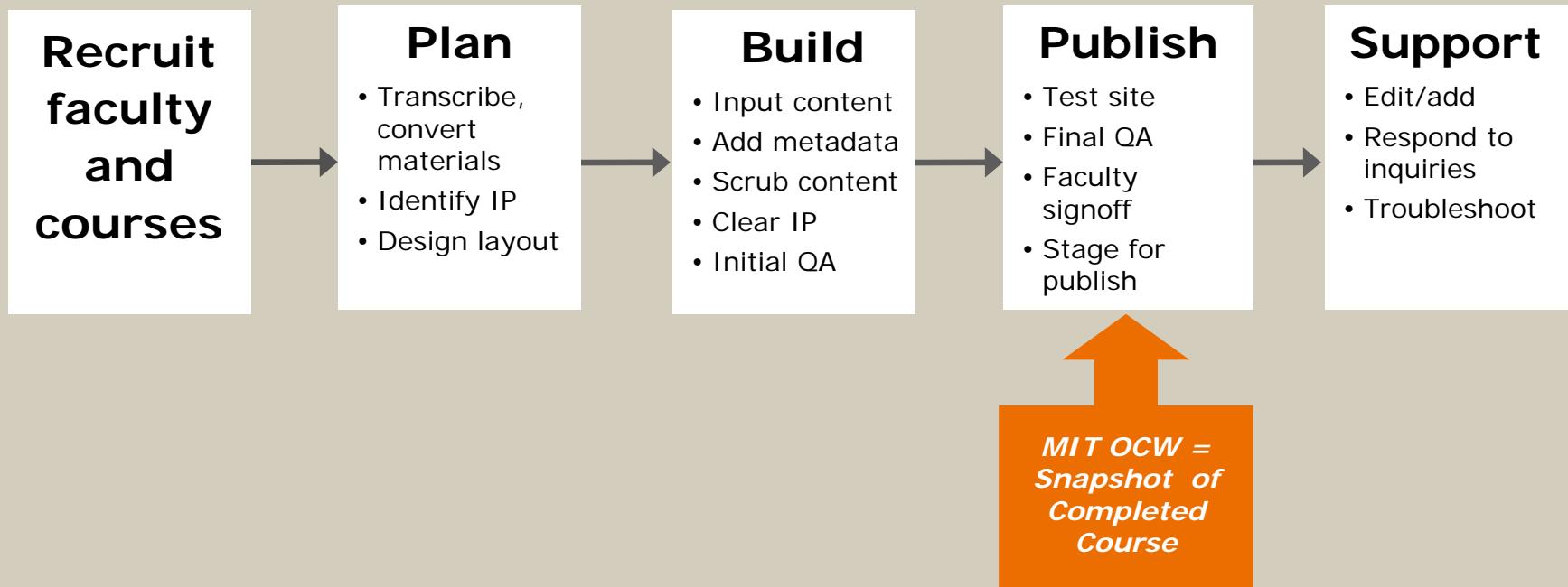
**Newsletter** [Sign up](#) for monthly email updates on new courses and news from MIT OCW.

 universia  
For translated courses [en Español](#) and [en Portugues](#)

**Foundation Support** MIT OCW is funded jointly by the [William and Flora Hewlett Foundation](#), the [Andrew W. Mellon Foundation](#), and [others](#).

# Implementation — Publication process

Managing a course through the MIT OCW process



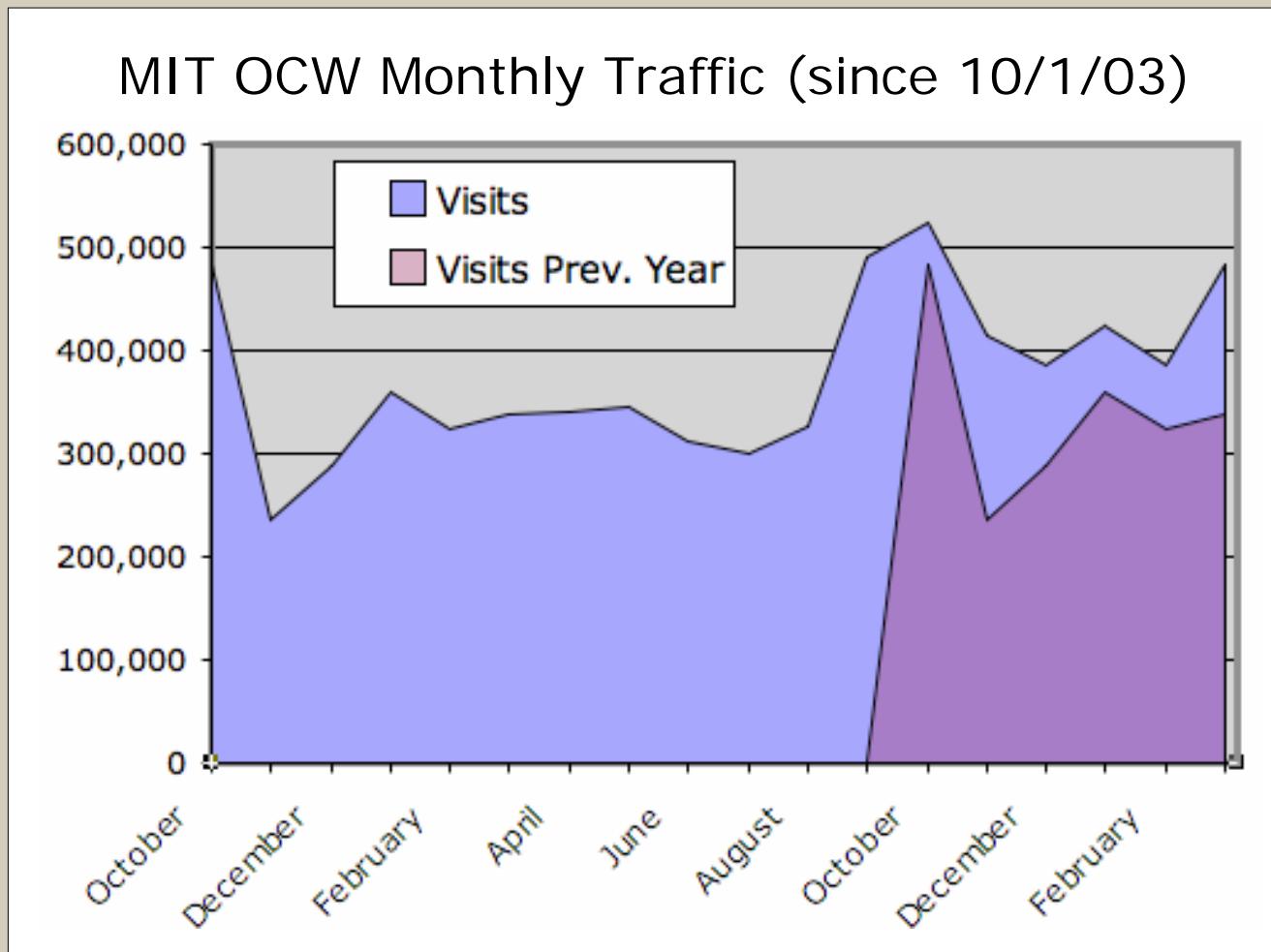
# Implementation — Intellectual property

- Course materials available under a Creative Commons license that:
  - Grants users the right to use, distribute, and modify
- Obliges users to meet three use requirements:
  - Use must be non-commercial
  - Materials must be attributed to MIT and original author or contributor
  - Publication or distribution of original or derivative materials must be offered freely under identical terms "share alike"

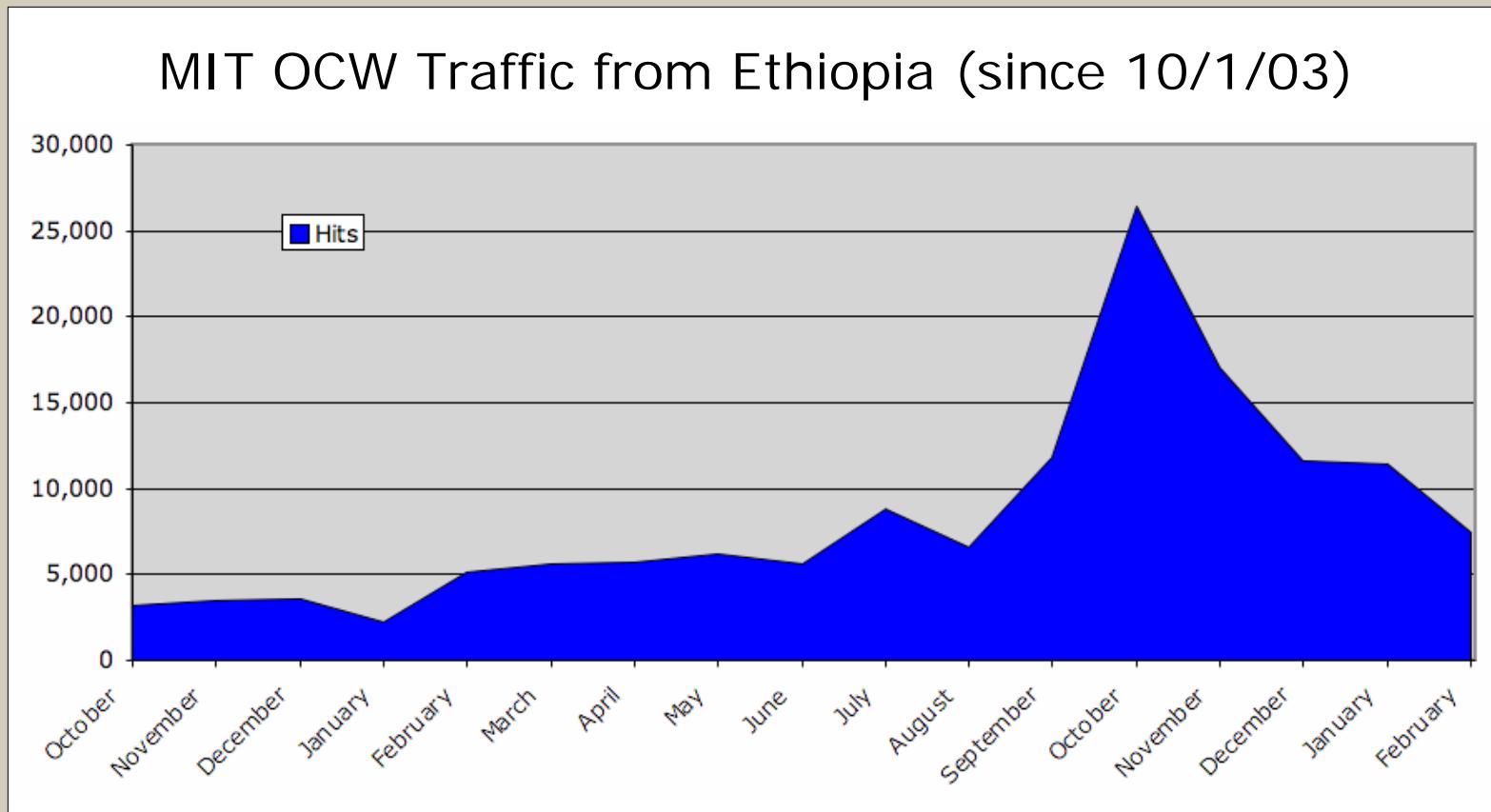


# Outcomes

# Outcomes — Access data

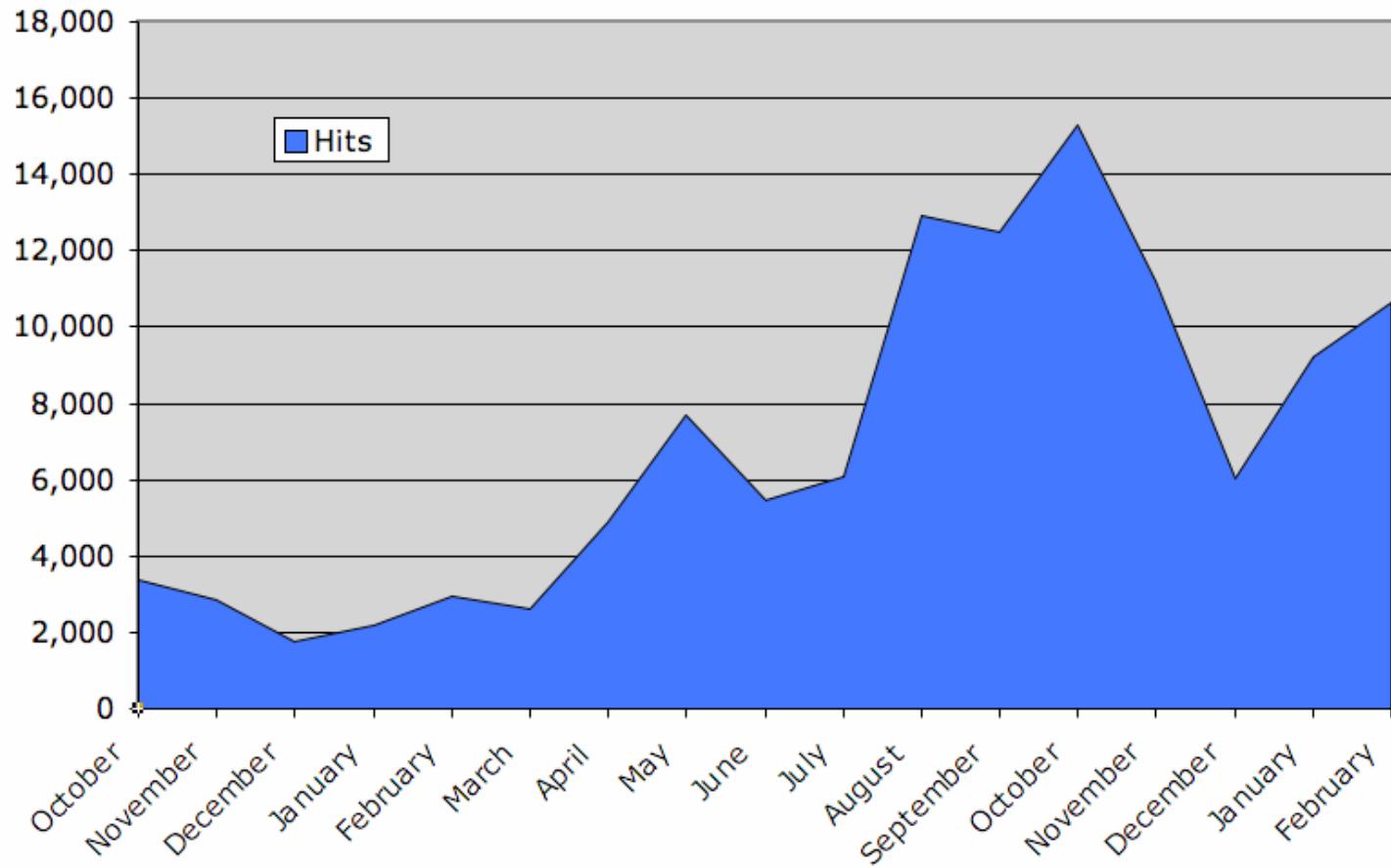


# Outcomes — Access data from Ethiopia

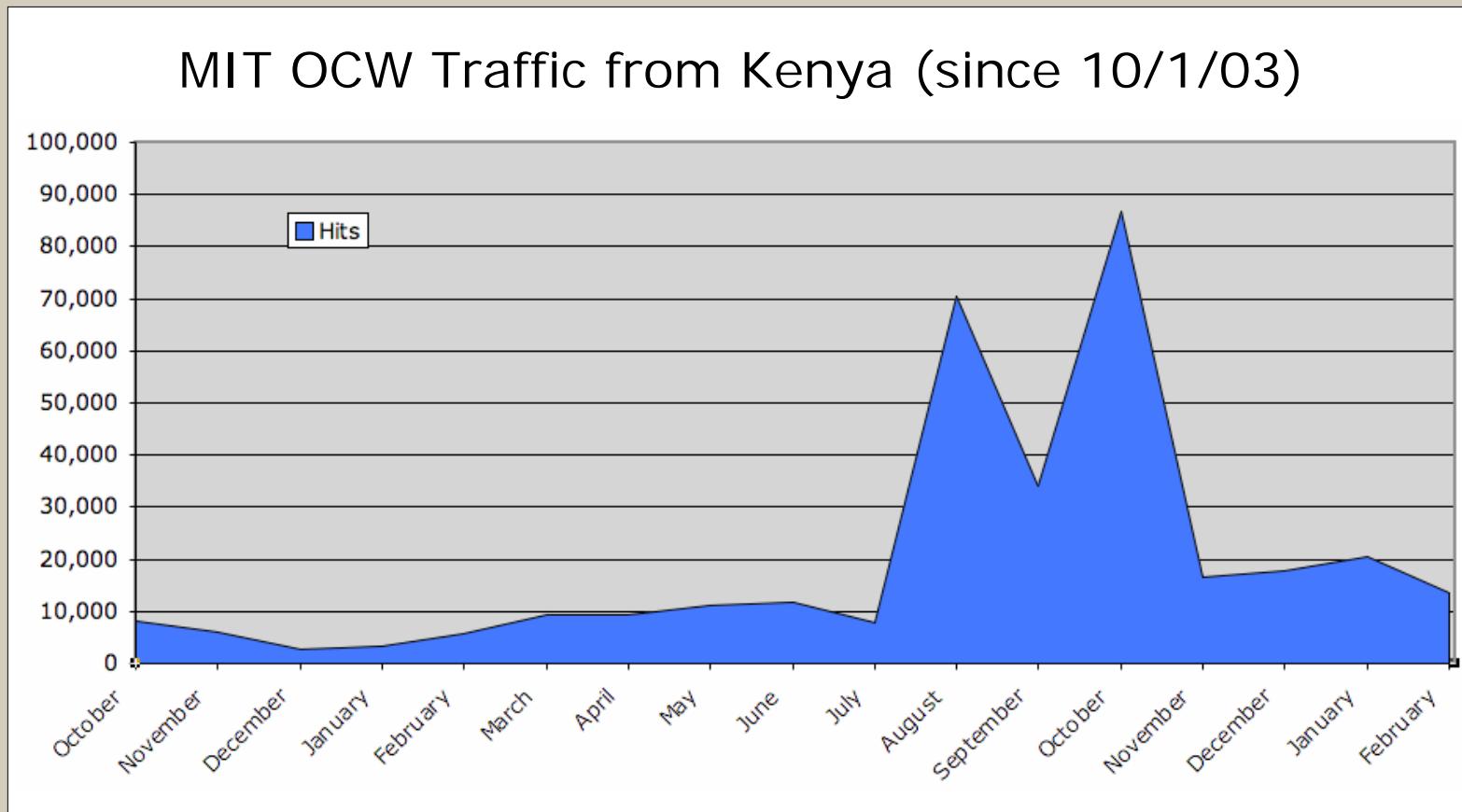


# Outcomes — Access data from Ghana

MIT OCW Traffic from Ghana (since 10/1/03)



# Outcomes — Access data from Kenya



# Outcomes — Access data

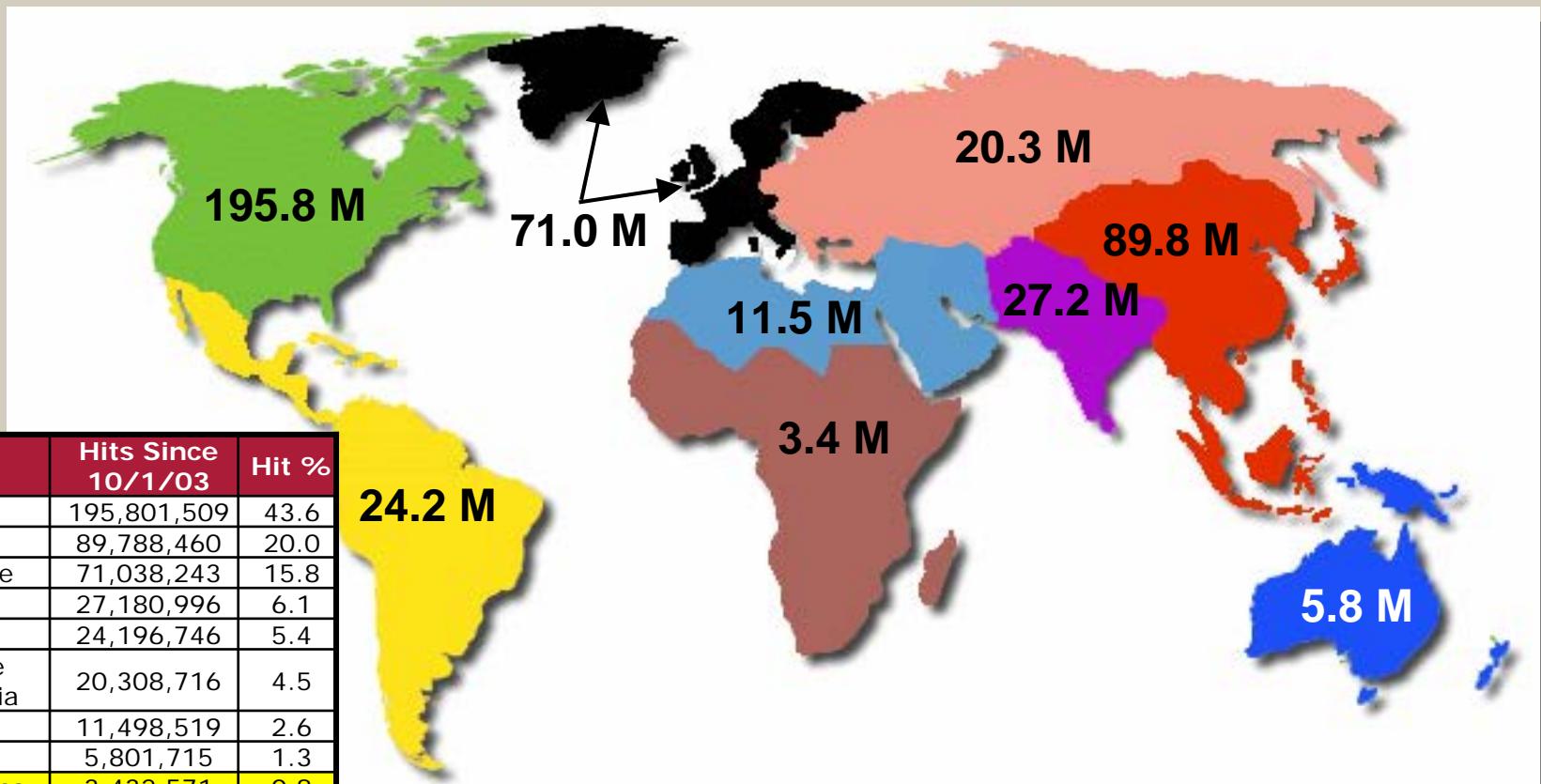
## Site Traffic Data (since 10/1/03)

	March 2005	Averages Since 10/1/03*
Average Daily Visits	15,620	12,335
Total Visits	484,205	375,536
First-Time Visits	267,778	197,556
Repeat Visits	216,427	161,810

\* Figures in italics are averages

# Outcomes — Access data

Traffic by Geographic Region (in Web hits, since 10/1/03)



# Outcomes — Access data

Countries with most hits in March 2005 (*outside of U.S.*)

Country	Web Hits
1 China	2,129,103
2 India	1,222,719
3 Canada	1,048,524
4 South Korea	1,008,295
5 Taiwan	974,456
6 United Kingdom	776,755
7 France	529,660
8 Germany	486,608
9 Japan	422,402
10 Brazil	406,532

Country	Web Hits
11 Turkey	380,605
12 Sweden	375,965
13 Italy	357,541
14 Australia	306,286
15 Spain	305,774
16 Singapore	301,704
17 Netherlands	244,064
18 Iran	215,478
19 Indonesia	210,760
20 Mexico	206,790

# Outcomes — Overall user profile

- › Visitors generally fit one of three user profiles:
  - Educators are 15.3% of all MIT OCW traffic
  - Students are 31.4%
  - Self-learners are 48.2%
- › 66% of visitors hold a bachelor's or master's degree
- › Visitors most frequently interested in courses in electrical engineering, business, physics, and mathematics
- › Visitors average 1.6 visits per month
- › Review average of 9.36 HTML pages per visit

# Outcomes — Use data

Use Scenario	% of Use
Educators	Planning, developing or teaching a course
	Enhancing personal knowledge
	Planning curriculum
	Other
Students	Complementing a subject currently taking
	Enhancing personal knowledge
	Planning future course of study
	Other
Self-learners	Enhancing personal knowledge
	Learning subject matter—course not available for study
	Planning future course of study
	Other

# Outcomes — Educator use case study

## James, affiliate instructor at the University of Idaho

- › Adopted both course material and site structure of an MIT Sloan Course
- › Added his own material and modified the MIT OCW site
- › *"I will probably differ in that I will introduce the concept of Value Engineering and I have a lecture prepared on FMEA. I haven't seen these topics discussed in the MIT curriculum. But... OpenCourseWare gives me a fast start on the design of the course."*

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UniversityofIdaho OCW HOME | COURSE LIST | ABOUT OCW | HELP | FEEDBACK

MIT OpenCourseWare > Sloan School of Management > PTTE 404/504 Product Design and Development  
**University of Idaho - Idaho Falls, ID**  
**PTTE 404/504 - Product Design and Development, Fall 2004**

**Search**  
All OpenCourseWare  
This Course  
Advanced search  
GO

[Course Home](#)  
[Syllabus](#)  
[Calendar](#)  
[Readings](#)  
[Lecture Notes](#)  
[Projects](#)

A photograph showing four markers (green, blue, red, black) standing upright in a clear plastic holder. The markers have their caps removed, and the tips are pointing upwards, indicating they are being refilled.

Marker refill station - a project example from a previous class. (Photo courtesy of instructors of MIT OpenCourseWare Product Design and Development.)

**Highlights of this Course**  
"Product Design & Development" is a project-based course, which challenges students to design a new product and to produce a prototype version of it. This OCW site includes Lecture Notes in PDF format, [Project Examples](#) and [Guidelines for Projects](#). The textbook, *Product Design and Development*, was co-written by Professor Steven Eppinger (see <http://www.ulrich-eppinger.net/> for more information). We are also using *Value Engineering: A Plan for Invention* by Richard Park.

**Course Description**  
Covers modern tools and methods for product design and development. The cornerstone is a project in which teams of management, engineering, and industrial design students conceive, design, and prototype a physical product. Class sessions are conducted in workshop mode and employ cases and hands-on exercises to reinforce the key ideas. Topics include identifying customer needs, concept generation, product architecture, industrial design, Quality Function Deployment, Value Engineering, TRIZ (The Theory Of Invention), Failure Modes and Effects Analysis and design-for-manufacturing.

UniversityofIdaho

**Staff**  
**MIT Instructors:**  
Prof. Steven Eppinger  
Dr. Clifford Whitcomb  
Mr. Matt Kressy of Rhode Island School of Design  
Prof. Thomas Roemer  
Dr. Clifford Whitcomb  
Dr. Ali Yassine  
**U of I Instructor:**  
James R. Wixson, CVS, CMfgE  
e-mail: [wix@rv.net](mailto:wix@rv.net) Phone: (208) 526-7784  
**U of I Course Meeting Times**  
Tues. evenings  
7:00 - 9:40 PM UPHEC 305  
**Level**  
Joint Listed PTTE 404/504  
Undergraduate/Graduate  
**Note:** U of I course content is displayed in magenta colored text.  
**Feedback**  
Send feedback about this course.

# Outcomes — Institute use case study

- 70 students taught by MIT's Africa Internet Technology Initiative (AITI) at the University of Ghana in Legon

*"[AITI] downloaded all the material from Course 1.00 and provided it offline. We modified the links to work in off-line mode, and we distributed a version to every student... Students literally applauded."*

— Excerpt from AITI Preliminary Report

- AITI Computer Science Department using MIT OCW materials to update its curriculum



OCW reflects current trends and thus provides an immediate bridge of the digital divide that would otherwise take five years to cross... Other sources for curriculum review include so much hassle and bureaucracy that by the time the review is made the material is easily years old... OCW bypasses all of that by connecting everyone in real-time to MIT's most up-to-date material."

Professor Jacob Aryeetey, head of Computer Science Dept.

# Outcomes — User impact

## Visitor Impact Statement Agreement

Statement	Strongly Agree/ Agree	Neutral	Disagree/ Strongly Disagree
Helped me be more productive and effective	81.1%	18.3%	0.5%
Helped me learn	88.0%	11.6%	0.5%
Improved my courses using OCW (Educators)	84.5%	12.9%	2.7%
Increased my motivation and interest in learning	80.2%	19.0%	0.8%
I would recommend OCW to others	92.5%	7.1%	0.5%

Source: 2004 Intercept Survey

## Outcomes — Feedback data

- 21,000 emails to [ocw@mit.edu](mailto:ocw@mit.edu)
  - Majority (60+ percent) are grateful or congratulatory
  - Other inquiries
    - How to register
    - Technical questions
    - Inquiries from other educators
    - Vendors
  - Negative responses (less than 1 percent)
- 32,000 users self-subscribed to monthly email newsletter

# Outcomes — Feedback

According to users, MIT OpenCourseWare is:

"... the Eighth Wonder of the World."

"... the Big Bang of the Knowledge Universe."

"... the greatest thing any institution of higher learning has ever done."

"... one of the best things ever in history."

"... like falling in love."

"... the coolest thing on the Internet."

"... worthy of the next Nobel Peace Prize."

# Outcomes — Benefits for MIT

## › Institute-level benefits

- Advances MIT's institutional mission
- Enhances MIT's image around the world
- Generates community pride (alumni)
- Stimulates collaboration among faculty

## › Department-level benefits

- Showcases individual departments and their curricula
- Enhances faculty and student recruitment efforts
- Accelerates adoption of the Web

# Outcomes — Benefits for MIT faculty

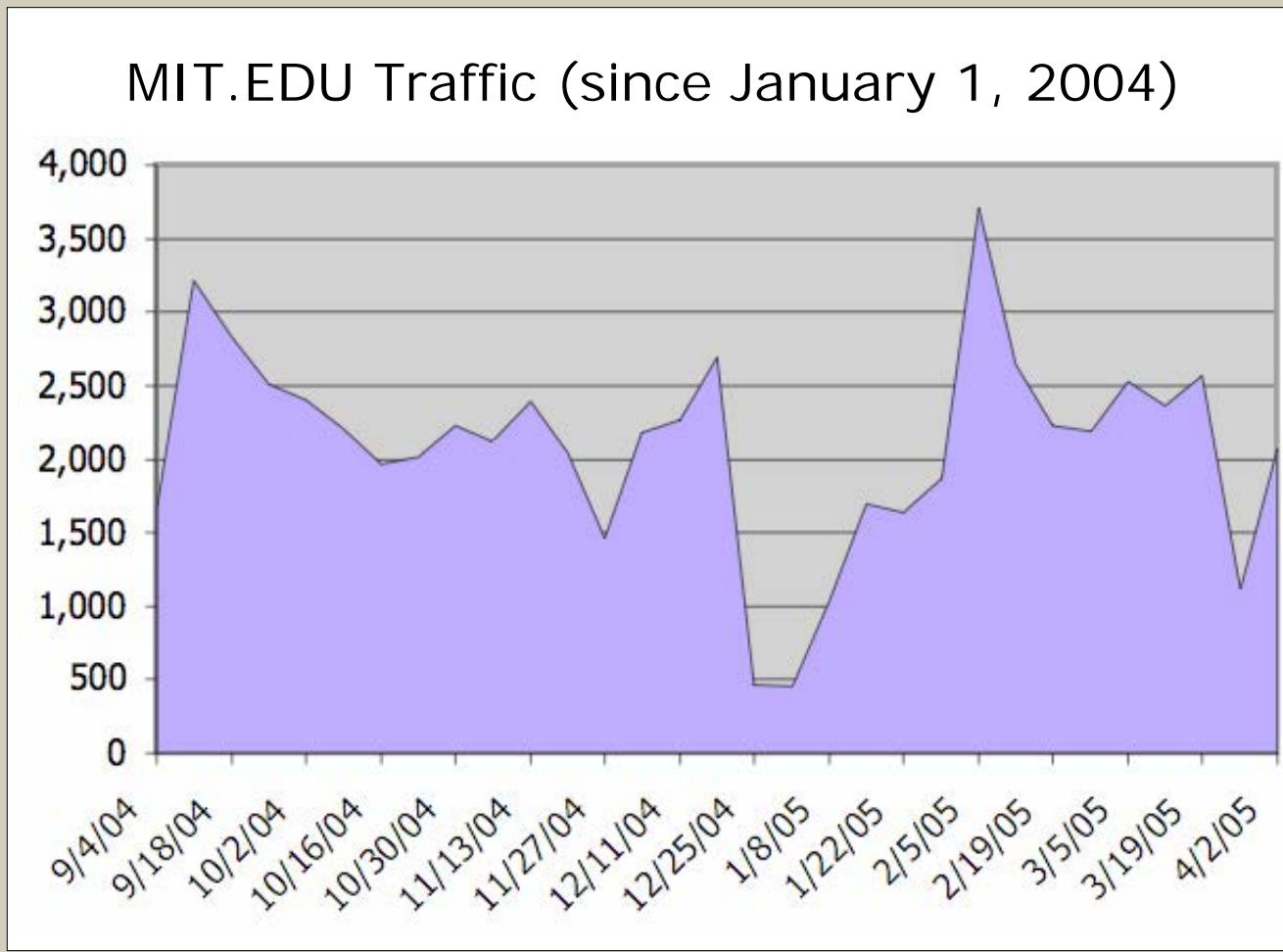
- › 1 in 5 courses on MIT OCW (175) had no prior Web site
- › MIT OCW has transcribed lecture notes for 44 subjects, and created more than 2,500 open images
- › 32% of MIT faculty report using their MIT OCW site for teaching, advising and research
- › *"I think [OCW] is a great way for MIT to put its principles into highly visible action... People all over the world, of whatever status and background, need only a computer to see what is happening here and begin thinking about how they can benefit from it."*

— MIT History Professor

# Outcomes — Benefits for MIT students

- › More than 100,000 visits from MIT.EDU in 18 months
- › 68% of MIT students use the site (excluding freshmen)
- › 95% of MIT students report positive impact on student experience
- › 53% of MIT freshmen are aware of MIT OCW
- › 16% of freshmen say it influenced their decision to attend MIT
- › *"This is a great way to go back and review material from a class I took in the past (I do this as part of my research and to prepare for job interviews). It makes the material more accessible and much more useful."*  
— **MIT EECS Graduate Student**

# Outcomes — Benefits for MIT students



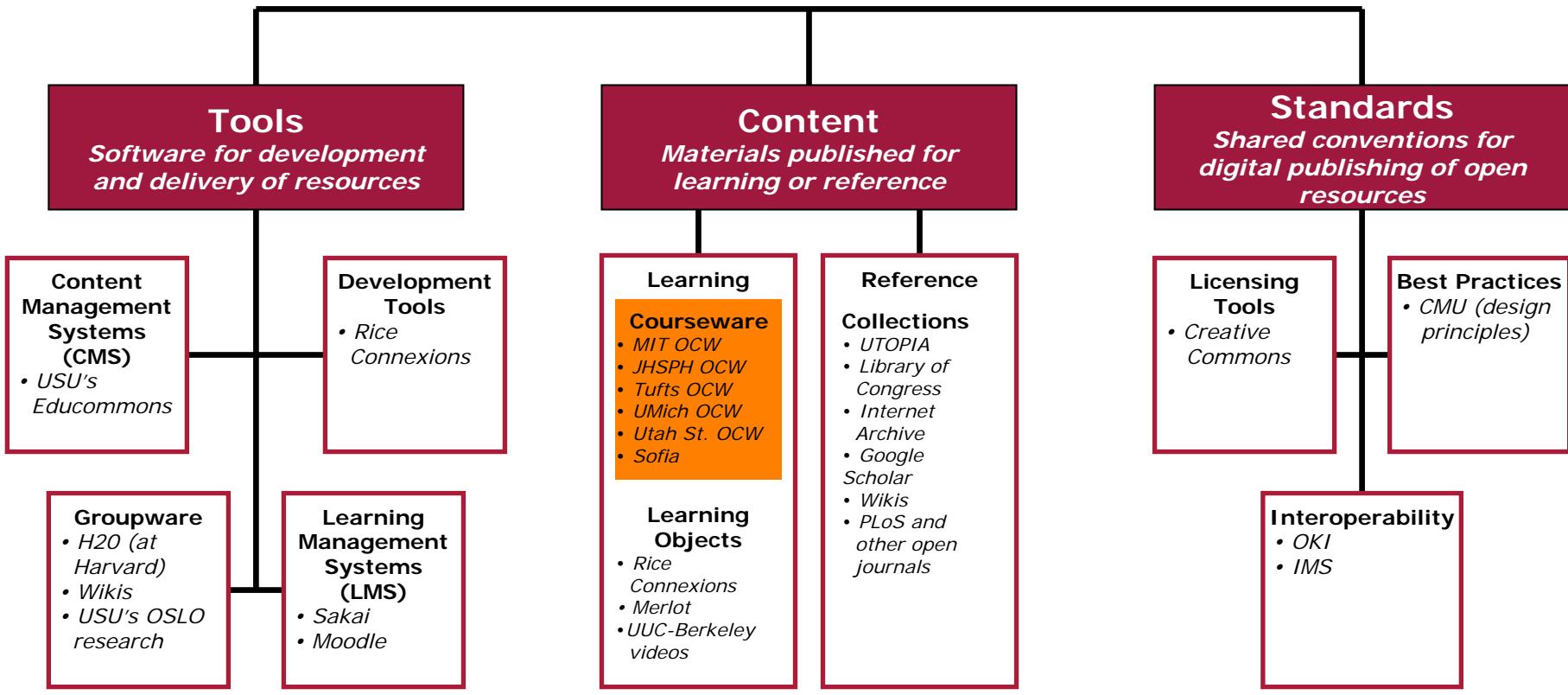
- 9,362 visits in March from MIT.EDU
- 108,672 total visits from MIT.EDU since 1/1/04
- Traffic from MIT.EDU domain follows periods of peak student use



# What It Means

# Meaning — Open sharing at universities

## The World of Open Educational Resources



# Meaning — Emerging “opencoursewares”

- Other OCWs are beginning to appear — both in the United States and abroad

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Utah State University OpenCourseWare. The header includes the university logo and navigation links for home, courses, content, news, help, and about us. A search bar is present. The main content area features a large image of green leaves with water droplets. Text on the page discusses the Biological and Irrigation Engineering department, mentioning its mission to protect health and prevent disease and disability. It also highlights the department's involvement in the Biological and Irrigation Engineering program.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health OpenCourseWare. The header features the school's name and logo. The main content area includes a search bar and a sidebar with available and upcoming courses. A central article discusses the "Understanding Cost-Effectiveness Analysis in Health Care" course, which aims to provide resources for preventing premature birth. The page also includes a sidebar with frequently asked questions and a feedback link.

## Johns Hopkins School of Public Health

Utah State University

The screenshot shows the homepage of Rai University OpenCourseWare. The header includes the university logo and navigation links. The main content area features a large image of a person's face. A sidebar on the left lists available courses across various fields like Architecture, Biosciences & Technology, Computing, etc. A central column discusses the "Welcome to Rai CourseWare" and its mission to bring world-class higher education. A sidebar on the right provides a testimonial from a student and links for academic programs, course lists, and feedback.

Rai University in India

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# Meaning — Universia translations

- › Universia.net is a network of 840 universities in Spain, Portugal, and Latin America
- › 90 courses in Spanish and Portuguese through Universia.net partnership

The screenshot shows the Universia MIT OpenCourseWare homepage. At the top, there's a header with the Universia logo, a navigation bar with links like 'Página principal', '¿Qué es OCW?', 'Ayuda', 'Feedback', 'Preguntas frecuentes', 'Glosario', and an envelope icon. Below the header, there's a banner with flags of various countries and a welcome message in Spanish: 'Portal Universia y MIT les invita a utilizar gratuitamente esta selección de materiales de curso de MIT traducidos al español.' The main content area features a 'CURSOS TRADUCIDOS' section with a list of course titles in Spanish, such as '11.208 Introducción a la informática en la gestión pública', '6.170 Curso práctico en Ingeniería del Software.', etc. To the right, there are two columns: 'MIT OpenCourseWare es:' and 'MIT OpenCourseWare no es:', each with a list of bullet points. At the bottom, there's a 'MIT OPENCOURSEWARE: RECURSOS' section with a link to 'FAQs'.

# Meaning — CORE translations

- › China Open Resources for Education (CORE)
  - 100 university members in PRC
  - 10 to 20 million users
- › Objectives
  - Enhance the quality of education in China
  - Translate MIT and other courses into Chinese
  - Offer Chinese courses for sharing globally



# Meaning — What does it mean?

- › Continues to be tremendous excitement
- › The vision is achievable
- › The impact of MIT OpenCourseWare will be significant



# Thank You!

Visit MIT OpenCourseWare online at  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

Visit the "Opencourseware How To" site on the Web at  
<http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/HowTo/index.htm>



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<http://ocw.mit.edu>

EC.S01 Internet Technology in Local and Global Communities  
Spring 2005-Summer 2005

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