# Social Implications II

#### from past to future from place to placeless?

#### **History of Information**

April 26, 2011







Tuesday, April 26, 2011

#### exam

- May 9
- 11:30 2:30

**155 Kroeber** 

study sessions

Tuesday May 3 - Thursday May 5 2-3:30

# aob





up in the clouds

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#### **History of Information**

April 15, 2010



#### storage & search

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#### **Goliath Stubs Toe: Amazon Cloud's Morning Malfunction**

April 21, 2011

#### By Matthew Dublin

It looks like Giles Day knew whereof he spoke at last week's Bio IT World Expo when he called for a bit of "cloud sobriety," asking attendees: what if Amazon's cloud fails? What then? While most in the audience probably thought of that as the remotest of possibilities, like the entire national power grid failing, the unthinkable did in fact happen today. Early this morning at 1:48 AM PDT, Amazon's cloud failed, crippling many social networking sites including Foursquare, Quora, Reddit, and Hootsuite, Discovr, Wildfir, Livefyre, CampgroundManager, Totango, ESchedule, ZeHosting, Recorded Future, PercentMobile, the Cydia Store, and whatever other jobs were being run by private users at the time.

The technical failures affect Amazon EC2, Relational Database Service (RDS), Elastic Beastalk, CloudFormation, and Elastic Block Store (EBS).

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distance 3

aob



#### storage & search

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The technical failures affect. CloudFormation, and Elastic By STEVE LOHR Published: April 22, 2011

As technical problems interrupted computer services provided by <u>Amazon</u> for a second day on Friday, industry analysts said the troubles would prompt many companies to reconsider relying on remote computers beyond their control.

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foursquare.com, via Associated Press The Foursquare Web site, as well as some other sites using Amazon Web Services, have had problems in the last two days. "This is a wake-up call for cloud computing," said Matthew Eastwood, an analyst for the research firm IDC, using the term for accessing services and information in big data centers remotely over the Internet from anywhere, as if the services were in a cloud. "It will force a conversation in the industry."

1s

That discussion, he said, will most likely center on what data and computer operations to send off to the cloud and what to keep inside the corporate walls.



#### storage & search

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#### Why hackers and spooks want our heads in the cloud

aob

Our unthinking embrace of these giant data centres is throttling the giddy anti-authoritarian computing dream

1s



John Harris guardian.co.uk, Monday 25 April 2011 20.00 BST Article history

Imagine this. A notorious multinational is on the lookout for new business. For the sake of argument, let's imagine it's Lockheed Martin, the defence, security, and "advanced technology" corporation that has lately been seeing to the census. From somewhere in their R&D division comes an idea: "personal lifestyle security services" for millions across the planet. The wheeze is simple enough: sign up and hand them your personal correspondence, financial records, bank details, ID documents, and more. They'll have all your stuff, and you'll have a unique password whenever you want a look. And just think: more clutter shunted out of your life, leaving you to glide through the minimalist bliss of 21st century living.

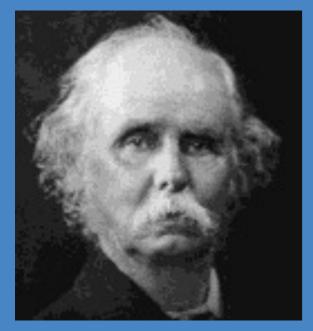
#### overview

death of distance some doubts bear in mind social implications a little learning

### death of distance

"Every cheapening of the means of communication, every new facility for the free interchange of ideas ... alters the action of the forces which tend to localize industries."

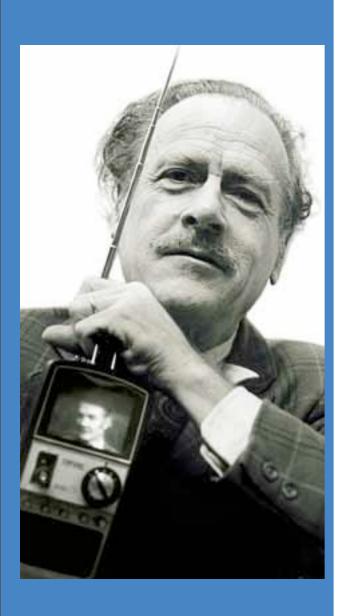
Alfred Marshall, Principles of Economics, 1920



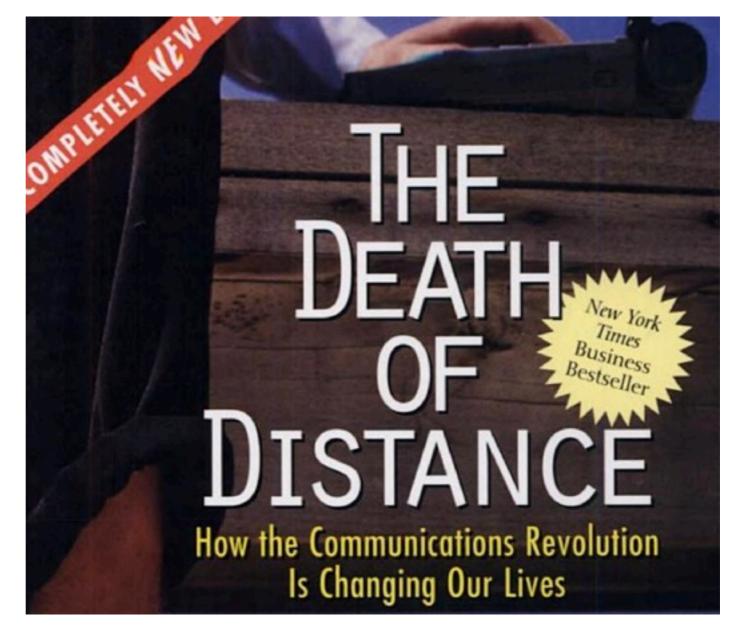
Alfred Marshall 1842-1924

# every cheapening ...

"Electric circuitry has overthrown the regime of 'time' and 'space' and pours upon us instantly and continuously concerns of all other men. It has reconstituted dialogue on a global scale. Its message is Total Change, ending psychic, social, economic, and political parochialism... Ours is a brand-new world of allatonceness. 'Time' has ceased, 'space' has vanished. We now live in a global village ... a simultaneous happening." Mcluhan et al., Medium is the Massage, 1967



### even cheaper



 The Death of Distance. Distance will no longer decide the cost of communicating electronically. Indeed, once investment has been made in a communications network, in buying a computer or telephone, or in setting up a Web site, the additional cost of sending or receiving an extra piece of information will be virtually zero.

- 2. The Fate of Location. Companies will be free to locate many screen-based activities wherever they can find the best bargain of skills and productivity. Developing countries will increasingly perform on-line services including monitoring security screens, inputting data from forms, running help-lines, and writing software code and sell them to the rich industrial countries that generally produce such services domestically.
- 3. Improved Connections. Most people on earth will eventually have access to networks that are all interactive and broadband. The Internet will continue to exist in its present form, but will also carry many other services, including telephone and television.
- Increased Mobility. Every form of communication will be available for mobile or remote use.
- More Customized Networks. The huge capacity of networks will enable individuals to order "content for one": that is, individual consumers will receive (or send) exactly what they want to receive (or send), when and where they want it.

# trendspotting

- A Deluge of Information. Because people's capacity to absorb new information will not increase, they will need filters to sift, process, and edit it.
- Increased Value of Brand. Companies will want ways to push their information ahead of their competitors'. One of the most effective will be branding. What's hot – whether a product, a personality, a sporting event, or the latest financial data – will attract the greatest rewards.
- 8. More Minnows, More Giants. Many of the costs of starting a new business will fall and companies will more easily buy in services. So small companies will start up more readily, offering services that, in the past, only giants had the scale and scope to provide. If they can back creativity with competence and speed, they will compete effectively with larger firms. At the same time communication amplifies the strength of brands and the power of networks. In industries where networks matter, concentration will increase.
- 9. More Competition. More companies and customers will have access to accurate price information. In addition, some entry barriers will fall. The result will be greater competition in many markets, resulting in "profitless prosperity": it will be easier to find buyers, but harder to make fat margins.

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### distance is dead

#### your thoughts

call centres

ideas and beliefs spread worldwide at no cost

companies no longer dependent on physical

location or "patronage of court"

eliminated the need for localization

• • •

I'm a bit confused ...

#### overview

death of distance some doubts bear in mind social implications a little learning

- 10. Increased Value of Niches. The power of the computer to search, identify, and classify people according to similar needs and tastes will create sustainable markets for many niche products. One of the most valuable improvements will be in the ability of people to locate things that have hitherto been hard to find: from friends with similar tastes to specialized services.
- Communities of Practice. The horizontal bonds among people performing the same job or speaking the same language in different parts of the world will strengthen. Common interests, experiences, and pursuits, rather than proximity, will bind these communities together.
- 12. The Loose-Knit Corporation. Culture and communications networks, rather than rigid management structures, will hold companies together. Vertically integrated companies that do the costs of dealing with arm's-length suppliers and partners. Alliances will bond companies together at many levels.
- 13. Openness as a Strategy. Loyalty, trust, and open communications will reshape the nature of supplier and customer contacts. Suppliers will draw directly on their customers' databases, working as closely and seamlessly as an in-house supplier does now. Customers will be able to manage and track their orders through the production process.
- 14. Manufacturers as Service Providers. Companies will tailor their products more precisely to a customer's tastes and needs. Some will retain lasting links with their products: car companies, for instance, will continue electronically to track, monitor, and learn about their vehicles throughout the product's life cycle. New opportunities to build links with customers will emerge as a result.
- 15. The Inversion of Home and Office. The line between home and work will blur. People will increasingly work from home and shop from work. The office will become a place for the social aspects of work such as networking, brainstorming, lunching, and gossiping. More people will work on the move: from their cars, from hotel rooms, from airport departure lounges. Home design will change: new homes will routinely have home offices.

- 16. The Proliferation of Ideas. New ideas and information will travel faster to the remotest corners of the world. Developing countries will acquire more rapidly access to the industrial world's knowledge and ideas. That will help many developing countries to grow more quickly and even to narrow the gap with the rich world.
- 17. The Decline of National Authority. Governments will find national legislation and censorship inadequate for regulating the global flow of information. As content sweeps across national borders, it will be harder to enforce laws banning child pornography, libel, and other criminal or subversive material, and those protecting copyright and other intellectual property.
- 18. Loss of Privacy. Protecting privacy will be difficult, as it was in the villages of past centuries. Governments and companies will easily monitor people's movements. Machines will recognize physical attributes such as a voice or fingerprint. Civil libertarians will worry, but others will rationalize the loss as a fair exchange for the reduction of crime, including fraud and illegal immigration. In the electronic village, there will be little true privacy – and little unsolved crime.
- 19. A Global Premium for Skills. Pay differentials will continue to widen, as companies fight for the scarce talents of well educate workers. Managerial and professional jobs will be less vulnerabl to competition from automation than jobs requiring relatively little skill. In addition, the Internet enhances the value of creative use of information. On-line recruitment will make the job market more global and efficient. As a result, highly skilled people will earn broadly similar amounts, wherever they live in the world.
- 20. Rebirth of Cities. As individuals spend less time in the office an more time working from home or on the road, cities will change from concentrations of office employment to centers of enter-tainment and culture. They will become places where people congregate to visit museums and galleries, attend live performances of all kinds, participate in civic events, and dine in good restaurants. Some poor countries will use low-cost communications to stem the flight from the countryside by providing rural areas with better medical services, jobs, education, and entertainment.

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### if distance is dead ...

... why are they here?

### if distance is dead ...

#### ... why are they here?



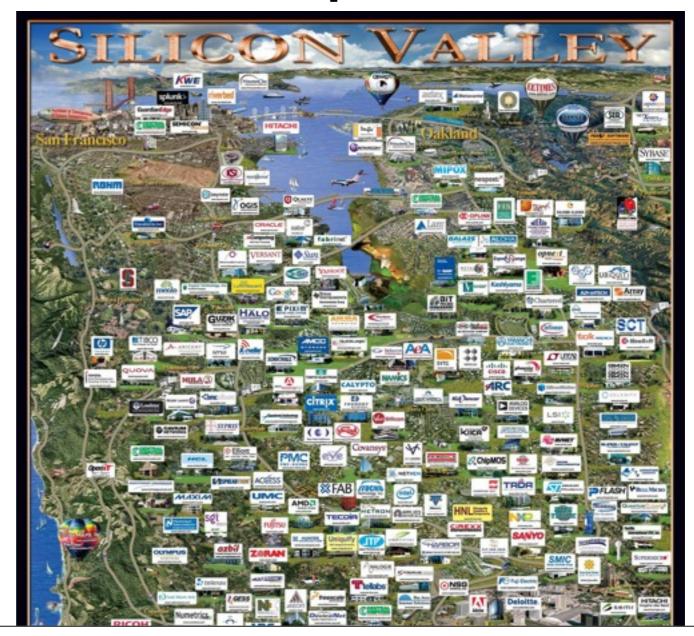
### if distance is dead ...

#### ... why are they here?



#### where are we?

#### the heart of cheap communication



## why are we here?

Silicon Valley is still held to be the premier software region in the US, though it offers no geographical advantages other than its proximity to Stanford (the importance of which has declined as other schools developed prestigious computer science programs). Silicon Valley is the Mecca of computer science for this reason, put forward by Marshall - " Employers are apt to resort to any place where they are likely to find a good choice of workers with the special skill which they require; while men seeking employment naturally go to places where there are many employers who need such skill as theirs and where therefore it is likely to find a good market". That is, if you do software, you go to Silicon Valley because that's where the jobs are, and if you are starting a software company, you go to Silicon Valley because that's where the talent is.

-Andrew

# why are we here?

Even though nowadays with modern technology and means of communication, Marshal's claims of localized industries is still true. For instance, Marshall said "localized industry gains a great advantage from the fact that it offers a constant market for skill. Employers are apt to resort to any place where they are likely to find a good choice of workers with the special skill which they require", this is true for cases like Hollywood for modeling and acting, Silicon Valley for computer related industries and so on. We can still recognize these localized industries in modern society. Also, industries like mining, which Marshall mentioned are still localized industries.

-Monica

## why are we here?

However prestige and demand for higher skilled and highly specialized labor tends to ensure a presence by the major corporations in traditional central business districts. In addition these considerations lead to concentrations of certain industries near each other and near research institutions, for example the proliferation of tech firms in the Bay Area. As Marshall points out there is a virtuous circle of firms locating where skilled labor is, which in turn attracts those looking for such work (iv.x.9). Then when such workers peel away and form start-ups they remain in the same area and gain a degree of kudos from their location. Marshall also points out the economic problems this can present for an area during a downturn, as was the case in the Bay Area after the "dot com crash" (iv.x.12).

-Gavin

## will we stay here?

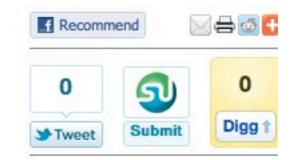
This completely agrees Marshall's statement by saying the cost of skills and productivity will overcome distance, thus negating localization. From a real world example, Silicon valley companies are tending to move out of California and spread out through the U.S. This increase in distance from their target customers must overcome the costs that are associated with being located in California, such as taxes and cost of living.

-Steven Tanti

### San Francisco Chronicle still moving in

# Viadeo opens S.F. office to compete with LinkedIn

Europe's Viadeo plans to challenge leading business network LinkedIn



March 07, 2011 | By Benny Evangelista, Chronicle Staff Writer

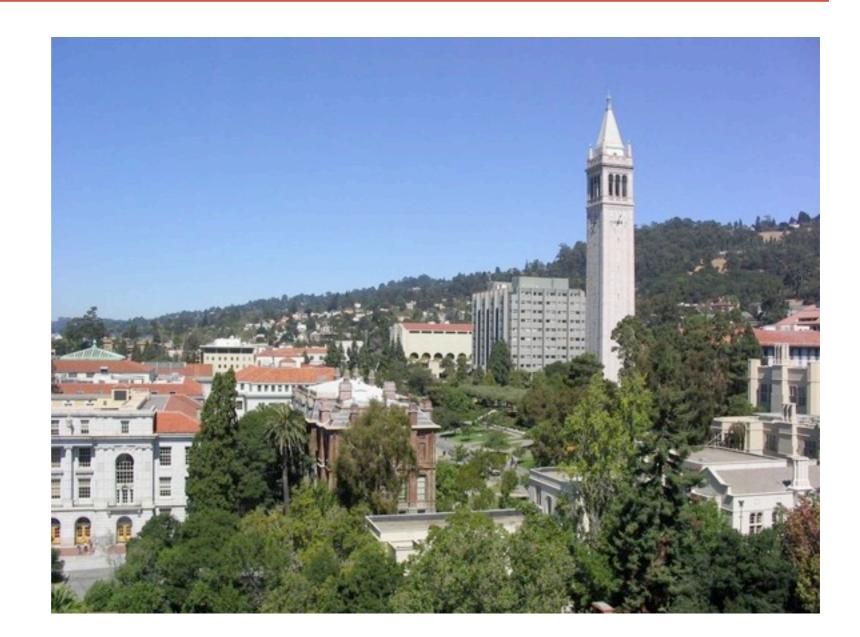
LinkedIn Corp. is the world's leading professional social network with more than 90 million members, but the company's main international competitor has quietly put down Bay Area roots to help close the gap.

Viadeo S.A., which has 35 million members, has opened an office in downtown San Francisco and its chief executive has moved here from Paris along with his family and about 20 engineers.

Viadeo hopes to expand its largely unknown presence in the United States by touting its overseas networks. Its strong presence in countries such as China - where LinkedIn was briefly blocked - could be attractive to people seeking new business opportunities.

"We still strongly believe that networking is a local thing," said founder and chief executive Dan Serfaty. "You don't network, create content and manage your contacts the same way when you're in France, in Italy, in China, in India or in the U.S."

## and why are we here



## why indeed?

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Watch a video about the Khan Academy Tuesday, April 26, 2011



#### overview

death of distance some doubts bear in mind social implications a little learning

### issues to bear in mind

There are persons who can write not illegibly in pencil, but are as enigmatical as Rufus Choate or Horace Greeley when they take up the pen. There are persons too lazy to resort to ink and pen who can conquer their besetting sin enough to make a few dabs with a pencil. Living must have been more laborious-before the pencil age. Blue pencil, red pencil, what should we do without them? Yet writing with one's own hand seems to be disappearing, and the universal typewriter may swallow all. Librarians of a century or two hence may be searching for the last reference to pencils.

#### New York Times 1938



endism

replacement

liberation

redefinition

constraint vs resource





### endism oddities

"In the utility billing problem, for instance, meter readings would come automatically by wire into the input organs of the central office's electronic accounting and information processing machine which, ... would compare these readings with its customers' accounts in its huge memory storage, make all computations and return the new results to storage while printing out the monthly bills." --Fortune, 1952

"Gas and electric meters will be linked to telephone lines, so that computers read the meters from afar and send out the bills. They could also be connected to banks; customers would then find utility charges on their monthly bank statements."--National Geographic, 1970





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# endism oddities

#### AP Exclusive: 'Smart' meters have security holes

By JORDAN ROBERTSON (AP) - Mar 26, 2010

SAN FRANCISCO — Computer-security researchers say new "smart" meters that are designed to help deliver electricity more efficiently also have flaws that could let hackers tamper with the power grid in previously impossible ways.

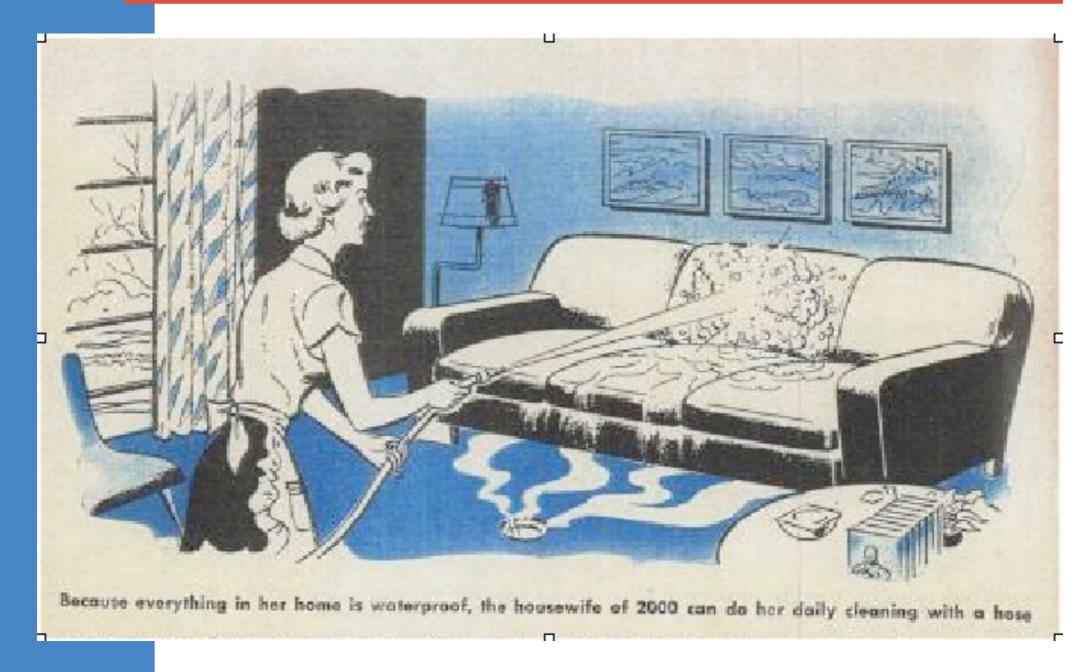
At the very least, the vulnerabilities open the door for attackers to jack up strangers' power bills. These flaws also could get hackers a key step closer to exploiting one of the most dangerous capabilities of the new technology, which is the ability to remotely turn someone else's power on and off.

The attacks could be pulled off by stealing meters — which can be situated outside of a home — and reprogramming them. Or an attacker could sit near a home or business and wirelessly hack the meter from a laptop, according to Joshua Wright, a senior security analyst with InGuardians Inc. The firm was hired by three utilities to study their smart meters' resistance to attack.

These utilities, which he would not name, have already done small deployments of smart meters and plan to roll the technology out to hundreds of thousands of power customers, Wright told The Associated Press.

There is no evidence the security flaws have been exploited, although Wright said a utility could have been hacked without knowing it. InGuardians said it is working with the utilities to fix the problems.

# nunberg error



# high and low

#### Donald Davies, 1965

#### 7. Some uses for a Message Communication Network

The original intention for its use, the connection of terminals to computer services, remains of primary importance. A selection of such services is listed:

- Numerical computation at various levels of generality
- · Editing and typesetting of text
- Design services and problem oriented languages
- Availability of goods for sale
- · Ordering of goods
- Invoicing, delivery notes, etc.
- Booking of transport
- Banking, establishing credit
- Remote access to national records, e.g. MPNI, tax, police, medical, on a secure basis
- Betting

## "Electrical Entertainment" 1981

## NYT, 1931

## ELECTRICAL ENTERTAINMENT: A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

By DR. ALFRED N. GOLDSMITH.

T would not be astonishing if within the next 100 years, "radio" (in a legitimately expanded use of the term) came to an the same thing as "entertain-Some may regard this as an er-bold assertion. Yet an onenminded study of the nature of elecfrical entertainment-and this is what we really mean by "radio" in the probable broad usage \_of the future-has capabilities so extensive and agencies so powerful at its disposal that entertainment and radio may come to mean the same thing.

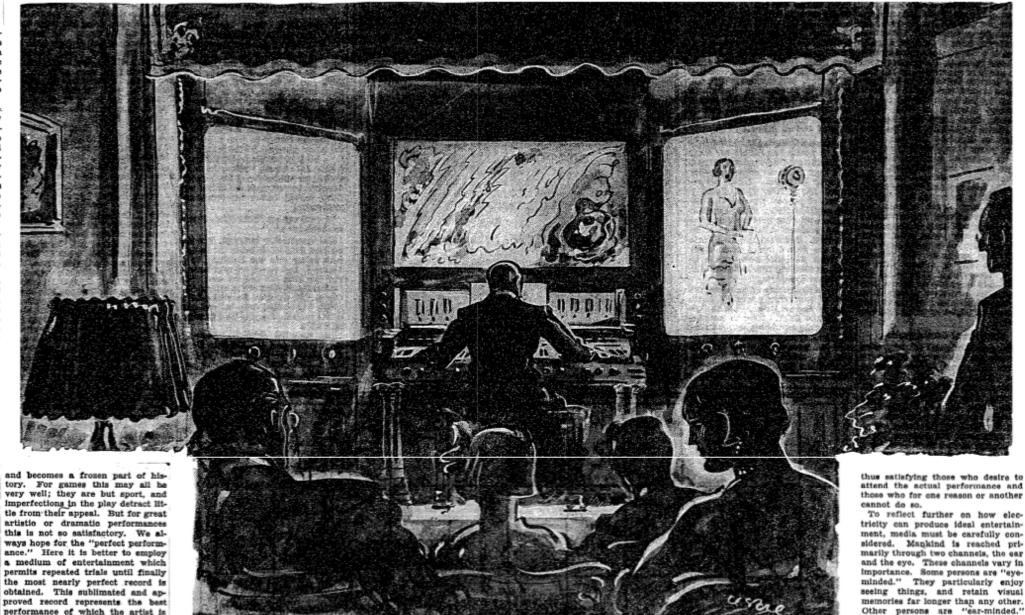
Today, with some branches of elecfrical entertainment in their infancy and others not yet born, it is difficult for the public and the artists to gauge the significance of the trend in that direction. The ultra-specialist, concentrating on one particular form of electrical entertainment device (such as a radio receiver), is likely to see only his corner of the field. The broad significance of elecfrical entertainment may well elude

Musicians, artists, actors and composers of the present are accustomed to the forms of mechanical, visual and audible entertainment with which the public is now provided. They, too, are specialists and have oted their lives to the mastery of m instrument or a technique. Not unnaturally they view with some aparehension the mere idea of a revoluion in the methods and instrumenalities of entertainment. Electricity sAs strange and foreign force, and mly those musicians who have won access and fame in the fields of roadcasting and phonograph record production are likely to view with ympathy a tendency toward the uperseding of present forms of enertainment by electrical entertain-The Rôle of Radio

Yet time brings the answer to most oblems and silences the unwaranted objection, and there are exroadly called electrical entertainntertainment and the requirements an ideal plan will show clearly hy electrical entertainment necesarily holds the key to the future. In contriving entertainment maerial, human psychology must al-

ays be kept in mind. ves not only in the present but also, a manner of speaking, in the past. Ve desire to see and to hear not only hat which is happening but also which has happened and, exept through the magic of its recation, is rone forever. We need to

By DR. ALFRED N. GOLDSMITH. Vice President and General Engineer, Badio Corporation of America. Dr. Goldsmith of the Radio Corporation Predicts an Instrument Which at a Touch of the Fingers Will of home for the "lookstener" will be both sound-proofed and darkened. Bring to the Home Scenes and Sound, Color Symphonies, or a Keyboard for Self-Created Music



The Home "Electrical Entertainer" of 1981, as Visualized by Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith. On the Left Is a Panel Upon Which Home Talking Motion Pictures Are Cast From Behind the Screen. In the Centre Is an Electrical Music Machine, Combined With a Color-Organ, Which Casts Weird Images on the Centre Screen as the Music Is Produced With a Keyboard Similar to That of a Modern Theatre Organ. Television, Which Will

Of course, we do not actually need so extreme and peculiar a type of residence for this purpose, because the "lookstener" will demand that the television picture be bright enough to be seen under ordinary home conditions and that the sounds will be loud enough to be appreciated in normally quiet surroundings.

Paralleling the combined television and telephone radio program, we find a form of record for either the home or the theatre which produces similar effects, namely, the sound motion picture. The success of this form of entertainment in the theatre is a clear indication of what may be expected when it becomes available also for the home on a simple and economic basis.

#### Electrical Instruments

A small group of electrical musical instruments have appeared on the market within the last few years, both in the United States and in Europe. Many more forms, some of extreme ingenuity, exist in the laboratories and promise the production of extremely flexible, readily controlled, and exquisitely toned instruments. The forms in which the publio has as yet seen them are necessarily only beginings, yet they indicate only some of the possibilities of such instruments. As the years pass they will be further developed. Great composers will begin to write music specially suited to them and capable of fully utilizing their astounding possibilities of tone quality, volume, flexibility of control, and pitch. And, finally, virtuoso performers on these instruments will then spring up and render masterpieces which have been composed for them. But that is far in the future.

The electric control of mobile color is also foreshadowed in a number of home and auditorium instruments which have already been demonstrated. Examples of these are the Clavilux of Thomas Wilfred and the Colorama of the General Electric Company. The interplay of moving nebulous forms of color, sometimes softly shaded and sometimes blazing in almost harsh brilliancy, is extraordinarily attractive. Some enjoy viewing such displays without accompanying music; othera prefer music and color at the same time. These color symphonies, as they might be termed, can either be produced in a pre-determined fashion from records, or by an individual performance by the artist, or

through a combination of these methods. A New Art.

knowledge through speech or other Here again electricity brings a sounds, and remember others by the new art. It is conceivable that mosounds of their voices or what they bile color will be as definite and have said. Look back into the imwidely appreciated a form of art in

They listen attentively, readily absorb

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

emely powerful reasons for the be- and becomes a frozen part of hisof that time is the ally of what is tory. For games this may all be nent, of which radio is the great- imperfections in the play detract litpresent exponent. Perhaps a tle from their appeal. But for great rief analysis of the functions of artistic or dramatic performances

a medium of entertainment which permits repeated trials until finally the most nearly perfect record is Mankind obtained. This sublimated and approved record represents the best performance of which the artist is capable and it is available for practically all time, ever ready to live again at a touch of the finger on the controlling switch.

Annihilating Distance



# in the office

## **Fortune** Jan 1952

Technology

The door in the UNIVAC, above, opens into the accounting departments of the future. The first UNIVAC, built for the Bureau of Census by Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corp., whild, ary of Remington Rand, marks the transition of big "electron brains" from scientific to general business and government us.

## "begin(s) to foreshadow the true office robot"

## Office Robots

It won't be very long before U.S. businessmen can employ electronic brains to: • keep business accounts • run continuous sales records • compute and send out bills • handle entire payrolls • keep running inventories • fix production schedules • serve as vast filing systems

+ chart corporate expansion

AA reservisor mail order When the first of the giant "electronic brains" was unveiled after the last war, performing feats of lightning calculation on abstruse scientific and military problems, its creators proclaimed it the beginning of "the second industrial revolution." They foresaw profound applications in industry, business, and government.

Few laymen, if aware of the development at all, could see the connection. Now, however, a few rudimentary production models of electronic digital computers are in growing business use, many more advanced prototypes are in operation or development, and it becomes possible to glimpse and weigh that revolution. It appears that its first and heaviest impact, beyond the fields of science and engineering, will be on the business-executive effice.

The office is ripe for revolution. 15 costs have doubled and tripled, while cletical staffs become steadily harder to recruit or expand. There is, in fact, a real shortage of good clerical help in most regions. The mountains of paper work grow year by year, and the tasks they entail grow steadily more onerous. Some of the most grinding of all industrial routines are now found in business offices, probably one reason why it becomes harder to attract young people into them. The fact is that the office has been nearly the last area to be touched by industrial rationalization. and it is still not mechanized to anything like the degree of the modern factory-

The proof is in the extraordinary care of white-collar employment, which is colof line with all other types. While the



Under the operator's hand is the desk-sized computer called MADDIDA (Mad Ida), for MAgnetic Drum Digital Differential Aralyzer, developed by Northrop Aircraft and now in production. Mainly for engineering, it pinneers compact features for general use.



The keyboard and electric typewriter, above, are linked to CADAC, latest approach to an automatic general computer—a 195-tube machine with magnetic-drum memory (see page 117) tucked away in a closet. Computer Research Corp. will offer it to business.

UISCAILCE

# Behold the Computer Revolution

## By PETER T. WHITE National Geographic Staff Illustrations by National Geographic Photographers

BRUCE DALE and EMORY KRISTOF

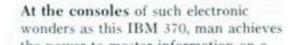
M<sup>Y</sup> WIFE IS MAD AT COMPUTERS. "Those awful machines," she calls them. "How they mess up our credit card accounts! Imagine sending a bill for \$232.24 every month for four months after you've paid it!"

But I'm not mad. That mixup was settled after five months; and we never did feel as computer-harassed as some Americans, notably the Kansan repeatedly reminded that his department store bill was "overdue in the amount of \$00.00." At last he too managed to pacify the computer with a check for \$00.00.

In a way, though, my wife is right. After a year of looking closely at computers—at what they are doing all over the country, what they are likely to do before long, and what their effects are expected to be upon us all and upon our descendants—I must say that these machines are indeed awful, in just about every sense the dictionaries assign to that word: inspiring dread, appalling, objectionable; solemnly impres-

# going home

# National Geographic



## Behold the Computer Revolution

# combining themes: home office

"Perhaps someday the desk worker fed up with traffic jams in the city will do his job at a computer input-output station at home: If he wants to see documents from company files, he punches his keyboard and they appear on his display screen. If he needs a copy, he presses a button and there it is, on paper. ... If he wants to confer with colleagues, he presses buttons, and

they appear on the screen too. To dictate a letter, he punches up his secretary, at her office desk or at her terminal in her home. She'll type it on her keyboard— and the text will emerge in the downtown office, to go into the files and into the mail. Or she'll send electronic impulses directly to the company addressed—into their computer.... How soon could computer use from home be upon us? Among 85 leading technical experts asked, the majority say within a decade. But it's not only a question of technology. It is also a question of economic practicality, and I trust no predictions on that." --National Geographic, 1970

# within a decade

## percentage of home workers in population

1960	1970	1980	1990	1999	2005
0.025	0.013	0.0095	0.014	0.034	0.039



▶ START-UP ▶ RUNNING A BUSINESS ▶ FINANCE ▶ LEADERSHIP & MANAGING ▶ SALES & MAF

Archives >

## April 2010





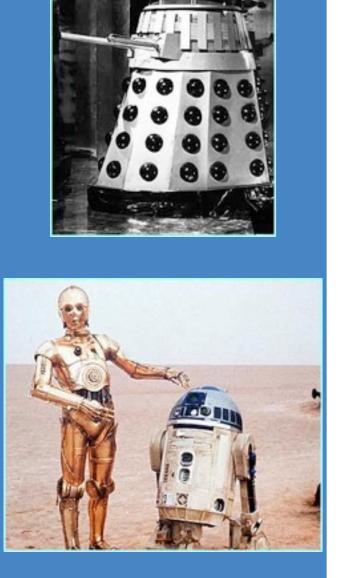
COVER STORY The Case, and the Plan, for the Virtual 30 Company

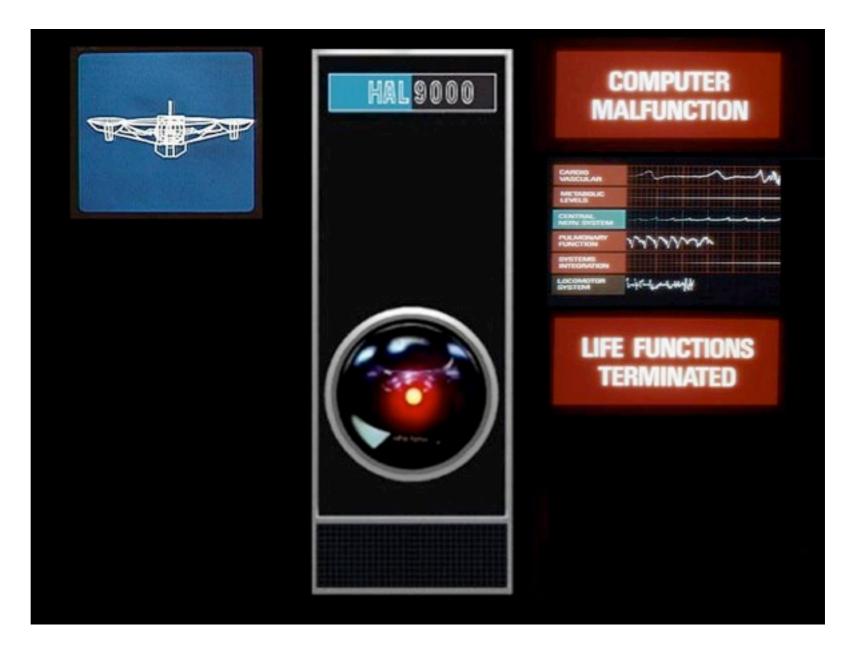
# overview

death of distance some doubts bear in mind social implications

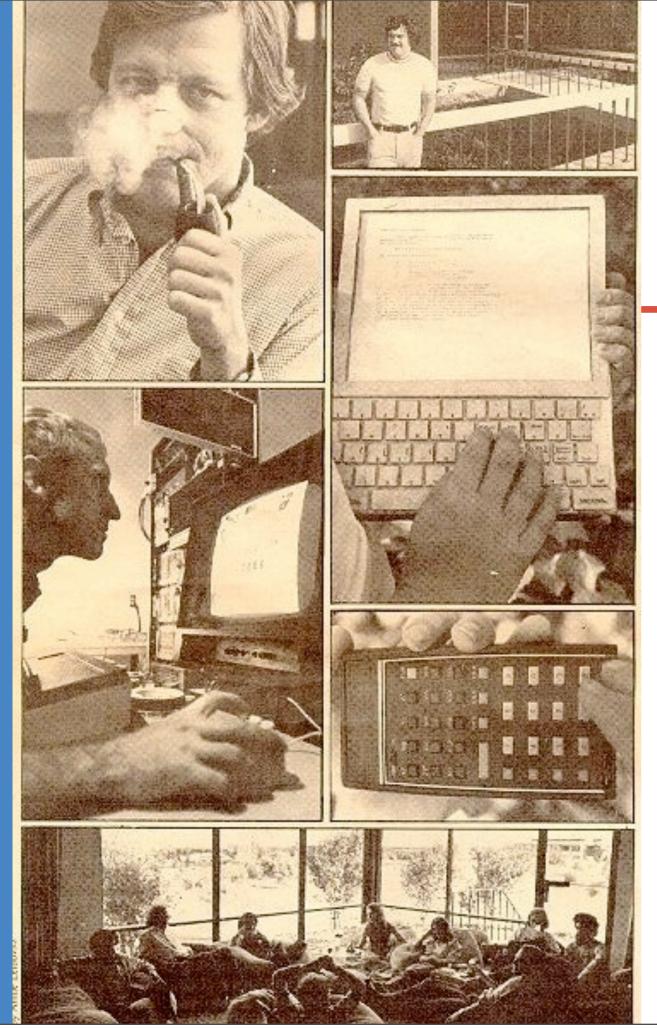
a little learning

# social implications





Tuesday, April 26, 2011



# generational change?

"Fanatic Life and Symbolic Death Among the Computer Bums" --Stewart Brand **Rolling Stone** 7 December, 1972

Tuesday, April 26, 2011



## MATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

# compare & contrast

## Behold the Computer Revolution

By PETER T. WHITE National Geographic Staff Illustrations by National Geographic Photographers BRUCE DALE and EMORY KRISTOF

M<sup>Y</sup> WIFE IS MAD AT COMPUTERS. "Those awful machines," she calls them. "How they mess up our credit card accounts! Imagine sending a bill for \$232.24 every month for four months after you've paid it!"

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In the end I found my own ways of

From Counterculture to Cyberculture

**Fred Turner** 



593

-even the arts. @ s.s.s.

distance 34

Technology

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Office Robots

# Tuesday, April 26, 2011

## Next phase of working at home: Leaving home

By Thom Patterson

CNN

ROSWELL, Georgia (CNN) -- More than a decade after the Internet allowed millions of people to work at home, the next phase of telecommuting involves, well, not working at home.



Web developer Toby Ho, left, has joined a coworking group called "Jelly" in Roswell, Georgia.



Organized "coworking" -- the concept of working solo alongside like-minded independents -- has spread to dozens of cities.

coworking TENT SIZE

The irony of coworking isn't lost on organizers, including Kevin Bachman, who set up a group north of Atlanta as part of an informal Web-based network called Jelly.

"The reason people work alone, is because they're looking for freedom," said Bachman, a 34-year-old Web developer who <u>telecommutes</u> part time. "It may be ironic that you crave isolation, but you also want to be socially interactive with others like you."

See how Jelly works together »

Once a month, Bachman's group takes over a room provided by Tony's American Grille & Tap. A handful of home-based Internet workers hunch over laptops writing code, tweaking administration systems or enhancing databases.



# deep in the heart of the computer

"The accumulation of many large manufacturing establishments in the same district has a tendency to bring together purchasers or their agents from great distances, and thus to cause the institution of a public mart or exchange. This contributes to diffuse information relative to the supply of raw materials, and the state of demand for their produce, with which it is necessary manufacturers should be well acquainted. The very circumstance of collecting periodically, at one place, a large number both of those who supply the market and of those who require its produce, tends strongly to check the accidental fluctuations to which a small market is always subject, as well as to render the average of the prices much more uniform." -- Charles Babbage

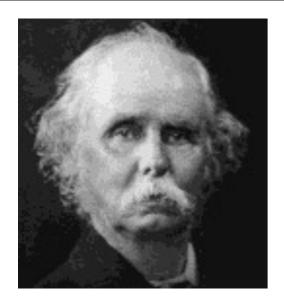
# moving information

## information/knowledge management

the HP conundrum

sticky or leaky

resolution



# more than information

When an industry has thus chosen a locality for itself, it is likely to stay there long: so great are the advantages which people following the same skilled trade get from near neighbourhood to one another. The mysteries of the trade become no mysteries; but are as it were in the air, and children learn many of them unconsciously. Good work is rightly appreciated, inventions and improvements in machinery, in processes and the general organization of the business have their merits promptly discussed: if one man starts a new idea, it is taken up by others and combined with suggestions of their own; and thus it becomes the source of further new ideas. And presently subsidiary trades grow up in the neighbourhood, supplying it with implements and materials, organizing its traffic, and in many ways conducing to the economy of its material.

# what moves?

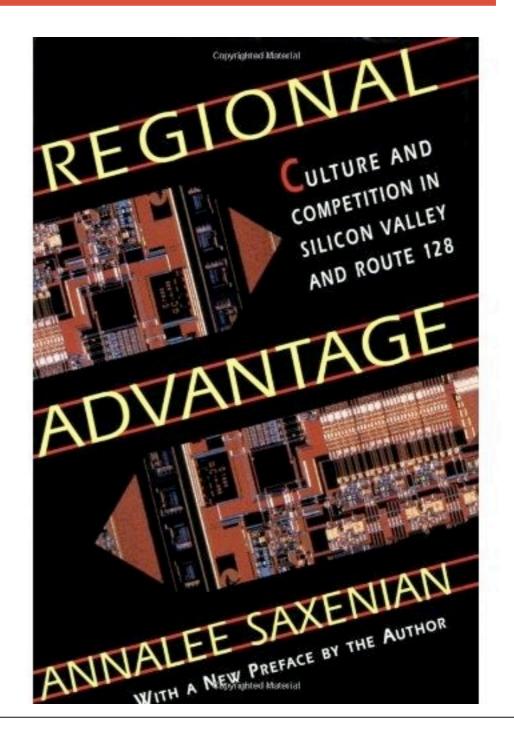
Every cheapening of the means of communication ... alters the action of the forces which tend to localize industries. Speaking generally we must say that a lowering of tariffs, or of freights for the transport of goods, tends to make each locality buy more largely from a distance what it requires; and thus tends to concentrate particular industries in special localities: but on the other hand everything that increases people's readiness to migrate from one place to another tends to bring skilled artisans to ply their crafts near to the consumers who will purchase their wares. These two opposing tendencies are well illustrated by the recent history of the English people.

"through the WTO, World Bank, and the IMF information and its needed resources ... can move and migrate freely, but not necessarily the people" --Corbyn

# what moves?

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# east is east and ...



# why indeed?

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Watch a video about the Khan Academy Tuesday, April 26, 2011





These immigrants taught us how to weave woollen and worsted stuffs, though for a long time we sent our cloths to the Netherlands to be fulled and dyed. They taught us how to cure herrings, how to manufacture silk, how to make lace, glass, and paper, and to provide for many other of our wants

# airy visions

"Children in the public schools will be taught practically everything by moving pictures. Certainly they will never be obliged to read history again" D.W. Griffith

"The people's University of the Air will have a greater student body than all of our universities put together."

## RCA, 1932

# info-education

## PLATO

(Programmed Logic for Automated Teaching Operations)

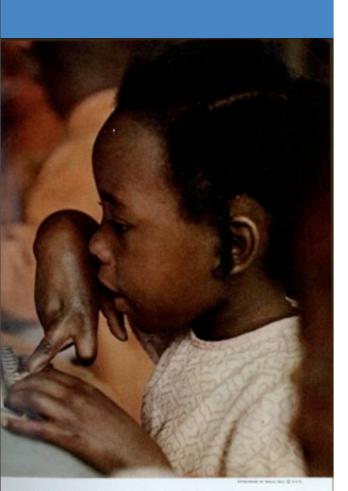
"One can predict that in a few more years, millions of schoolchildren will have the personal services of a tutor as well-informed as Aristotle."

Patrick Suppes, Scientific American, 1966.

## **Open University**

early morning television

distance 44



Incases her file, reviews her performance, and picks up with the day's practice problems. Work down, it gravites the assignment and hide a printed "uncon-true, untitle," Computer practice not only speeds the rate of learning, but also frees the teacher to explain new concepts. Lamitched as an experiment by the Fodoral Government these pars ago, computer instruction has been enthusiantically adopted by the McComb school system as part of its curriculum.

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# any time, anywhere



Grandfather: Well, I finally finished my doctoral thesis.



Woman: Way to go, Gramps.



Grandfather: Did my research at Indiana University.

Woman: Indiana?



Grandfather: Yup. IBM took the school's library...and digitized it. So I could access it over the Internet.

She cocks her <u>ear</u> to take this all in.



Grandfather: You know...It's a great time to be alive.



Tag: IBM. Solutions for a small planet.

# the end of the university?

a "stagnant" sector --William Baumol

## against stagnation

**Alvin Toffler** 

Peter Drucker

John Chambers



# kinds of distance?

## geographical

extension courses

## social

correspondence degrees

the Open University

## \* Allama Iqbal Open University \* Anadolu University \* Athabasca University \* Bangladesh Open University \* China Central Radio & TV University \* City College of San Francisco \* Fern University in Hagen \* Indira Gandhi National Open University \* Indonesian Open Learning University \* Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo México \* Payame Noor University \* Korea National Open University \* Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University \* The Open University, U.K. \* Universidad Nacional de Educaci a Distancia \* University of Maryland Universit College \* University of South Africa \* University of Phoenix \* Universidad Nacional Autonoma Mexico \* Shanghai TV University

# going global

## the mega universities

Indira Gandhi (New Delhi) : 2 million

Allama Iqbal (Islamabad) : 1.8 million

Islamic Azad (Tehran) : 1.3 million

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# "open" again

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# other alternatives



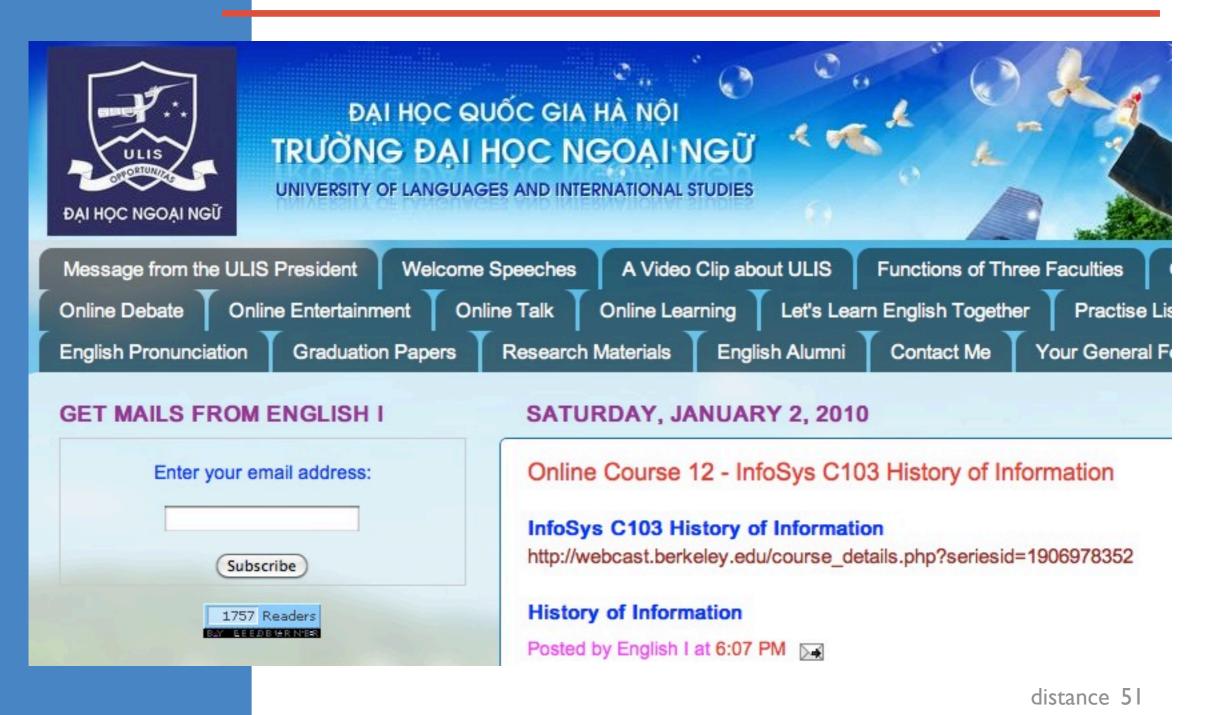
#### Cognitive Science C103, 001, History C192, 001, Information C103, 001, Media Studies C104C, 001 - History of Information

TTh 2-3:30 | 155 KROEBER Instructor Geoffrey D. Nunberg, Paul DUGUID

History of Information



# more alternatives



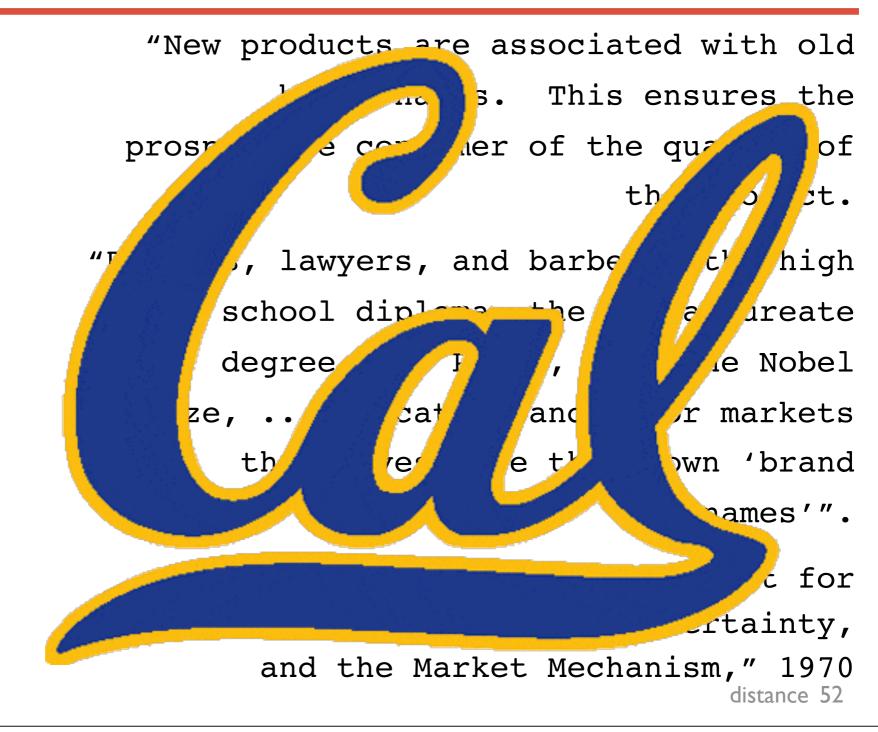
# still local?

"New products are associated with old brand names. This ensures the prospective consumer of the quality of the product.

"Doctors, lawyers, and barbers, the high school diploma, the baccalaureate degree, the Ph.D., even the Nobel Prize, ... education and labor markets themselves have their own 'brand names'".

> --George Akerlof, "The Market for Lemons: Quality, Uncertainty, and the Market Mechanism," 1970 distance 52

# still local?



# where we've been

death of distance some doubts bear in mind social implications a little learning

# the final sticker

## I survived il 03

# coming up

what you've all been waiting for

last class

## virtual pollution

summing up