



**Audio Visual facility of Faculty of Medicine:**

**Utilization of IP camera for Teaching**

circulate this - all academic staff.

+

notice

copy to  
+  
Library  
file

Dean, Faculty of Medicine  
University of Peradeniya  
Peradeniya.

**Prepared By:**

**Dr. Ajith Sominanda**

**September 2013**

### **Audio Visual Facility in the Faculty of Medicine**

With the ongoing development in the faculty infrastructure, parallel upgrading of Audio Visual (AV) facilities for teaching-learning activities is a key concern. Currently, the lecture theatres, seminar rooms and tutorial complexes are fairly equipped with conventional and some modern audio visual facilities. Acquisition of increased numbers of computers, high resolution multimedia projectors and improvement in public address systems are main events in the ongoing development of AV facilities in the faculty. Technical Resource center and the e-library play a key role in managing this area and computer and IT experts have been recruited into these units.

A mini studio with AV facilities under the HETC-English project is underway. This is a 50 seating arrangement in a sound proof cubical which will be installed in the upper floor of the library. Main objective is to utilize the 'mini studio' to facilitate IT and computer based English teaching-learning proposed under the HETC-English section. However, a mini studio is multipurpose facility that it can be utilized as another mini lecture theatre, a tutorial room or a video conferencing unit linked to the outside making a virtual class room or a meeting place scenario. The limited funding in HETC scheme and the slow progression has been a major drawback in this project. However, the project is to be continued as a faculty infrastructure project under the infrastructure committee.

In addition, during PURSE 2012, under the supervision of AV sub-committee, an electric projector screen and an IP camera were installed in the physiology lecture theatre. With these upgrading, the lecture theatre became nearly completed.

However, there is a need for further improvement by expanding, upgrading and most importantly, the proper maintenance of the AV facilities. In parallel with the ongoing building projects, upgrading of the lecture theatres and tutorial complexes, AV facilities will be installed depending the requirement.

### **IP camera and its intended use**

IP camera or network camera is a computer hardware accessory but possesses the basic function of a digital camera. It captures still or motion pictures which can be recorded in its memory card. However, the camera has following additional features which are meant to be important in an academic institution:

1. The camera is connected to the network (university intranet) so that one can watch the motion/still pictures with the sound in a computer attached to this network. An IT technician can help to map the IP address of the camera and install the software so that the computer will gain access to the camera. However, the controlling of the camera is not allowed in these peripheral terminals other than the authorized personals using administrative computers in the e-library or in the TRC.
2. Similarly, these motion pictures can be web-casted (put into internet) outside the university network i.e. thus, a teacher can web cast his or her lectures or tutorials in real time (if done in the physiology lecture theatre) to another group of students elsewhere. This simulates a virtual class room scenario.
3. Since the camera allows recording, an IT technician can record the lectures or any event/functions and download to any of the administrative (IT) computers for further usages i.e. uploading to faculty web or moodle server etc.
4. However, IP cameras are surveillance cameras, therefore, some limitations are associated with these equipments than a conventional digital video camera. However, the resolution, the sound clarity are very high in the model that we have installed and the quality and the resolution of the videos is considerably high.

### **How to utilize the IP camera facility**

As outline above, one has to identify the relevant need and then consult TRC or e-library for utilization of this facility.