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CC:  
Subj: A Matter of Policy

QUESTnet Management Committee

A matter of policy

A situation has arisen where Griffith wants to use part of the bandwidth (64Kbps in fact) of the Megalinks GU to UQ and UQ to QUT for access to parts of its (GU) campus, viz the Conservatorium, which is adjacent to QUT. This avoids any external (to the Universities) costs.

There is an argument that these links are QUESTnet links and were (mainly) funded by the State Gov as their contribution to the TECHQUAD and QUESTnet initiatives and that the links are to provide INTER-institution communications and NOT intra-institution. Therefore Griffith to the Conservatorium is an internal Griffith problem and they should not be allowed to use the links as requested.

The alternative argument is that these links belong to the institutions and are managed by the QUESTnet Management Committee and we can do what we jolly well like with them. I don't recall, nor can find in any correspondence from the Gov, any conditions on the use of these links. Further at a QUESTnet Management meeting last year each director promised he would prepare a list of external links used by their institution and I would coordinate a combined data base to see whether we could rationalise any links for the purpose of cost savings and providing a better service to all. (I should add that UQ prepared their list but I received no information at all from any other institution).

You may guess that I favour the alternative solution which continues the close cooperation between us all, and uses our scarce resources to best effect- but my vote doesn't count since I'm not a director. So I guess it's over to you Directors for some discussion and a policy decision.

Cheers,