4) Online Committee Infrastructure Project: $49.999k

**Executive summary:** The Online Committee proposes to develop:

1. A sustainable web infrastructure to host, archive and disseminate all the media resources of the IT Society.
2. A forum integrated in the current website infrastructure to encourage community participation.

The main priority will be to develop the infrastructure for media resources. The forum will be developed as the budget permits.

**Initiative 1: Hosting, archiving, and disseminating media resources**
Over the years, the society has accumulated many videos and audio recordings of plenary lectures and Shannon lectures, as well as several lectures delivered during the North-American School of Information Theory. Most of these resources are currently archived on http://media.itsoc.org and are not well integrated in the new website infrastructure. In addition, videos and audio recordings are archived in a variety of formats that make their dissemination difficult.

The Online Committee proposes to develop a sustainable infrastructure to host, archive, and disseminate all past and future media resources of the IT Society. The objective is to integrate these resources to the existing website, to improve their accessibility and their visibility. This effort will complement the outreach efforts of the society by making these resources available to a wide audience.

The Online Committee will interact with Six Feet Up (our current developer) to specify, develop and test such an infrastructure. A key aspect of the initiative is to make this infrastructure sustainable in the future, not only in terms of data storage, but also in terms of copyrights.

**Initiative 2: Encouraging online committee participation**
With the deployment of a Content Management System in 2009, the IT society now relies on a state-of-the-art web infrastructure to facilitate the dissemination of information to the community and to support its various sub-committees. The analysis of the web traffic into the website has highlighted the success of the infrastructure.

The Online Committee proposes to further engage the IT Community at large by integrating forums in its website. The objective is not to duplicate resources that can already be found online, but rather to facilitate and encourage discussions and question-asking on IT-specific material. In addition, other committees, such as the Outreach Committee, the Student Committee, or WITHITS, could also deploy forums for specific use.

The Online Committee will again interact with Six Feet Up to specify, develop, and test the forum.
**Timeline and Budget Request**

Given the ambitious nature of the initiative, the timeline for the specification, development and testing is expected to be a year (specifics will depend on the development slots available at Six Feet Up). The requested budget for both initiatives is USD 49,999.