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UD HONORS STUDENTS DEVELOP INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLAN

DAYTON, Ohio, January 6, 1989—As a semester-long class project, University of Dayton honors students have developed a 15-year plan for a telecommunications link between UD and universities abroad. They will present their findings in a presentation on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom on campus. It’s open to the public, and a reception will follow.

Last fall the students staged several teleconferences with college administrators in Brazil to discuss additional opportunities for faculty/student exchanges. Brazil was chosen because UD already has an exchange program with the Universidade Federal do Parana and the Universidade Catholica do Parana. In the future, the students forsee contacts with universities in Tokyo to study Japanese methods of education and business practices and the Vatican library when it becomes automated.

"Telecommunications is an emerging technology," said Robert Mott, chair of the mechanical engineering technology department who taught the systems design seminar. "There are some links between universities in this country, but we weren't able to discover any internationally."

UD owns two downlinks that can be used to receive satellite transmissions. The students recommend that the University produce educational programs in UD's new Information Systems Laboratory and purchase a microwave transmitter to mount on top of the Roesch Library and serve as a relay. Through computer linkages, faculty and students could send electronic mail, access a college's automated library catalogue and engage in other communications. UD has the capabilities of telex, telefax, teleconferencing and three-way audioconferencing, the students noted, but should evaluate slow-scan video, a form of video transmission over phone lines.

For more information about the project, contact Robert Mott at 229-2969.