

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS, INTERVENTIONS AND COLLABORATION

Hacklab: Technology, Creativity, Social Organisation

A weekend gathering for collaborative and creative reflection

February 3/4/5 – 2006

Institute for Advanced Studies

Lancaster University, North West England.

We are happy to invite you to the “Hacklab”, which is a follow-up event to “Making Global Civil Society” (Lancaster, November 4/5/6). It is hosted at and with the support of the Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS) at Lancaster University by the “Counter Knowledge Lab Collective”. For information about hacklabs in general, see www.hacklab.org.uk. Since the gathering will be defined by those who get involved in preparing it, the following are merely suggestions, but the idea is to create topical and themed spaces alongside timetabled sessions.

We imagine talks, discussions, and presentations about things like:

- ✓ technology and social organisation, such as novel “management” and organisation within free software projects or hacklabs, as well as DIY media
- ✓ freedom of information & communication and related social, political, or cultural movements
- ✓ digital divides and tribal connections
- ✓ free hardware?
- ✓ the EU Software Patent Directive (swpat.ffii.org) as enclosure
- ✓ feminism and information technology
- ✓ primitivism (as a technology?)
- ✓ organic composition in music and elsewhere?
- ✓ psychedelic technologies



Additionally, we hope to create spaces for hands-on workshops, such as:

- x how to use Free Software for everyday purposes, such as emailing (Thunderbird, Evolution), web
- x installation of GNU/Linux operating systems (to “dual-boot” with or to replace MS Windows) surfing (Firefox), text writing (OpenOffice.org) and photo manipulations (GIMP)
 - x using the command line interface: the basics
 - x learning (to write) code: from sys-admin scripts to wherever your skills may take you
 - x system security, privacy, encryption, set up a “safe” computer network at home or at work
- x women demystifying the box: understanding components to repair hardware and install software
- x recycle computers: provide access to the public and for artistic installations, such as VJ-ing
 - x any other hacks

Some people are rumoured to be working on multimedia installations: music, video and other forms of altered states of mind. There is also a session being planned about how academic research projects can learn from grassroots movements' and other cyberspace groups' use of ICT for collaborative projects (and knowledge creation) with the view to form a collective to provide such services for academic research projects, like the www.aktivix.org community server does for political activists. Participation is limited to a hundred people. A LIMITED AMOUNT OF TRAVEL GRANTS AND FREE ACCOMODATION IS AVAILABLE.

SEND SUGGESTIONS FOR WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS, AND PAPERS (MAX. 1 PAGE) TO:

n.moeller [at] lancaster . ac . uk / \ get a wiki pwd

Costs, incl. (predominantly organic and vegan) Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner:

Volunteers/unpaid activists:	Free
Unfunded students:	Donation
Funded students, Lancaster academics:	£20 (additional donation welcome!)
Representatives of smaller NGOs:	£35 (negotiable)
Representatives of bigger NGOs:	£65
Academics:	£65

<http://knowledgelab.pbwiki.com/>