



Oprah Winfrey
Leadership Academy for GirlsTM
South Africa



Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls

ICT Department

Empower thru technology

The Vision

- "to be the best human beings they can ever be; to train them to become decision-makers and leaders" – Ms Winfrey
- Give pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds who would otherwise not have been able to rise above their dire circumstances an opportunity to develop their full potential

ICT Department's Vision

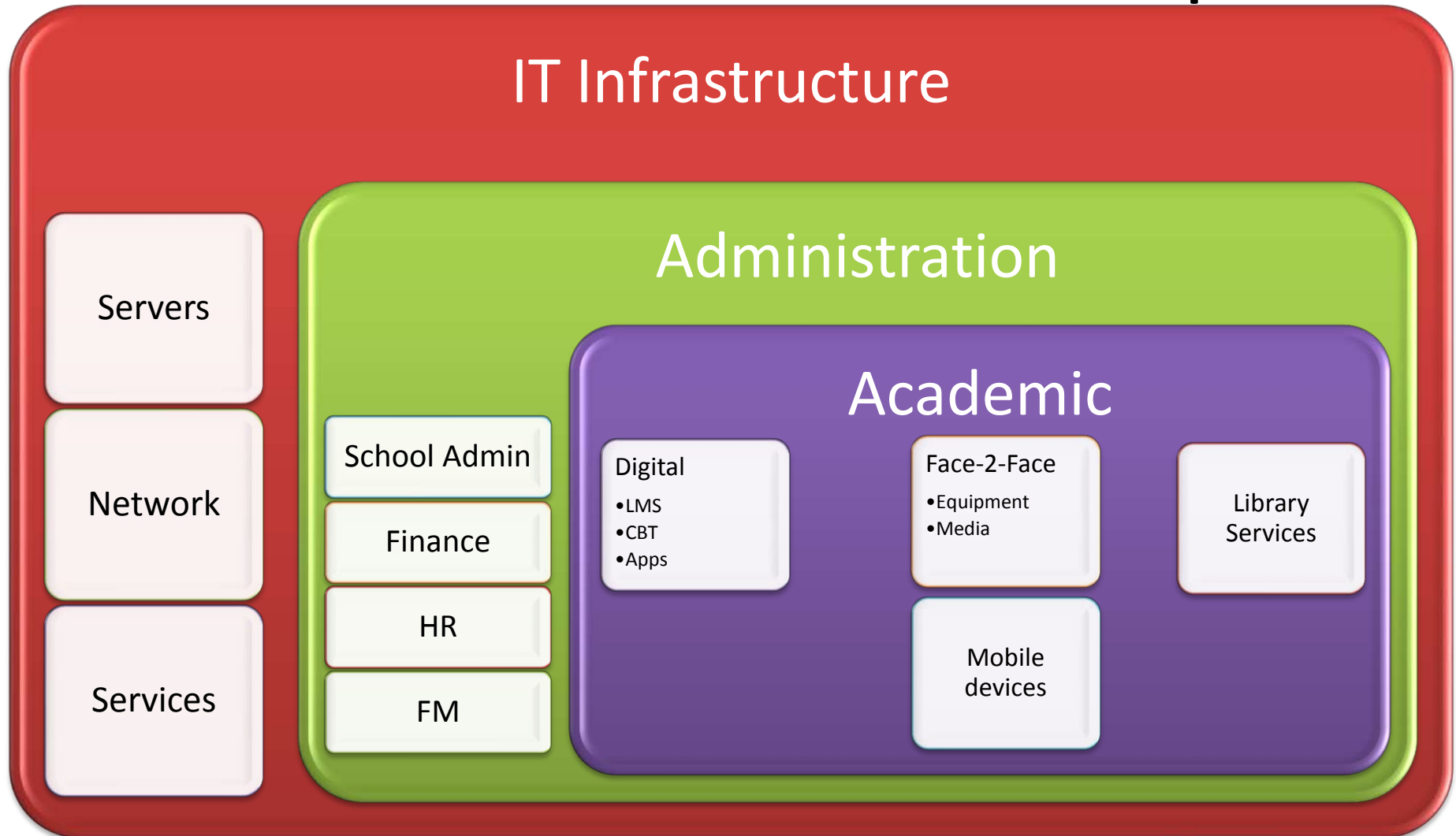
Provide teachers and learners with a non threatening collaborative environment in which they, regardless of differences in their levels of IT competence, are able to use electronic resources to benefit fully from the numerous opportunities offered in the digital realm.

ICT Department: Our Conviction

It is the ICT Department's conviction that an ICT environment with its focus on collaborative learning and the use of cost-effective software applications, services, hardware and other equipment will enable learners and teachers to empower themselves and actively engage with others anywhere anytime.

ICT Elements: Relationship

IT Infrastructure



The Reality in ICT Terms

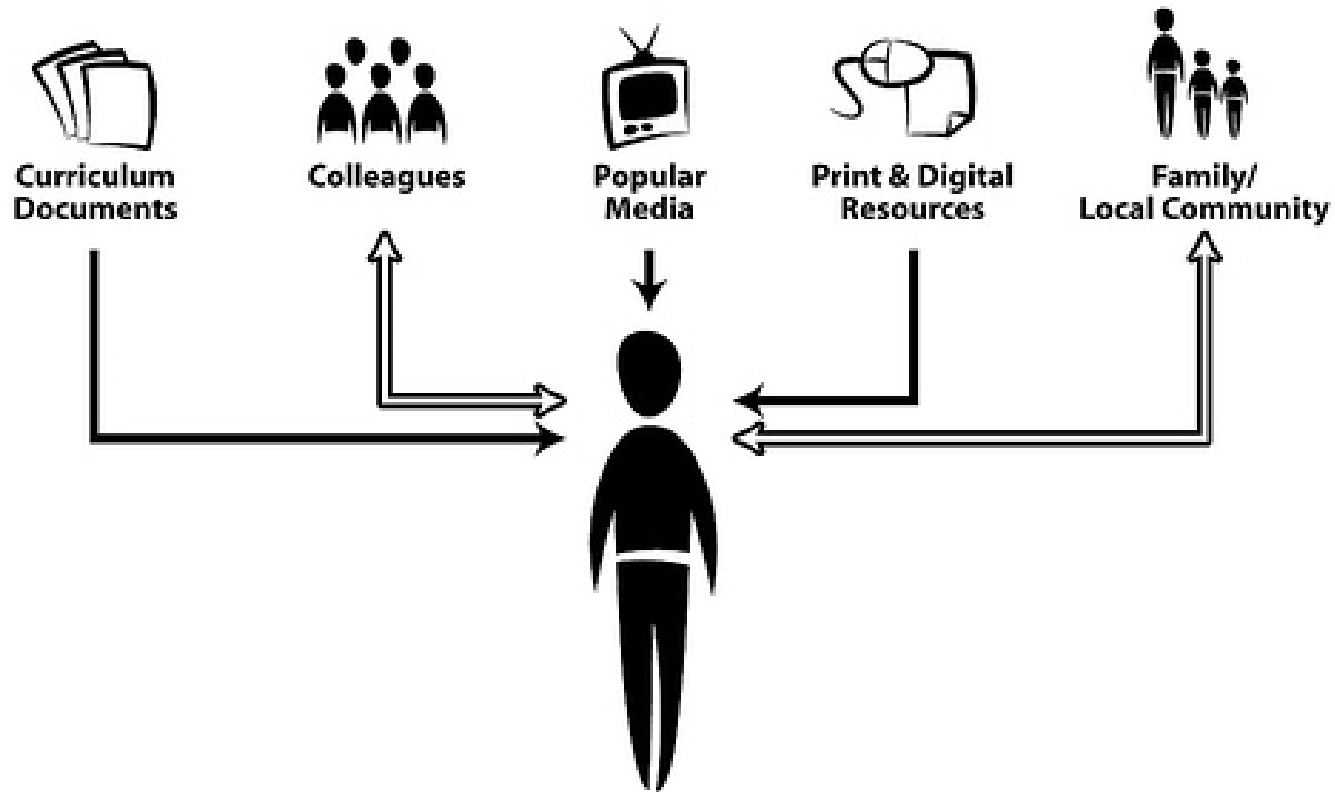
- Education doesn't happen in a vacuum or on an island
- Technology is an enabler allowing people to achieve more, explore new avenues, etc
- Technology can also perpetuate existing inequalities or create new ones
- Educational practices are hard to change
- ICT integration in Education: need a different mindset, way of work; new approach to curriculum; different teaching & learning techniques

A Theoretical Base: Connected Learning

- New learning theories for a connected world, e.g. *Connectivism*
- Learning happens within the network
- The Networked class
- The Networked teacher
- The Networked School



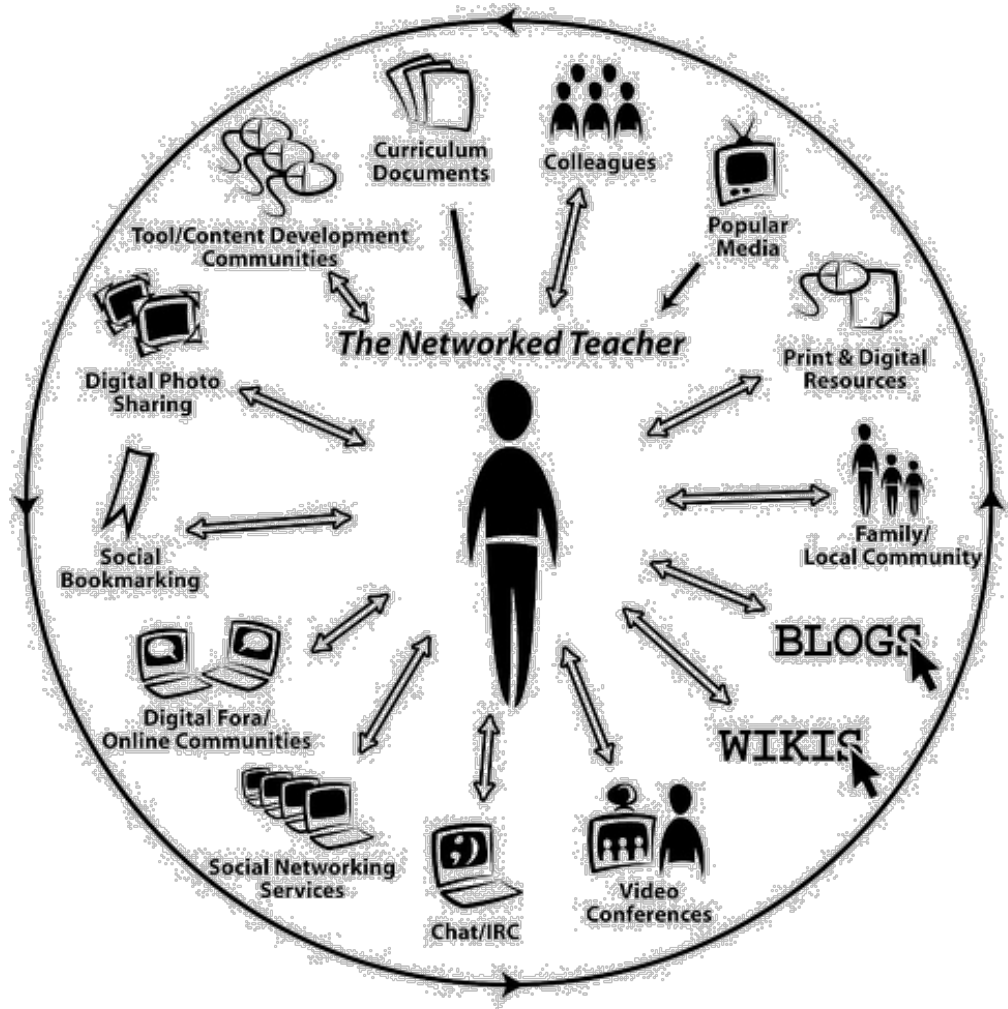
Teachers Then



Typical Teacher Network

Source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/51035553780@N01/344832659>

Teachers now



Source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/courosa/344832591/>

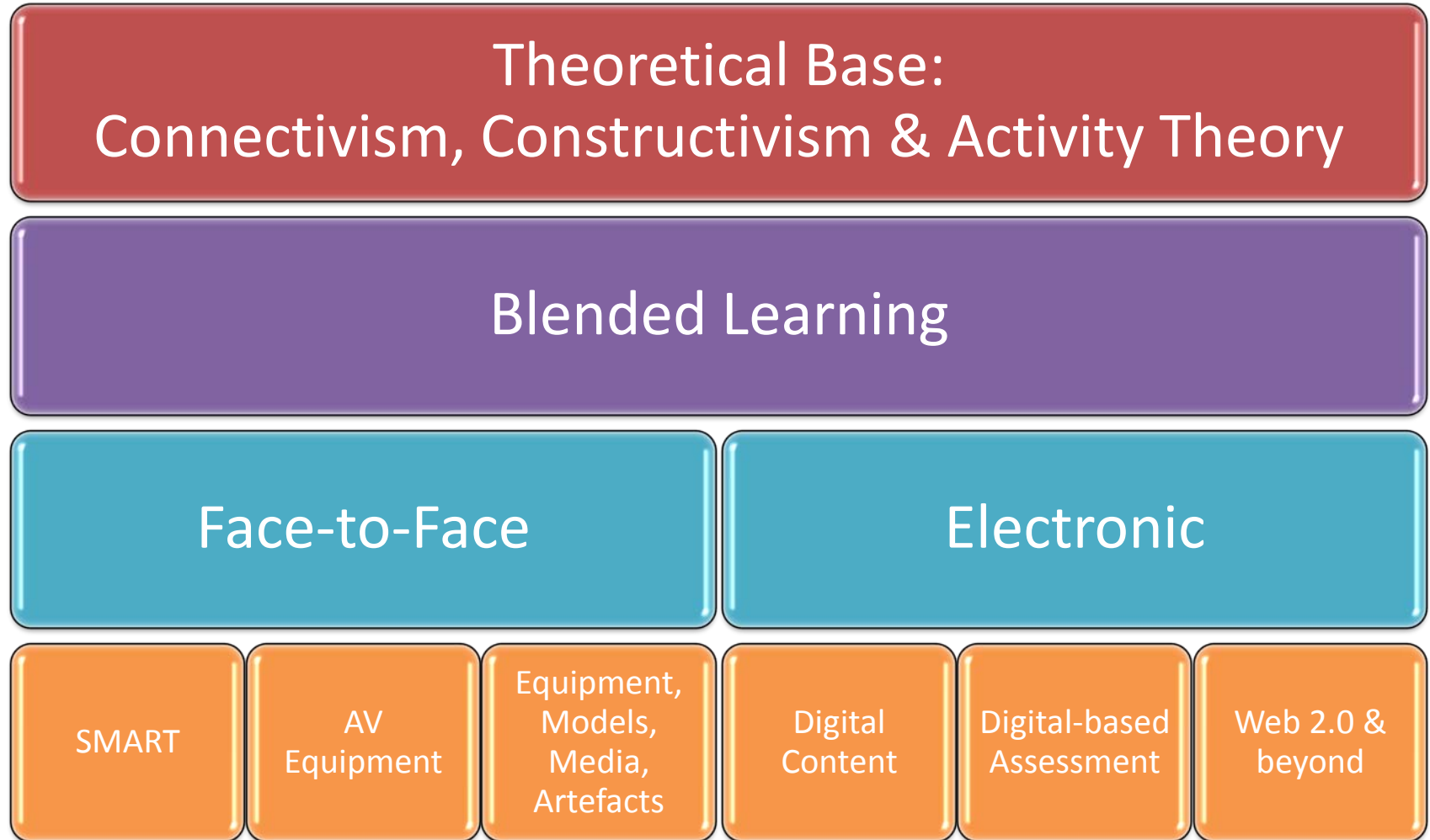
How we are doing IT: Hardware

- SMART (TM) Interactive Whiteboards in each classroom
- Laptop per teacher
- Hardware accessibility for learners
 - Grade 7: Desktops in subject classes
 - Grade 11: Laptop per learner
 - Grade 10 CAT and IT learners: Notebook per learner
 - Trolleys in Social Sciences, Life Sciences, Arts and Culture

How are We Practising IT

- Blended learning
 - SMART TM Interactive Whiteboards
 - LMS (*Moodle*)
 - CBT (Various applications)
 - Mobile devices

ICT Integration: A Model



Practising IT: Living Connectivism

- Connecting teachers, pupils and classrooms
 - We will start internally @ OWLAG
 - Expand to link other schools, learners and teachers



Practising Connectivism: Why

- Influence Pedagogy through ICT
 - Enhance the development of student information literacy
 - Enhance the development of student problem solving capabilities
 - Use ICT as a tool to create learning experiences beyond their immediate physical environment
 - Create online experiences for team work and connectedness

Practising IT: Care through Share

- Adopt a teacher
- Care for a computer
- Reach out to fellow pupils



Why are we doing IT?

- Different kinds of literacies
- Skills required for 21st century learners
 - Capable information technology users;
 - Information seekers, analyzers, and evaluators;
 - Problem solvers and decision makers;
 - Creative and effective users of productivity tools;
 - Communicators, collaborators, publishers, and producers; informed, responsible, and contributing citizens.



Role of Library @ OWLAG

- Physical location of the Library on Campus
- Electronic system in library: Destiny
- Teachers use and integrate Destiny
- Information Literacy and nurturing a culture of reading



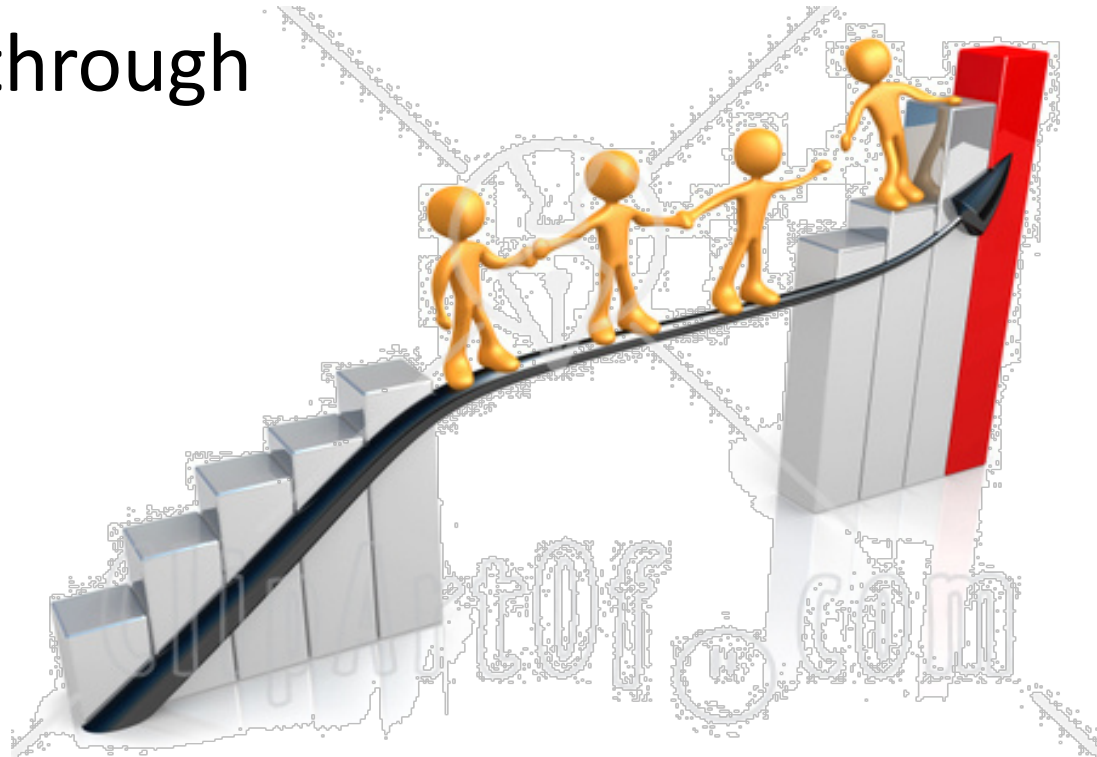
Role of Library: An ICT Perspective

- Be of service to humanity through just-in-time knowledge
- Libraries are connectors
- Library is a mindset as much as it is a place



African Libraries in a Digital Age: A Personal View

- The HUMAN library – use technology to connect to a human
- Develop human capital
- Bridge the divide through partnerships



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