



Visions Worth Working Toward

Learning On Line '98

Building the Virtual University

Virginia Tech
Roanoke, Virginia

June 18, 1998
Steven W. Gilbert
President
The TLT Group

AAHE's Teaching, Learning, & Technology Affiliate

AGENDA

- Perspective, Myths
- Past, Present, Future
- Vision(s) Worth Working Toward
 - TLTR & TLTG Vision “Cube”
- Conclusion/Commercial

PERSPECTIVE

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TLT Group Approach

It is more important
to build the future
than to predict it.

THANKS -- TLT GROUP FOUNDING SPONSORS

- Compaq
- Microsoft
- Real Education
- SCT

MYTHS (cont.)

3. You'll be satisfied with your personal computer for several years.
4. The *newest* technology will be easier to use and more reliable than what you're used to.

MYTHS (cont.)

9. Being more accessible wherever you are via telecommunications makes life better.

MYTHS (cont.)

10. The Goal is:
Anytime, Anywhere
Education.
11. There are many millions
of self-disciplined
self-motivated learners.

MYTHS (cont.)

12. Someone really understands all the dimensions of face-to-face communications

-- and knows which aspects can be fully replaced by telecommunications.

MYTHS (cont.)

13. Most institutional leaders know what they're talking about when they say:
“We’re launching a new distance education program.”

MYTHS (cont.)

14. It's OK to ignore changing competition from for-profit educational institutions and virtual universities.

MYTHS (cont.)

15. Education is just like other industries.

16. Industry leaders always know what they're doing.

MYTHS (cont.)

17. “The Market” really knows what it wants.*

* If we just wait a few years, everything will re-stabilize.

PAST

[SOME?] STUDENT BEHAVIOR IS CHANGING

- 30% ?? Students Don't Buy Required Textbooks (New or Used) for Courses Requiring Them

FACULTY & PROSTAFF CAN'T KEEP UP

- Pace of Arrival of Attractive New Options
- Faculty Cannot Implement Some Options Independently

“Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch...”¹⁶

93-97: I. T. => MAINSTREAM

- Educational Use of Info Tech Enters (Faculty) Mainstream
(Word-processing, EMail, World Wide Web, Discipline-Specific Applications)
- How many of you have “good” EMail?
Easy to send attachment?

SUPPORT SERVICE CRISIS

- Expectation/Reality Gap
- Insufficient Support Services
(Technology, Library, Faculty Development,
Student Services)
- SIMILAR IN U.S. INDUSTRY

PRESENT

CHANGING ROLES/DEMOGRAPHICS

- National, Not Necessarily Local
- Composition of Student Body
- Composition of Faculty
 - Adjuncts, Retirees

DISTANCE EDUCATION CONFUSION

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- Many Approaches,
Many Technologies
(From Cars to ITV)
 - Virtual Universities
 - Evolving Courses
 - Accidental
Distance Education

“GLIMMERS”

- Ubiquitous Computing
- T/L Centers
(Technology, Library,
Faculty Development)
- Building/Retrofitting
“Electronic Classrooms”

FACULTY BACKLASH

- Zealots vs. Luddites
- DANGER:
Removing Reasonable
Middle Ground

HOLLOW COMMITMENTS?

- Student-Centeredness
- Asynchronous Learning
- Knowledge Society
- Learning Organizations
- Shared Governance

LEADERS WON'T WAIT

- Growing Conviction that “Traditional” Model is Inadequate
- Competition for Students, Faculty, Grants
- Lack Data, Clear Vision (Individually, Institutionally)

THE FUTURE

- Prediction
- Wish
- Nightmare
- Vision Worth Working Toward
- [Hallucination]

THINK/TALK/PRESENT

- Prediction
- Wish
- Nightmare

PREDICTIONS

- Change, Not Transformation
 - [Short of Astrological, Meteorological, or Social Revolution]
 - “If everything’s under control, you’re not going fast enough.”
 - Mario Andretti (?)

NIGHTMARES

- [Like Health Industry] Some Best Practitioners Pushed Out of the Profession
- Adjuncts Treated as 2nd Rate and Respond Accordingly

NIGHTMARES (cont.)

- Standardization Lowers Ceiling Instead of Raising Floor
- Individualization Undermines Community

NIGHTMARES (cont.)

- Backlash Delays Development & Implementation of Best New Combinations of Technology & Pedagogy

BIGGEST FEAR

- Widening
Have/Have Not Gap
 - Public Private
 - Inter-Institutional
 - Local
 - Socio-Economic

FEAR IS LOUSY MOTIVATOR FOR CHANGE

■ REPLACE FEAR
WITH TRUST

VISIONS

WORTH WORKING TOWARD (VWWT)

- Attractive, Feasible with Commitment/Effort
- Periodic (Re)Vision Process
- New Options Can Enable Deepest Change:
 - New Questions, New Content, New Pedagogy, New Structure

VWWT (cont.)

■ Link

Pedagogical, Technological, Financial, ...

■ Link

Institutional, “Departmental,” Personal
[& System]

■ Capture

Resources, Minds, Hearts

CHALLENGE: INSTITUTIONAL FRAGMENTATION

- Improving T/L with Information Technology Requires Collaboration
- Why is Collaboration so Difficult in Higher Education?

Most Common Strategy...Still

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for Integrating Info Tech
into Teaching and Learning:

■ CRISIS

■ LURCH

■ CRISIS

■ LURCH

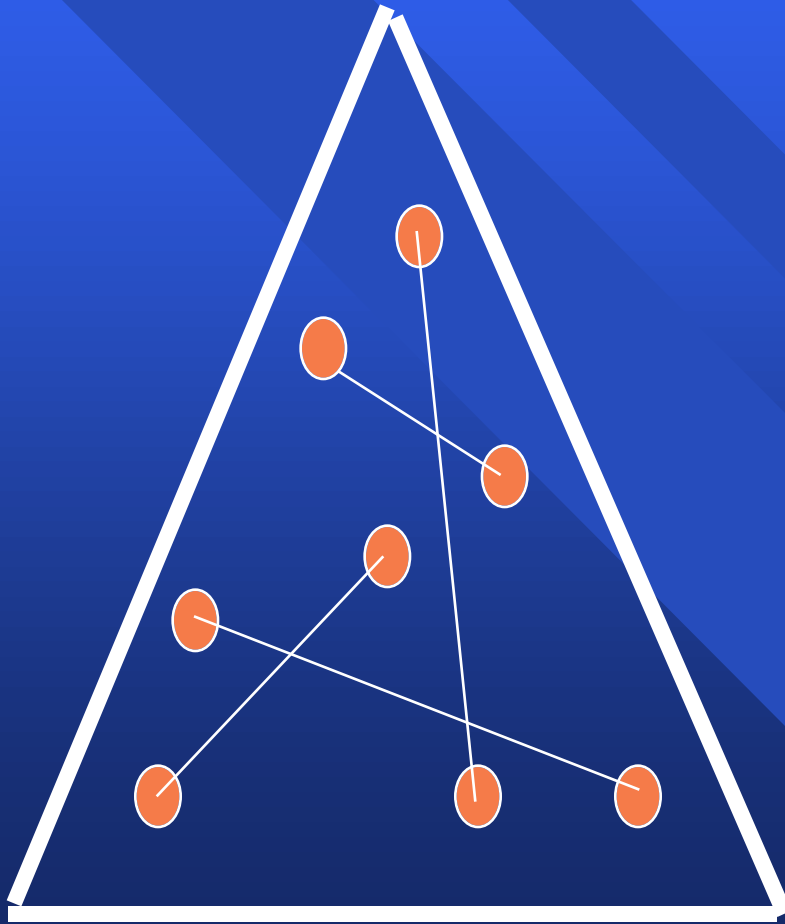
■ CRISIS

■ LURCH

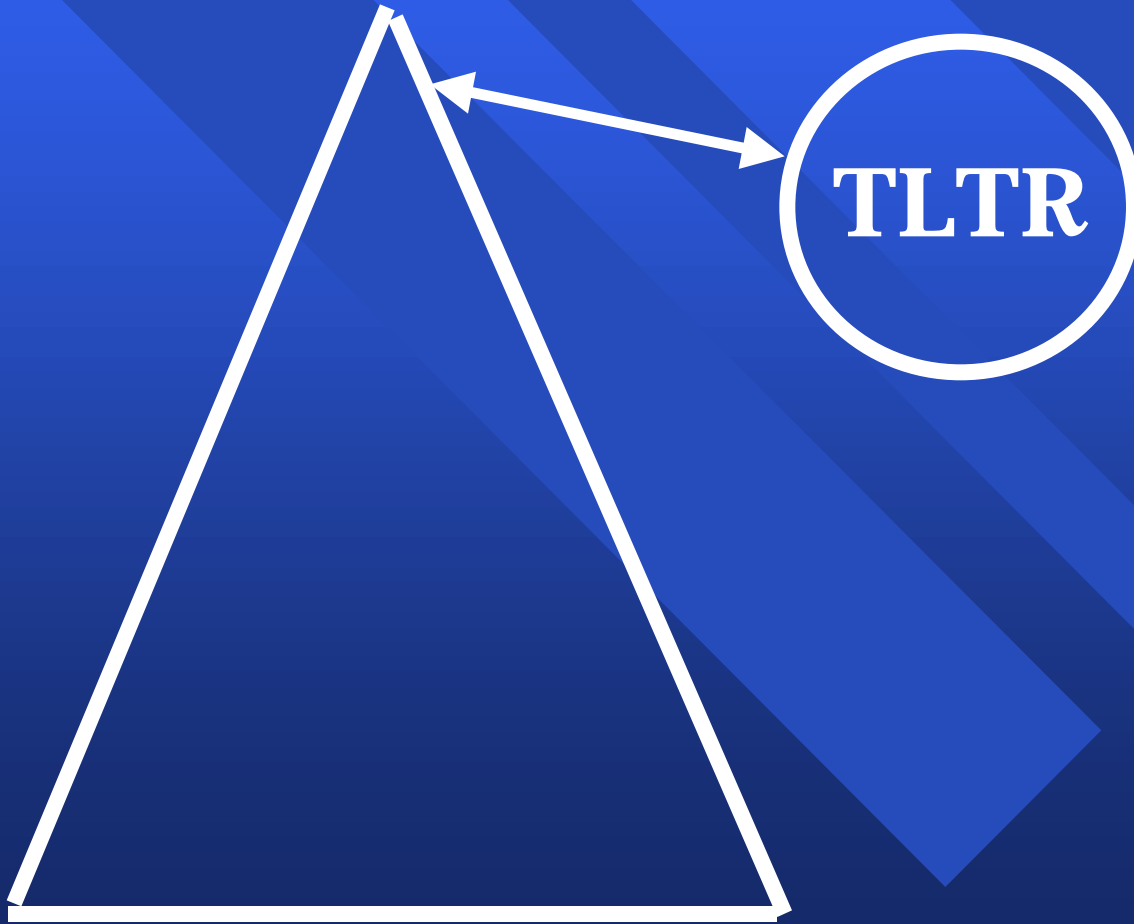
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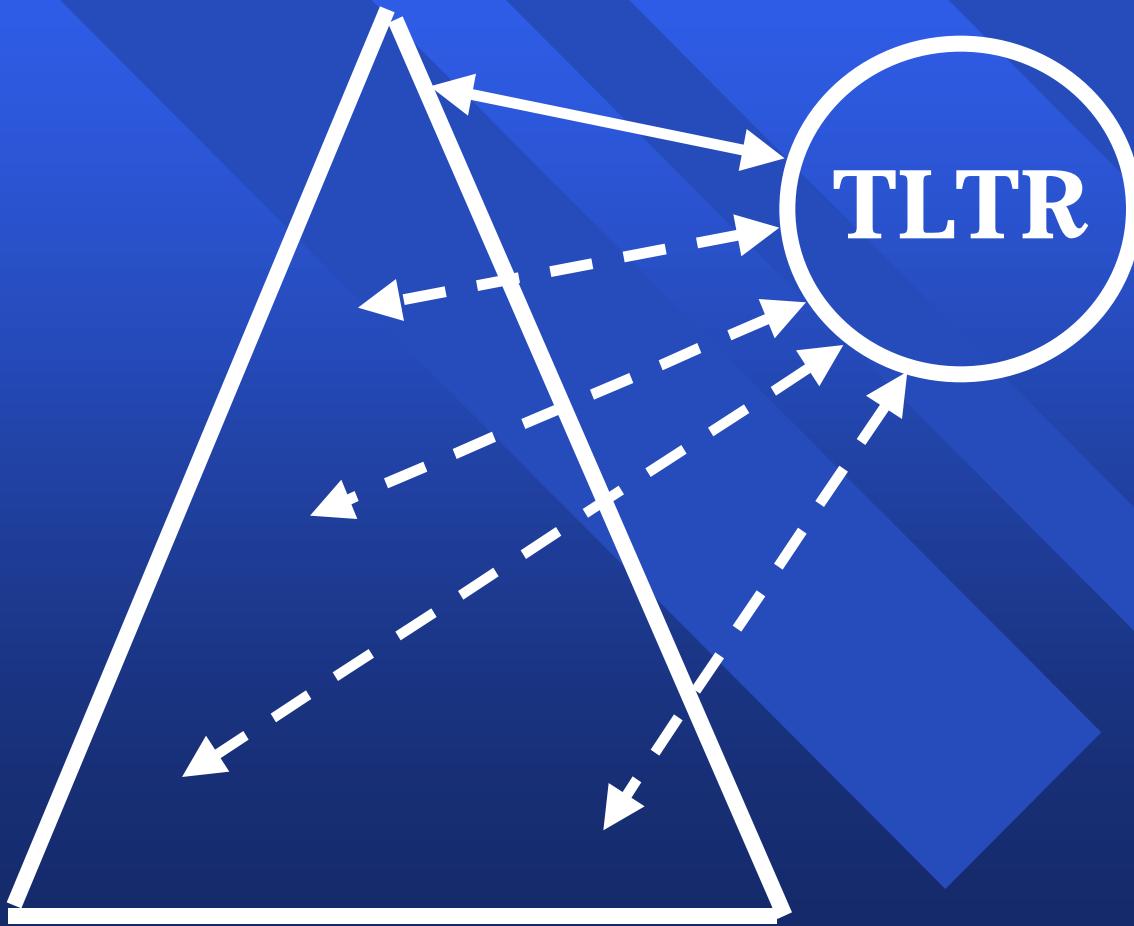
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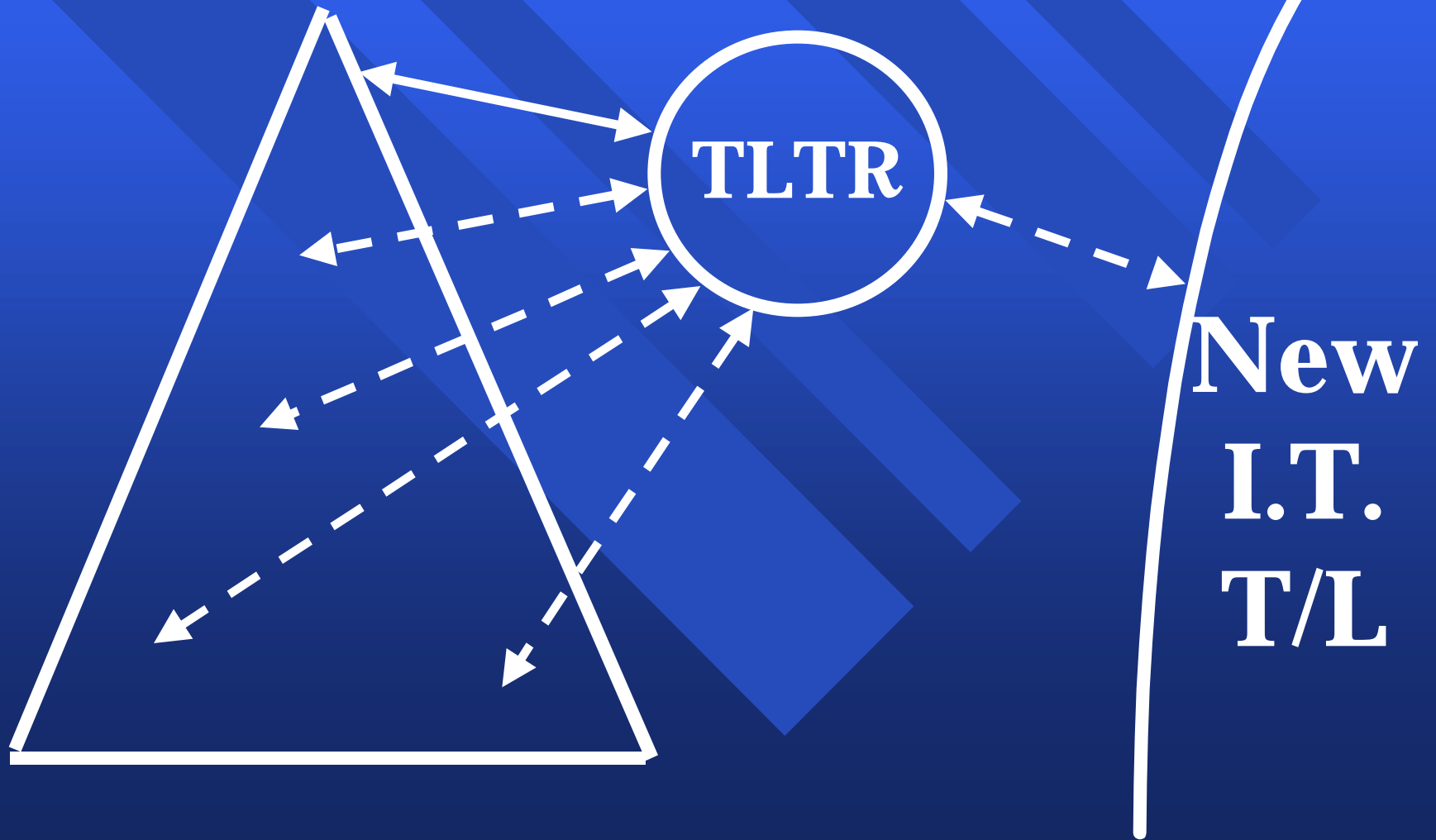
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LOCAL TLT ROUNDTABLE

- Focus Resources on Teaching/Learning
- Inclusive Policymaking, Advising
- De-Fragmentation, Collaboration
– Student-Faculty

TLTG Vision, Path, Support

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TLTG Vision, Path, Support

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Vision Worth Working Toward

TLTG Vision, Path, Support

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TLTR	STA	Time	\$Plan	Assessment
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Vision Worth Working Toward

TLTG Vision, Path, Support

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Discipline Tools	E M a i l W W W	M M P r e s e n t a t i o n ...	V i d e o
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Access: Easy, Reliable, Compatible

TLTR	STA	Time	\$Plan	Assessment
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Vision Worth Working Toward

TLTG Vision, Path, Support

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“Fair Use” Information Literacy

Discipline Tools	E M a i l W W W	M M P r e s e n t a t i o n ...	V i d e o
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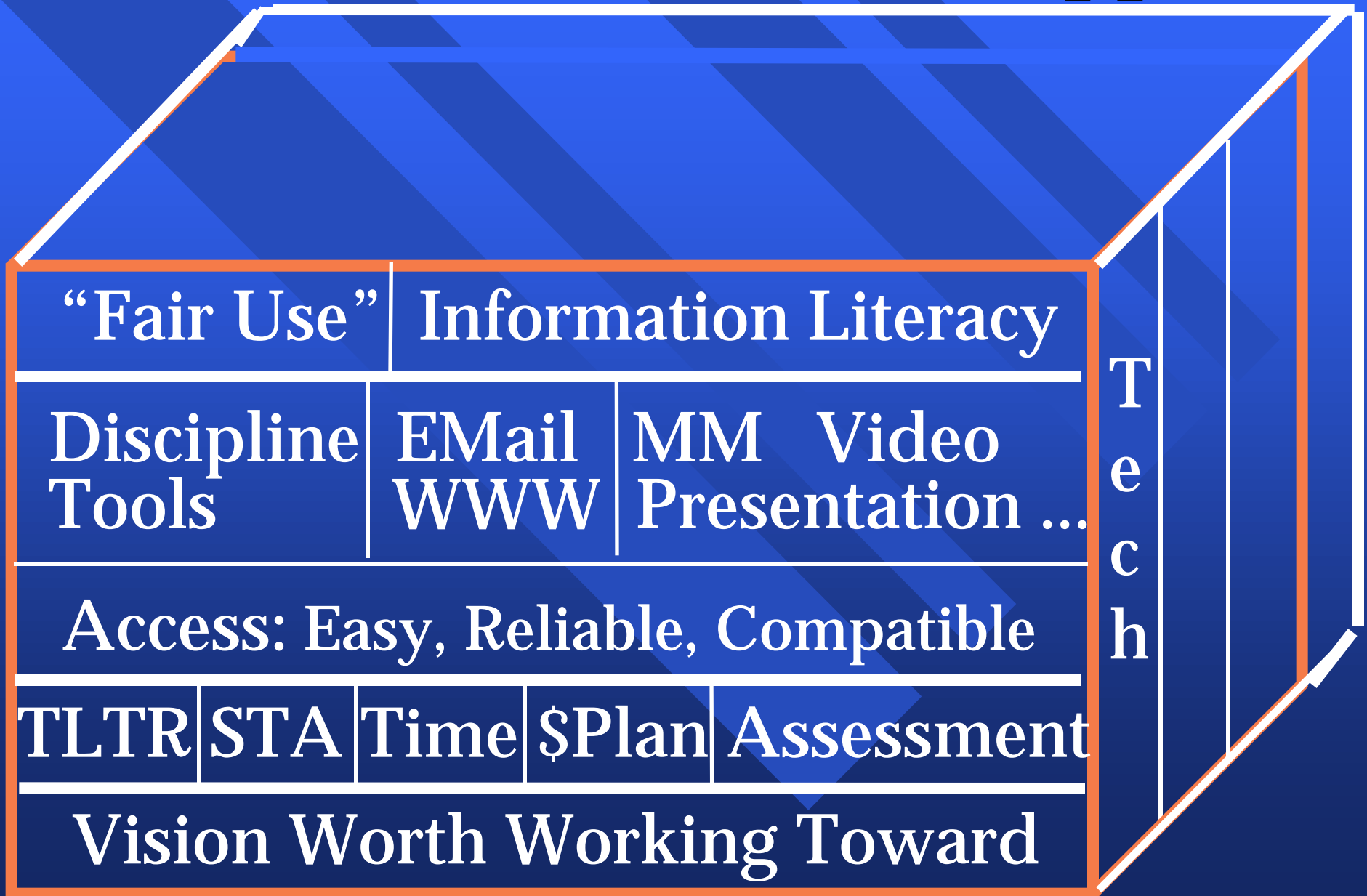
Access: Easy, Reliable, Compatible

TLTR	STA	Time	\$Plan	Assessment
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Vision Worth Working Toward

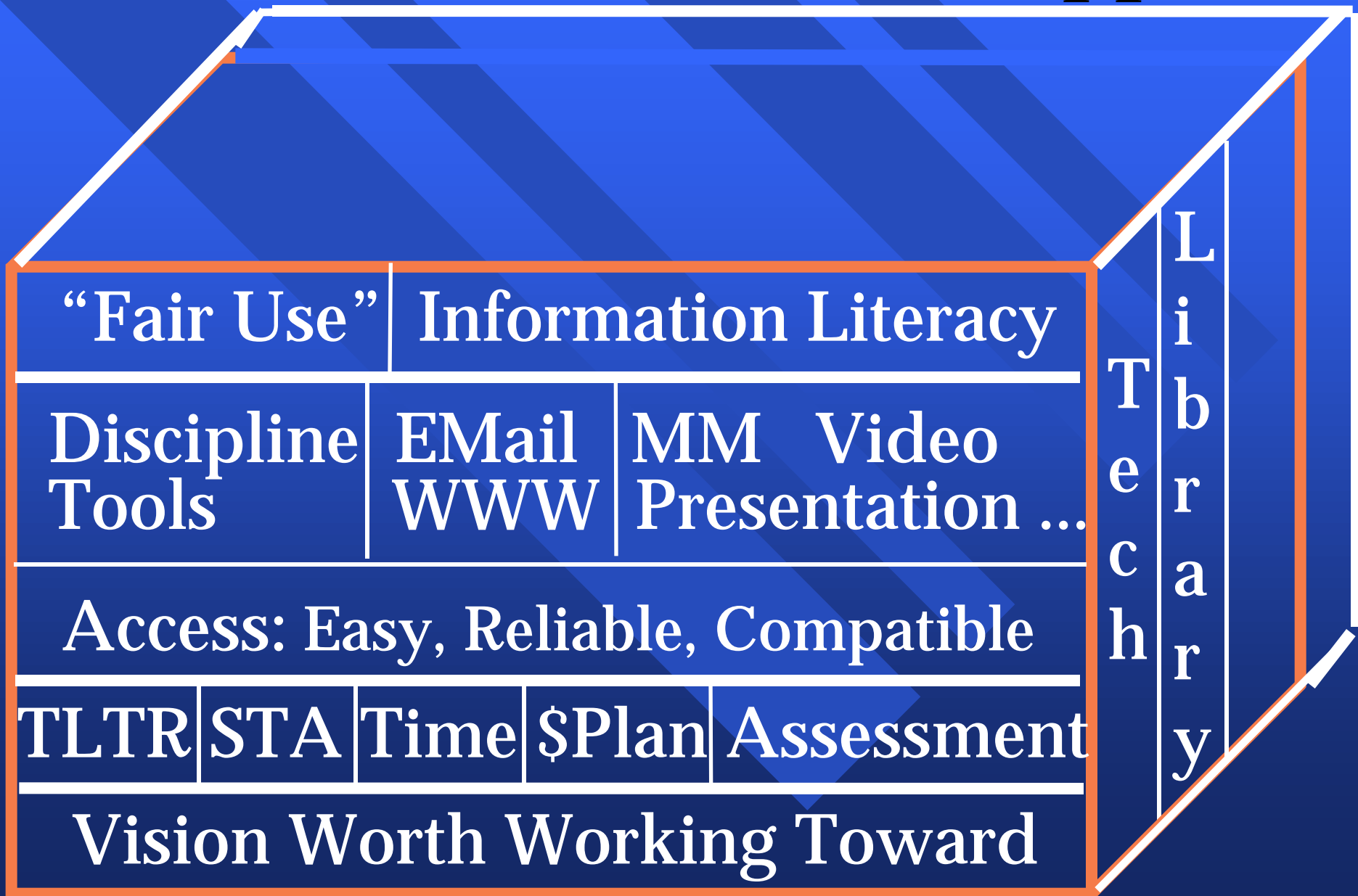
TLTG Vision, Path, Support

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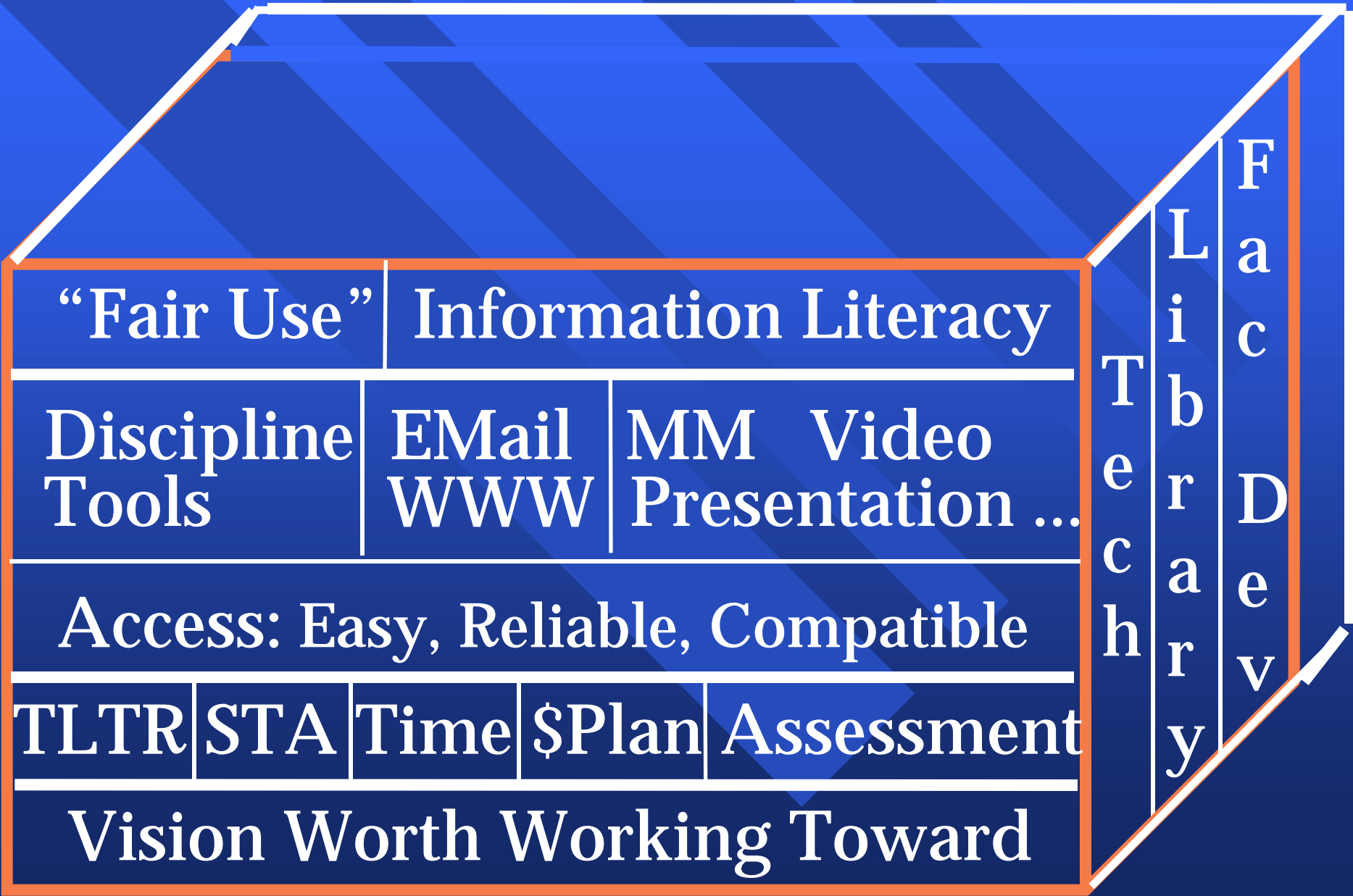


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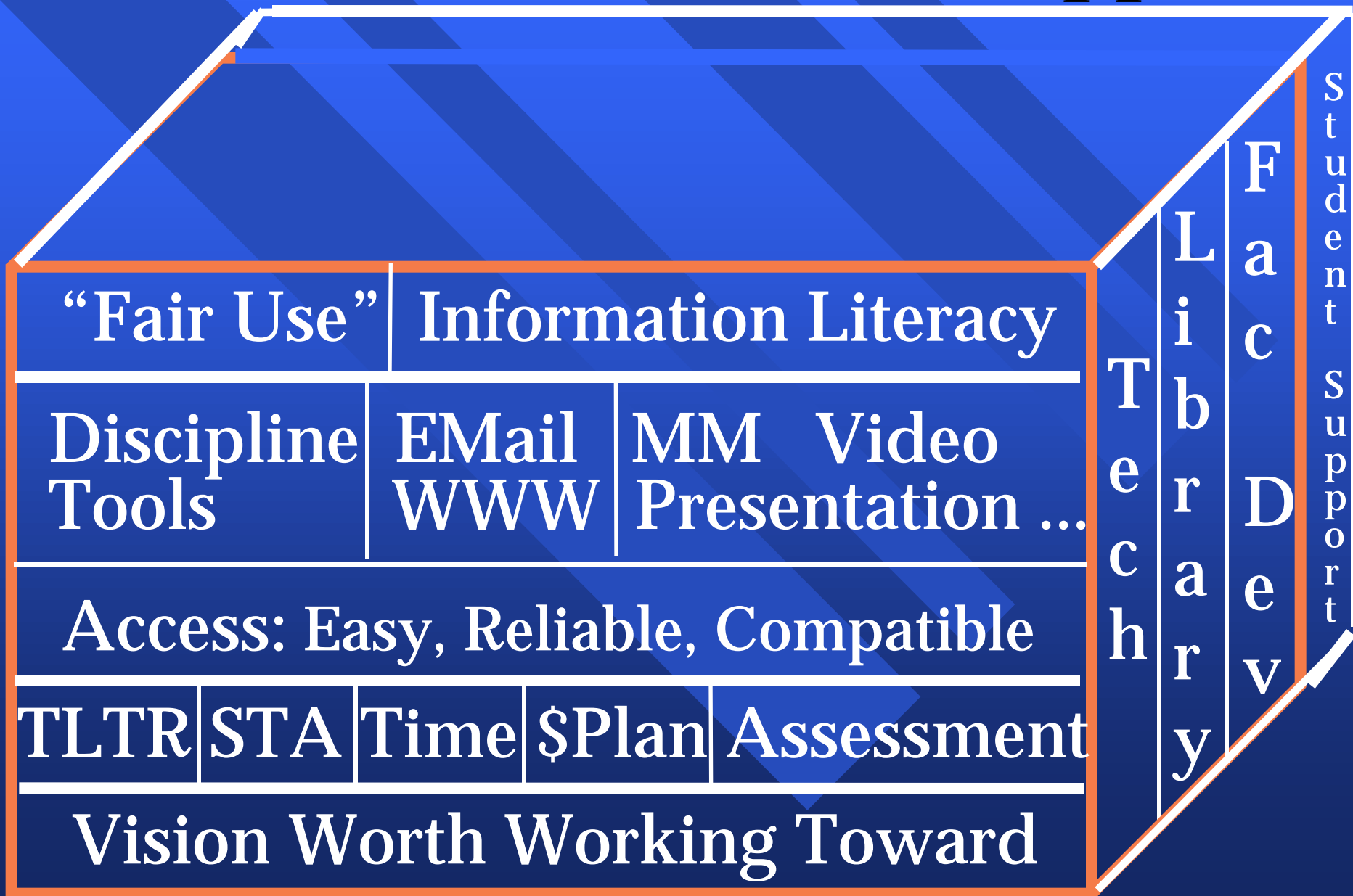


TLTG Vision, Path, Support



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TLTG Vision, Path, Support

to Improve Teaching & Learning
Informed Choice

“Fair Use”

Information Literacy

Discipline
Tools

E-Mail
WWW

MM Video
Presentation ...

Access: Easy, Reliable, Compatible

TLTR

STA

Time

\$Plan

Assessment

Vision Worth Working Toward

Teacher

Library

Faculty Dev

Student Support

ACTIVE INFORMED CHOICE

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- Lifelong Teaching & Lifelong Learning
 - Respectability, Resources
- Variety of Faculty/Student Collaboration
- Easy Implementation of Varied Combinations of Pedagogy, Technology

ACCESS, NOT EXCLUSION

- Encounters with Ideas & People Over Time [F2F?]
- Liberal Arts AND Job/Career Preparation

COMMERCIAL/ CONCLUSION

■ See Hand-Outs

TLT GROUP OPTIONS

- TLTR “Levers for Change”
Workbook, Other Publications
- See: WWW.TLTGROUP.ORG
- *ANNUAL TLTR SUMMER INSTITUTE*
– July 11-14, 1998 -- Phoenix!

TLT Group Events

■ *HOST WORKSHOPS*

–1/2 Day TLTR Intro

–1.5 Day TLTR

“Levers for Change” “Catalyst
Institutes”

–[NEW: Visions, STA,
Degrees of Distance, Flashlight, EASI!]

Subscribe to
LISTSERV
AAHESGIT

Send message to
LISTPROC@LIST.CREN.NET

“SUBSCRIBE AAHESGIT
YOURFIRSTNAME YOURLASTNAME”

RESPECT, BUILD ON LOCAL CULTURE (& POLITICS)

- Excitement for Pioneers
- Comfortable Engagement for Mainstream
- [Respect for Reluctant]

ENABLE LEARNERS & TEACHERS

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■ Help Learners (& Teachers)

Realize [Wizard of Oz]:

–They Have the Brain

–They Have the Heart

–They Have the Courage

–[Do They Have the Equipment?
The Time?]

(Only 4 more slides
after this one!)

■ HOW CAN WE HELP?

■ Send EMail to:

GILBERT@TLTGROUP.ORG

3 FUNDAMENTAL [VWWT] QUESTIONS

1. VWWT: What are 1 or 2 important results that you most want to gain from educational uses of information technology?
 - a. For your students?
 - b. For your institution?
 - c. For yourself?

VWWT QUESTIONS (cont.)

2. What do you most cherish and want not to lose (for your institution)?

VWWT QUESTIONS (cont.)

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3. What are you willing (eager?)
to give up or cut back?

[What are you willing to sacrifice in order
to gain or keep something you identified in I
or II?]

- a. For your students?
- b. For your institution?
- c. For yourself?



**BUILD YOUR OWN VISION
WORTH WORKING TOWARD!**