

Before planning a
direction, it's good to know
where you are...

Ian Dolphin
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation



Subtext 1:

Tendency to believe the status quo is unchanging



Subtext 2:
Pragmatist, not prophet

In the beginning ...



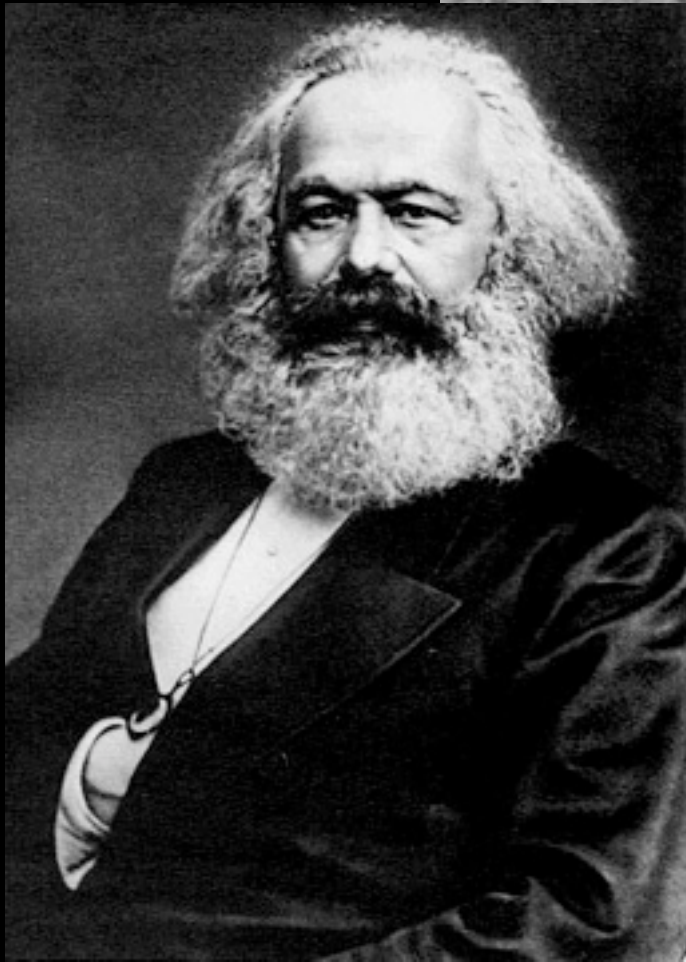
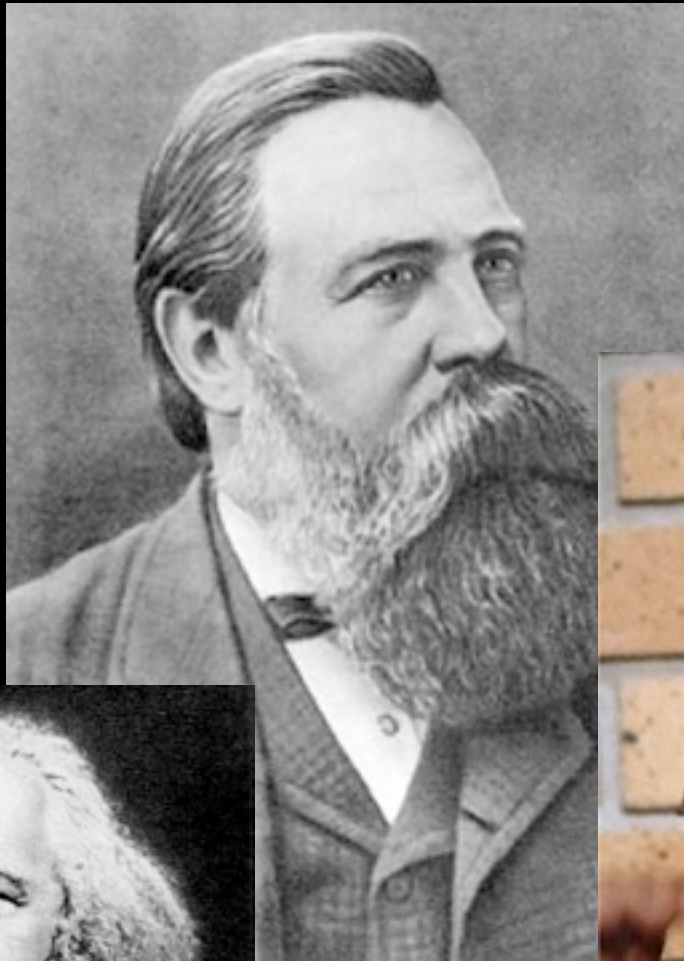




Software came with the box.

There was a culture of exchange and
improvement.

Who was responsible?





IBM

digital

Predicated by ...



"I think there is a world market for
maybe five computers"

Thomas J Watson, IBM

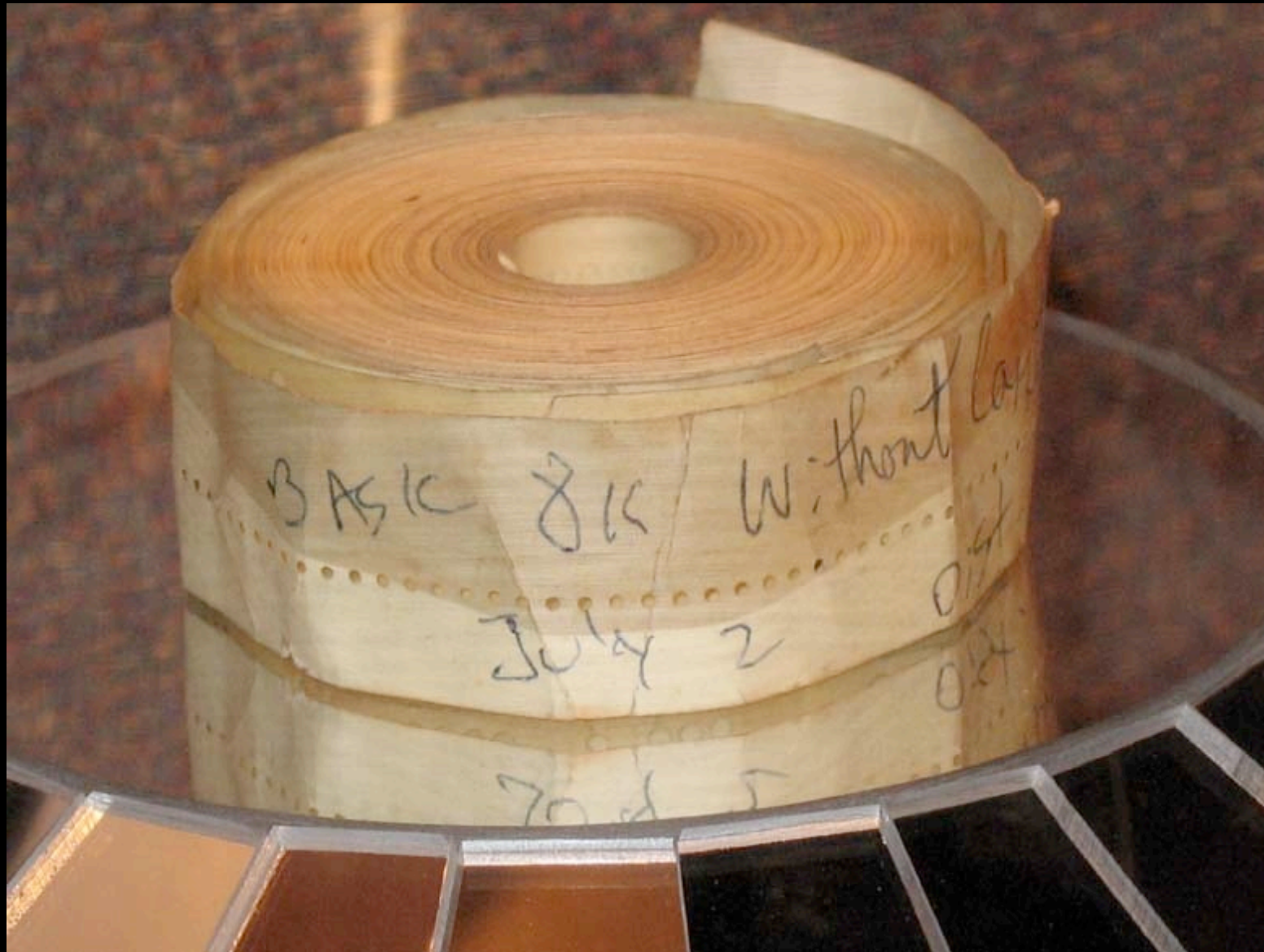
Business models evolve ...



Well, actually ...



New markets.



...the time spent on it fair but worth less than \$2 an hour

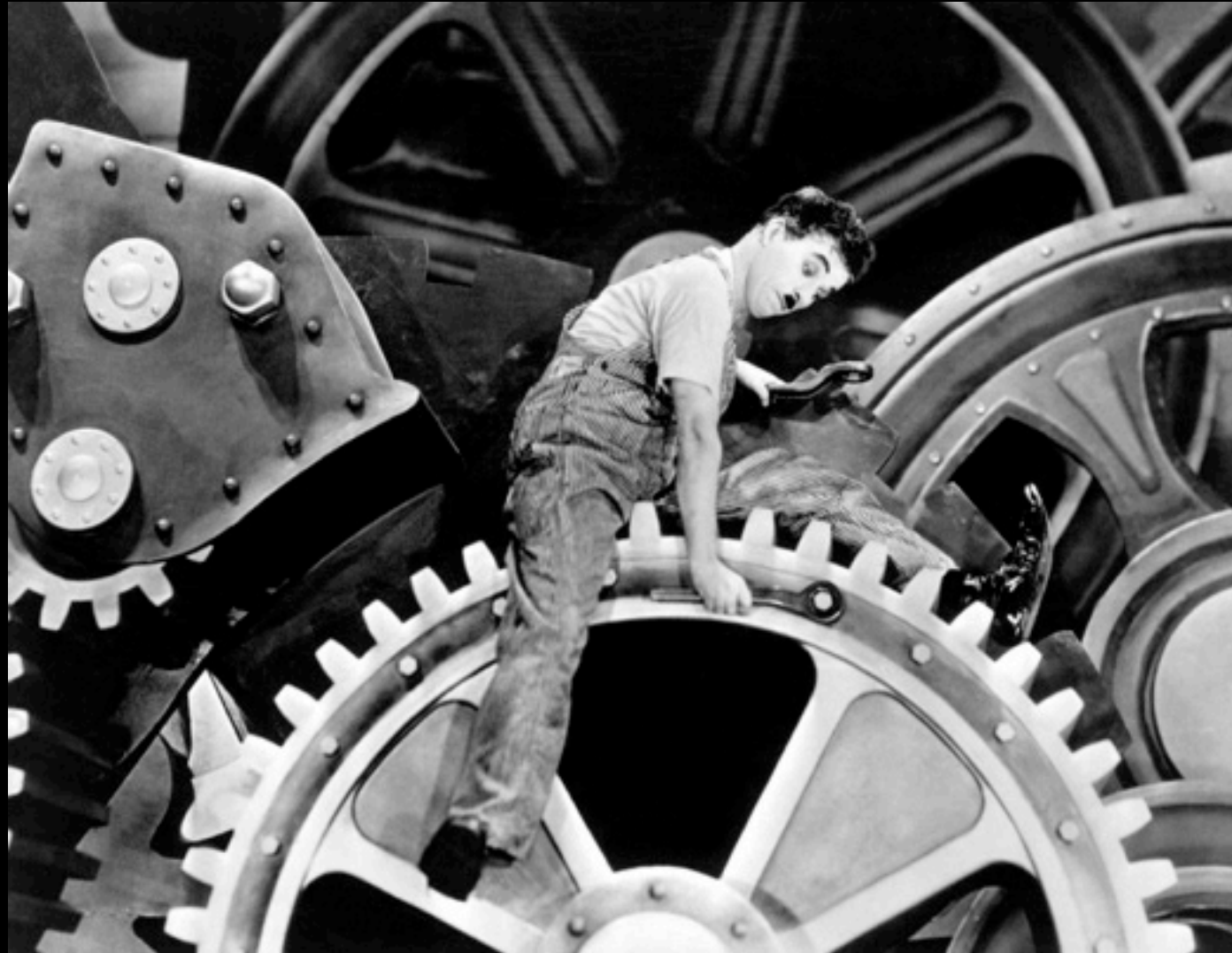
Why is this? As the majority of hobbyists must be aware, most of you steal your software. Hardware must be paid for, but software is something to share. Who cares if the people who worked on it get paid?

Is this fair? One thing you don't do by stealing software is get back at MIT. For some problem you may have had, MIT doesn't

By the 1990's ...



But in Higher Ed, Many felt ...



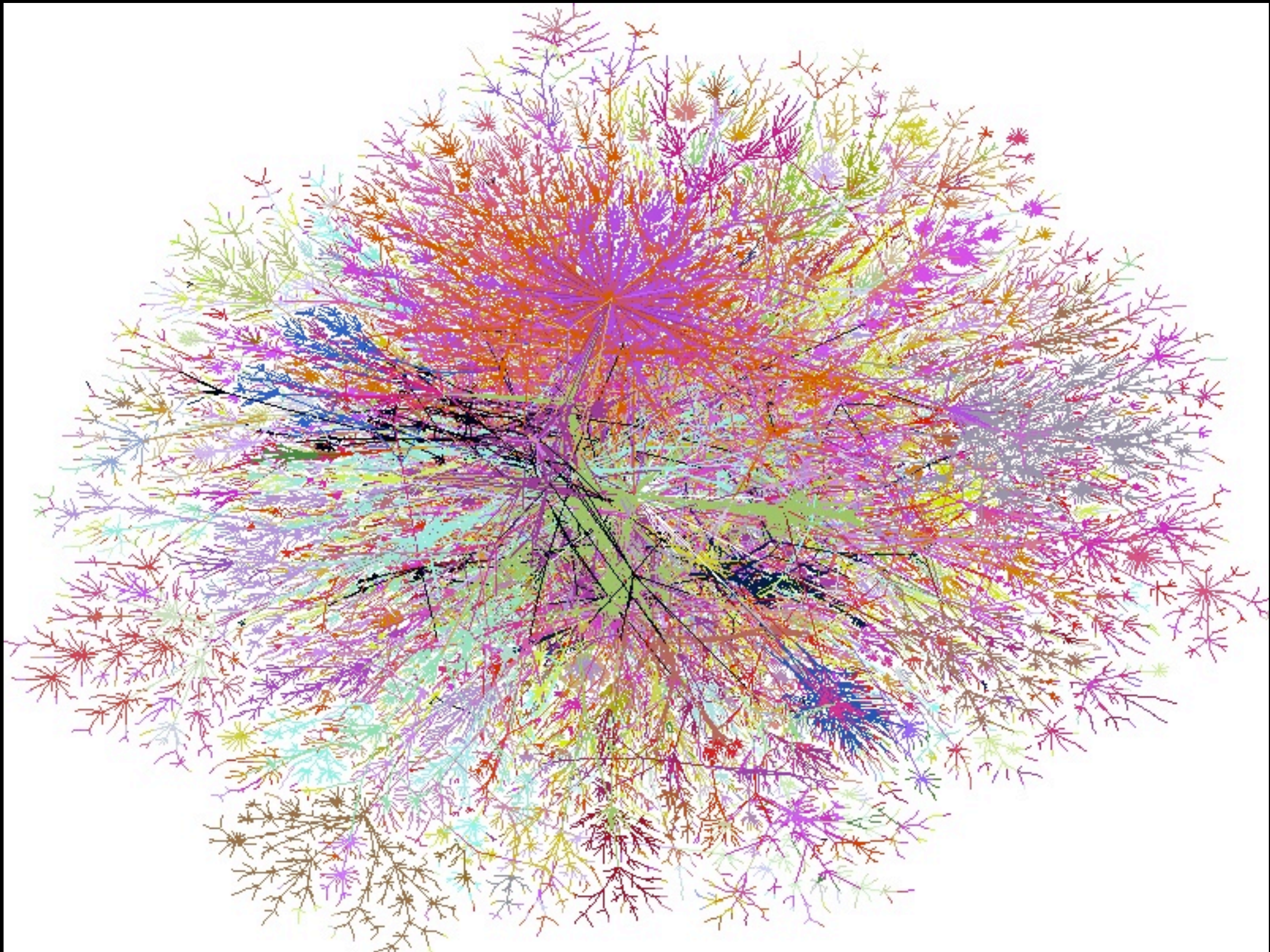
The era of the multi-million \$ ERP



Some kept the flame alive...



Others explored new forms of collaborative development...



... powered by an increasingly pervasive network

photo by Jurvetson (flickr)



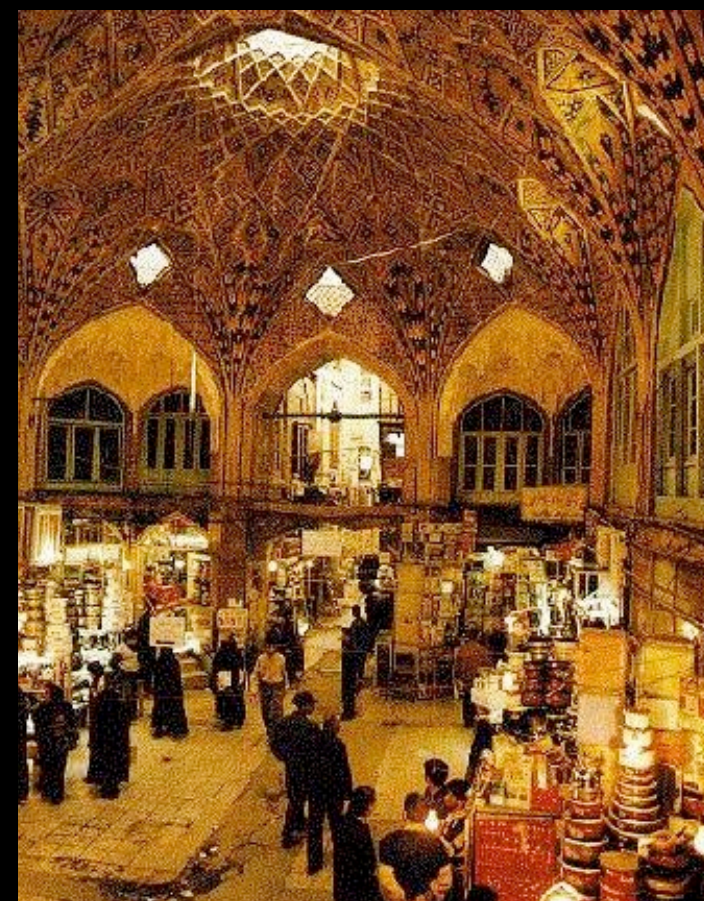
“The relatively small size of higher education may also make it especially vulnerable to monopolization”

Key Themes: Cost, Performance, Control

Paul Courant, Librarian, University of Michigan, 2006

Software and Collaboration in Higher Education: A Study of Open Source Software: Courant/Griffiths

Software Production: Eric Raymond's Metaphor (with an addition)



“Community Source”
“The Pub between the Cathedral and the Bazaar”
Brad Wheeler - CIO, Indiana University



*A formal, or loose association of HEI's and business partners developing software with an OS license.
An organisational spectrum; a set of evolving principles.
Not a uniform approach or blueprint.
A blend of collegiality and meritocracy.*

What was Brad describing?

Mellon Foundation seed funding ...

2000



2004



2006



A Continuum ...

2000



2004



2006



Different points of focus and origin:

Infrastructure

Academic Mission

Administrative

Loosely Consortial

Consortial

Highly Consortial

Projects/Products - different points in lifecycle

State of Sakai ...

Foundation - 67 Education, 16 Commercial Partners

International: Increasingly viable regional/national groups

Full time paid staff: Exec Director, Tech Coordinator

Fractional paid staff: Admin, accounting, specialists

Contributed staff: Tech leads,

“Light touch” Community Coordination

Not narrowly technical - Teaching & Learning Community

Conferences, Legal, Licensing, Tech Infrastructure

Fellows - recognizing outstanding contributors

State of Sakai ... Multi-Project Community

Collaboration & Learning Environment (CLE)

Evolving governance - Apache-like TCC
c320 Known deployments

More than a replacement LMS - Research

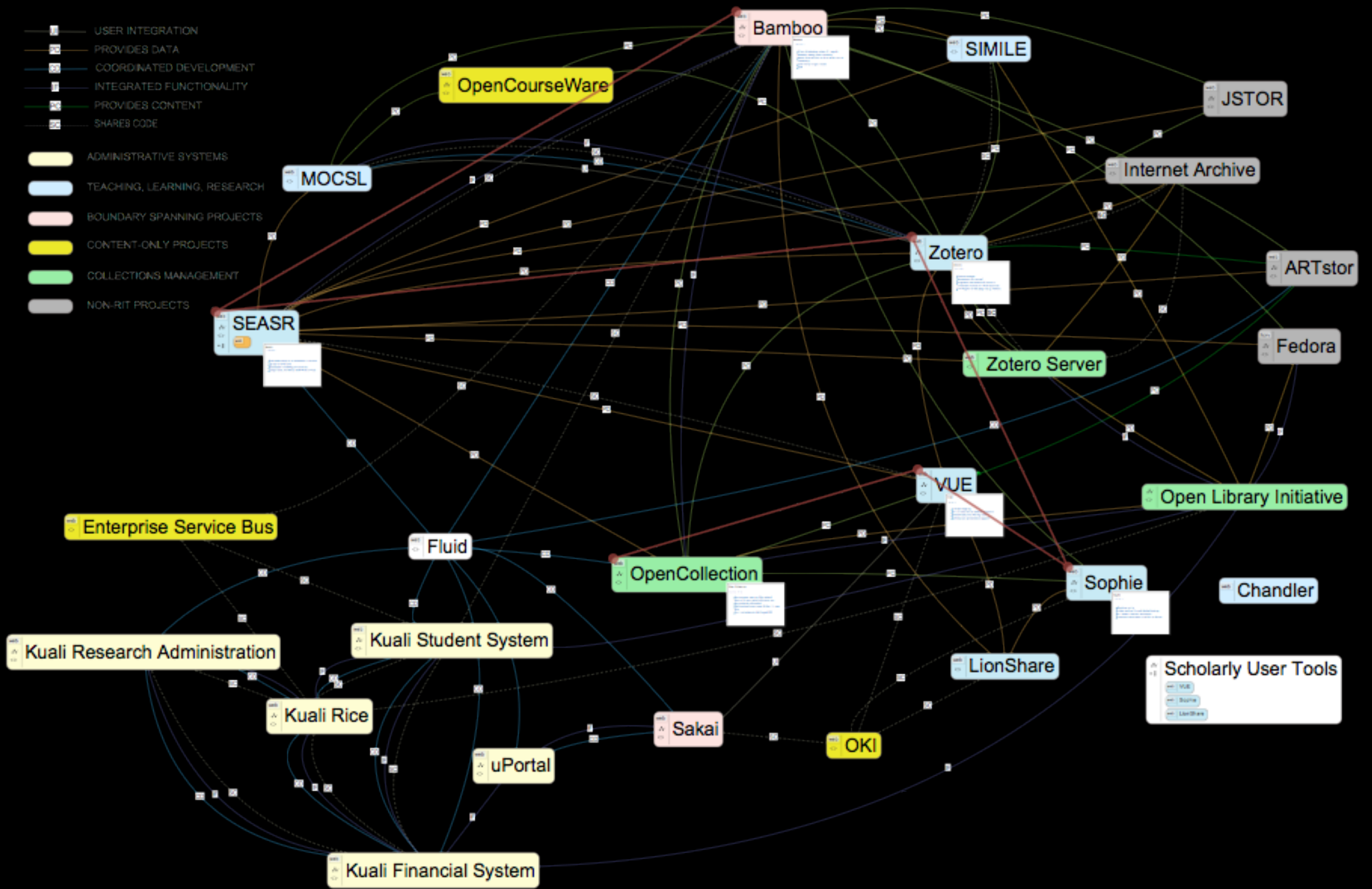
Open Academic Environment (OAE)

In development - managed project

Indiana, Charles Sturt, Cambridge, Georgia Tech, UC Berkeley

Michigan, NYU, American Academy of Religion

Back to the future ...



Courtesy Ira Fuchs

A new foundation for each?

Finding a way to maintain distinctive project and community strengths, whilst combining to collectively overcome individual weaknesses

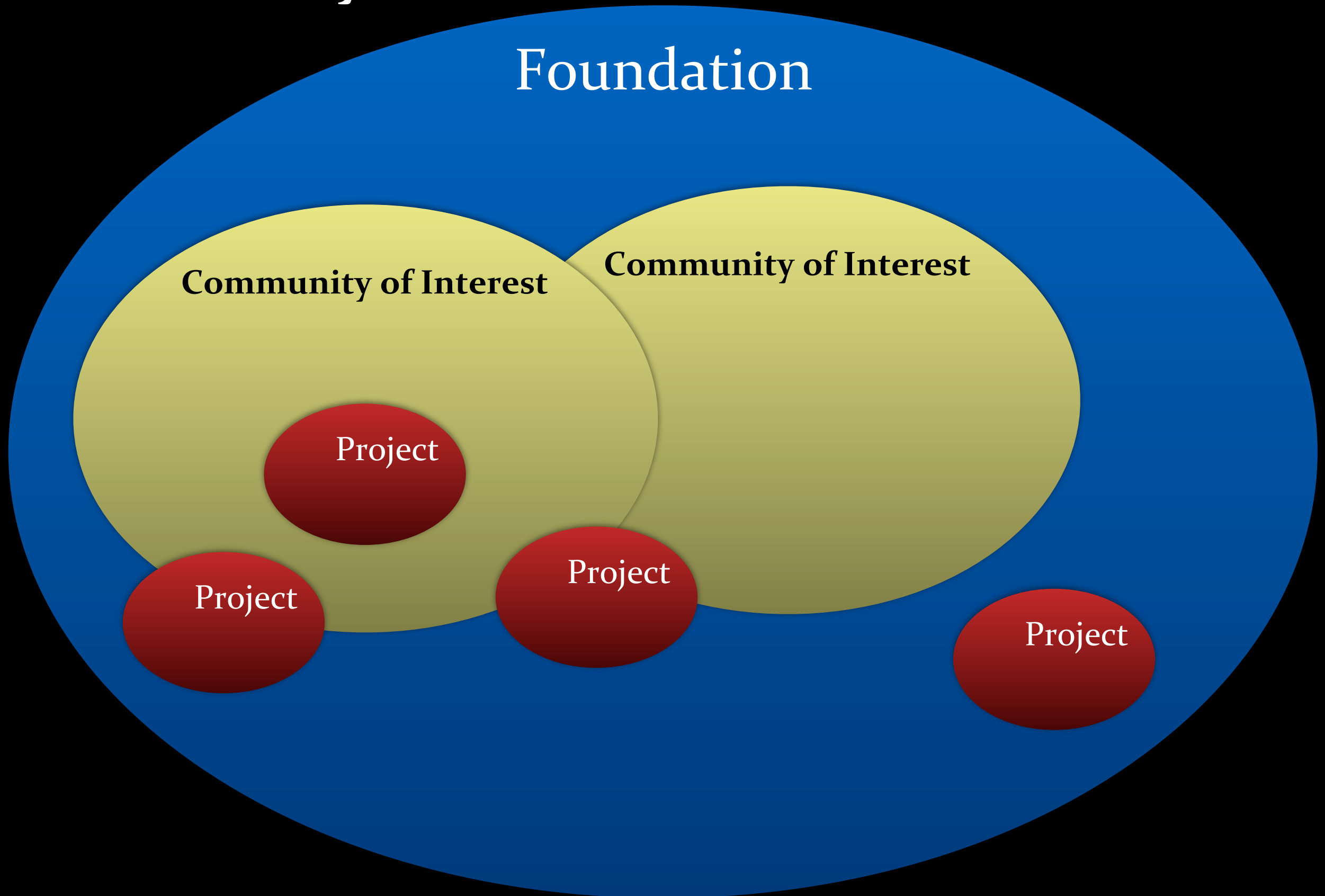
Values / Value Propostion

- Jasig and Sakai; Affinity around open end of CS spectrum. Both pragmatic communities
- Open source is more than a license: participation, engagement and community
- Attuned to the needs of higher ed, but open to collaboration beyond it
- **Your feedback and ideas**

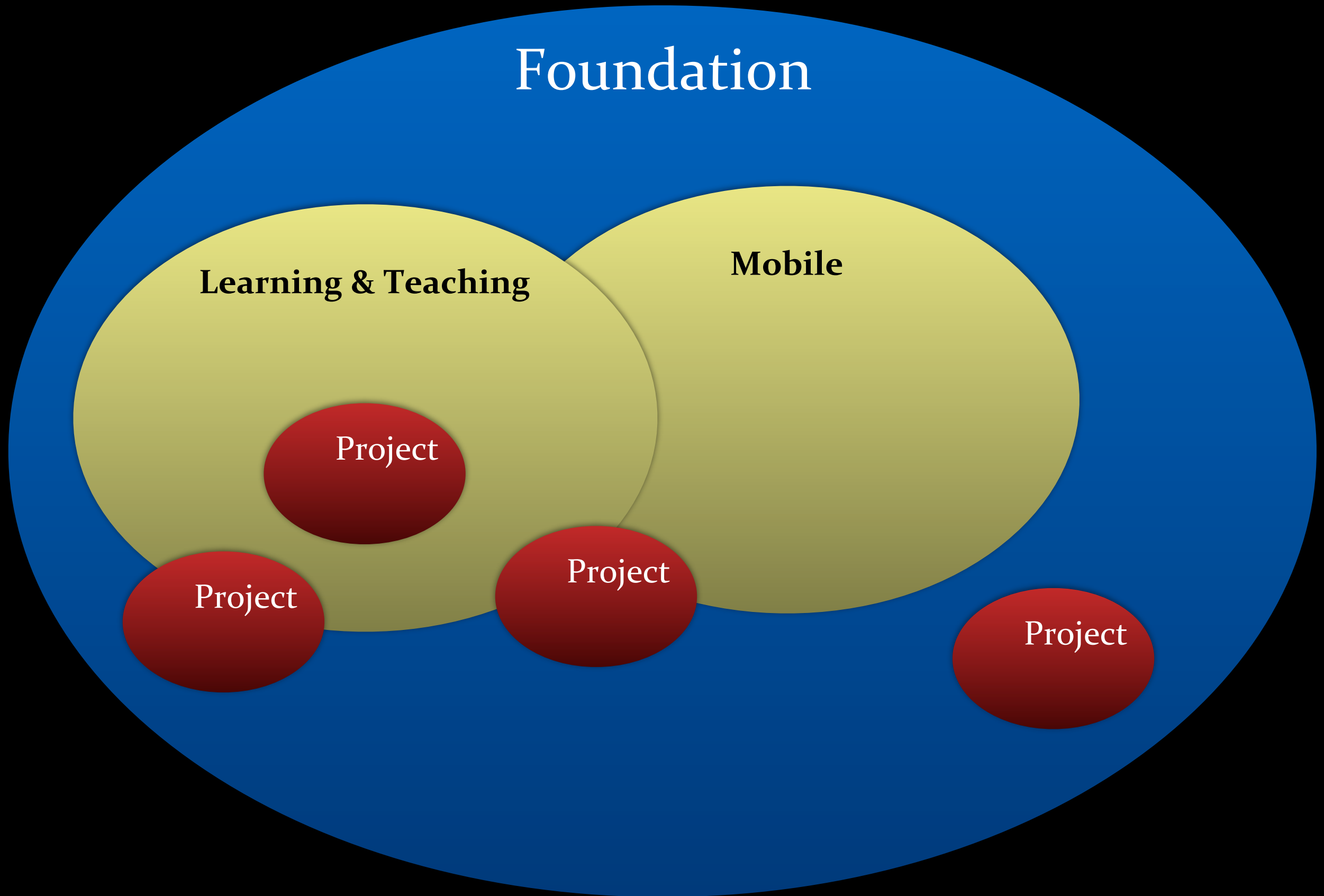
Concretely...

- Jasig+Sakai = 97 Institutions + 18 Commercial Partners
- An enabling, not controlling organization
- Better at licensing and legal - international dimension
- More effective outreach, community coordination/facilitation, resource aggregation
- Better infrastructure (technical and social)
- Create conditions for growing synergy between projects, but avoid shotgun weddings

One *Possibility*...



COI may be very different categories....



Timeline

- **May/June:** feedback and suggestions from communities at Denver, LA Conferences
- **June:** intensive work on structure, membership models, legal
- **July:** consolidate work for respective boards
- **September:** community consultation
- **September:** community voting
- **October:** structures and processes mapped, begin enacting
- **December:** legal processes complete

And that isn't the end