

ANDREW MICHAEL COHILL

information architect

Dr. Cohill is an information architect who is passionately committed to ensuring that communities get the right infrastructure to promote Information Age economic development.

While at Virginia Tech, he served as Director of the Blacksburg Electronic Village since its start in 1993. Blacksburg has been widely hailed as the most wired community in the world, with more than 87% of the residents online by late 1999. Blacksburg also enjoys wide use of broadband access--virtually every home and business has one or more broadband options. Cohill was the architect of the now widely imitated MSAP (Multimedia Services Access Point) concept; Blacksburg was the first community to have a working MSAP. A community MSAP can dramatically improve intra-community network traffic, and positions the community to make full use of broadband connections.



Cohill is on the Board of Directors of the Association For Community Networks, and completed his second term as President of that organization in 2002. He served as co-chair of the Governor's Task Force on eCommunities for Virginia in 2000 and 2001. He has published numerous papers, articles, and book chapters, and has spoken widely on networked information systems, the Internet, and software systems design. He is an author and coeditor of *Community Networks: Lessons Learned from Blacksburg, Virginia*, now in its second edition. He is in wide national and international demand as a speaker on community use of technology because of his effectiveness in speaking clearly and simply about complex technology issues, and his shrewd insights on the future of communities.

TALKS

This is a partial list of some of my past talks and speeches. For references or additional information, please feel free to contact me directly.

- Santa Fe, New Mexico -- Half day workshop on the Knowledge Democracy and the changes needed in economic development strategies
- Toronto, Canada -- Keynote speech at the International Smart Communities conference on the need for broadband and community networks
- Pueblo, Colorado -- Keynote speech on community-wide networks and the potential for attracting new businesses in the region
- Town of Bromont, Quebec -- Keynote talk in French on the role of community networks
- TeleCommunity Resource Center -- Keynote speech in Austin, Texas on the importance of broadband in rural communities
- NASBLA -- Keynote speech in St. Petersburg, Florida on the impact of technology on organizations
- American Banking Association -- Workshop on the effects of the Internet on businesses and commercial enterprise

TOPICS

- Technology and telecommunications master planning for communities and regions
- Telecommunications and technology short courses and seminars
- The Knowledge Democracy and what it means for communities and regions
- The role of community networks in diffusing technology widely throughout communities and regions
- The impact and effect of technology on communities