21G.034 / CMS.930
Media, Education, and the Marketplace
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Handout # 3: WSIS Discussion Groups

In order to better understand why opencoursewares and open sources should be adopted by WSIS and UN, you will break up into small groups to discuss your position papers. The purpose of this discussion is for each student to observe and understand how their colleagues decided to approach the topic at hand (i.e. focus, structure, conclusions, etc.), and for each team of students to construct a list of their most persuasive arguments to present to the rest of the class.

Please do the following:

1) Divide into small groups of 2-3 students.
2) Present a high-level summary of your paper to the rest of the group.
3) Discuss the similarities and differences among the different position papers among your group.
4) Answer the following questions:

   - Did everyone use the same reasoning to support the adoption of opencoursewares and open sources? If not, what were the main differences among the papers?
   - What are the main themes that come from your group's discussion about supporting opencoursewares and open sources?
   - What are some setbacks to adopting opencoursewares and open sources? How do the pros outweigh the cons?
   - Are there any arguments that are worded in a particularly persuasive manner? Remember that language is important too, and sometimes the wording of an argument can really make the argument! If so, please make special note of this while in your groups.

5) Choose one representative of your group to present your discussion results to the rest of the class. This person will treat the audience as WSIS personnel, and attempt to persuade us to adopt opencoursewares and open sources for the world to use for free.

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