Discussion 13

Analyze the case you picked up in Session 2, based on this chapter (Chapter 12).

In analyzing the e-learning experience discussed in Session 2 based on this chapter, I found the following issues/challenges and how they can be improved in terms of reforming industrial-style schools to improve learning environments toward information society via the use of e-learning.

1. **Introduction of e-learning as part of the school curriculum for secondary education (Form 7 or last year students)**
This may reduce culture shock and will also prepare students to adapt to new learning environment if they would like to pursue further studies at various tertiary institutions after their secondary education. Therefore they will encounter fewer difficulties in enrolling for online programs. "As a product of internet, e-Learning strives to alter our learning environment at its roots. It is natural to think that this reform indicates a transformation from the industrial – type society to the information society model indicated by Toffler." (Suzuki, 2004, p.12-5).

2. **Need the support from government and other stakeholders**
In view of number 1 issue explained above, the Ministry of Education will need to work hand-in-hand with the government to ensure that support is given for the programs that will be implemented for the reform of school curriculum as well as to reform teacher training in various institutions like Fiji College of Advanced Education (FCAE), The University of the South Pacific (USP), University of Fiji (UoF) and Fiji National University (FNU).

3. **Implications on the implementation of e-learning in secondary schools**
Internet technologies are still in the very early stages of their life cycles in developing countries like Fiji. One of the main challenges in implementation of e-learning would be the lack of infrastructure as well as the lack of technical support that could be provided considering the geographical location of schools within Fiji. Overall is the question of funding. This will greatly affect the implementation of e-learning if e-learning has to be part of school curriculum at various secondary schools.