

BREVARD
Community College

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February 21, 2001

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Cocoa Campus

1519 Clearlake Road
Cocoa, FL 32922
407/632-1111
Fax: 407/633-4565

Chairman Michael Powell
Commissioner Furchgott-Roth
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Tristani
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

Titusville Campus

1311 North U.S. 1
Titusville, FL 32796
407/632-1111
Fax: 407/634-3723

Re: FCC 00-455

Dear Chairman Powell:

Melbourne Campus

3865 N. Wickham Road
Melbourne, FL 32935
407/632-1111
Fax: 407/634-3721

We here at Brevard Community College are concerned about the future of the ITFS spectrum, with specific regards to the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on 3G that was released January 5, 2001. ITFS is an important part of our educational program at BCC. Moreover, ITFS is absolutely critical if wireless broadband is to become a reality not only for our students but also for our entire community.

Palm Bay Campus

250 Community College Pkwy.
Palm Bay, FL 32909
407/632-1111
Fax: 407/634-3729

As you are aware, recent rule changes have opened the ITFS spectrum to the possibility of wireless two-way video and broadband data services, including high speed Internet access. The educational power of ITFS has expanded to provide advanced learning services, interactive video, and wireless broadband Internet. As distance learning becomes more robust and interactive, ITFS offers educational institutions throughout the country an affordable high-speed on-ramp to the broadband Internet, a mission that was recently cited as the first priority for policymakers by the bipartisan Web-Based Education Commission. The expansion of our Distance Learning program and the establishment of a Virtual Campus is a priority here at BCC. Our extensive online programs will need the ITFS bandwidth.

Patrick Center

1020 Central Avenue, G-2
PAFB, FL 32925
407/784-1911
Fax: 407/868-2695

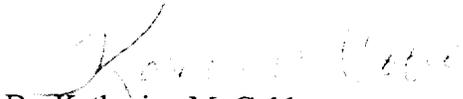
ITFS will not only benefit schools, however. In addition to the broad range of community programming currently carried on ITFS spectrum, the recent two-way order has filled a void where legislation and regulation have failed. Working in conjunction with wireless cable companies, ITFS is helping to bring broadband to underserved populations in rural, urban and otherwise isolated communities

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List A B C D E

If the Commission reallocates all or part of the ITFS spectrum for 3G mobile device services, the capacity, usefulness, and value of ITFS would be significantly diminished. Even if only part of the spectrum is taken away, many educational institutions would lose their ITFS service altogether, while others would face new equipment costs, service disruption and cutbacks, lower quality of service and signal interference. In either scenario, the ITFS community would be incapable of supporting advanced wireless services and promoting the development of broadband services to the educational community and to underserved communities nationwide.

If the ITFS spectrum is compromised in any way, ours plans to expand our Distance Learning programs will be jeopardized. We at Brevard Community College hope that you will support us in maintaining the integrity of our spectrum and in keeping this tremendous educational resource alive and strong.

Sincerely,



Dr. Katherine M. Cobb
Dean, Distance Learning

KMC/es