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Course Title: Internet Technology

Course code: CSC 828

Assignment #1: Write a short history on Internet

+Response:

According to different online sources, the internet began around the year 1969 as a project of the United State of America (USA) Department of Defense. It called ARPANET that translated to Advanced Research Projects Agency Network. The main goal of this project was to design a nationwide network of computer that can communicate with each other so that it can be deployed during any major disasters. The idea behind this design was to enable the continuous functioning of the network even when one part of it had been destroyed in a disaster due to the decentralized structure of the network. The various personal who contributed to the building of the ARPANET were listed in the paper published by (Leiner et al., 1997). According to them, the early days of ARPANET saw the connection of four computers to the network. Also, according to a webpage (www.usg.edu/galileo/skills/unit07/internet07_02.phtml), another major reason for the formation of the internet was the heating up of the Cold War between the USA and the defunct Soviet Union. The launching of the Sputnik satellite by the Soviet Union was a big challenge to the American's Department of Defense to double their effort and "consider ways by which information could be used disseminated even after a nuclear attack". The effort resulted in the formation of the

ARPANET network. This network eventually evolved into what we now known as today as internet. This earlier network was limited to certain academic and research organizations that are contractors to the Defense Department. However, to ensure that access to the internet is more available to other users, other networks were later created to provide information sharing.

By January 1, 1981, internet was officially launched. This is due to the establishment of a standard way computer networks can communicate since there had not been a standard way computers can communicate. It is called the Transfer Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). This allowed for different computer on other networks to communicate effectively to each other. The introduction of this protocol enables all networks to now communicate using a universal language. So, as long as a computer uses these standard protocols, they can communicate with other computer systems no matter what hardware or software it uses.

Fast forward to today, the internet has gained tremendous usage by billions of people among the world populations. Despite this figure, internet is still decentralized. It is no more controlled by government agencies. There are several providers called the internet service providers (ISP) that leases internet connections to customers.

References

Leiner, B. M., Cerf, V. G., Clark, D. D., Kahn, R. E., Kleinrock, L., Lynch, D. C., ... & Wolff, S. (2009). A brief history of the Internet. ACM SIGCOMM computer

communication review, 39(5), 22-31.

www.usg.edu/galileo/skills/unit07/internet07_02.phtml

+The response relied on the use of web sources and academic papers in the answer to the question on the history of internet.