Researchers Show Benefits Of High-Capacity Broadband

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COLUMBUS, Ohio - Medical researchers at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center showed Gov. John Kasich on Tuesday how a high-capacity broadband Internet connection could benefit research.

Researchers from other institutions in Cincinnati, Cleveland and Cuyahoga Falls joined the demonstration via the OARnet fiber optic network, which connects the research facilities.

During his 2012 State of the Union address, Kasich announced plans to boost bandwidth of the OARnet bandwidth from 10 gigabits per second to 100 gigabits per second. The governor put that into perspective on Tuesday.

"That's data equivalent to 80 million file cabinets filled with text, can be transformed daily because of the enhanced bandwidth," Kasich said.

Medical educators at The Ohio State University explained how expanding the network's capacity is expected to enhance patient care and education.

"As I'm sitting in my office, I can help guide surgery for others across Ohio and provide consultation and input about surgical procedures. And this can become routine so experts can train others and provide input live for others," OSU Center for Neuromodulation director Ali Rezai said.

Information from the Ohio Board of Regents indicated the state will invest about \$10 million to accelerate the speed of the OARnet broadband network.

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