The One Laptop Per Child – Debate (to be held Oct. 24)

The One Laptop Per Child (OLPC), also known as the $100 Laptop, has been one of the most visible and discussed technology for development projects in the recent past. One challenge has been the limited information that has been officially released, combined with an evolution of the technology based on ongoing design.

The in-class debate consists of various stakeholders discussing the project from varying perspectives, to an audience of a government-created committee.

The topic at hand is: Is the OLPC a good idea for the Govt. of Egypt to buy into?

Some of the stakeholders are:

Teachers
Govt. officials
An IT industry professional or executive

There will be discussions pro and con the idea.

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With 6 students in the class, there will be 6 debaters spanning the 3 stakeholders, pro and con.

All students are expected to submit their talking points before the debate (electronically to bboard, due before class). Each debater will present for ~4-5 minutes, and then there will be ~2-3 minutes of rebuttal. After this, there will be open and directed questions to try and determine a concensus policy (if any!)

Teacher
Pro: Tripti, Farjana
Con: Clark-Moore, Cherie

Government
Pro: El-Sayed, Waleed
Con: Siddique, Ayesh

IT Professional
Pro: Abu-Saba, Adib
Con: Masood, Yasser