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U.S. varsity students' venture in Pune

By Sridhar Krishnaswami

WASHINGTON, MAY 19. A group of students from the University of Pennsylvania will be travelling to Pune to set up a computer laboratory and a sister lab in Philadelphia. The inauguration of the project is set for June 12.

``Puente'', a student run community service group is building a Community Technology Centre in Pune this summer with the goal of bridging the technology gap in needy communities, locally and internationally. Puente is the Spanish word for bridge. According to a Press release, the members of this group have been searching for companies and individuals who share the vision and enthusiasm for creating a technology centre in India.

The computer lab in India will be linked via Internet to an existing site that the University students have helped set up in Ecuador as also several labs the group has established in Philadelphia. For the Pune lab, a Board of Trustees whose members will be drawn from non-profit, education and business sectors will be established and they will be responsible for the long- term sustainability of the centre.

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