

# A Brief History

- [6/99] Shawn Fanning (freshman Northeastern U.) releases Napster online music service
- [12/99] RIAA sues Napster, asking \$100K per download
- [3/00] 25% UWisc traffic Napster, many universities ban it
- [00] 60M users
- [2/01] US Federal Appeals Court: users violating copyright laws, Napster is abetting this
- [9/01] Napster decides to run paid service, pay % to songwriters and music companies
- [Today] Napster protocol is open, people free to develop opennap clients and servers <http://opennap.sourceforge.net>
  - Gnutella: <http://www.limewire.com> (deprecated)
  - Peer to peer working groups: <http://p2p.internet2.edu>