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May 22, 2010

Dear Participant:

I am pleased to welcome you to this fifth international meeting of the MIT Learning International Networks Consortium (MIT LINC) on "University Leadership: Bringing Technology-Enabled Education to Learners of All Ages." We are delighted that this conference, being held at MIT, includes participation by professionals from about 40 different countries, who will look at academia's responsibility to acknowledge all age groups — to reach down to high schoolers and up to life-long learners.

MIT Chancellor Phil Clay will present the opening address, and you will hear from leading experts at universities, government organizations, foundations, and private companies from around the world. You will pool the talents and energies of collaborating universities to develop strategies for the challenge of applying e-learning to the delivery of high-quality university education in developing regions of the world.

We are proud of MIT's work in the Open Source and the Open Educational Resources (OER) movements, both of which are major topics of the LINC conference. The MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) program now posts the content of nearly 2,000 MIT courses on the web. At MIT, pedagogical innovations on the web are providing new and innovative learning environments for students, both on campus and at a distance, including the web-based laboratories, I-Labs, and the new high school interactive videos of the BLOSSOMS (Blended Learning Open Source Science or Math Studies) project.

You bring extraordinary expertise to this conference, and all of us will learn from your experiences, plans, and operating methods. Your involvement with the ever-expanding dimensions of technology-leveraged learning is invaluable to us and will help to shape our outreach policies.

We are indebted to the many volunteers here at MIT and to the companies and foundations that have made this LINC conference possible. Thank you for making it the most interesting and successful yet.

In true MIT spirit, the bar is set high, and we are grateful that your professional, academic, and entrepreneurial exchanges at the conference will move LINC forward as a growing and sustainable organization.

Sincerely,

Susan Hockfield

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