

Forward

On May 23rd, 2010, 120 educators arrived on the MIT campus from almost 40 different countries to attend the 5th Conference of MIT's Learning International Networks Consortium (LINC). They came together for this four-day meeting to learn from international experts in technology-enabled education and to share their own professional expertise in this exciting and fast-evolving field. The theme of the 2010 LINC Conference was "University Leadership: Bringing Technology-Enabled Education to Learners of All Ages," and many speakers addressed the need for increased university involvement in moving advanced educational technologies into both K-12 and lifelong learning settings.

The conference included 19 plenary speakers and approximately 80 presentations presented in 16 parallel sessions - selected from over 120 submitted papers. Papers covered diverse topics such as the role of education on economic growth in Pakistan, information and communication technologies for lifelong learning in Africa, and mobile learning in Thailand — just to name a few. There was tremendous excitement in the air as keynote speaker, Charles Vest, spoke of the new global phenomenon, "brain integration", and when Michael Horn applied his vision of disruptive technologies to global education. And parallel session attendees were amazed to learn of innovative approaches for delivering education to distant, rural populations in places like India, Mexico, and Afghanistan.

These proceedings represent the visions and hopes of everyone who attended the 5th International Conference of MIT LINC. They are a testimony to the promise and power of collaboration in a world that often appears to be hopelessly divided and broken. The diverse authors of these presentations and papers are all dedicated educators, focused on a future where access to quality education will provide a brighter future on this small planet we share.

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