May 21, 2010

Dear LINC Participant:

Welcome to MIT LINC 2010, our fifth international LINC conference! Whether you have traveled from Jordan, Botswana, Pakistan, the U.K., Mexico, Kenya, Uruguay, Malaysia, or one of many other locations, we very much value your presence at LINC. You, the participants of LINC 2010, represent about 40 countries, presenting 80 papers, together with 17 plenary speakers -- our most ambitious LINC agenda yet!

LINC, Learning International Networks Consortium, is an MIT-based all-volunteer effort started about eight years ago. By attending LINC, you have joined our LINC family, representing concerned professionals from many countries -- each wanting to leverage technology to improve educational opportunities for under-served communities in their respective regions.

The theme of LINC 2010 is “University Leadership: Bringing Technology-Enabled Education to Learners of All Ages.” In the 21st Century, our ‘knowledge societies’ require lifelong learning. Universities, as traditional citadels of learning, have a responsibility to reach to younger learners in high schools, to help prepare them for university education, and to older lifelong learners -- to renew post-graduates with the career skills they need as job markets continually evolve. You will see this theme developed in many of the LINC 2010 presentations.

LINC 2010 would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of our volunteers and the financial support of our sponsors, most notably the Saudi Aramco Corporation with its generous $50,000 platinum sponsorship. At MIT, we especially thank the efforts of the Engineering Systems Division (ESD), MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) and the Office of Educational Innovation and Technology (OEIT). Thank you to Saudi Aramco, to MIT and to all LINC sponsors and volunteers!

Please let us know how we can serve you better in your time here. Feel free to stop any one of the LINC volunteers to inquire about any issue or to make suggestions. And we will be soliciting your formal feedback in a short written evaluation questionnaire. We hope you choose to complete it near the end of your stay with us. Again, welcome to LINC 2010!

Sincerely yours,

Richard C. Larson
Professor, Founder and Director of LINC, MIT