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HP adds two Indian organizations to its global HP Catalyst program

BENGALURU, July 19 2011 – HP has announced the addition of two Indian organizations, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University and Learning Links Foundation to its global HP Catalyst Initiative. Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University joins the Measuring Learning consortium while Learning Links Foundation joins the newly formed STEM-preneur consortium, which will explore novel ways to combine science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education with the skills and passion of entrepreneurship. They will each receive more than US\$150,000 in technology, cash, and professional services from HP.

This year, 21 additional organizations from 12 countries are joining the HP Catalyst network of leading institutions transforming STEM teaching and learning worldwide. The HP Catalyst consortia are focused on a range of issues, from teacher preparation and student-driven learning models to student assessment. Each consortium is tasked with investigating how emerging technologies can fuel learning experiences that inspire students and promote creative thinking, open-ended problem-solving and cross-cultural collaboration.

"Social entrepreneurship is increasingly becoming a critical area of focus in developing countries. These organizations were chosen to be part of our HP Catalyst Initiative as they demonstrate in-depth expertise in STEM based learning approaches that combine global theory with local entrepreneurship best practices, knowledge and resource use", said Jeannette Weisschuh, Director- Education, Office of Global Social Innovation, HP.

The six HP Catalyst research themes are The Multi-Versity, Pedagogy 3.0, Global Collaboratory, The New Learner, Measuring Learning, and the new STEM-preneur. The new STEM-preneur consortium will be led by a team of distinguished faculty from Tsinghua University, School of Economics and Management (SEM) Department of Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

About Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham and Learning Links Foundation

- Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University was founded by recognized humanitarian leader, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, or Amma. Amrita University is working on multiple grant research projects and has expertise in developing eLearning frameworks, Adaptive Assessment and Intelligent tutoring with STEM focus, Virtual Labs, collaborative learning frameworks, vocational training using haptic devices, rich media content and University Management systems. Amrita's A-VIEW platform is currently being deployed in 2000 colleges in India.
- Learning Links Foundation is a not for profit organization working in the field of education, youth empowerment, and community development. In collaboration with multinational corporations and government agencies, they have developed and promoted various programs which instill entrepreneurial thinking and skills. Their project STEM, Social Entrepreneurship and Glocaledge will specially focus on encouraging the rural youth to scientifically explore and create socially relevant business ideas and projects using the STEM based local knowledge and locally available resources.

About HP Catalyst Initiative

To date, HP has supported 35 thought leading institutions in 12 countries as part of the HP Catalyst Initiative to

collaboratively explore what the future of STEM education can look like. By the end of 2011, HP will have invested more than US \$10M globally in the Catalyst initiative. For more information about the HP Catalyst initiative, please visit www.hp.com/go/hpcatalyst.

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