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LDI at 7

President's Report

to the 2006 Board of Directors Meeting

Eyragues, France

June 1, 2006

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Uncertainty about LDI's beginnings

□ LDI developed gradually as UNESCO's Learning Without Frontiers (LWF) initiative was phasing out. During 1998 and 1999 it ran in parallel with LWF.



- On Oct 28, 1998, AfriStar was launched at Kourou, French Guyana. On the same occasion discussions were initiated about the legal establishment of LDI with Tedson Meyers of Coudert Brothers.
- Web site operational on May 19, 1999.
- Multiple activities throughout 1999, many still intertwined with LWF, including:
 - 02/99: Presentation on Learning without frontiers: Building integrated responses to diverse learning needs at AECT, Houston, TX.
 - 04/99: Symposium on Overcoming the Underdevelopment of Learning at AERA, Montreal.
 - 05/99: Two presentations at Tercer Simposio Internacional de Educación a Distancia, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Centro Universidad Abierta, in Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia.
 - 06/99: Participation in Symposium on Lifelong Learning and New Technologies at 19th World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education in Vienna, Austria.
 - 06/99: Participation in Program for Capacity Building in Science Conference at the National Academy of Science in Budapest, Hungary.
 - 12/99: Keynote at VIII Encuentro Internacional de Educación a Distancia, Guadalajara, Mexico.
- Certificate of Incorporation (Delaware): March 1, 2000.

May 19, 1999

is probably good date to consider as the beginning of LDI, considering the networked nature of the institution.

Highlights of the year in review (1)

- Building the Scientific Mind:
 - Successful colloquium in The Hague (May 2005).
 - Participant satisfaction.
 - Follow-up activity India.
 - Link-up with UNESCO.
 - Involvement in Science+Society debate at EU level (expert group membership).
 - Collaboration with UWC and IMSA on For the Love of Science.
 - Collaboration with Universe Awareness (UNAWE).
 - Forthcoming 2nd colloquium (BtSM2007) in Vancouver.
 - Requested UNESCO patronage.
 - Partnership with Institute of Social Studies (BtSM2005) and Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design (BtSM2007).

Highlights of the year in review (2)

New focus area:
Learning to Live in Harmony (LLH)

(following BtSM2005; John Avery [Pugwash scientist] coordinates; under development)

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Highlights of the year in review (3)

- Working visit to Shikshantar (in conjunction with attending/keynoting at BtSM symposium in New Delhi (August/September 2005).
 - Included participation in filmmaking workshop (+ screening of The Dream → Hindi version)

Highlights of the year in review (4)

- Learners in a Changing Learning Landscape:
 New Roles and Expectations A dialogue
 motivated by an ibstpi research project
 (Presidential Session and Workshop, AECT
 2005, Orlando)
- Linked to book project, involving 13 authors (foreseen to be published with Springer Verlag – Lifelong Learning Series).

Highlights of the year in review (5)

Symposium on Rediscovering Childhood and conference on Early Childhood Development, organized by the Sindh Education Foundation (Karachi, Pakistan, April 3-6, 2006) – Two invited keynotes.

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Highlights of the year in review (6)

- ☐ To school, or not to school: is that the question? An online discussion hosted by the Higher Education Learning Professionals (HELP) network on Collaboration Across Borders (cabweb.net) from 14 to 27 April 2006.
- Participation in online dialogues originated by others on issues of
 - Online learning
 - Research on learning and instruction
 - Learning in culturally diverse contexts

as well as ongoing contribution to LISTSERVs:

- learningsocietiesconference list (Shikshantar)
- diversityinlearning list (Arab Education Forum).
 (possible spin-off [still under discussion] in terms of special issue of UNESCO's International Social Science Journal).

Highlights of the year in review (7)

- Publications
 - One book
 - Several book chapters
 - Books and articles by fellows.

New LDI Fellows

- Roy McWeeny Pisa (FtLoS)
- John Avery Copenhagen (LLH; FtLoS)
- Michael Spector Tallahassee (MOL)

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Thank you