



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Francie Israeli
(202) 207-1134 or
fisraeli@johnadams.com

iNACOL Hosts 2011 Virtual School Symposium in Indianapolis
More than 1,800 Online Education Leaders Expected at Conference

(Indianapolis, November 7) – More than 1,800 educators, school administrators and education policy leaders from across the U.S. and internationally are expected this week in Indianapolis for the Virtual School Symposium (VSS), the annual conference convened by the International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL). The symposium, which will be held November 9-11 at the JW Marriott Indianapolis, is the largest event focused on K-12 online and blended learning.

“Online learning for primary and secondary students is growing at an astonishing speed,” said Susan Patrick, president and CEO of iNACOL. “It is the fastest innovation in education, and in the U.S. alone, millions of K-12 students are enrolled in online and blended courses that offer challenging coursework and ‘anytime, anyplace’ instruction. Online learning is widely seen as a solution to enabling teachers to personalize instruction for today’s students, providing engaging content resources, one-on-one interventions, and allowing greater access to diverse curriculum and courses, particularly during a time of serious financial pressures faced by school districts across the country.”

The VSS conference program (full details at www.virtualschoolsymposium.org) includes expertise, analysis, trends and research. Session highlights include opening pre-conference workshops on November 9, which will provide working sessions for online and blended learning models; how to start online learning programs; and best practices on evaluation.

Keynote speakers on November 10 and 11 include renowned national experts Gene Wilhoit, Executive Director of the Council of Chief State School Officers; Paul Peterson of Harvard University; Michael Horn, author of *Disrupting Class*; Steve Midgley of the U.S. Department of Education; and iNACOL president Susan Patrick.

iNACOL and allied organizations are also expected to release several new reports on U.S. and international growth of K-12 online learning as well as critical trends in the field.

Interested attendees may register on-site (as advance online registrations are sold out); and credentialed media are welcome to register and attend free of charge.

###

About iNACOL

INACOL is the International Association for K-12 Online Learning, a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership association based in the Washington, DC area with more than 3,800 members. INACOL is unique in that its members represent a diverse cross-section of K-12 education from school districts, charter schools, state education agencies, non-profit organizations, colleges, universities and research institutions, corporate entities and other content and technology providers (www.inacol.org). INACOL hosts the annual Virtual School Symposium (VSS). VSS 2011 is being held Nov. 9 - 11, 2011 in Indianapolis, IN (www.virtualschoolsymposium.org).