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iNACOL President Susan Patrick to Speak at *Innovate to Educate* Symposium in Boston, MA

VIENNA, VA, August 4, 2010 –President and CEO of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL), Susan Patrick, will speak about education policies that need to change in the United States to allow for a shift to personalized, student-centered learning.

This convening of education leaders on August 5th in Boston, MA will focus on the policy, practices and technologies needed to help shift our education system to one built around meeting the personal learning needs of each student. The summit will bring together 150 high-level visionary P-12 education leaders from the local and state levels, national thought leaders, and senior technology executives.

According to Patrick, “People don’t realize that the fundamental funding policy for schools is measured by seat-time – the minutes students sit in seats, not performance, competency or mastery. New models of competency-based pathways for student-centered learning using technology to personalize educational approaches are taking hold across the world on a scale never before possible. Old policies must be updated to help our students compete in the global economy. Online learning provides this customized approach and opens new educational opportunities for students to access a world class education any time, any place.”

This symposium will help create a paradigm shift: to redesign our education system from a mass production to a mass customization model that will provide a truly student-centered education system.

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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 3,100 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).