

Global University for Lifelong Learning Enabling <u>YOU</u> to make a difference in <u>OUR</u> world

Official Videograph Launch Statement from California, USA

By Mr. Edward Mooney, Chairman, Global University for Lifelong Learning on the occasion of its launch on Friday, 05th October, 2007, State Function Room, National Parliament House

As God is our Witness, on this day, 5 October, 2007, the Global University for Lifelong Learning, a California (USA) not-for-profit corporation, hereby officially commences operations in the nation of Papua New Guinea. GULL is established to extend opportunities for learning and human capital development around the world, particularly to those people and communities underserved by traditional approaches to academic education and workplace training.

We are at a critical point at both the history of mankind and the future of our planet. The human mind has brought forth technologies that promise high qualities of life for all Earth's citizens. In the area of learning, information technology holds the potential for enabling everyone low-cost or free access to the great and rapidly expanding collective knowledge of the world. But as citizens of the world, we face great challenges in this century, as identified by the United Nations "Millenium Development Goals" and other initiatives – calling for broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future, a recognition of a common humanity in all its diversity, and the objective that participation in the global economy be made fully inclusive and equitable.

We believe that the solutions to the economic and environmental issues facing mankind will be more forthcoming and more comprehensive by engaging more and more of the Earth's population in the dialog of what each of us needs to learn in order to be a better person and achieve our personal goals. We are all created equally to live fully and to serve and respect one another. GULL is founded on the principle that each of us, given the opportunity and resources, holds the innate capacity to know what we want to learn and need to learn to lead a more fulfilling life. Our simple mission is to expand human capital development through innovative means - dependent not on technology, but on the human spirit.

Perhaps our Creator's greatest gift to us is the ability to learn. Learning is the essence of being human. Learning can be formal, informal or even accidental. All are important in the course of our life. But perhaps nothing is as powerful or life transforming as that which we learn from each other in a supportive environment. GULL is committed to creating and recognizing structures and opportunities to facilitate lifelong learning through sharing of knowledge, as simple as one person to another, or as far reaching as enabling easy and immediate access to the great body of human knowledge. Access to this body of knowledge is our birthright; adding to this body of knowledge is our life's work and legacy.

It is with great honor that we launch this day GULL's work in Papua New Guinea. We do so in partnership with the Government of Papua New Guinea and the support of the World Bank. We embark today on a mission to transform Papua New Guinea into a nation of lifelong learners. We are confident that Papua New Guinea will become a shining example of the power of human capital to transform a nation and make our planet more peaceful, sustainable and equitable.

God bless.

Edward Patrick Mooney Chairman, Global University for Lifelong Learning California, USA

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