CourseNetworking Offers Channel Services to Schools Worldwide
Exploratory Agreements Allow Testing of Academic Social Networking Web Site

INDIANAPOLIS (Sept. 23, 2013) – CourseNetworking announced today that it is offering schools a channel within CourseNetworking (CN), a cloud-based software environment that offers integrated Learning Management System (LMS), Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) and social networking services.

CN channel services at www.theCN.com are available through one-year, exploratory agreements that allow schools to test this next-generation learning environment without expensive, long-term commitments or licensing agreements. Purdue and Indiana universities are among the first to test the academic social networking web site that connects instructors and students from around the world. IU's Kelley School of Business program, Kelley Cares, already is using CN as its LMS.

College Unbound and the National Chiayi University of Taiwan have signed on, and the satellite campus of National Institute of Development Administration in Thailand already has agreed to a multi-year contract. The services are available globally and are free to learners in developing countries. Several schools in Viet Nam have entered into free service agreements as well as schools in Southern China and Palestine.

"We are pleased to offer schools this opportunity to test CourseNetworking before making a long-term commitment," said Ali Jafari, Ph.D., entrepreneur and professor of Computer and Information Technology at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. "Schools will find that CN does much more than support course management. CN generates new learning opportunities with social networking as the foundation for learning."

The CN approach appeals to Millennials (ages 18-30) in particular because the use of social media, such as Twitter and YouTube, is second nature to them. They find the use of social media as a means of learning rewarding, engaging and entertaining. Drawing from the limitless Internet, the CN model includes massive resources to support expansive and student-driven learning.

Students and teachers sign up for free accounts, similar to signing up for other social media networks. The site connects them to a course schedule, selected video lectures, and various learning collaboration activities. Students can work on homework, listen to lecturers, as well as work with many other students.

CN is a start-up company developed by Jafari in the CyberLab at IUPUI's Purdue School of Engineering and Technology. CyberLab is a research and development center that provides research and intellectual support for the design, development and implementation of innovative educational technology. It also builds connections between the university and industries to transfer research outcomes into practice. The CyberLab is staffed by faculty, project coordinators, researchers and student interns from diverse academic backgrounds. Jafari has created high profile systems such as Indiana University Oncourse (now Sakai), ANGEL Learning and Epsilen Environment in the CyberLab.

About CourseNetworking LLC:

CourseNetworking, (theCN.com) is an academic social networking site with an innovative, cloud-based LMS and MOOC platform that empowers learning throughout the world. It is free to use for all individual students and instructors with optional service agreements for institutions seeking a next generation LMS or MOOC implementation. CN was initially funded by Indiana University and several academic investors. CN is headquartered at the Indiana University Innovation Center in Indianapolis, Indiana, with offices in Guangzhou, China.

About the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at IUPUI

The mission of the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at IUPUI is to be one of the best urban university leaders in the disciplines of engineering and technology recognized locally, nationally and internationally. The school's goal is to provide students an education that will give them the leverage to be leaders in their communities, industry and society. For additional information on the School of Engineering & Technology, go to http://www.engr.iupui.edu.

About Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

Known as Indiana's premier urban research and health sciences campus, IUPUI is dedicated to advancing the intellectual growth of the state of Indiana and its citizens through research and creative activity, teaching, learning and civic engagement. Nationally ranked by *U.S. News & World Report, Forbes* and other notable publications, IUPUI has more than 30,000 students enrolled in 21 schools, which offer more than 250 degrees. IUPUI awards degrees from both Indiana and Purdue Universities. For more information, visit iupui.edu.

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