

## **Engineering Systems** Division

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July 26, 2007

Fouad M. EL-Harazin, Ph. D. President, Gaza International Foundation for Peace on Earth Director, International Programs of National Research Center Gaza Strip, Palestinian Authority Email: alaqsau@hotmail.com

Dear Dr. El-Harazin,

I am writing to you in my capacity as Founder and Director of LINC, Learning International Networks Consortium.

I understand that, as in the past, you will be a participant and speaker at the LINC international conference to be held in October near the Dead Sea in Jordan. I hope you can and will continue to express passionately and compellingly the need for the Palestinian people within the Gaza Strip (GS) & West Bank (WB) to receive quality education, much of it by necessity to be delivered via modern technology.

You have told me that you plan to launch an educational initiative focusing on the academic and health sectors in the GS and WB through the Global University System (GUS). I understand that you plan to anchor this initiative in universities in the GS and WB to enhance e-learning for students and life-long learners, to invest in the community for the development of technical and professional human capital and to nurture attendant enlightenment. You describe the effort as aiming to build a higher level of humanity with intercultural understanding across national and cultural boundaries for global peace and describe GUS as an initiative to create advanced telecommunication infrastructure linking the rest of the world to GS and WB via e-learning.

Please be assured as you advance in the development of your concepts and operational plans, we at LINC support these stated goals of the GUS and hope that there may be opportunities for professional educational collaboration.

I support your belief that it is constructive to begin the implementation of the project by fact-finding and assessment during 2007.

Wishing you the best of good luck in pursuit of advancement of education in all parts of the Globe,

Sincerely yours,

Richard C. Larson

Mitsui Professor, Engineering System Division and Department of Civil and Environmental

Engineering; and

Director, Center for Engineering System Fundamentals

Richard C. Lars

Director, LINC - Learning International Networks Consortium

Cc: Takeshi Utsumi, Ph.D., P.E.

Founder and Vice President for Technology & Coordination

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