Lake Mary, FL – 8 July 2010. IMS Global Learning Consortium announced the winners of the Leading Practice in Learning Impact research paper competition from the EDEN (European Distance and E-Learning Network) conference in Valencia, Spain on 11 June 2010. IMS Global Learning Consortium and EDEN partnered to award the top three research papers that emphasized outstanding practice in the application of technology to improve learning. The Leading Practice in Learning Impact award winners will be finalists in the global Learning Impact Awards (LIA) event.

The LIAs are unique in that they recognize the use of technology in context. Nominations describe how an educational institution, system, or countrywide initiative has leveraged technology to improve education. The entries are evaluated according to eight criteria of impact, including improving access to learning, improving affordability of learning, and improving the quality of learning.

The Awards for Leading Practice in Learning Impact were granted to:

Catherine Coates, Jill Taylor, Leeds Metropolitan University; Julie Laxton, University of Leeds, Christine Dearnley, University of Bradford, Ian Hall, MyKnowledgeMap Ltd., United Kingdom
"Promoting the Concept of Competency Maps and Interprofessional Assessments linked to e-Portfolios to Enhance the Student Learning Experience in Preparation for Work Based Learning, Employability and Life Long Learning" <http://www.eden-online.org/stuff/Coates_Taylor_et_al.pdf>

Rita Falcao, University of Porto, Ana Dias, Universidade do Minho, Antonio Moreira Teixeira, Universidade Aberta, Portugal, Gottfried Csanyi, Vienna University of Technology, Austria, Juri Lossenko, Estonian IT Foundation, Estonia, Sevgi Oskan, Middle East Technical University, Turkey, Laszlo Komaromi, Dennis Gabor Applied University, Hungary, Patricio Montesinos, Universidad Politecnica Valencia, Spain
"VIRQUAL: Harmonizing Virtual Mobility and the European Qualification Framework" <http://virqual.up.pt/>

Chiara Piccolo, MENON Network EEIG, Belgium, Claudio Dondi, MENON Network; Nikitas Kastis, Lambrakis Founda; Jennifer Palumbo, Ecsite – the European Network of Science Centres and Museums; Sofoklis Sotiriou, Ellinogermaniki Agogi; Nikolas Athanasiadis, Intrasoft Inc.
"Open Learning for Science Education - The Richness of European Science Centres and Museums Connected to Users and Learners Worldwide" <http://www.osrportal.eu/>
All three winners will be able to compete with other finalist from around the world at the Learning Impact Awards held in Long Beach, California the 16-19 May 2011. Nominations for the global competition can be submitted at http://www.imsglobal.org/learningimpact2011/liformchoice.cfm until 31 December 2010. Information and registration for the Learning Impact Conference is available at: http://www.imsglobal.org/learningimpact2011/index.html

IMS Global is supported by over 150 organizations – the world’s leaders in educational and learning technology, including leading educational technology product suppliers and publishers, leading educational institutions, and leading government organizations. Current Contributing Members of IMS GLC are listed at http://www.imsglobal.org/members.html

About IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS GLC)
IMS Global Learning is a nonprofit member organization that strives to enable the growth and impact of learning technology in higher education, K-12, and corporate education worldwide. IMS GLC members are leading corporations, higher education institutions, school districts and government organizations worldwide that are enabling the future of education by collaborating on interoperability standards and major adoption projects for the digital support of education and learning. IMS GLC also sponsors Learning Impact: a global awards program and conference that recognizes the impact of innovative technology on educational access, affordability, and quality. For more information, visit www.imsglobal.org.