



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

First ICORE Official Meeting Successfully Concluded

International Council for Open Research and Education meets in Rome, Italy
www.icore-online.org

Rome, May 2013 – ICORE, the International Council for Open Research and Education, is taking shape as the bridge between the two worlds of open research and open education: ICORE founders and interested individuals met on March 15 in Rome, Italy to discuss the establishment of the association, its publically available draft of statues, and future objectives within the topics of open research and open education. Over forty participants from more than a dozen countries gathered in Rome to provide their professional experience in order to elaborate on the ICORE mission. Their diverse professional and multi-disciplinary backgrounds brought a great deal of variety to the conversation during the meeting. All participants were united in their support of ICORE and the potential the association has to develop and promote the largely neglected connection between Open Education and Open Research on an international level.

Prominent experts from America and Europe were present to contribute to the formation of ICORE's objectives and structure: As non-for-profit association ICORE will open for all organizations and individuals to connect and bridge open research and open education. Consequently ICORE will not demand membership fees and start as global initiative to bring together all active organizations from open research and open education to join forces. Moderated by ICORE's co-founder Christian M. Stracke from the University of Duisburg-Essen, all participants discussed, voted and agreed on ICORE's core objectives and main focus on promoting and disseminating events, organizations, and initiatives active in the themes of open education and research, as well as efforts towards their interconnection, ensures that participation is beneficial both for the association and its members.

A first presentation of ICORE was held at the international LINQ 2013 conference (www.learning-innovations.eu) followed by the first ICORE reception in the evening at the terrace of United Nations' FAO Headquarters overlooking the bright sunset and panorama of ancient Rome. The discussion began during the first official meeting to develop the specifics behind ICORE's themes to connect and promote open research and education. It will be continued through a series of virtual meetings, beginning on July 30th, 2013 at 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM UTC – to take part, please contact the association through the ICORE website at www.icore-online.org for further information. These meetings will be used to further expand upon the next ICORE activities and events. Interested participants and potential ICORE members are encouraged to attend these meetings to contribute their expertise and take part in the creation of an innovative association.

More information and the latest ICORE news can be found as soon as it becomes available at the official website: www.icore-online.org.



About the International Council for Open Research and Education:

ICORE, the International Council for Open Research and Education (www.icore-online.org), is bringing together interested experts and stakeholders from the fields of open education and open research. ICORE is completely non-profit, requires no membership fees to join, and is open to both representatives of organizations as well as individuals. The complete first public draft ICORE's statutes can be found at www.icore-online.org/membership and are open to further improvement by ICORE members.

ICORE offers membership to any organizations or individuals who support the association's goals of promoting open research and open education as a fundamental social objective. This promotion is to be accomplished through the fostering of collaboration between relevant stakeholders in open research and education, such as international, regional and national policy makers, researchers, educators of all levels, students, research organizations as well as educational providers, among others. Activities for promoting and sharing open research and education include common events with all interested organizations (e.g., conferences, summer schools, etc.), an open and lively online community, the organization of scientific and educational initiatives and the establishment of creative partnerships between ICORE members to advance open research and open education internationally. ICORE will be designed to make collaboration a rewarding experience for all members.

Joining ICORE is easy: interested applicants can visit the ICORE application website (<http://www.icore-online.org/join-us>) and enter their information. A representative of the ICORE management team will contact applicants as soon as possible after said information has been submitted.

Interested organizations and individuals are encouraged to spread the word the new association ICORE and its goals with colleagues and through dissemination channels – ICORE looks forward to your valuable involvement in this new and innovative association.

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