

TERRY BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR

KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK SHARING IOWA'S INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

For Immediate Release

Iowa Communications Network Held Outreach Conference

(Des Moines, October 14, 2011) -- The Iowa Communications Network (ICN) held its third *IN TOTO* conference on Thursday, October 13, at the Iowa Valley Community College in Marshalltown, Iowa.

The theme of the conference was *The 'Quiz' Show, Quite Useful Information Zone*, which was to highlight technologies being utilized with distance learning and broadband services, ranging from the gaming theory within education to the consequences of not having the high-speed Internet connectivity. With sufficient broadband (high-speed Internet), Iowans will have increased educational enhancements, improved technology opportunities, and increased economic development.

The conference included speakers, topics, and breakout sessions in an engaging, interactive environment. Attendees took advantage of learning more about distance learning and broadband services that ICN provides to K-12 schools, higher education, hospitals, state and federal government, National Guard armories, and libraries throughout Iowa.

"The conference provided a collaborative, interactive atmosphere for individuals who work with the ICN including all facets from distance learning, broadband services, and video conferencing throughout Iowa", said, Lori Larsen, ICN's Public Information Officer.

Angela Maiers with Maiers Education Services was the keynote presenter, who is an award-winning educator, speaker, consultant, and professional trainer known world-wide for her work in literacy, leadership, and global communications. Maiers discussed how various search engine resources determine what information is available, but more importantly the social aspect of the Internet.

Additional speakers included, Michael Wagner from White Rabbit Group. Wagner described the basics of game design, so that we can begin to explore, examine, and experiment with fresh ways to serve Iowa and its citizens.

Dave Lingren, ICN's Executive Director, explained how ICN's message evolved with Iowa's telecommunications companies and other influential individuals. Lingren also updated attendees with information about legislative topics passed during the 2011 legislative session.

Breakout session presenters for the conference included: Gwen Nagel representing the Iowa Department of Education, Dr. Leigh Zeitz representing the University of Northern Iowa, and various internal topics presented by ICN representatives, which included informational sessions, updates relating to ICN's federal broadband grant received in 2010, and demonstrations of ICN's new IP video conferencing service.

The ICN, a State of Iowa agency, is the country's premier fiber-optic Network, committed to continued enhancements of distance learning and providing Iowans with equal access to education, healthcare, and government through Internet, data, voice, and video conferencing services. For more information about the ICN visit www.icn.state.ia.us.

###

For More Information Contact

Lori Larsen
Public Information Officer
Phone: 515-725-4713
Email: lori.larsen@iowa.gov

DAVE LINGREN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR