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Top international education expert Professor Stephen Heppell to visit Australia for Creative Innovation 2011, a major 3 day event to look at the challenges of doing business and governing in a super-connected digital world.

Over 35 world class international and Australian speakers are involved.

One of the world's leading educators – Professor Stephen Heppell - will be in Melbourne in November for Creative Innovation 2011, an international 3 day event that will look at the challenges of doing business and governing in a super-connected digital world.

Stephen Heppell is seen as an international leader in new media and technology – having worked with international agencies, Fortune 500 companies and many influential organisations. Microsoft dubbed him “Europe’s leading online education expert.”

Over 35 world class international and Australian speakers will address the event – Creative Innovation 2011 – which has been put together by award winning social entrepreneur and Founder/Executive Producer Tania de Jong AM.

A percentage of any profits from the event will be put towards Creativity Australia’s “With One Voice” program, which supports disadvantaged people and inspires people to find their voice. Tania de Jong says the event will emphasise the fact that creativity is the strategic tool of the 21st century.

Professor Heppell’s numerous media appearances including BBC Breakfast, Sky News, Channel 4, BBC Radio 4 and much more. He has been at the heart of a global revolution in designing spaces for students to learn in. He has rebuilt the entire Caribbean’s national education system – the result has been a doubling in performance. He has built a state-of-the-art academy for 0 to 21 year olds in the UK.

His pioneering work has seen him receive numerous awards including the Royal Television Society’s Judges’ Award for Lifelong Services to Educational Broadcasting. In 2008 he was given the BETT for Outstanding Achievement in ICT Education. He works with a huge range of organisations and governments on future policy and direction, including the UK Government and the BBC. He sits on the Board of the UK’s Skillset, which provides professional development and training in creative industries.

For over 25 years he founded and ran Ultralab, which became one of the most respected centres in e-learning in the world. Stephen Heppell has looked at self-esteem issues in schools and warns that “factory schooling” is holding the world back, because there is too much of it. His teachings highlight that playful learning gets much more engagement from students and helps stop them “coasting”.

The Wall Street Journal said, "Money alone won't make the Internet fly. Ultimately, its success lies with kids and other folk who don't follow dot-com stocks. That's where Stephen Heppell comes in. He's a digital do-gooder, helping to bring ordinary people into the Internet age.... looking about as threatening as Santa Claus with his twinkling blue eyes and bushy beard."

Tania de Jong said, *"Having Stephen Heppell at this event is just fantastic. Education needs huge transformation. So much has to be done. He is helping lead the way but the reality is there needs to be much more creativity and innovation in education in Australia and across the world. For anyone in education, government or business this is a huge opportunity to hear first-hand from one of the world's sharpest minds in education."*

"This event isn't just for CEOs and directors. Small and medium business will benefit. If you are in finance, health, government, banking, the arts, education or the not-for-profit sector, there's much to be learnt."

Creative Universe and ANZ are presenting the event. Other business identities involved include the legendary Dr. Edward de Bono, leading philosopher Daniel Dennett (USA), IDEO partner and Stanford Design Thinking expert Brendan Boyle and Dr. Paddy Miller from Spain, who works with multi-nationals on change. He taught leadership at the Harvard Business School and has worked with everyone from the World Bank and Boeing to Ericsson.

The event – Creative Innovation 2011 – is being held at the Sofitel Melbourne on Collins from November 16th to 18th, 2011. To find out more and register, just go to www.ci2011.com.au.

You can also contact Baldwin Consulting Group on 03 9645 9858 or ring Creative Universe on 03 8679 6000.

Media enquiries to: Media Key on 03 9769 6488 – ask for either Homira Samadi or Ross Woodward.