



Friday, Nov. 6, 2015
Rundell Hall Conference Center
Baytown, Texas

The Mission of Public Education and the Promise of Personalized Learning

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Gary Lopez, Founder and CEO, NROC Project
Monterey, CA

The 10th annual **Innovations in Teaching and Learning Technology Conference** keynote speaker is Dr. Gary Lopez. During his keynote address, Dr. Lopez will explore the promise of digital technology in the reinvention of the products, systems, and business models of education. EdReady, a college and career readiness system funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is presented as an effort to help U.S. public education fulfill its mission to help every student find academic and life success.

Gary Lopez is the founder and CEO of Monterey Institute for Technology and Education (MITE), a non-profit corporation dedicated to helping meet society's need for access to quality education, and the manager of The NROC Project (<http://thenrocproject.org>), HippoCampus (<http://www.hippocampus.org>), and EdReady (<http://www.edready.org>). MITE receives its major funding from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and operating support from academic organizations nationwide.

Lopez was the founder and president of Archipelago (1983-1997), a developer of award-winning analog and digital products for the education market. Archipelago created hundreds of films, videodiscs, software programs, and book series for many of the largest educational publishers in the United States, including Harper Collins, Encyclopedia Britannica, Saunders, and Prentice Hall. Archipelago also produced nationally-broadcast television programming for PBS and The Cousteau Society. Archipelago was acquired by Harcourt Brace in 1993.

Lopez is also the former President and CEO of NETg (1997-2002), a pioneer in providing e-Learning solutions to many of the world's largest corporations, including Shell, IBM, AT&T, Honeywell and Motorola. Under his leadership, NETg developed a library of more than 1,200 multimedia-based courses, grew to more than 800 employees, and had offices in 30 countries. NETg was acquired by Thomson Corporation in 2001.

In 2006 Lopez created and produced the television special, *Voyage to Kure*, the inaugural episode of the PBS series, *Jean-Michel Cousteau Ocean Adventures*. The documentary film was cited by President George W. Bush as his inspiration for the establishment of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Monument (*Los Angeles Times*, June 15, 2006), the largest protected marine area in the world (<http://georgewbushwhitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2006/06/20060615-6.html>).

Dr. Lopez received a BS in Zoology from University of California, Davis in 1973 and a Ph.D. in Marine Biology from Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 1982. He served as a lecturer in both the Biology and Earth Sciences departments of University of California, San Diego, and was a visiting professor at CISESE, Ensenada, Mexico.