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### **GCFLearnFree.org Wins the 2012 MERLOT Classics Award**

(Raleigh, NC) – On July 26, GCFLearnFree.org was awarded the 2012 MERLOT Classics Award for Information Technology at The Sloan Consortium’s 5<sup>th</sup> Annual International Symposium for Emerging Technologies for Online Learning, held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Members of the GCFLearnFree.org team attended the event to accept the award and present a special session during the conference.

The MERLOT Information Technology Editorial Board selected GCFLearnFree.org’s Microsoft Word 2010 tutorial for the 2012 MERLOT Classics Award in Information Technology. This free Microsoft Word 2010 Tutorial guides learners through the updates of Microsoft Word 2010 by exploring program basics and common tasks and delves even deeper to work with more complex features. Instructional step-by-step text is accompanied by graphics, interactives, and over 25 videos.

During the special session, members of GCFLearnFree.org discussed instructional design and GCFLearnFree.org’s approach to developing simple, clear, and effective tutorials that are used by a broad base of global learners. The presentation included strategies toward screencasts, interactives, conceptual videos, mobile apps, and more.

From the MERLOT Information Technology Editorial Board: “Out of all Microsoft Office tutorials that we’ve seen, including the ones done by Microsoft, these are the best. We would highly recommend them to any user, including a seasoned Microsoft Office professional. Anyone who starts reviewing the tutorials will learn the program. These tutorials are highly effective as an in depth learning tool, a supplement to class labs, or an on demand "just in time" learning module.”

### **The Sloan Consortium**

The Sloan Consortium is an institutional and professional leadership organization dedicated to integrating online education into the mainstream of higher education, helping institutions and individual educators improve the quality, scale, and breadth of online education.

The Emerging Technologies Symposium is devoted to the emerging and innovative uses of technology designed to improve teaching and learning online. The conference focuses on the technologies that drive online learning effectiveness, highlighting research, applications and best practices of important emerging technological tools.

### **GCFLearnFree.org**

**GCFLearnFree.org**® creates and provides quality, innovative online learning opportunities to anyone who wants to improve the technology, literacy and math skills needed to be successful in both work and life. By delivering over 750 different lessons to millions of people in over 200 countries and territories **ABSOLUTELY FREE**, GCFLearnFree.org is a worldwide leader in online education.

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