

**TITLE:**

Opening Learning For All by Serving Stone Soup Globally

**Abstract:**

Free and open educational resources and services are being used to expand access to education for diverse communities nationally and internationally which can improve equitable access to sustainable employment. The Stone Soup folktale serves as an effective change management strategy for digital and distance education by providing inclusive methods that leverage free and open educational resources and services.

**Name / Title:**

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Gerard Hanley Ph.D. is the Executive Director of MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching, [HYPERLINK "http://www.merlot.org/"](http://www.merlot.org/) \t "\_blank" www.merlot.org) and SkillsCommons ( [HYPERLINK "http://www.skillscommons.org/"](http://www.skillscommons.org/) \t "\_blank" www.skillscommons.org) which are free and open digital libraries of academic and workforce development teaching, learning, and training resources administered at the California State University. SkillsCommons is the international repository of workforce development open educational resources developed for the U.S. Department of Labor's \$2 billion TAACCCT program and provides free access to workforce development instructional materials and program management resources across a wide range of industry sectors. At the California State University Long Beach campus, Gerry is the Director of the Center for Usability in Design and Accessibility and Professor Emeritus of Psychology; he teaches, conducts research, and leads projects for industry, education, and government agencies. Gerry's previous positions include Assistant Vice Chancellor and Senior Director for Academic Technology Services at the CSU Office of the Chancellor for almost 20 years and at the Long Beach campus, the Director of faculty development, and Director of strategy planning. Gerry is also the Vice President of Learning and Instruction at Gooru, a non-profit organization providing a free technology platform for personalized learning. Gerry worked as a program manager and expert consultant in the aerospace industry for almost 20 years designing, implementing, and evaluating a technical mentorship program to ensure the intellectual capital within of Rockwell International's and the Boeing Corporation's engineering departments sustained their levels of excellence. The work was conducted on the U.S. Space Shuttle program as well as Boeing commercial aircraft and advanced systems programs. He received his BA, MA,

and PhD from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in Experimental/Cognitive Psychology.