IBN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PROF JACKIE Y. YING SELECTED TO JOIN ELITE LEADERS FROM 30 COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AT THE ASIA 21 YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT IN SINGAPORE

Asia 21 Delegates To Examine Socially Responsible Approaches To Economic Growth

(Singapore, October 6, 2007) – On October 5–7, 2007, Prof Jackie Y. Ying, Executive Director of the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (IBN) is one of eighteen Asia 21 Delegates from Singapore to join nearly two hundred emerging leaders under the age of forty from thirty countries across the Asia-Pacific region and the U.S. that will gather at the Shangri-la Hotel in Singapore for the Asia Society's Second Annual Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit – Moving Forward Together: Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in the Asia Pacific. Selected from among nearly a thousand nominees, Prof Ying will join other leaders from the realms of business, government, academia, media, civil society, and the arts to examine the role of values-based leadership and to find new collaborative approaches for addressing the region’s most pressing issues.

The three-day Summit will include key note addresses by S.R. Nathan, the President of the Republic of Singapore, and P. Sainath, the Rural Affairs Editor of The Hindu and 2007 Ramon Magsaysay Award winner as well as the presentation of an Asia 21 Public Service Award to Odanadi seva Samsthe, an organization that advocates for prostitutes in India. This organization will receive a ten thousand dollar award in recognition of its work.

Delegates at the Asia 21 Summit will take part in breakout sessions, panel discussions, a formal debate, cultural performances and social events and will explore issues relating to women’s rights, the rights of ethnic minorities and indigenous groups, mass urbanization, the protection of cultural heritage, climate change, environmentally sustainable growth, energy security and corporate social responsibility. Prof Ying, who is one of MIT Tech Review’s Top 100 Young Innovators and a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, brings to the summit her vast experience and expertise in the areas of bioengineering and nanotechnology.

“As the first in the world to combine bioengineering and nanotechnology research in one institute, IBN works at the leading edge of science, engineering and medicine to develop practical solutions for current and future needs in the life sciences. We adopt a multidisciplinary approach that takes
advantage of our researchers’ diverse backgrounds to develop novel technologies. Asia 21 takes a similar approach to tackle current problems, and I am delighted to be part of this multidisciplinary effort,” said the IBN Executive Director, who is also Adjunct Professor of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

“The Asia 21 young leaders meeting in Singapore this week represent the future of the Asia-Pacific community,” said Asia Society Executive Vice President Jamie Metzl, who is spearheading the Asia 21 initiative. “These are the leaders who will need to know each other, share ideas, and learn to work together to make this Asia-Pacific century as peaceful and prosperous as it can be. We at the Asia Society are proud to be working with our many partners around the region to help strengthen the connective web that ties the Asia-Pacific region together through the Asia 21 program.”

The 2007 Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit is part of an overarching Asia 21 Young Leaders Initiative. The Asia Society’s Asia 21 Young Leaders Initiative is the pre-eminent gathering of the most dynamic young leaders from every country in the Asia-Pacific region and from every sector. Through Asia 21, the region’s leaders of today and tomorrow work together to develop collaborative approaches to the region’s shared challenges, to build networks of trust across geographic boundaries, and to educate each other in the highest ideals of values-based leadership.

The initiative was established by the Asia Society in 2006 with the support of Merrill Lynch, Asia 21’s Founding International Sponsor and lead sponsor for the Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit. “As a non-profit educational institution, great ideas such as this one can’t become a reality without support. Merrill Lynch has been a true and wonderful partner in developing this initiative,” said Asia Society President Vishakha Desai. " As the world dawns on the Asia-Pacific century, the Asia 21 Young Leaders Initiative will serve as a unique and indispensable forum where fresh thinking brings about innovative solutions and opportunities for political, social and economical collaboration.”

The identification of Singapore as the location for this year’s Summit represents an important acknowledgment of Singapore as a model inclusive society in the Asia-Pacific region. “As Asia becomes ever more global, integrated and prosperous, it will become increasingly more important to balance the demands of the marketplace with the desire to preserve cultural heritages, wage battles against environmental threats and better integrate marginalized communities," said Raymundo A. Yu, Senior Vice President and Chairman, Asia Pacific Region, Merrill Lynch. "Merrill Lynch is proud to sponsor an initiative which is preparing the next generation of leaders in the region to work towards inclusive and sustainable growth.”

The 2007 Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit is co-organized by The Singapore Management University (SMU). "With the world rapidly developing and lives becoming intertwined across the globe, we find ourselves increasingly having to make decisions that have wide-ranging impact on people and our environment. We must all equip ourselves to take on greater responsibilities of global citizenship. As co-organisers with Asia Society for the Summit, we are excited to be part of this remarkable effort to bring young leaders from all over the world to Singapore to find the most practical, impactful solutions to pressing global issues," said Professor Howard Hunter, President of Singapore Management University. The Asia 21 Summit is also supported by the Lee Foundation with special support from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, Shangri-la Hotel Singapore and Singapore Exhibition & Convention Bureau. Hewlett Packard is IT Sponsor, Heidrick & Struggles is the Knowledge Partner. The Financial Times, Bloomberg Television and Singapore Press Holdings are Media Sponsors of the Summit. The Government of Singapore also provided support.

Asia Society is the leading global organization working to strengthen relationships and promote understanding among the people, leaders, and institutions of Asia and the United States. The Society seeks to enhance dialogue, encourage creative expression and generate new ideas across the fields of policy, business, education, arts and culture. Founded in 1956, Asia Society is a nonpartisan, nonprofit educational institution with offices in Hong Kong, Houston, Los Angeles, Manila, Melbourne, New York, San Francisco, Shanghai and Washington, DC. For more
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Incorporated on 12 January 2000, Singapore Management University (SMU) aims to groom outstanding business leaders and creative entrepreneurs capable of excelling in a rapidly changing and dynamic world. Today, SMU is home to some 5,400 students and comprises six schools: Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Accountancy, School of Economics, School of Social Sciences, School of Information Systems and School of Law. SMU offers bachelor's, master's and PhD degree programmes in business and management-related areas, ranging from Accountancy, Economics, Finance, Wealth Management, Law, Information Systems and Social Science. It also has a dedicated Office of Research, a number of centres of excellence, and provides public and customised programmes through Executive Education. Collaborations with leading institutions, including The Wharton School, Carnegie Mellon, the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Chicago, allow SMU to draw on academic and research strengths across all major disciplines. The SMU campus is a state-of-the-art facility located right in the heart of Singapore's civic and business district. www.smu.edu.sg

Latest information including the Summit agenda, reading materials and select bios are available online at http://www.asiasociety.org/programs/Asia21/.

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About Prof Jackie Y. Ying

Prof Ying was born in Taipei and raised in Singapore and New York, and she has been at the helm of IBN since it was established in March 2003. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

IBN, one of seven biomedical research institutes under the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), conducts cutting-edge research at the interface of bioengineering and nanotechnology at the Biopolis in Singapore. It seeks to create novel nanostructured materials, devices and systems with unique functionalities and commercialization potential for biomedical applications. Under Prof Ying’s leadership, the Institute has grown to over 190 research staff and students.

Prof Ying’s research is interdisciplinary in nature, with a theme in the synthesis of nanostructured materials for drug delivery, tissue engineering, biosensing, bioimaging, pharmaceuticals synthesis and energy applications. She has authored over 170 articles, and presented over 190 invited lectures on this subject at international conferences. She has also received a number of awards, including the American Ceramic Society Ross C. Purdy Award, David and Lucile Packard Fellowship, Office of Naval Research and National Science Foundation (NSF) Young Investigator Awards, Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award, American Chemical Society Faculty Fellowship Award in Solid-State Chemistry, TR100 Young Innovator Award, and American Institute of Chemical Engineers Allan P. Colburn Award. She was named a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader and is currently the youngest member of the German Academy of Natural Scientists, Leopoldina.

Prof Ying received her PhD in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University in 1991 and was an NSF-NATO Postdoctoral Fellow and Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow in Germany before she joined the faculty of MIT in 1992.
About the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology

The Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (IBN) is a member of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR). Established in March 2003, the Institute’s mission is to establish a broad knowledge base and conduct innovative research at the interface of bioengineering and nanotechnology. Positioned at the frontiers of engineering, IBN is focused on creating knowledge and cultivating talent to develop technology platforms that will spur the growth of new industries. IBN also fosters an exciting, multidisciplinary research environment for the training of students and young researchers to spearhead biomedical advancement in Singapore.

For more information on IBN, please log on to www.ibn.a-star.edu.sg

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More information about the Asia 21 Initiative can be found in the attached release or at http://asiasociety.org/asia21/

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