FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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26 September 2004

MEDIA RELEASE

International Experts in Bioengineering and Nanotechnology to Converge at the Biopolis

The First International SBE Conference on Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (ICBN 2004) is the first forum of its kind for scientists working at the cutting-edge of both fields

Singapore, 26 September 2004 – Close to 200 experts and scientists from all over the world will converge at the First International SBE Conference on Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (ICBN 2004) to be held over the next three days at the Biopolis.

The conference marks the first time an international forum has been devoted to the exciting possibilities presented at the cutting-edge of bioengineering and nanotechnology.

ICBN 2004, hosted by Singapore’s Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (IBN), will present the latest advancements, and explore the enormous potential presented at the cross-disciplinary frontiers of engineering, science and medicine.

It will cover a diverse range of topics, including delivery of drugs and genes; cell, tissue and implant engineering; quantum dots, nanoparticles and nanoporous materials; bio-MEMS and microsystems; molecular diagnostics and biosensors; synthesis of pharmaceuticals; biomimetic and self-assembled materials; as well as biological and biomedical imaging.

The event, which is co-sponsored by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the Society for Biological Engineering, will feature 25 invited talks by leading international experts.

These invited speakers include Prof. James R. Heath, Elizabeth W. Gilloon Professor and Professor of Chemistry at the California Institute of Technology; Prof. Adam Heller, Professor of Engineering at the University of Texas, Austin; Prof. Daniel E. Morse, Professor of Molecular Genetics and Biochemistry at the University of California, Santa Barbara; Prof. Galen Stucky, Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry and Materials at the University of California Santa Barbara; Prof. Samuel I. Stupp, Director of the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanoscience in Advanced Medicine at Northwestern University; and Prof. Matthew Tirrell, Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of California Santa Barbara.
In addition, there will be a total of 29 contributed presentations and 83 poster presentations.

“The fields of bioengineering and nanotechnology are at the frontiers of engineering. Both fields are multidisciplinary in nature and highly diverse in scope. Hence, a forum like ICBN 2004 serves as the perfect platform to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration amongst scientists working at the interface of both fields,” said ICBN 2004 Conference Chair, Prof. Jackie Y. Ying.

“ICBN 2004 has also brought together the leading experts in the fields of bioengineering and nanotechnology,” added Prof. Ying, who is also the Executive Director of IBN. “By organizing the inaugural conference in Singapore, we hope to cast a spotlight on Singapore’s biomedical research efforts, and showcase our latest advances in bioengineering and nanotechnology.”


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About the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (IBN)
The Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (IBN) is a member of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR). Established in 2002, 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, please visit: www.ibn.a-star.edu.sg.

About the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)
Founded in 1908, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) is a professional association of more than 50,000 members that provides leadership in advancing the chemical engineering profession. Please visit www.aiche.org for more information.

About the Society for Biological Engineering (SBE)
Established by AIChE, the Society for Biological Engineering aims to be the professional association of choice for engineers and applied scientists with interest in the broad area of biological engineering. Find out more at bio.aiche.org.
Annex

The First International SBE Conference on Bioengineering and Nanotechnology 2004 (ICBN 2004)

Date
26-29 September 2004

Venue
The Matrix Auditorium, Biopolis
(Address: 30 Biopolis Street, The Matrix, Level 2, Singapore 138671)

Program
Sunday, 26 September 2004
6.30pm to 9.30pm   ICBN 2004 Cocktail Reception & Conference Registration
Venue: Pool Bar/Stella Gallery, Ritz-Carlton Millenia Singapore

Monday, 27 September 2004
8.00am to 9.00am ICBN 2004 Conference Registration
Venue: Registration Desk, Level 2, Matrix, Biopolis
8.30am to 7.00pm    ICBN 2004 Conference Scientific Sessions & Exhibition
Venue: Matrix Auditorium, Biopolis

Tuesday, 28 September 2004
8.30am to 5.45pm ICBN 2004 Conference Scientific Sessions & Exhibition
Venue: Matrix Auditorium, Biopolis
From 6.30pm            Night Safari Free and Easy Tour

Wednesday, 29 September 2004
8.30am to 5.45pm ICBN 2004 Conference Scientific Sessions & Exhibition
Venue: Matrix Auditorium, Biopolis
6.30pm to 10.00pm ICBN 2004 Conference Banquet
Venue: Grand Ballroom, Ritz-Carlton Millenia Singapore


Topics
- Drug delivery systems and devices
- Protein and gene delivery systems
- Cell and tissue engineering
- Artificial organs and implants
- Biological and biomedical imaging
- Small animal imaging and microtomography
- Nano imaging tags (quantum dots, magnetic nanoparticles)
- Bio-MEMS and microbioreactors
- Medical devices and microtools
- Biomarkers, biosensors and molecular diagnostics
- Medicinal chemistry
- Synthesis and separation of chiral pharmaceuticals
- Biomimetic and self-assembled materials
- Nanoparticles, nanocomposites and nanoporous materials for bio-applications
Invited Speakers