



中国教育国际交流协会
CHINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

News

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New Strategies for a Global Age: Asia-Pacific Forum on Education

BEIJING, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, November 14, 2006 – Asia Society and China Education Association for International Exchange will co-host the first-ever Asia-Pacific Forum on Education in Beijing November 14-17 to develop a multi-country, multi-sector educational response to globalization. The Forum's goals are to analyze the challenges that the rapid pace of globalization and the growth of the knowledge economy pose for education systems throughout the region and to stimulate innovations and new strategies that will prepare students for a globalizing world.

Thomas Friedman, author of *The World is Flat*, will moderate a session at the Forum entitled *Scientific and Technical Skills for the Global Economy*. Vishakha Desai, President of Asia Society will open the Forum. Vice Minister Wu Qidi, Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China, will make a keynote speech on the future of Chinese education. Sam Pitroda, Chairman of India's National Knowledge Commission, will discuss science and innovation in India.

“Major economic trend lines have greatly accelerated interconnectivity in trade and innovation across business sectors, but our education systems have not kept pace,” says Vishakha N. Desai, President, Asia Society, “Young people growing up today in China, India and other developing countries have an unprecedented opportunity to produce wealth and solve business and social problems in the years ahead. Asian leaders need to greatly expand access to education and transform their systems to prepare their students for the more entrepreneurial, creative and knowledge-intensive jobs of the global economy. At the same time, U.S. educators need to modernize American schools to increase their scientific rigor and enhance students' cross-cultural knowledge and skills to meet the requirements of a global age.”

The three day meeting will convene approximately 50 leaders from the People's Republic of China, India, Korea, the Philippines, Australia, and the United States for an of exchange ideas

and the development of joint projects to promote students global knowledge and skills. The senior level participants have been drawn from government, business, education, philanthropy, and media and technology institutions.

The Asia-Pacific Forum will focus on educational challenges in several areas:

- How to achieve world-class performance, especially in math, science, and technology;
- How to build education systems that foster creativity, innovation, and global competence;
- How to expand access and raise quality in primary and secondary education; and
- How technology, the private sector, and international education can dramatically expand access to higher education.

The Forum proceedings will be disseminated broadly in print and electronic format both in Asia and the United States through a report written by former *New York Times* Education Editor Edward Fiske. Follow-up activities, including joint task forces on specific issues and technology projects to share best practices and build cross-cultural understanding, will be developed at the meeting and announced as they evolve.

The Forum is made possible with support from Citigroup, The Goldman Sachs Foundation, The Coca-Cola Company, The McGraw-Hill Companies, and The Chatterjee Group.

Asia Society

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. We seek 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, Mumbai, New York, San Francisco, Shanghai, and Washington, D.C. On the web at www.AsiaSociety.org.

China Education Association for International Exchange

China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), is China's nationwide not-for-profit organization conducting international educational exchanges. It was founded in July 1981 with the approval of the State Council of the People's Republic of China (PRC). In 1991, it was registered with the Ministry of Civil Affairs of the PRC. CEAIE has a full commitment to meet the needs of China's modernization construction, developing exchanges and cooperation between the Chinese educational community and other parts of the world, promoting the advancement of education, culture, science and technology, and strengthening understanding and friendship among the peoples of all countries and regions of the world.

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