NAE GRAND CHALLENGES SUMMIT SERIES

In 2000, the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) issued the results of its survey of what the U.S. views to be the 20 most important engineering achievements of the 20th century. The list included the basics of life as we know it today – the electrification of homes and businesses, clean water, automobile and airline travel and the Internet, among others.

Looking forward, the NAE commissioned a committee of engineers, scientists and futurists to solicit ideas related to the “Grand Challenges” facing engineering in the 21st century. These challenges were identified to serve as a call to action and as a focal point for societal attention on the importance of science and engineering in maintaining our national security, quality of life and sustainable future.

Earlier this year, Duke University hosted the Summit on the National Academy of Engineering’s Grand Challenges, a dialogue with the nation’s leading engineering, science and policy experts. The goal of this national discussion was to stimulate the engineering, science and policy advances needed to solve the Grand Challenges and to engage the public in understanding the importance of technology, policy and science to our everyday lives.

This successful event has led to a series of regional summits that are being planned across the country in spring 2010 to delve deeper into exploring select challenges. Summits are planned for:

- Raleigh, North Carolina
- Phoenix, Arizona
- Chicago, Illinois
- Boston, Massachusetts
- Seattle, Washington

These regional discussions will provide the basis for a second national summit on the Grand Challenges to be held in Los Angeles in fall 2010.

GRAND CHALLENGES CHICAGO SUMMIT

Co-hosted by the Illinois Institute of Technology and the Chicago Council on Science and Technology, in partnership with Northwestern University, University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the Chicago Summit will commence on April 21-22, 2010, to examine topics related to four of the Grand Challenges: clean water; carbon, energy and climate; urban sustainability; and global health.

As collaboration is the key to resolving the challenges facing the world today, the Chicago Summit will engage education, government, business and non-profit leaders from around the globe – as well as local high school and college students interested in these fields – in discussions about how these monumental issues impact our nation and the world.
CHICAGO SUMMIT TOPICS AND FEATURED PRESENTERS

Clean Water
LORD ERNEST RONALD OXBURGH
Member, House of Lords, and member, Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology

Carbon, Energy and Climate
DR. JOHN P. HOLDREN
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and director, Office of Science and Technology Policy

Urban Sustainability
ROGER E. FRECHETTE III
President, PositivEnergy Practice

Global Health
DR. TACHI YAMADA
President of Global Health Program, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Additional keynote addresses provided by:
RAY LaHOOD
U.S. Secretary of Transportation

JOHN W. ROWE
Chairman and chief executive officer, Exelon Corporation
Issues discussed are important to your company and the country at large.

Raise awareness of the urgency of the national challenges.

Gain a seat at the table for the national discussion.

Opportunity to network with students engaged in grand challenge research.

Connects you with several leading university centers.

Shows your company is forward thinking about issues critical to the U.S.

Your opportunity to influence national policy.

Gives you input on engineering education programs in the U.S.

Your competition is probably an event sponsor.

It’s great for business and good for the welfare of the country.

For more information about Chicago Summit sponsorship opportunities, email grandchallenges@iit.edu or call Jeanne Arens at 312-567-5046.