

## THINK REALLY BIG

More than 2,500 people gathered in Los Angeles for the ninth annual Global Conference, which took place April 24-26. Participants explored solutions to a host of international policy concerns, ranging from energy independence to work-force education.

The conference featured some 400 speakers including half a dozen Nobel laureates, the president of the Czech Republic, a member of the new Iraqi parliament, two astronauts, a network news anchor, the only seven-time Tour de France winner, a leading futurist, the FDA chief and a former NATO commander. And did we mention 100 corporate CEOs? DVDs of this year's sessions are available at [www.milkeninstitute.org/gc2006](http://www.milkeninstitute.org/gc2006). It's not too soon to register for the 10th Global Conference, scheduled for April 23-25, 2007, in Los Angeles. Book at [www.milkeninstitute.org](http://www.milkeninstitute.org).

## NEW CHINA INDICATORS

In partnership with the Milken Institute, Xinhua Finance Ltd., China's leading financial information and media organization, has announced that it will produce eight new economic indicators that will give investors and firms valuable new information about the Chinese financial markets.

"No one has created such indicators before for China," said Xinhua Finance Chief Executive Fredy Bush. "They will provide greater transparency to the China market than has been available before. With Xinhua Finance's China expertise and the Milken Institute's financial technology and analytical depth, we will be able to provide deeper and more useful ways of looking at the China market." The new China indicators are for the Banking Sector, the Renminbi, Initial Public Offerings,

Market-Adjusted Debt, Mergers and Acquisitions, Privatization and Joint Ventures, Corporate Governance and Trade Openness.

"We are delighted to be able to partner with Xinhua Finance to provide these important new tools for evaluating China's economy," said Milken Institute President and CEO Michael Klowden. "With our recent work helping reform China's banking system and introduce debt markets, and our capital-markets research, these indicators will provide valuable insights into China's financial markets."

The first indicators will launch this fall.

## DOING WELL BY DOING GOOD

A new study by the Milken Institute's Regional Economics group finds that a proposed medical school at the University of Central Florida would have a major economic impact on the greater Orlando region.

The study, "Economic Benefits of Proposed University of Central Florida College of Medicine," estimates that the project would directly create more than 6,000 jobs. With the growth of a related life-science cluster around the school, the economic impact could eventually approach \$6.4 billion and create some 25,000 jobs. Visit [www.milkeninstitute.org](http://www.milkeninstitute.org).

## WELCOME BIOBANK CENTRAL

FasterCures/The Center for Accelerating Medical Research has launched BioBank Central ([www.biobankcentral.org](http://www.biobankcentral.org)), a portal that will assist researchers who require biological materials, encourage the donation of tissue and blood by patients, and inform the public about the critical role of bio-repositories in research. Site sponsors include IBM, Affymetrix, Bioaccelerate Holdings Inc., and Invitrogen Corporation. **M**