

Institute Colloquium



by

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Title : **Forging a New Way Forward**
The Role of Universities in the 21st Century

Day & Date: Thursday, February 11, 2010

Time: 4.00 p.m.

Venue: Institute Auditorium

All are Invited

Abstract: Converging forces — the expansion of globalization, the increasing ease of communication through information technologies, and the trend of ‘open innovation’, whereby companies promote research outside of the walls of their own buildings, and the global recession — are reshaping how public universities work, and to what end. Nations around the world are counting on the talent of their universities’ graduates and the discoveries of university researchers to drive innovation, and restore and advance the global economy. In light of these major shifts in the academic landscape, is it time to construct a new social contract between research universities and their public and private partners: one that both promotes the pursuit of basic research and encourages solution-driven work? Should we embrace this new relationship and establish a funding mechanism to fit? Can we devise new ways to measure success, and actively copy the organisations that work best? If we can do all that, perhaps we stand a better chance of solving the world’s problems — now and in future.