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Asian Pacific Fund Announces Recipients of the Tien Education Leadership Awards

San Francisco, January 6, 2010 – The Asian Pacific Fund announced the selection of the recipients of the fourth annual Chang-Lin Tien Education Leadership Awards, which recognize the professional accomplishments and leadership qualities of Asian Americans working in higher education. The awardees are S. Shankar Sastry, Dean, College of Engineering, Roy W. Carlson Professor of EECS, BioE & ME and Director, Blum Center for Developing Economies, University of California, Berkeley; and Meredith Jung-En Woo, Dean of the College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and Clay W. Buckner Professor of Politics, University of Virginia. Sastry and Woo each will receive an unrestricted grant of \$10,000.

The Tien Awards recognize the accomplishments of rising Asian American leaders in higher education to support their professional development and advancement. The recently endowed awards program honors the legacy of Chang-Lin Tien, the first Asian American to head a major American research university. Chang-Lin Tien served as Chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley from 1990 to 1997, and was a founding member of the Asian Pacific Fund's Board of Directors. The awards program was created by the Asian Pacific Fund in 2006 and is supported by the many individuals impressed by Chancellor Tien's accomplishments as an acclaimed teacher, scientist and administrator. The goal of the award is to honor Asian American academic leaders whose work embraces the ideals of Chancellor Tien and to draw attention to their institutional leadership and scholarly accomplishments.

"Dr. Tien led by example," noted Henry T. Yang, Tien Awards selection committee member; University of California, Santa Barbara Chancellor; and Association of American Universities Chair. "Throughout his career, he worked tirelessly to advance education at all levels, reaching all areas of the world."

In addition to Yang, the selection committee members for this year's Chang-Lin Tien Education Leadership Awards included University of California, Merced Chancellor Steve Kang; California State University, Bakersfield President Horace Mitchell; University of Maryland President C. Daniel Mote, Jr.; and Kohlberg Kravis Roberts Senior Advisor Arun Sarin.

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The 2010 Tien Education Leadership Awards recipients

S. Shankar Sastry

S. Shankar Sastry is dean of the College of Engineering, Roy W. Carlson Professor of EECS, BioE & ME and director of the Blum Center for Developing Economies at the University of California, Berkeley. An internationally recognized expert on embedded and autonomous software, Dean Sastry has an exceptional background in technology research, spearheading projects to improve the nation's cyber security and network infrastructure as well as initiatives in robotics and hybrid and embedded systems.

Sastry earned his Ph.D. in electrical engineering and computers sciences from Berkeley in 1981. Since joining the faculty in 1983, he has demonstrated a level of energy, determination and commitment that would be exceedingly difficult to surpass. One of Berkeley's most distinguished professors, he has held directorships of the Information Technology Office at DARPA and the Electronics Research Laboratory at Berkeley. He served as chair of the Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences Department at Berkeley from 2001 to 2004 and as director of the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society from 2006 to 2008. He currently serves as the faculty director of the Richard C. Blum Center for Developing Economies.

His numerous honors include membership in the National Academy of Engineering, Fellow of the IEEE, an NSF Presidential Young Investigator Award and the Eckman Award of the American Automatic Control Council. He also received the President of India Gold Medal, the IBM Faculty Development Award, an honorary degree from Harvard and the distinguished alumnus award of the Indian Institute of Technology in 1999. Sastry began his tenure as dean of the College of Engineering, UC Berkeley on July 1, 2007.

Meredith Jung-En Woo

Meredith Jung-En Woo has served as the dean of the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences at the University of Virginia since June 2008. She came to UVA from the University of Michigan, where she served most recently as professor of political science and associate dean for the social sciences in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts. Prior to her eight years on the Michigan faculty, she taught for 12 years at Northwestern University, where she helped rebuild the department of political science and co-founded the Center for International and Comparative Studies.

An expert on international political economy and East Asian politics, she has written and edited seven books, and was the executive producer of an award-winning documentary film about Stalin's ethnic cleansing of Koreans during the Great Terror. President Bill Clinton appointed her to serve on the Presidential Commission on U.S. - Pacific Trade and Investment Policy. She has consulted for the World Bank, the United States Trade Representative, Asian Development Bank Institute, the Asia Foundation and the MacArthur Foundation.

A native of Seoul who was educated in Seoul and Tokyo through high school, she came to the United States to study at Bowdoin College in Maine. She completed her master's and doctoral degrees in international affairs, Latin American studies and political science at Columbia University.

Prior Award Recipients

Past recipients of the Tien Leadership Awards include Dr. Vivian S. Lee, Vice Dean for Science and Chief Scientific Officer at New York University Langone Medical Center; Dr. Subra Suresh, Dean of the School of Engineering and Ford Professor of Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Norman
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Tien, Dean and Nord Professor of Engineering, Case School of Engineering, Case Western Reserve University; Frank H. Wu, former Dean and Professor of Law, Wayne State University Law School; Sung-Mo “Steve” Kang, former Dean of the Baskin School of Engineering at the University of California, Santa Cruz; and Belle W. Y. Wei, Dean of the College of Engineering at San Jose State University.

ABOUT THE ASIAN PACIFIC FUND: The Asian Pacific Fund is a Bay Area foundation established to improve the health and well-being of the Asian American community. By awarding grants and providing services to more than 90 Asian organizations, the Fund also supports a broad range of local groups that provide vital services to Asian Americans in need. These organizations serve Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Thai, Vietnamese and other Asians in the region. The Fund is the only organization in the Bay Area that specializes in working with Asian donors, raising funds for community agencies, helping donors start scholarship programs and supporting public education projects.

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