PRESS RELEASE

First year of the International Sustainable Campus Network

The International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN) is celebrating the end of its first full year of operation with its second annual conference hosted from Wednesday, April 23 to Friday April 25, 2008 at Science City on the ETH Zurich campus. A key topic of this conference is the establishment of an international award program for sustainable campus projects.

The International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN) was launched at its kick-off conference in April 2007 in Zurich. Since then, a year of successful work has passed and the network, initiated by “Novatlantis – sustainability at the ETH Domain,” sets new goals for the future with its second annual conference.

Universities from all over the world are members of this network, and so the conference held April 23-25, will offer presentations by internationally renowned speakers, including representatives of Harvard University, the University of Tokyo, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, ETH Zurich, EPF Lausanne and Google Switzerland. This year’s opening keynote speaker will be Martha Thorne, Executive Director of the Pritzker Prize for Architecture.

A key topic for discussion at this conference is the establishment of an international award program for sustainable campus projects. This annual award program will seek nominations from around the world of projects that best represent the principles and ideas of sustainable campus infrastructure. This will contribute to the goal of the ISCN to provide a global forum for the exchange of information, ideas, and best practices for sustainable campus operations. Institutions that participate in the ISCN have recognized that sustainable campus operations are an important part of their educational mission. If students are to learn about the principles of sustainability they need to do so in a physical environment that reflects the same principles. The ISCN aims at enhancing universities’ commitments to construct, redesign, and organize their campuses in an exemplary and sustainable way and to include the experiences in their educational programs.

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