



Nanotechnology in **China**

Ambitions & Realities

Tuesday, February 6, 2007 • 3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
[Woodrow Wilson Center](#) • 5th Floor Conference Room

Co-sponsored by the [Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies](#), the [Asia Program](#), the [China Environment Forum](#), and the [Program on Science, Technology, America & the Global Economy](#)

A senior Department of Commerce official recently claimed that China is rapidly catching up to the United States in nanotechnology. This news comes on top of the latest OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) forecast that China will have spent more on research and development (R&D) than Japan in 2006, making it the world's second highest investor in R&D after America.

Nanotechnology—the manipulation of materials at very small sizes where these materials take on novel or unusual physical and chemical properties—is a field of intense international competition. Some experts predict nanotechnology will be as important as the steam engine, the transistor, and the Internet. Worldwide, governments and corporations invested almost \$10 billion in nanotechnology R&D in 2005.

Is China poised to become the world's nanotech superpower, or is this prediction hyperbole? What is China's comparative advantage in the high-tech sector, and how is it exploiting this advantage in nanotechnology? Will China's investment in nanotechnology pay off? And how will the United States respond to China's growing nanotechnology capacity—with competition, cooperation, or both?

Speakers:

- **Dr. Denis Fred Simon**, PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, Levin Institute, State University of New York
- **Dr. Richard P. Appelbaum**, Executive Committee, Center for Nanotechnology in Society and PROFESSOR, Sociology and Global & International Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara
- **Evan Michelson**, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies

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The [Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies](#) was launched in 2005 by the Wilson Center and The Pew Charitable Trusts. It is dedicated to helping business, governments, and the public anticipate and manage the possible health and environmental implications of nanotechnology.

Media planning to cover the event should contact Sharon McCarter at (202) 691-4016 or at sharon.mccarter@wilsoncenter.org

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