

## ASEAN Outstanding Engineering Achievement Awards - Award Winners for 2006

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### Professor Seeram Ramakrishna - Nanofibers and their Applications

Professor Seeram Ramakrishna is the Dean of the NUS Faculty of Engineering which has been ranked 9th in the world's top 20 technology universities for two years in a row by the London Times Higher Education. Seeram chairs the AUN/SEED-Net (ASEAN University Network/South East Asia Engineering Education Development Network) Steering Committee.

Seeram led the creation of three new academic departments namely Bioengineering, Environmental Science & Engineering, and Materials Science & Engineering. These departments promote interdisciplinary research and education in strategically important areas. In order to give more choices to students and prepare them for an increasingly globalized world, he oversaw the introduction of new programs such as Engineering Science, Engineering Systems, and Management of Technology, and double degree programs like Engineering & Business, and Engineering & Economics.

Seeram also leads the NUS Nanoscience & Nanotechnology Initiative (NUSNNI), a university level institute with the goal to nurture human capital for cutting edge industry. He authored two seminal books and invented several patented technologies.

His innovative R&D work on aesthetic biocomposite materials certainly helped make people smile comfortably. This invention was transferred successfully to the company Biomers International.

His team's innovative research work on functionalized electrospun nanofibers for the protection against chemical & biological warfare agents received global attention. The Know-how of his advanced electrospinning set-up was transferred to industry. He also advises three innovation driven companies in Singapore, Malaysia and USA.

Seeram serves on the editorial boards of twelve international journals. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Singapore (FIES); Institution of Mechanical Engineers (FIMechE), UK; Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (FIMMM), UK; and American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (FAIMBE), USA.