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**Futurists Converge at Stanford in September to Discuss Theories of Intelligence: Visionaries Vinge and Kurzweil to Keynote 3<sup>rd</sup> Accelerating Change Conference**

LOS ANGELES, May 3 - Leading futurists **Vernor Vinge** and **Ray Kurzweil** top the list of intellectual heavyweights presenting at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Accelerating Change Conference (AC05) presented by the Acceleration Studies Foundation (ASF). Sponsored by SAP, AC05 will be held Sept. 16 -18 at Stanford University and will boast many of the leading thinkers associated with the fields of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Intelligence Amplification (IA).

This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual conference presented by the ASF, an organization Wired columnist **Bruce Sterling** describes as, "the first in the world to focus on the multi-disciplinary implications of accelerating change..."

AC2005 seeks to place in social and technological context the various emerging concepts related to artificial and collective intelligence. In keeping with this goal, attendees will find no shortage of engaging events including original presentations, spirited debates, informative Q&A sessions, technology demos, and direct conversations with a spectrum of innovative thinkers.

"AI and IA are explosive fields not only important because they are crucial to the business applications of the future, they also shed a great deal of light on our definition of humanity itself," says **John Smart**, President of the ASF. "AC2005 represents a unique opportunity to get acquainted with the latest thinking as our special mix of change leaders sound off on these rapidly developing topics."

In addition to **Vinge** and **Kurzweil**, AC2005 will feature presentations by **Harold Morowitz** (Author, *The Emergence of Everything*), **Blake Ross** (co-creator of *Mozilla Firefox*), **Robin Raskin** (TV Personality and Former Editor of PC Magazine), **Joichi Ito** (CEO and Founder, *Neoteny Co., Ltd.*), and **David Fogel** (CEO, *Natural Selection, Inc.*). **Moira Gunn** (President and CEO, *The Tech Nation Group*; Host, *Tech Nation* and *BioTech Nation*) of NPR will act as Special Host for the conference.

The full plate of AC2005 sponsors includes SAP, Clarium Capital, Draper Fischer Jurvetson, Linden Lab, Wired Magazine, the American Association for Artificial Intelligence, the Santa Fe Institute, the Association of Professional Futurists, the New York Law School Institute for Information Law and Policy, Wikimedia Foundation, the American Cancer Society Futuring and Innovation Center, Technology Review Magazine, Corante, ITConversations, and Terranova.

For more information on AC2005, the ASF, and any previous conferences please consult <http://www.accelerating.org> or contact Iveta Brigis, Executive Director ASF, at 310.831.4191.