

MELBOURNE CENTRE FOR FINANCIAL STUDIES

FINANCE FORUM

Developments and Opportunities in Japan

Michael Thomas

Director and Head of Japan Team
Martin Currie Investment Management

Date and Time: **Friday 15 December, 2006, 12.30 - 2.00 pm** (sandwich lunch provided)

Venue: **Level 12, 330 Collins St.**

The Melbourne Centre for Financial Studies has arranged for Michael Thomas of Martin Currie Investment Management to share with us some insights into both active investing in equities and Japan, based on his 24-year career in Japan, first as a stockbroker and for the last 17 years as an investment manager.

After graduating in economics from Bristol University, Michael began work with London stockbrokers Vickers da Costa in 1973. He was appointed head of the firm's Japanese department in 1982. He joined Martin Currie in 1989 as director of investments in Japan and became head of the Japan team in 1993.

As well as being responsible for Martin Currie's Japan Fund, which has won several performance awards, in 2000, Michael developed Martin Currie's first hedge fund, the Martin Currie Absolute Return Fund – Japan. Michael was highly commended in the *Investment Week* award for outstanding achievement in 2000 and won the *Global Investor* investment excellence award for excellence for Japanese equities in 2002.

Based in Edinburgh, Scotland, Martin manages £12.3 billion (A\$30.3 billion) in active equity portfolios for clients across Europe, North America and around the world.

This is the eighth for 2006 in a series of "Finance Forums" which the Melbourne Centre will arrange with the objective of improving industry-academia contacts, identifying research projects and opportunities for research partnerships. It is expected that those attending will be keen to participate in discussion.

Please note that there is a limit on the number of attendees (max 20) and there is no charge. If you are interested in attending and participating, please indicate by an email to info@melbournecentre.com.au with the subject header of Finance Forum – Michael Thomas by **Wednesday 13 December**. (If you subsequently discover you are unavailable to attend, please advise us so that we can offer the place to others who are interested).