

MONTHLY UPDATE

April 2012

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May 16, 2012 – Attend the Science Writing Hueristic Conference at DMACC

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As the country moves towards national and state STEM initiatives, there is a need for education, policy and industry leaders to rethink how we view science learning in K-16 education. Over the last 10 years, research on the Science Writing Heuristic approach has made a significant contribution to what we know and understand about science learning. Ten years of funded research using an immersive approach to science teaching and learning has shown us that we need to re-think the conversation. The change required is complex and challenging.

On Wednesday, May 16, 2012, please join Brian Hand (Principal Investigator) and members of the Science Writing Heuristic research team to share their research-based evidence and perspectives on how we need to rethink effective science learning. In an effort to improve student achievement and teacher learning in science, it is critical that leaders across the state are engaged in this conversation.

To see the scheduled program, list of invited guests, and to RSVP for the conference, go to www.swhconference.com. For further information, please email Melia Pieper-Merek, melia-piepermarek@uiowa.edu.

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Biofuels Experiential Learning for Teachers

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This course will take place in Eddyville, Iowa and will focus on the two main biofuels currently being produced in the US, ethanol and biodiesel. The course will be a combination of lecture and laboratory (approximately 50/50). Participants will learn the science, issues, and challenges behind biofuel production as well as how to make these biofuels in a laboratory setting. Participants will leave with lab kits to take back to their classroom enabling them to make biofuels in their labs, with their students.

Lunch and snacks will be provided. All materials will also be provided at no cost. The target audience for this event is High School Science and Agriculture teachers

The deadline to register for this event is June 1, 2012. For more information on how to enroll, please [click here](#).

Prometheus Awards Recap

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This year's Prometheus Awards took place at the Veteran's Memorial Stadium in Des Moines, Iowa. Iowa Biotech Association was one of the event's title sponsors and enjoyed an elegant evening with dinner, live music, and a presentation showcase of this year's finalists and winners. Of this year's winners, one of IBA's "Healthcare & Pharmaceutical" members, **NewLink Genetics**, walked away with two awards: CEO of the Year (Charles Link) and the Break-Out Award.

Other winners at this year's ceremony include:

- Software Company of the Year (Small/Medium)
 - T8 Webware from Cedar Falls
- Software Company of the Year (Large)
 - WebFilings from Ames
- IT Service Provider of the Year
 - Involta from Cedar Rapids
- Clean Technology Company of the Year
 - Submittal Exchange from Waukee
- Best User of Technology
 - Ovation Networks from Cedar Rapids
- Innovation in Teaching Award
 - Cyber-Anatomy from Iowa City
- CIO/CTO of the Year
 - Brad Rasmussen of GeoLearning in West Des Moines
- Student Innovation of the Year
 - Stackd from Iowa City
- Outstanding StartUp Company of the Year
 - Cyber-Anatomy from Iowa City
- Top Growth Company of the Year
 - Genova Technologies from Iowa City
- Life Sciences Company of the Year
 - Harrisvaccines, Inc. from Ames
- Technology Company of the Year (Small/Medium)
 - Dwolla from Des Moines
- Technology Company of the Year (Large)
 - WebFilings from Ames

Pictures of the event on page 3

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2012 Prometheus Awards

From left to right: Mike Naig with Monsanto, Rachel Hurley – IBA Executive Director, Debi Durham with Iowa Innovation Corporation, Mike St. Clair – IBA Lobbyist, and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds



IBA Chairman, Dave Schisler with Cargill Biotechnology Development Center, presents the Life Sciences Company of the Year award to Harrivaccines, Inc. from Ames, Iowa.

Iowa Biotech Association's 2nd Annual Golf Outing

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Iowa Biotech Association is excited to announce that it will be hosting a Second Annual Golf Outing! This event is limited to Iowa Biotech Association members and affiliates. While



the primary goals for this event are networking and entertainment, our generous sponsors, OfficeMax and Hewlett-Packard, would also like the opportunity to answer any questions you may have or discuss potential products or services they provide.

The outing will take place at [The Legacy Golf Club](#) in Norwalk, Iowa on **June 7, 2012**.

Registration is free and the event will include:



- A continental breakfast
- A putting contest and expo
- 18 holes of golf
- Lunch
- Contests, prizes, and giveaways

More information, along with **sponsorship opportunities**, registration information, and photos from last year's event, can be found by [clicking here](#).

Upcoming Events

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[IowaAsia Business Summit](#)

May 11, 2012 / West Des Moines, IA

This is a free event open to the public at the DMACC West Campus. Iowa businesses can sign up for meetings with Consul Generals and Consul Staff. The governor will open the reception at 1:00 p.m. and meetings will be held from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Invited countries include: Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. Please

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email Myles Kappelman with the Iowa Economic Development Authority at Myles.Kappelman@iowa.gov if you are interested in meeting with Consul Staff of a certain country. ([Return to Index](#))

[Iowa Statewide STEM Summit](#)

May 15, 2012 / Des Moines, IA

Help celebrate the public debut of the Action Plan drafts of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council. All STEM aspects - how its learned, taught, employed, governed and its dividends - are subjects of the day. Professionals in STEM industries, universities, community colleges, teachers, policymakers, school board members, parents, consultants, nonprofit and youth agency managers, economic developers, and all else with interest in how Iowa intends to reclaim STEM education leadership should attend. ([Return to Index](#))

[16 Green Technologies Forum](#)

May 16, 2012 / West Des Moines, IA

This May session is a targeted meeting that is supported not only by the Iowa Innovation Corporation but also by the U.S. Economic Development Authority (EDA). In a national competition, the Corporation's model for making these types of connections was chosen as one of six in the nation. Work with Iowa State University began last summer to create the partnerships and common processes necessary to screen their technology for commercial relevance. ([Return to Index](#))

[Science Writing Hueristic Conference](#)

May 16, 2012 / Ankeny, IA

As the country moves towards national and state STEM initiatives, there is a need for education, policy and industry leaders to rethink how we

view science learning in K-16 education. Over the last 10 years, research on the Science Writing Heuristic approach has made a significant contribution to what we know and understand about science learning. Ten years of funded research using an immersive approach to science teaching and learning has shown us that we need to re-think the conversation. The change required is complex and challenging. ([Return to Index](#))

[Minority Biomedical Entrepreneurship Conference](#)

May 21-22, 2012 / Cleveland, OH

The America21 Project and BioEnterprise are hosts of a groundbreaking national conference dedicated to promoting and accelerating underrepresented minority healthcare innovation and entrepreneurship. This first annual event offers a unique platform for minority professionals, entrepreneurs, investors, students and industry leaders to engage, network, collaborate and exchange ideas. Keynoting the conference is Dr. Frank Douglas, President of the Austen BioInnovation Institute and former Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of Aventis. ([Return to Index](#))

[BioImmersion Course](#)

May 23-25, 2012 / Chicago, IL

This three-day course delivers an in-depth understanding of both fundamental and advanced biotechnology concepts used in both biotech and pharma companies. ([Return to Index](#))

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[BioProducts Committee Meeting](#)

May 24, 2012 / West Des Moines, IA

The BioProducts Committee is a consortium of industrial and academic innovators who utilize raw and composite renewable, recyclable, and biodegradable materials in commercial products and energy consumption. Meeting on a quarterly basis, the Committee's mission is to make Iowa a leader in biobased materials and be a leading resource for research, engineering, development, and production of bioproducts.

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[2012 IBA Golf Outing](#)

June 7, 2012 / Norwalk, IA



Iowa Biotech Association is excited to announce that it will be hosting a Second Annual Golf Outing! This event is limited to Iowa Biotech Association members and affiliates. While the primary goals for this event are networking and entertainment, our generous sponsors would also like the opportunity to answer any questions you may have or discuss potential products or services they provide.

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[BIO International Convention](#)

June 18-21, 2012 / Boston, MA

This event is the world's largest gathering of industry stakeholders. It offers key networking and partnering opportunities as well as provides insights and inspiration on the major trends affecting the industry.

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[Kauffman Life Science Ventures Summit](#)

June 22-23, 2012 / San Francisco, CA

This first-time conference will answer the critical questions that founders must address to start and grow viable life science companies. Industry experts and successful entrepreneurs will provide practical guidance on how to commercialize innovations in each of four sectors: medical device, therapeutics, diagnostics, and digital health. If you have a new startup in this space or are ready to start one, this two-day event may be for you.

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[2012 NASDA Annual Meeting](#)

September 12-17, 2012 / Des Moines, IA

The 2012 NASDA Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship.

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[2012 IBA Partnering For Growth Forum](#)

September 18-19, 2012 / Ankeny, IA

This event enables Iowa companies to learn about the ARS organization and mission, the research available through the ARS, and the opportunities for commercialization of that research. Through large group presentations, smaller panel discussions and more intimate networking opportunities, companies will learn about particular research assets within each segment of the USDA's ARS as it pertains to their specific industry sector.

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[Livestock Biotech Summit](#)

September 19-21, 2012 / Kansas City,
MO

This unique conference offers a focus on genetic engineering of agricultural animals including benefits, research and development, regulatory system, and challenges to advancing health, food and industrial applications of animal biotechnology. This year's theme is "Developing Global Solutions Through Animal Biotechnology" and discounted registration rates are available for BIO members, government employees, and attendees from accredited academic institutions. ([Return to Index](#))

Breaking News

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[Food & Agriculture](#)

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Feed Energy Interviews Iowa Soybean Association's Aaron Putze on the Benefits of Collaboration

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DuPont opens \$40 million ag research facility in Iowa;

[Read](#)

DuPont reports 'robust' corn seed sales at Pioneer

[Read](#)



Monsanto reports record earnings

[Read](#)

EFSA: **Monsanto biotech maize safe** for humans and the environment

Monsanto: Biotechnology could improve farm production in Pakistan

[Read](#)

Nigerian expert urges planting of **biotech cotton** to raise production

[Read](#)

Bayer, Rosetta unite to develop **high-yielding cotton** varieties

[Read](#)

BASF to conduct **biotech potato trials** in Europe

[Read](#)

Uganda's first **biotech crop** could be commercialized in 2014

[Read](#)

Biotech cotton with **longer fibers** developed in China

[Read](#)

Scion to continue **biotech pine tree trials** despite attack

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Biotech plants produce **therapeutic enzyme**

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Transgenic sheep carries gene for **heart-healthy fat**

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USDA urged to make **science-based decisions** on **biotech crops**

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FuturaGene to field-test **biotech eucalyptus tree** in **Brazil**

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Drought-tolerant soy developed in **Argentina**

[Read](#)

\$6.5M to go toward **cereal crop studies**

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Healthcare & Pharmaceutical

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IBI Scientific Purchases **Stovall Life Sciences**

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Braasch Novel Vaccines Limit Need for **Sub-Therapeutic Antibiotic Use**

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AstraZeneca Forges Pact Around Five **Amgen** Clinical-Stage **Anti-Inflammatory mAbs**

[Read](#)

Amgen plans to buy **MN Pharma** for about **\$700M**, sources say

[Read](#)



Protalix, Pfizer Report **FDA Approval** of Plant-Derived **Gaucher Disease ERT Elelyso**

[Read](#)

Illumina Rejects **Roche's** Latest Offer

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In Second Letter, **Roche** Urges **Illumina** Shareholders to Accept 'Highly Attractive' Offer

[Read](#)

ISS Recommends **Illumina Shareholders** Vote Against **Roche's** Nominees for Board

[Read](#)

Amid Chase for **Illumina**, **Roche** Posts Q1 MDx Sales Jump as **Applied Science** Drops

[Read](#)

Analyst: **Illumina Shareholders** Unlikely to Vote for **Roche Offer**, but Options Remain

[Read](#)

Roche might drop **\$6.8 billion hostile bid** for **Illumina**

[Read](#)

H.I.G. BioVentures raises **\$268 million** to invest in **drug, medical device** and **diagnostics companies**

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Tarantula venom, baking soda explored to fight **breast cancer**

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Vaccine could work against **90% of cancer types**

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3 biologic RA drugs are forecast to lead global sales in 2012

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Researchers use **ESCs** to treat **macular degeneration in rats**

[Read](#)

Fusion Protein Effectively Delivers **Anticancer siRNA** to **Her2+ Breast Tumors**

[Read](#)

Japanese researchers plan **stem cell trial** for **newborns**

[Read](#)

Congress Supports **NIH Budget Increase**

[Read](#)

Stem cell protein may hold promise for **obesity treatment**

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Fine-tuning **Nanotech** to **Target Cancer**

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Doctors infuse **stem cells** directly into **brain** to **treat stroke**

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Industrial & Environmental

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Fagen is Contracted by **DuPont** to Build **Cellulosic Ethanol Plant** in **Iowa**

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Two **Iowa ethanol facilities** weigh **switch** to **butanol**

[Read](#)

Sapphire Energy receives \$144M in new financing

[Read](#)

EPA approval of **E15** applauded

[Read](#)

NASA project uses **plastic bags** to cultivate **algae**

[Read](#)

Discovery Could Save **Whales**, Lead to **Better Drugs**

[Read](#)

Policies, fuel demand are driving **global biofuel growth**, report says

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Aviation biofuels advance, attract opponents over costs

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Bioplastics and **Petroleum-based plastics**: strengths and weaknesses

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Ford Makes a Case for **Ethanol** and **Methanol Blends**

[Read](#)

Kelderman Manufacturing to build **super-bale-picker** for **cellulosic biomass** collection

[Read](#)

The Andersons finalizes acquisition of **Iowa ethanol plant**

[Read](#)

Microbe helps convert **solar power** to **liquid fuel**

[Read](#)

Nano-catalyst key to solving 30-year-old **bioplastic** riddle

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Food Versus Fuel: The Debate Is Over

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Novozymes Partners with Chinese Firm for Cellulosic Ethanol

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U.S., India team up to develop biofuels from nonfood sources

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In Other News...

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2012 BIO Fly-In Recap

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This year's BIO Fly-In took place in Washington, D.C. and hosted a record 41 states with over 350 scheduled meetings. Iowa Biotech Association was joined by several of its Board



Members and member companies from around the state, including [Exemplar Genetics](#), [Integrated DNA Technologies](#), and [MedCara Pharmaceuticals](#). BIO's Managing Director of External Relations & Development, John Sloan, was IBA's host for the event. Together, this group engaged with Members of Congress and their senior staff on important legislative issues

facing the biotechnology industry, including PDUFA, NIH Funding, and GMO Labeling.

PDUFA

PDUFA stands for Prescription Drug User Fee Act. This act authorizes FDA to collect fees from companies that produce certain human drug and biological products. Since the passage of PDUFA, user fees have played an important role in expediting the drug approval process.

As this act is set to expire in November of this year, IBA lobbied for its expedited reauthorization. Additional topics that could be viewed as "controversial" have been removed from this act in an effort to have it approved as a separate item and the industry is hopeful that no additional topics will be attached to it.

If this act was to expire while under consideration, or reauthorization is declined, the resulting affect will be job losses for the FDA and, in turn, further delays in approving much-needed biotech drugs.

NIH Funding

The NIH is the nation's premier research agency for the study of human health conditions, diagnostics, and treatments. The United States has historically been the foremost leader in the world for biomedical research and development. Breakthroughs in biomedicine and health over the past 50 years are largely due to the research and development that occurs within the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries as well as the publicly-funded biomedical research enterprise centered at the NIH.

The experience of the past decade demonstrates the problems caused by cyclical periods of rapid funding growth followed by periods of stagnation. Since the doubling of the NIH budget between 1998-2003, funding has failed to keep pace with the cost of biomedical research inflation, and as a

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result the rate of meritorious research proposals being funded has fallen to one in ten, down from one in three in 2003. The recently-enacted Cures Acceleration Network (CAN), located within NIH, is intended to speed the translation and application of promising new treatments for diseases from the laboratory to the marketplace. CAN is authorized to make grants through the NIH of up to \$15 million each per year to biotech companies, universities, and patient advocacy groups to target applicants that have shown promise at the laboratory level but have not attracted investors that are willing to commit to a promising discovery.

At the Fly-In, IBA's panel supported the budget proposal of \$30.7 billion (minimum) and opposes any cuts to the current NIH budget, as part of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

GMO Labeling

GMO labeling is quickly becoming a hot topic for consumers and members of the Agriculture business alike. While some feel that the only options are to either A) label a product "GMO" or B) removed from store shelves if it is not labeled as such, IBA and its panel feel that there is another approach that should be strongly considered: don't label it and keep it on the shelves.

As the country is becoming more aware of how their food is being produced, some companies are being pressured to label their product as "GMO" (Genetically Modified Organism). This requirement to label has resulted in some companies going out of business, since labeling resulted in the product appearing "different" and "bad". Instead of understanding that the product has been modified to better adapt to its surroundings, or provide better nutrition, labeling leads people to believe that the food will somehow harm them. As supporters of the bioag

business, IBA's panel hoped to encourage Iowa's representatives to understand the differences between GMOs and non-GMOs, the potential harm that labeling can create, and the history behind these products. After all, 80% of corn used in food today comes from Genetically Modified corn.

In summary, the Fly-In event had many great successes and led to new relationships and potential collaborations. Pictures of the event can be viewed on Iowa Biotech Association's website by [clicking here](#). A review of the [BIO World Congress](#), which IBA attended April 29-May 2, will be provided in next month's Newsletter.

Iowa Biotech Educator

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The Spring 2012 issue of Iowa State University's Iowa Biotech Educator Newsletter has been issued:

http://www.biotech.iastate.edu/IA_biotech_educator/

Featured in the spring issue:

- Register by June 1 for summer biotechnology education workshops
- NSF summer cytogenetics crash course for high school students
- Recycle ISU lab supplies
- News from ISU's Biotechnology Outreach Education Center
- Did you know these science facts?
- Websites feature the story behind the science, lectures by leading biologists, and booklet on structures of life

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Subscriber Information

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This message was sent to you as a benefit of membership in the IBA and/or a subscriber of our monthly newsletter. If you know of a company that would benefit from the Association's advocacy, financial savings and education/workforce focus, please have them contact the Association at 515-327-9156 or email rachelhurley@iowabio.org. Membership details are also available at www.iowabio.org.

If you would like more information on any topic or no longer wish to receive these messages, please email melissa@iowabio.org or call 515-494-9242.

Speaker Opportunities

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IBA staff members are available to give 15-60 minute speeches to interested groups, such as Rotary Clubs, trade associations, or civic groups. A broad range of topics could be discussed, included biotechnology, healthcare, food vs. fuel, legislative policy, investment and more. Contact Rachel Hurley at (515) 327-9156 or rachelhurley@iowabio.org.