

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012

Inside This Issue

1-3 Participation Opportunities

IBA Hosts Visit for Congressman Loeb sack
IBA's 2nd Annual Partnering For Growth Forum
Update: Plains Angels Application Rebate

3-5 Upcoming Events

August 2012
September 2012
October 2012

5-7 Breaking News

Food & Agriculture
Healthcare & Pharmaceutical
Industrial & Environmental

7-8 In Other News

Karen Merrick Joins the Iowa Innovation Corporation

8 Subscriber Information & Speaker Opportunities

Participation Opportunities

[\(Return to Index\)](#)



IBA Hosts Visit for Congressman Loeb sack

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

This spring, Iowa Biotech Association attended the 2012 BIO Fly-In in Washington, D.C., where we met with Iowa's Congressmen and Senators to discuss current healthcare/pharmaceutical topics of concern. Stemming from these visits, IBA received interest from Congressman Loeb sack to engage in further discussions. On **Friday, August 10th**, IBA will be hosting a meeting for Congressman Loeb sack at the [BioVentures Center](#) in Coralville, Iowa. This event will take place from 10:00am-11:30am, with a complimentary luncheon following.

We are reaching out to you with an invitation to attend this meeting. Dress attire for the event will be business casual and there are no fees to participate. We believe this will be a great opportunity to contribute your thoughts and desires regarding the healthcare/pharmaceutical industry. **Interested parties should sign up no later than 12:00PM CST on Monday, August 6th**, by visiting www.iowabio.org/loeb sack2012. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Melissa Darling at melissa@iowabio.org.

###

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012



IBA'S 2nd Annual Partnering For Growth Forum

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

In 2011, Iowa Biotech Association (IBA) and the Iowa Innovation Corporation (IICORP) co-hosted the 1st Annual Partnering For Growth Forum, a first-of-its-kind event in the state. This forum demonstrated a successful step in developing an ecosystem tasked with connecting “problem owners and solution providers”. The IBA, IICORP, Iowa State University, the ag-biosciences business community and the USDA Agricultural Research Services (USDA-ARS) were brought together to connect Iowa businesses & entrepreneurs with commercially-relevant information and technology.

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 learn about particular research assets within each segment of the USDA's ARS as it pertains to their specific industry sector.

IBA is excited to be holding the event again this fall, **September 18-19th**. It will once again take place at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Campus in Ankeny, Iowa. We would love to see many repeat guests as well as newcomers! Please take a minute to visit the following links and register as a guest or sponsor, receive additional details and provide feedback on how we can make this year's event fit your needs:

- [Register to Attend](#)
- [Sponsor this Event](#)
- [2012 Topic Feedback Survey](#)
 - Please complete by August 15th

- [2011 Recap Survey](#)
 - Please complete by August 15th
- [2011 Highlights, Presentations, & Photos](#)
- [More Information](#)

Important note for IBA members:

IBA will be hosting its Annual Board Meeting from 1:00-2:00pm on Wednesday, September 19th. The meeting will be held at the FFA Enrichment Center after the Partnering For Growth event has concluded. Lunch will be provided prior to the meeting and all IBA members are invited to attend and participate. If you are interested in attending this year's Annual Board Meeting, please email Rachel Hurley at rachelhurley@iowabio.org or call (515) 327-9156.

###



Update - Plains Angels

Application Rebate

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

In last month's IBA newsletter, we reported on an opportunity from Plains Angels. Plains Angels is a new angel investing group that was formed in Central Iowa this year by the Business Innovation Zone and the Greater Des Moines Partnership, along with a small group of angel investors. They will be investing across the Midwest in Biotechnology, Advanced Manufacturing, and Information Technology startups. They are dedicated to providing outstanding financial returns to accredited angel investors while assisting early-stage growth companies by being an excellent source of funding and advice.

After recent discussions with Plains Angels, a **\$250 application rebate has been offered to all IBA members** (1/3 off the original cost). If you are an IBA member and would like to take advantage of this rebate offer, please email info@iowabio.org to receive a discount code to include with your application.

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012

Non-IBA members interested in applying should contact info@plainsangels.com for standard details, including application submission deadlines.

###

Upcoming Events

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

Drug & Diagnostic Development

August 6-8, 2012 / San Francisco, CA

Transforming Clinical and Disease Biology Insights into Drug and Diagnostic Discoveries

A new paradigm in drug and diagnostic development is emerging. Exciting scientific discoveries in genome biology and technology are paving the way to new product development and commercial opportunities for Rx, Dx and technology platform companies. The event will feature four compelling conferences:

- The Future of Rx/Dx Summit
- Antibody-Drug Conjugates, Bispecifics & Empowered Antibodies
- Next-Gen Sequencing Applications & Translational Technologies
- Clinical Biomarkers & New Frontiers in Cancer

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

IBA Hosts Visit for Congressman Loebsock

August 10, 2012 / Coralville, IA



This spring, Iowa Biotech Association attended the 2012 BIO Fly-In in Washington, D.C., where we met with Iowa's Congressmen and Senators to discuss current healthcare/pharmaceutical topics of concern.

Stemming from these visits, IBA received interest from Congressman Loebsock to engage in further discussions. On Friday, August 10th, IBA will be hosting a meeting for Congressman Loebsock at the [BioVentures Center](#) in Coralville, Iowa. This event will take place from 10:00am-11:30am, with a complimentary luncheon following. Dress attire for the event will be business casual and there are no fees to participate. We believe this will be a great opportunity to contribute your thoughts and desires regarding the healthcare/pharmaceutical industry.

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

2012 Hands-On STEM at the Iowa State Fair

August 19, 2012 / Des Moines, IA

Join the Iowa Math & Science Education Partnership and the Governor's STEM Advisory Council at the Iowa State Fair on Sunday, August 19. Forty exhibits and stage shows will wow elementary-age children and their families about great STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) opportunities across Iowa. A grassy knoll right off the University Street entrance will be transformed for one day into a first-ever hands-on STEM extravaganza. The last day is the busiest day of the Fair. Imagine 109,000 people witnessing the wonders of your STEM story! Please contact IMSEP at IMSEP@uni.edu or call (319) 273-2959 with any questions.

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

PhRMA "Research & Hope Awards" program

September 12, 2012 / Washington, D.C.

For many years, PhRMA has given a Discoverers Award to a PhRMA company to recognize and celebrate innovative research in the industry. This year, PhRMA is changing things up, expanding the scope of the program, and hosting their first "Research & Hope Awards" program. This event will honor individuals who have made a significant contribution in the therapeutic area of Alzheimer's Disease. It will be held in DC at the Newseum on September 12, 2012.

The deadline for award nominations is July 23rd, 2012. Please click [here](#) to view PhRMA's overview letter, details on award criteria and a nomination form.

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012

[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.

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

[Innovation EXPO 2012](#)

September 18, 2012 / Coralville, IA

Innovation EXPO 2012 is a coordination of three state-wide events that will enable more fruitful connections between entrepreneurs and resources. This day-long event will culminate a convention-like setting for celebrating our area's entrepreneurial companies and individuals. The Expo includes:

- The Technology Association of Iowa's (TAI) "Pitch and Grow"
- The Iowa Capital Investment Corporation's "Iowa Seed and Venture Forum"
- The EDC's "Entrepreneurship Showcase" and "Inventor's Garage"

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

[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.



- ❖ [REGISTER TO ATTEND](#)
- ❖ [SPONSOR THIS EVENT](#)
- ❖ [MORE DETAILS](#)

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

[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.

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

[Biopolymers Symposium 2012](#)

October 15-17, 2012 / San Antonio, TX

This is the industry's longest running and most comprehensive U.S. bioplastics conference, bringing together more than 250 key players and decision makers for debates, discussion and networking. Past attendees have noted the "excellent representation from a variety of stakeholders: suppliers, brand owners, certification bodies, industry associations, government and non government organizations" and the "good topics for getting an overall understanding of the Biopolymers industry and making contacts" and once again the Biopolymers Symposium 2012 will deliver!

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

[Biotech 2012: Find.Fund.Facilitate](#)

October 22, 2012 / Philadelphia, PA

Biotech 2012: Find. Fund. Facilitate is the foremost bioscience conference in the Mid-Atlantic region, bringing together top bioscience leaders from around the world to network, connect with potential partners, share business strategies, and learn from their peers. This year's conference will take place in one day, combining all of the most popular elements of their past agendas into a targeted program designed to advance the growth and development of the bioscience industry in their region. Attendees will have opportunities for information sharing, new skill

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012

development, networking, collaboration, and partnering among companies at all stages of growth.
([Return to Index](#))

3rd Annual MDDMI Conference & Exhibition

October 22, 2012 / Haifa, Israel

The Medical Device Design & Manufacturing Industry (MDDMI) is an annual event which enables presenters, exhibitors, investors, companies, technology experts, patent specialists and service providers, to network and to exchange ideas and information, make connections and collaborations and update current and future innovations. The conference is another unique opportunity for companies, medical equipment, to meet a variety of service providers in the relevant fields and the ability to find the best suit their needs.

This is the leading conference covering the innovative medical devices design and manufacturing scene in Israel and abroad. This event is the main platform for the R&D industry and academy to gather, network and learn about the cutting edge and upcoming developments, to expose trends and innovations in medical devices, including R&D, outsourcing and service providers, as well as new technologies and subcontractors' services.
([Return to Index](#))

2012 STEMtech Conference

October 28-31, 2012 / Kansas City, MO

The STEMtech conference is an international convening that emphasizes increasing student success in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics at all levels. Over 400 sessions focus on improving STEM education, better aligning educational systems with each other and local workforce needs, and exploring technology's role in the teaching and learning processes. College and university faculty members, K-12 teachers, administrators, government officials, community and business/industry representatives, and others involved in STEM education and information technology are invited to explore research, best practices, and other ideas with their colleagues from across the country and around the world.
([Return to Index](#))

Advanced Biofuels Markets Conference

October 29-31, 2012 / San Francisco, CA

Meet the people striving for success at North America's largest Advanced Biofuels Congress & Exhibition. Join the CEOs driving innovation as they discuss challenges and developments with leaders from across the advanced biofuel value chain and push the industry forward to reach this all important goal of scaling into the \$800 billion OECD oil market.
([Return to Index](#))

Breaking News

([Return to Index](#))

Food & Agriculture

([Return to Index](#))



PIONEER
BRAND · PRODUCTS

Pioneer, a DuPont Co. officially updates its name to **DuPont Pioneer**

MONSANTO
imagine[®]



Monsanto's biotech sugar beets gain USDA approval

GMO food labels are costly and unnecessary

Biotech cotton offers economic benefits to farmers

Student farmers see future for biotech crops in Australia

Bayer purchases biopesticides developer for \$425M

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012

USDA to release applications for **deregulation** faster

India needs efficient **regulatory system** for **biotech crops**

Gates Foundation gives \$10M to **U.K. biotech crop project**

Cuban biotechnology center at work on **coffee varieties**

Nike launches new **bio-based GS football boot**

USDA seeks public input on **9 biotech crops**

U.K. survey finds growing public **support for biotech crop tests**

\$1.4M **federal grant** funds **biomass research**

EU scientist discusses **biotech foods' safety**

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical

[\(Return to Index\)](#)



Braasch Biotech: At last a **vaccine for obesity**

View full write-up in Journal of Animal Science and Biotechnology

Rick Santorum to attend the **Give Cures Launch** in **Coralville, Iowa**

Researchers **discover flu gene**

Doctors use **bone marrow cells** to treat **tooth condition**

Researchers create **neurons** from **skin cells** of **Parkinson's patients**

Reauthorization of FDA user fees is signed into law

Evotec, Harvard license **beta cell regeneration** candidates to **Janssen**

The **Cancer Chicken Dance**

Silk proteins could make **vaccines heat-stable**

New Malaria Vaccine in the Works

Medicines in Development for **Mental Illnesses**

Green Tea and **Gold Nanoparticles** Destroy **Prostate Tumors**

NIH grants \$65M to transform findings into **medical devices**, more

New Gene Therapy Method Finds **Success**

Mesoblast plans trial of **stem cell therapy** for **rheumatoid arthritis**

NIH, DARPA to fund \$132M **organ-on-a-chip** project

Scientists testing **anti-fungal bacteria** on **diseased frogs** in California

European Commission approves **Vertex medicine** for **cystic fibrosis**

New Cancer Vaccine Target Discovered

Industrial & Environmental

[\(Return to Index\)](#)



Alphajet (a Collaborative Venture with **Syngest**) joins **Advanced Biofuels Association**

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012



BIO criticizes **proposed energy cuts** in House farm bill

IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY

R&D/Leverage develops a **molding system** for Iowa State University's five year **bioplastic horticulture development project**

DuPont Danisco contracts **KBR** for engineering of Iowa plant

Proposed **Louisiana biomass-to-fuel plant** to use **ExxonMobil** technology

Hybrid, hyperlocal: 5 Paths of the **New Fuel Economy**

Researchers convert **palm oil waste into ethanol**

The President's plan for **cost-competitive, military biofuels**: The 10-Minute Guide

Iowa oil co-op says "big oil" keeping it from **retailing E15**

Researchers study **biofuel potential** of **heat-tolerant microbes**

Blue Sugars gets first **RIN credit** for **cellulosic ethanol**

Assaults on **RFS, Military Promotion** of **Biofuels** Put the U.S. at Risk

Analysis: **Joule** shows **industry trend** toward more flexibility

Gevo, Beta Renewables team up for **isobutanol project**

Can **biofuels** really make a **nation safer**?
First Station in the Nation Offers **E15 in Kansas**

The rise of **magnetic biofuels**

BP aims to **bring cellulosic ethanol, biobutanol** to market by **2014**

POET-DSM finalizes funding for **cellulosic ethanol plant** in Iowa

Firm says **yeast gene** can **improve ethanol yield**

Vilsack: Fuel standard for renewables doesn't need altering

KiOR gets clearance from **EPA** to **sell renewable gasoline**

Iowa ethanol plant gets \$4.25M federal **grant for cellulosic project**

In Other News...

[\(Return to Index\)](#)



IOWA INNOVATION
CORPORATION

Karen Merrick Joins the Iowa
Innovation Corporation

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

[View Original Article](#)

July 17, 2012 - Karen Merrick has joined the Iowa Innovation Corporation as Chief Operating Officer. Merrick had previously been with the Iowa Economic Development Authority.

The Iowa Innovation Corporation is a business-led independent non-profit that works with the state's universities and colleges, businesses and government to facilitate Iowa's innovation economy. It was created

MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2012

by the state legislature in 2011 to employ innovative economic development strategies.

“We are pleased Karen has formally joined our team,” said Jack Harris, president and CEO of the Innovation Corporation. “She has been an integral player in developing the programming and actual development of the Corporation. Karen’s knowledge of Iowa and experience with facilitating the innovation economy is unparalleled. She will be an asset to moving our efforts forward.”

Since 2001, Merrick has worked at the Authority in a number of capacities, but her focus has been firmly on helping build the infrastructure of Iowa’s innovation economy. This has included applying for and executing grants to build programming, facilitating conversations among the innovation economy’s players, and assisting with development of the Innovation Corporation.

“Iowa is a global leader in innovation in many industry sectors. But our goal is to expand the reach of Iowa products, growing new ideas into products for worldwide markets,” Merrick said. “There are many opportunities to connect the state’s multiple resources for the benefit of all Iowans and connecting, facilitating and supporting is how the Corporation will provide the most benefit. I am pleased to have the opportunity to continue to play a role in this effort.”

Prior to working for the state of Iowa, Merrick was executive director for G & G Living Centers, as well as mayor of Guttenberg, Iowa, from 1982 - 1990.

“The one thing I have learned over the years is that Iowa is a great place to be, no matter where in the state you live,” said Merrick, a Sioux City native. “What the Innovation Corporation and all of its partners are working towards is ensuring that Iowa is a great place to live and work for generations to come, supporting our entrepreneurs and existing businesses with high growth potential sets the stage for success.”

Merrick officially joined the Innovation Corporation on July 2, which also marked the Innovation Corporation’s first day in its new office at 100 E. Grand. Harris and Merrick can be reached at jack.harris@iowainnovationcorporation.com or

karen.merrick@iowainnovationcorporation.com.

They can also be reached at 515-421-4039.

IOWA INNOVATION CORPORATION

The Iowa Innovation Corporation employs the economic development model for the future. We tackle the hard problems. Our solutions are business-led. We channel resources. The people of Iowa should expect and demand wealth and job creation from our efforts. They deserve no less.

Subscriber Information

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

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

[\(Return to Index\)](#)

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.