
Iowa Biotech Association Monthly Update October 2011

This message was sent to you as a benefit of membership in the IBA.
If you would like more information on any topic or no longer wish to receive these messages,
please email Melissa Darling at melissa@iowabio.org or call (515) 494-9242

Breaking News

With great regret we announce the passing of former IBA board member Georg Anderl:
<http://business380.com/2011/10/19/former-genencor-plant-manager-dies-in-north-carolina-accident/>

Check out the Intellectual Property corner on the lower left side of www.iowabio.org for a [series of legal articles](#) that are of interest to IBA members, written by Shuttleworth & Ingersoll

BIO President Jim Greenwood called for less regulation for biotechnology companies in order to increase employment to maximum levels: <http://www.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/blog/john-george/2011/10/stop-picking-on-big-pharma-bio-leader.html?page=all>

Congrats to Daniel Schechtman, an ISU professor who won the Nobel prize for his work on quasicrystals: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20111005/NEWS/111005002/iowa-State-University-chemist-wins-Nobel-Prize->

Follow us on Twitter [@IowaBio](https://twitter.com/IowaBio) for hot news stories, updates on Member Benefits and everything related to biotechnology in Iowa.

New Members

Viewpoint Molecular Targeting- is a pharmaceutical company, formed in 2008, to develop new diagnostics and therapies for cancer. The company is developing a new cancer therapeutic and a pipeline of cancer diagnostics. Based in Iowa City, Viewpoint fosters international collaborations. European partners bring clinical experience in the radiopharmaceutical space that our pipeline products are entering, while partners in India are enjoying a growth economy and surprising assets for conducting technical development work and early stage trials. Learn more by emailing michael-schultz@uiowa.edu

Decision Innovation Solutions is an information research company focused on being a catalyst for improved decision making, resulting in greater productivity and profitability. DIS

offers Dynamic Risk-Based Modeling, Spatial Analysis, Economic Impact Analysis, Optimization, and innovative Feasibility Studies. DIS work provides private, public, and non-profit entities significant confidence in making business, investment, and policy decisions. Learn more at <http://www.decision-innovation.com>

CRB Engineers & Builders is an innovative solutions provider comprised of architects, engineers, construction managers, commissioning specialist and other top industry experts who direct all aspects of a project, from strategy planning through construction completion. They can take total responsibility for a project; planning, budgeting, designing, constructing, or can help with any individual step along the way. They have completed over 8,000 projects for hundreds of clients, most of whom have been repeat clients. With over 450 employees in ten offices nationwide, CRB is the perfect partner to deliver your complex projects on time and on budget. Learn more at <http://www.crbusa.com>

Industrial & Environmental



Dan Oh will **become the CEO of REG** and join its Board of Directors:

http://www.biofuelsjournal.com/info/bf_articles.html?ID=114807



PTT Chemical **invested \$150 million in Natureworks** and will build a production facility in Thailand:

<http://biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2011/10/12/ptt-chemical-invests-150m-in-natureworks-which-heads-for-thailand/>



Genencor is **leading the wave of biofuels super-partnering**: <http://biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2011/10/06/man-of-someone-elses-steel-genencor-leads-a-wave-of-biofuels-super-partnering/>

A South Korean company will make amino acids used in animal feed at a **new plant in Fort Dodge**:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2011310210066>

Chromatin successfully **raised \$10 million to develop supply chains for energy crop feedstocks**: http://www.biofuelsjournal.com/info/bf_articles.html?ID=115862

Separating corn stover **increases the efficiency of cellulosic ethanol conversion**:

<http://www.hoosieragtoday.com/index.php/2011/10/24/dividing-corn-stover-makes-ethanol-conversion-more-efficient/>

ICM will **design and build a food and fuel plant in Mozambique** using cassava as a feedstock: http://www.biofuelsjournal.com/info/bf_articles.html?ID=115230

Vermeer's **biomass harvesters are selling well** as demand for corn cobs and stover increase: <http://www.startribune.com/business/127591753.html>

BioAmber has **chosen Ontario as its site to make biobased succinic acid**:
http://www.soyatech.com/news_story.php?id=25079

Amyris **will sell biobased squalane**, which is traditionally made from shark liver or olive oil, in the Japanese cosmetic market:
<http://www.biorefiningmagazine.com/articles/5754/amyris-biobased-squalane-to-hit-japanese-cosmetic-market>

KSU **installed soy based backers on its Astro Turf GameDay football field**:
http://www.soyatech.com/news_story.php?id=25295

The **Minneapolis Biomass Exchange connects buyers and sellers of biomass** throughout the US and the world: <https://www.mbioex.com/>

The Senate **voted down a bill which would ban USDA subsidies for ethanol** blending pumps at rural gas stations:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/20/ethanol-industry-dodges-senate-attack/>

The biofuel industry is **lobbying for continued subsidies in the upcoming Farm Bill**:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/26/biofuel-industry-lobbying-for-aid-in-farm-bill/>

USDA Secretary Vilsack believes that advanced **biofuel producers will hit their target of 16 billion gallons of production by 2022**: <http://www.agweek.com/event/article/id/19211/>

The USDA **announced funding for production and availability of 156 advanced biofuels projects**: http://www.biofuelsjournal.com/info/bf_articles.html?ID=116044

New data show that **responsible biomass harvesting is a part of high quality soil management**: <http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/partner/poet-7042/news/article/2011/06/data-shows-responsible-biomass-harvesting-is-part-of-good-soil-management>

A House bill **proposes to cut the RFS mandate for ethanol when corn stocks are low**:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/05/lawmakers-seek-to-cut-ethanol-mandates/>

Food & Agricultural

MONSANTO
imagine®



Monsanto is **starting a line of produce seeds:**

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-monsanto-vegetables-20111020,0,6564083.story>

Monsanto will **restate earnings because of changes in accounting methods for incentive programs**

:<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/>

[index.php/2011/10/05/monsanto-to-restate-earnings/](http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/05/monsanto-to-restate-earnings/)

Monsanto and Cloudant have reached a deal to **store and analyze the large data sets created by genomics and advanced breeding:**

<http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2011/10/10/daily52-Cloudant-Monsanto-reach-biotech-data-deal.html>



Pioneer will **build a 50,000 sq. ft. research facility in Dallas Center:**

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/12/pioneer-to-add-new-dallas-center-research-plant/>

DuPont believes that **biotechnology will help large and small farmers in the coming decades:**

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20111016/NEWS02/310160026/DuPont-chief-Biotech-can-help-small-farmers>

DuPont and Monsanto are in a **legal battle over patent infringement** for plant defoliation:

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/18/monsanto-says-pioneer-lawsuit-frivolous-claim/>

Synthetic Genomics has spun out Agradis, a subsidiary **which will improve crop production:** <http://www.sdbj.com/news/2011/oct/25/synthetic-genomics-spinout-focus-boosting-crops/>

President Obama has **signed trade agreements with Korea, Panama and Columbia:**

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/21/obama-inks-trade-deals/>

Corn prices **are up on a sale of 35 million bushels to China:**

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/14/corn-sale-to-china-confirmed/>

Food labeling for biotechnology is **still opposed by the State Department:**

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/12/state-department-biotech-labeling-would-scare-consumers/>

Organic food producers **proposed labeling all genetically engineered food**:
<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hpnM7hz0jEaHSqxabmB5I9HaO5JQ?docId=CNG.0d7475ce7de608317f0ef718cc8c43a2.c21>

Dry weather has helped keep harvest on track, **with most crops and areas ahead of traditional averages**: <http://business380.com/2011/10/17/iowa-corn-harvest-approaching-halfway-point/>

Dry and windy conditions are **leading to higher risks of harvest fires**:
<http://www.dairyherd.com/dairy-news/Dry-field-conditions-increase-harvest-fire-risks-131225864.html>

Conservative groups **trying to fight taxes are targeting the Farm Bill**:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/10/26/anti-tax-groups-target-farm-bill/>

USDA Secretary **Vilsack addressed priorities for the upcoming Farm Bill** in a speech in Des Moines: <http://biorefiningmagazine.com/articles/5914/ag-secretary-vilsack-addresses-farm-bill-priorities>

A coalition of nearly 50 trade groups and organizations is **urging Congress to keep the energy title in the upcoming Farm Bill**: <http://www.grainnet.com/article.php?ID=115783>

The REFRESH Act would **overhaul multiple programs in the new Farm Bill**:
<http://biorefiningmagazine.com/articles/5864/legislators-introduce-farm-bill>

Corn genes can be **inserted in to switchgrass to improve its viability as a biofuel crop**: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-10/mutant-genes-help-harness-switch-grass-for-biofuel-pnas-says.html>

Hiring farm workers is difficult, despite lingering high unemployment:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/05/us/farmers-strain-to-hire-american-workers-in-place-of-migrant-labor.html>

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical



GlaxoSmithKline and Dynavax **expanded their alliance to research treatments for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases**: http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20111021-709330.html?mod=dist_smartbrief

GlaxoSmithKline released **successful clinical data on a malaria vaccine that halves the risk of malaria for African children**:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/18/us-malaria-vaccine-scientist-idUSTRE79H59220111018>



Bayer and Onyx **ended a trial for colon cancer** early because the treatment was so effective:

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-10-26/onyx-jumps-as-cancer-drug-improves-survival-in-study.html>



New Link Genetics will **list its IPO on the NASDAQ under the ticker symbol NLNK** and price shares around \$10-12:

http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20111026-705926.html?mod=dist_smartbrief



Vertex is **seeking FDA approval for its treatment for cystic fibrosis**:

<http://www.xconomy.com/boston/2011/10/19/vertex-seeks-fda-green-light-for-cystic-fibrosis-drug-second-potential-hit-of-big-year/>



Congratulations to the University of Iowa for being part of a consortium that won \$35 million from the FDA to **improve drug manufacturing standards**:

<https://research.uiowa.edu/ovpr/node/321>

The Myriad Genomics **patent decision could be challenged in front of the Supreme Court**: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/money/52711149-79/court-myriad-genes-aclu.html.csp>

GlycoMimetics has signed a licensing deal with Pfizer worth up to \$340 million for its **treatment of sickle cell disease**:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/news/2011/10/11/glycomimetics-inks-licensing-deal.html>

Roche's new Alzheimer's drug is showing positive results at **treating early forms of the disease**: <http://www.foxbusiness.com/industries/2011/10/10/roches-experimental-alzheimers-drug-looks-promising-study/>

Teva's \$6.8 billion purchase of **Cephalon has been approved by the FTC**:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5j0givpKSa0sKZR-vTPf1ypOwEFKw?docId=CNG.2dcb68d1c001f58225bc79b145422ed5.91>

British researchers believe that **pig-to-human tissue transplants are imminent**: <http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/pigtohuman-tissue-transplants-imminent-2373588.html>

Stem cells from cord blood could be used to **treat heart attack victims**: <http://www.torontosun.com/2011/10/13/umbilical-cord-holds-key-to-heart-repair-study>

Five things that industry can do to **support FDA reform**: http://www.xconomy.com/national/2011/10/10/five-things-industry-can-do-to-support-true-fda-reform-and-restore-public-confidence/?single_page=true

Stem cells can be converted into liver cells, potentially **avoiding the need for costly and risky transplants**: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/12/us-stemcells-liver-idUSTRE79B5GI20111012>

Women with the BRCA2 mutation, which increases the risk of breast cancer, are more likely to **survive ovarian cancer**: <http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=657736>

Northwestern scientists may have **found a way to 'turn off' neurogenerative diseases**: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/ct-x-1012-health-briefs-20111012,0,6659317.story>

VC investing in biotech is slowing due to **onerous regulations from the FDA**: <http://blogs.wsj.com/venturecapital/2011/10/06/vcs-take-their-case-for-fda-reform-to-capitol-hill/>

Venture capitalists investing in medical device startups are **lobbying for looser regulations for their industry**: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/26/business/venture-capitalists-join-push-to-ease-fda-rules-for-medical-device-industry.html>

UK researchers are **growing body parts for transplant**: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-18563_162-20127672/growing-body-parts-in-a-jar/

The **anthrax vaccine has not yet been tested on children**, and an ethics board needs more information before it will move forward with a decision: <http://yourlife.usatoday.com/health/story/2011-10-28/Govt-considers-testing-anthrax-vaccine-in-kids/50976348/1>

Genetically modified mosquitoes designed to kill off their progeny may have unexpected consequences: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/31/science/concerns-raised-about-genetically-engineered-mosquitoes.html>

Stem cell therapies may **reduce the need for anti-rejection therapy after transplants**: <http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=657597>

Alzheimer's disease may be transmissible, according to a new study:

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44779621/ns/health-alzheimers_disease/#.ToyOt4g_UB

Wisconsin is considering the **creation of grant fund specifically for biotech companies**:

<http://www.ssti.org/Digest/digest.php?page=2011/100511#story1>

Two buyout firms will **purchase Pharmaceutical Product Development**, a clinical research company, for \$3.9 billion: <http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2011/10/03/carlyle-and-hellman-friedman-to-buy-ppd-for-3-9-billion/>

New Members:

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

Events:

[SSTI Conference](#) for technology based economic development, Columbus, OH, Nov 8-9

[Personalized Medicine World Conference](#) 2012, Mountain View, CA Jan 22-23

[BIO World Congress on Industrial Processing](#), Orlando, FL, April 29-May 2, 2012

Recaps of Past Events:

Wrap-up of the Iowa Impact! Medical Innovation Summit with Sen. Tom Harkin:

http://www.iowabio.org/documents/news/IOWA_FINAL_REPORT_9950EFDA12D3F.pdf

The Summit was also featured in this article in the Des Moines Register:

http://www.iowabio.org/documents/news/DesMoinesReg_8272011_FACCDF84275CF.pdf

Pictures from iExploreSTEM, which was held in Coralville on September 18th:

<http://www.iowabio.org/index.cfm?nodeID=37284&audienceid=1&preview=1>

Want to promote your biotechnology conference, symposium or training class? SEND A NOTE TO MELISSA DARLING AT melissa@iowabio.org Members may submit their event for a free listing in our Monthly Update and on our website www.iowabio.org.

Speakers

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, including biotechnology, healthcare, food vs. fuel, legislative policy, investment and more. Contact Rachel Hurley at (515) 327-9156 or rachelhurley@iowabio.org

Today's Thought:

Don't be afraid to take a big step. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps.

-David Lloyd George