

MONTHLY UPDATE

October 2012

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Participation Opportunities

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Biotech Entrepreneur Meetup

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On Tuesday, **November 13, 2012**, StartupCity is hosting a free “Biotech Entrepreneur Meetup” from **5:00pm – 7:00pm**. The event will take place at the **FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, Iowa** (1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway) and will provide an opportunity to meet other entrepreneurs in the area.

This Biotech Entrepreneur Meetup is the first of many meetups of local biotechnology entrepreneurs. Enjoy food, drinks and creative collisions with leaders in the community. There will be open discussions regarding the local entrepreneurial ecosystem and what can be done to take it to the next level within Central Iowa. This event is sponsored by Greater Des Moines Partnership, City of Ankeny, Iowa Biotechnology Association and Des Moines Area Community College.

To register for this **FREE** event, [please click here](#).

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Evaluating the Interaction of the Biotech Industry and NIH

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NIH is the largest funder of biomedical research in the world. It provides critical funding to all sectors of biomedical research, including the biomedical industry. In December of last year, the NIH created a new center devoted to advancing translational research, the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS). The goal of NCATS is to develop new technologies and methods that will help the entire sector develop safer and more effective drugs and diagnostics more efficiently.

In an increasingly competitive and fiscally constrained environment, it is more important than ever that all sectors work together to promote effective research and development of innovative medicines. To that end, the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) has developed a survey in an effort to gain insight from the biomedical community. Specifically, this survey is designed to get your feedback on how your company currently interacts with NIH, what is working well, and where there is still room for improvement. It is a chance to share what you see as the most challenging scientific, regulatory and efficiency issues in clinical research development. Lastly, they want to know what issues you think should or should not be a priority for NIH to pursue as part of their translational science efforts.

To take this survey, please click here <http://www.opinionconnect.com/19106>.

**Please note this survey closes on November 9, 2012.*

More than one employee from your company may take this survey, so please forward to your colleagues. This survey should only take 15 – 20 minutes to complete.

We at IBA and at BIO thank you in advance for your participation.

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Cast Your Vote: Brigham and Women's Biomedical Projects

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Brigham and Women's Hospital is giving the general public a chance to decide which research projects to support.

Under its Bright Futures Prize, the hospital will award \$100,000 to one of three biomedical projects, with the winner to be determined by popular vote.

Projects include "Exploring Genome Sequencing of Newborns," led by Robert Green; "Using Electronic Health Records and Genetics to Personalize the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis," led by Philip De Jager and Elizabeth Karlson; and "Using Cutting-Edge Technology to Unravel the Mysteries of the Immune System," led by Robert Plenge.

The project that receives the most votes by Nov. 1 will win the \$100,000 prize. The winning project will be announced at the Hospital's Research Day on Nov. 15.

[To cast your vote, please click here.](#)

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Upcoming Events

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[BioBasics: Biotech for the Non-Scientist](#)

November 1-2, 2012 / Wayne, PA

BioBasics is a two-day course for the non-scientist which highlights science and technology concepts that are the basis of the biotechnology industry. The course is for participants that require a working knowledge of fundamental terms and applications.

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[Mastering Translational Medicine in Clinical Trials](#)

November 8, 2012 / Webinar

FierceBiotech invites you to join them on November 8th at 11 a.m. EST as clinical trial experts discuss how to craft a cost-efficient study that creates a strong foundation for later-stage trial work. Topics will include potential use of biomarkers, dosing strategies, patient stratification, companion diagnostics and adaptive design methods.

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[SCD-iBIO's Forum: Commercializing Global Green](#)

November 12-14, 2012 / Philadelphia, PA

This forum is a three day event, and will include discussions along the entire value chain, from raw materials to branded consumer products. Attendees will hear about pilot, scale-up, and engineering issues, as well as lessons learned in commercial and market development. Finally, discussions will conclude with ways to ensure reliability and sustainability of bio-based products and guidance on creating global brands. Registration is limited, sign up today.

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[Biotech Entrepreneur Meetup](#)

November 13, 2012 / Ankeny, IA

Please join your peers for the first of many meetups of local biotechnology entrepreneurs. Enjoy food, drinks and creative collisions with leaders in the community. There will be open discussions regarding the local entrepreneurial ecosystem and what we can do to take it to the next level within Central Iowa. This event is hosted by StartupCity Des Moines and is sponsored by Greater Des Moines Partnership, City of Ankeny, Iowa Biotechnology Association and Des Moines Area Community College.

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[BioResearch Central Summit](#)

November 15, 2012 / Overland Park, KS

Taking place at the Ritz Charles Convention Center, the BioResearch Central Summit is designed to bring together leaders in non-clinical, pre-clinical and clinical research—including CROs, CSPs, academic medical centers, clinical sites and pharmaceutical, biopharmaceutical, and medical device companies—to discuss strategies for advancing clinical research throughout our region and, more importantly, for accelerating the development of innovative new products to improve human and animal health worldwide.

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[Algae Commercialisation 2012](#)

November 27-28, 2012 / London, England

Algae has the potential to be a key solution to many of the world's current problems regarding sustainable energy, food production, renewable chemicals and CO2 reduction. However one question stands above the rest: how can we manage the cost base of biotechnologies which will enable profits to be made from algal based bio-applications? Brought to you by the producers of other industry leading events including World Ethanol & Biofuels, Next Generation Biofuels, Renewable Chemicals and World Biofuels, Algae Commercialisation 2012 is your must attend

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event if you want a share of the most exciting segment of the expanding biobased economy.

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[Waste Conversion Congress West Coast](#)

November 28-29, 2012 / Long Beach, CA

This 2 day forum is specifically designed to facilitate collaboration between leaders in finance, regulations, and operations to discuss the challenges still facing the waste conversion industry and strategies for achieving the greatest success. Key discussion topics at the conference include: technology evaluation, regulatory framework, the role of municipal governments, project economics, finance and project operations and implementation.

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[University Bio-Med Technologies Webinar](#)

November 29, 2012 / Webinar

Iowa's three state universities have come together to present a webinar of their bio-med technologies. Industry members and general public members with an interest in this field are invited to participate, as technologies will be put in layman's terms for ease of understanding. Please join us as we continue to explore means of connecting the research engines of our universities with Iowa companies, Iowa's economic development community and Iowa entrepreneurs.

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[Connecting the Heartland: A Life Sciences Forum](#)

December 10-11, 2012 / Kansas City, MO

This Life Sciences Forum is a continuation of efforts to respond to challenges faced by the Heartland metros - Des Moines, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis. As these metros look toward the future, they stand at an economic crossroads. Although these metros will make independent decisions about strategic direction and investments, their economic competitiveness will be affected by how they are viewed globally and whether they have engaged in coordinated and strategic actions that position them as a larger

economic region. This is a great chance to participate in a lively, challenging and productive discussion of issues, opportunities and challenges in the life sciences in Heartland.

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[Agribusiness Showcase & Conference](#)

February 12-13, 2013 / Des Moines, IA

The Agribusiness Showcase & Conference offers vendors and attendees the opportunity to explore the groundbreaking tools and ideas they need to grow their business, now and into the future. The industry's innovation and technology will be showcased through featured speakers, presentations and exhibitors. Over 1,000 progressive agricultural thinkers from Iowa and surrounding states are expected, which will include top crop production professionals, grain professionals, pesticide and manure applicators, seed industry representatives and more. AAI staff and members have worked over the past year to improve the event in many ways which will benefit exhibitors and drive attendance even higher.

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[2013 BIO International Convention](#)

April 22-25, 2013 / Chicago, IL

More than 16,500 biotech leaders from 4,000 companies in 65 countries will gather at BIO to network and discuss issues shaping the industry, as well as visit with 2,000+ companies showcasing the latest technologies, products and services. BIO One-on-One Partnering™ makes it easy to find potential partners and set up face-to-face meetings in the BIO Business Forum and the BIO Exhibition. There is a wide range of registration packages available to suit your specific needs and if you **register by March 14th, you'll save up to 25%**.

Money Saving Opportunity! - Domestic Trade Assistance Program (DTAP) funds are a great way to receive financial assistance to attend this event. Funds are limited so [apply ASAP by clicking here](#). This link will provide you with instructions on how to apply, as well as other financial assistance

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opportunities such as the Export Trade Assistance Program and State Export Trade Assistance program.
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Breaking News

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Food & Agriculture

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- ❖ **FEC Solutions Hosts Mexican Agriculture Delegation**



- ❖ **Monsanto donates \$12,500 to Plainview for agri-science**
- ❖ **German agency criticizes French health study of biotech corn**
- ❖ **French academies trash GM corn cancer study**
- ❖ **French researchers urged to release data in biotech corn study**
- ❖ Slow review of **biotech animal-based foods** upsets scientists
- ❖ **Vilmorin ends plans to test biotech crops in France**
- ❖ On Tap: **Beard beer**
- ❖ **Biotechnology** on the Ballot
- ❖ Over 30 newspapers urge **Californians to reject biotech labeling law**

- ❖ Support for **biotech labeling law** declined sharply, poll shows
- ❖ **Prop 37 campaigns** clash in California
- ❖ Another View: **The world needs biotech**
- ❖ Scientists find **nematode-resistant gene in soybeans**
- ❖ **Barley genome breakthrough** could produce **better beer**
- ❖ Pediatricians say **organic and conventional foods** are nutritionally equal
- ❖ Scientists slam recommendation to **suspend biotech crop trials in India**

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Healthcare & Pharmaceutical

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- ❖ **NewLink's pancreatic cancer drug** enters late-stage development



- ❖ **Integrated DNA Technologies and RainDance Technologies** to Develop Reagents and Consumables for **Digital PCR**



- ❖ **MedImmune** partners on trials for a new slate of **cancer immunotherapy combos**



- ❖ Pioneering study will test if trio of **Roche, Lilly** drugs can **prevent Alzheimer's**

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- ❖ **J&J, Lilly and Boehringer** tout data on **SGLT2 drugs for diabetes**
- ❖ **Lilly** scores a slate of **PhIII wins** in push for **once-weekly diabetes drug**
- ❖ Researchers discover how to **predict which flu strains succeed**
- ❖ **NIH** division grants **GeoVax** \$1.9M to develop **HIV vaccine**
- ❖ Study shows efficacy of **Janssen's Stelara for psoriasis**
- ❖ Scientists win **Nobel for adult stem cell discovery**
- ❖ **Engineered flies** spill secret of **seizures**
- ❖ **Novel Treatment** for Most Common Type of **Lung Cancer**
- ❖ Vaccine shows promise in wiping out **HPV-infected cells in women**
- ❖ **Breast Cancer-Sensing Bra Detects Tumors** Years Before Some Mammograms
- ❖ **Merck, Vertex and Bristol-Myers** win top **Prix Galien** honors
- ❖ Scientists find potential target for **Parkinson's disease**
- ❖ A Plea to **Spare NIH from Sequestration**
- ❖ **Seattle Genetics** broadens **antibody drug** deal with **Abbott**
- ❖ **Natera's** DNA-based test promotes **safe and accurate prenatal Dx**
- ❖ **Domain** partners with **Ono** to develop **small molecule drugs**
- ❖ **Rapid Pathogen** offers tool for rapid **pink eye diagnosis**

- ❖ Cigarette maker **Philip Morris** rolls **vaccine interests** into **China**
- ❖ **Cast Your Vote:** Public pole to select one of three **biomedical projects** at **Brigham and Women's Hospital**
- ❖ **Oxford, Menarini** join forces to develop **antibody-based cancer drugs**
- ❖ A Study of **Fire Ant Venom** Uncovers **46 Proteins** with a Variety of Functions

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Industrial & Environmental

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- ❖ **Fiberight** is named one of the **"50 Hottest Companies in Bioenergy"** for 2012-13



- ❖ **Darling International** subsidiary works to improve **protection from oil theft**



- ❖ Improved **biofuel catalysts** from new **nanosphere model**
- ❖ **The Dandelion Model: Two-step biofuels technologies** and the emergence of **super-refineries**
- ❖ **Purdue University** wins grant to develop **biofuel-producing crops**
- ❖ **U.K.** firm gets supply deal for **advanced biofuel project in Brazil**
- ❖ **Drought-resistant elephant grass** could be a **cellulosic feedstock**

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- ❖ **Brazilian pulp company** to enter **biofuels** sector
- ❖ Industry seeks to weaken **EU cap on crop-based fuels**
- ❖ **Iowa ethanol** maker agrees to use **Syngenta's Enogen corn** in 2013
- ❖ **California** firm to **build biorefineries** at **U.S. military facilities**
- ❖ **Biodiesel demand**, profitability sink
- ❖ **Cool Planet Energy Systems** eyes \$1.50-per-gallon **gasoline from biomass**
- ❖ **BP Cancels Plans** for **US Cellulosic Ethanol Plant**
- ❖ **RFS** is key to **advanced biofuels' growth**, **Novozymes'** Monroe says

In Other News...

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Governor's STEM Initiative Will Bring 800 New Science, Math Programs to Iowa Communities

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Article by Jason Nobel in the *Des Moines Register*
[View Original Article](#)

More than 800 schools and community groups from across Iowa will offer new programs aimed at boosting access to and interest in science, technology, engineering and math education, Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds announced on Monday.

The programs are one of the efforts undertaken by the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, a public-private partnership for expanding education in those areas and improving Iowa's workforce.

The 800 schools and groups were selected through a competitive application program, and now will begin offering additional educational programs in science, technology, engineering and math. Thousands of students – many in areas where access to STEM education currently is limited – will participate in the program.

Reynolds called the program announcement “a milestone” in the STEM council's work.

“The STEM initiative is about increasing innovation and productivity and opportunity for our students and for Iowa,” Reynolds said. “Expanding STEM education programs across Iowa certainly moves us in that direction.”

Students who participate in the new programs will be monitored to see if their achievement in math and science improves and if their interest in pursuing STEM-related degrees beyond high school increases.

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Re-Cap of Round-Table with Senator Grassley

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On October 5, 2012, Iowa Biotech Association and Innovate Iowa co-hosted Senator Grassley for a round-table discussion with biotech companies around the state. The event was held at the BioVentures Center



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in Coralville and focused on the biotech industry in Iowa. Discussion topics included innovative technologies in Iowa, federal challenges and opportunities, and industry concerns and requests. To view photos of the event, [please click here](#).

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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.