

IowaBio September 2015

MONTHLY UPDATE

Inside This Issue

1-2 Participation Opportunities
Research in Your Backyard
Fall Legal Symposiums

3-4 New Member Spotlight
Helena Industries
NanoMedTrix, LLC

5 Upcoming Events
Midwest Events
Global Events

6-7 Industry News
Food & Agriculture
Healthcare & Pharmaceutical
Industrial & Environmental
STEM

8-10 In Other News
Job Posting: Manager/TL of Quality Compliance
ISU's Fall 2015 "Educator" Released
NCATS Funding Opportunities

11 Subscriber & Speaker Information
Monthly Newsletter & Capitol Report

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

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



Research in Your Backyard

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



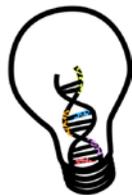
On Wednesday, September 30th, 2015, Iowa Biotech Association (IowaBio) will co-host a Research in Your Backyard event at the BioVentures Lab in Coralville from 11:30 – 1:00pm with the Iowa Coalition of Clinical Researchers and Innovate Iowa. Come learn about the groundbreaking research being conducted across Iowa that is resulting in new and improved medicines for patients.

Attendance is free for IowaBio members and lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Heidi Frederickson with Innovate Iowa at hfrederickson@pubaffairsco.com and stay tuned for more details!



IowaBio Legal Symposiums

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



On **November 3rd** and **November 19th** Iowa Biotechnology Association (IowaBio) will be hosting a Legal Symposium focused on Human Resource issues faced by biotech companies today. The presentations will be the same on both dates and will take place in Ames and Coralville, respectively. **Both events have been approved for 5.75 credit hours of CLE each.**

Registrations are due one (1) week prior to either event. To register, please visit www.iowabio.org/legalsymposium

Dates & Locations

November 3, 2015

Iowa State University Alumni Center
Reiman Ballroom South
420 Beach Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50011

Parking on East Side of Building

November 19, 2015

State Hygienic Laboratory's
Center for the Advancement of Laboratory
Science
2490 Crosspark Road
Coralville, Iowa 52241

Registration Fees

IowaBio Members

\$49 per person, per event

Non-Members

\$79 per person, per event

Agenda

8:30am – 12:05pm

Welcome and Morning Presentations

12:05pm – 12:45pm

Lunch

12:45pm – 3:30pm

Afternoon Presentations

3:30pm – 4:00pm

Networking Reception & Refreshments

Morning Presentations

Navigating the Bermuda Triangle – The Intersection of ADA, FMLA and Worker's Compensation

Data/Network/Computer Security and Data Breaches

Handling Leave Issues

IP Policy In The Employment Process – Employment Agreements and Attorneys/Product Managers Relationships

Afternoon Presentations

Social Media in the Workplace

Internal Investigations: Getting the Whole Story

Terminations and Disciplinary Action – How to Do It and Survive

Sponsors



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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



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

Helena Chemical has been a fixture on Vandalia Road in Des Moines for the last 26 years. We had a presence at the site from the early/mid 1970's through early 1988, and after a short absence from the location Helena repurchased the manufacturing facility from Mobay in 1989. Since that time we have exclusively owned and operated this facility.



Photo courtesy of Helena Industries

Based on Croplife's 2014 report, Helena Chemical is the 2nd largest Agricultural Retailer in the United States. As Helena Chemical is predominantly a sales and distribution company, the decision was made in 2005 to create Helena Industries, Inc. On January 1, 2006 Helena Industries was introduced as a wholly owned subsidiary of Helena Chemical and it is comprised of four manufacturing facilities that are located in West Helena Arkansas, Kerman California, Cordele Georgia and Des Moines Iowa. All four of the manufacturing facilities are considered toll manufacturing sites. As a result, we blend

and package agricultural and industrial chemicals for companies and end users scattered across the globe. Approximately one-third of our total business is for our parent company (Helena Chemical) with the balance being manufactured for the largest, and sometimes a few of smallest, chemical companies that compete in these markets. At present there is not a product that carries a Helena Industries label.

When Helena reacquired the Des Moines facility in 1989 it had two operating processes and employed a dozen staff members. Today we are operating roughly twenty-five operating processes and have an average employee base of approximately 140 team members. The original site sat on 20 acres which we have since expanded to 50 acres. In the last decade, Helena has invested well over \$20 million in the Des Moines facility in an effort to meet the surging and evolving marketplace. During that same period Helena Industries has infused in excess of \$100 million in the local economy via internal wages, through local vendors and by using local contractors on our projects. At present we have another \$5 million of project work that is underway for the upcoming 2015-2016 season. In a typical year the retail value of the products that leaves the Des Moines facility would approach or top \$1 billion. We serve a critical role in the global food chain and relish our small part in feeding the world.

We remain very excited and confident about our future growth in Des Moines as we prepare for our next 25 years. If you would like to learn more about Helena Industries or Helena Chemical, please visit our websites at www.helenaindustries.com and www.helenachemical.com.



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

About NanoMedTrix, LLC: Small Particles, Large Contrast

NanoMedTrix was formed in 2012 to commercialize the culmination of more than a decade of research into medical imaging and nanotechnology, developing novel multi-modal, targeted contrast agents for use across a range of disciplines, including regenerative technology and targeted radiology in medical imaging. Contrast agents are used to enhance the visibility of structures or fluids in the body during scans, such as MRI, CT and Ultrasound. While there are many contrast agents available on the market, ours are unique for 3 important reasons: they are multi-modal, meaning that a single dose will be effective across 2 or more scanning types, increasing efficiency and decreasing waste where more than 1 type of scan is required; they are multi-scale, working at the cellular, tissue and organ level; they are targeted, capable of flagging a particular pathology or tissue type, as opposed to other contrast agents that are more general and act throughout the whole body. This capability means that our contrast agents have the potential to revolutionize disease detection through non-invasive diagnostic procedures. In addition, the contrast agents we are developing have the potential for therapeutic interventions, for example by acting as a means of targeted drug delivery.

In summary, we provide an invaluable set of multi-scale tools for research into early detection and treatment of diseases, with the goal of achieving greater cost effectiveness in medical care through early, accurate and rapid diagnosis followed by successful interventions. Significantly, we will be able to offer our novel contrast agents at a competitive price point in relation to the contrast agents currently on the market whilst retaining high margins.

Commercial History/Milestones

Since our formation in 2012, NanoMedTrix has been awarded gap funding by the University of Iowa, as well as the State of Iowa's Demonstration Fund Award, administered by the Iowa Innovation Corporation. In addition, NanoMedTrix received the State's inaugural SBIR/STTR Outreach Program award, which led to successful funding of National Science Foundation SBIR Phase I and IB grants. With this funding we have been able to explore new commercial applications, including bladder cancer, neuromedicine, and environmental remediation, and have been successful recipients of University of Iowa pilot projects. Data acquired during these projects have led to additional federal grants from the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health which are currently pending.

In addition to our funding milestones, we have: filed 2 provisional patents; developed partnerships with 3rd parties with sterile packaging and distribution capabilities; leased 785 square feet of wet lab space with inorganic synthesis capabilities, at the BioVentures Center in Coralville, Iowa; and entered into the early stages of collaborative pre-clinical trials in colon cancer patients.

For more information, visit www.nanomedtrix.com or contact Joe Assouline, President/CSO, at (319) 335-4676 or joeassouline@nanomedtrix.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Midwest Events

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

1st Annual Energy Conference

September 21-23, 2015 / Des Moines, IA

For the first time, we're bringing together the full gamut of energy experts, on a national scale – from producers to retailers – to collaborate under one roof with hands-on education, compliance updates and networking aimed at driving profits. Whether you are concerned about supply contract terms and conditions (which include RIN credit and IRS blender credit valuation) or you're simply looking for competitive sources of alternative fuels, the 2015 Energy Conference is the solution you've been looking for.

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

Innovation Expo 2015

October 21, 2015 / Coralville, IA

Innovation EXPO 2015 events are designed for entrepreneurs, creatives, financial resources and business leaders in Iowa to connect, help our region grow more new business, create jobs, keep our region vibrant and globally competitive - and to celebrate entrepreneurs. It's really all about the entrepreneurs. Budding or existing - they are our future. See & touch their products. Connect with potential partners.

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

Iowa Women Lead Change – Central Iowa Conference

October 28, 2015 / Des Moines, IA

The theme for IWLC's 2015 slate of four conferences is "Transforming Journeys." The Central Iowa Conference features the general track session, as well as the Student Track Program. The IWLC Central Iowa Conference has been tailored specifically to the Des Moines community by a local steering committee with IWLC staff assistance.

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



Biotech Innovation Showcase — *Save the Date!*

March 30, 2016 / Ankeny, IA

An investor conference that joins innovators, inventors and investors together to present and discuss the development of biofuels and biomaterials; advances in food, ag and plant genetics; progress in animal health; as well as human health and medical technology. Registration will open January 1st.

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



Partnering for Growth Forum — *Save the Date!*

March 31, 2016 / Ankeny, IA

This Forum focuses on multiple biotech industries active in the state of Iowa, including Food & Agriculture, Industrial & Environmental and Healthcare & Pharmaceutical. This event is a premier learning, collaborating and networking highlight for the biotech community. Registration will open January 1st.

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

Global Events

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

Algae Biomass Summit

Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2015
Washington, DC

NIH SBIR/STTR Conference

October 27-29, 2015
Seattle, WA

ABLC Next

November 2-5, 2015
San Francisco, CA

Drug Development Boot Camp

November 17-18, 2015
Boston, MA

View All Upcoming
Events on our
[Events Calendar](#)



INDUSTRY NEWS

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

News stories containing company logos indicate IowaBio members

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

Food & Agriculture

Food & Ag



- ❖ USDA grants conditional license to **Zoetis** for **canine anti-itch therapy**
- ❖ **NRGene** maps complete Emmer **wheat genome**
- ❖ **Zambia** keen on adopting **GM cotton**
- ❖ **USDA** Scientists Develop New Technique for **Lunasin Extraction**
- ❖ **Scottish Government** under fire over **GM Crops ban**
- ❖ Processing can improve scope for **value-added agri**

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

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical

Health & Pharma



- ❖ **Israel Patent Allowance for GH, IGF-I and Obesity Vaccines to Braasch Biotech**



- ❖ **KemPharm** spikes as its **anti-abuse pain drug** rolls toward the FDA
- ❖ FDA Grants **Corvida Medical** Clearance on **Halo**
- ❖ Time for a reality check on the **medical device tax**
- ❖ Surgeons Smash Records with **Pig-to-Primate Organ Transplants**
- ❖ **Bill Gates** And 13 Other Investors Pour **\$120 Million Into Revolutionary Gene-Editing Startup**

Industrial & Environmental

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

Industrial & Environmental



- ♥ Eddyville highlighted as booming **biotechnology** sector



- ♥ As biobased diesel surges, **REG buys Imperium Renewables** for \$32M and a back-end deal
- ♥ **Grassley defends extending tax credits** for renewable energy
- ♥ **Iowa** must invest in **biochemicals**
- ♥ Stepping Up Progress in **Algal Biotechnology**
- ♥ **RFS** has **positive impact** on rural **Nebraska**

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

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)

STEM



- ♥ **Iowa STEM teachers** get summer lessons through '**externships**' at businesses
- ♥ **Cedar Falls teacher** STEMs into manufacturing at **Independence plant**
- ♥ **New STEM center** nears completion in **eastern Iowa**
- ♥ Report shows some progress, room for improvement in **Iowa's STEM program**
- ♥ Students seek **college experience at STEM center**
- ♥ Last Day of **State Fair** With STEM, **Mothers and Daughters**

In Other News

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



Job Posting: Manager/TL, Quality Systems and Compliance

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

Location

Charles City, Iowa

Position Summary

The Manager / TL, Quality Systems and Compliance is accountable for ensuring cGMP compliance within the site's quality systems and is expected to identify and escalate areas of risk, provide guidance and support in the interpretation and enforcement of regulatory guidelines, and support site project initiatives. Primary responsibilities include: Customer Complaint handling, oversight of the Change Control system, maintaining the site's compliance with Zoetis Quality standards, review and approval of action items, implementation of Corrective and Preventative Actions (CAPAs), CAPA effectiveness checks, commitment tracking items and review and approval of protocols and summary reports, performing internal and external audits, maintaining the supplier management system.

The Manager / TL, Quality Systems and Compliance will also interface directly with regulatory agency, customer and internal auditors, provide support for market action activities and will assist in the identification and communication site and department metrics.

Position Responsibilities

- Ensures cGMP compliance within the site's quality systems
- Interpretation and enforcement of 9CFR, EU and other regulatory guidelines
- Provides oversight of Quality Systems and Compliance personnel and provides performance feedback and training
- Provides guidance and support within cGMP systems for site colleagues
- Identifies compliance opportunities and takes initiative to implement improvements
- Provides direction for the handling and oversight of customer complaints
- Review and approval of protocols and summary reports
- Support regulatory agency, customer and internal audits
- Review and approval of action items / commitment tracking items
- Review of site metrics and identification of trends
- Escalation of potential compliance risks to the Director, Quality Operations
- Support market action activities
- Perform internal and external audits
- Provides guidance and oversight of the supplier management system
- Oversight of change management activities
- Assist in the review and assessment of Zoetis Quality Standards (ZQS)
- Establish Site Quality Review Team (S-QRT) agenda and coordinate/facilitate S-QRT meetings
- Maintain department Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Other responsibilities as assigned

Continued on Page 9

Education and Experience

- B.A. or B.S. in Sciences or related field and at least 5 years of relevant experience or a 2 year degree with 7 years relevant experience or 12 years relevant experience.
- Risk Management
- Investigation and Problem Solving
- Issue escalation
- Demonstrated technical capabilities
- Deep knowledge of local, federal and international regulations
- Demonstrated success interacting with regulators
- Knowledge of human error awareness / prevention
- Organization skills
- Verbal and written communication skills (fluent in English)
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications
- Attention to detail
- Demonstrated ability to work with internal and external colleagues
- 6-sigma, lean or statistical skills

To apply for this position, please visit www.zoetis.com/careers.

Zoetis is committed to equal opportunity in the terms and conditions of employment for all employees and job applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or gender expression, national origin, disability or veteran status or any other protected classification. Zoetis also complies with all applicable national, state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment as well as employment eligibility verification requirements of the Immigration and Nationality Act. All applicants must possess or obtain authorization to work in the US for Zoetis. Zoetis retains sole and exclusive discretion to pursue sponsorship for the acquisition or maintenance of nonimmigrant status and employment eligibility, considering factors such as availability of qualified US workers. Individuals requiring sponsorship must disclose this fact.

Iowa Biotech **Educator**

Fall 2015 Issue of ISU's "Educator" Released

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

Highlights of this season's edition include:

- 22 consecutive years of biotechnology resources -- free to Iowa educators
- Free help from ISU experts and master biotechnology teachers
- Field trips and free visits to Iowa schools by Biotechnology Outreach Education Center
- Iowa math and science teachers' fall conference September 20-21
- Microbiology workshop for high school students November 13
- Career conferences for young women in grades 8-10
- Recycle lab supplies from the Office of Biotechnology
- Biotechnology Outreach Education Center news and opportunities
- Award programs for educators

[Click here to view the newsletter](#)



National Center
for Advancing
Translational Sciences

NCATS Funding Opportunities

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

The [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences \(NCATS\)](#) has several open funding opportunities available for small businesses interested in commercializing translational technologies.

Interested applicants are encouraged to review each funding opportunity and schedule a one-on-one meeting with NCATS leaders to discuss a project or collaboration idea. Email NCATS-SBIRSTTR@mail.nih.gov to make an appointment. Learn more at [NCATS SBIR and STTR](#)

Omnibus Solicitation

NCATS invites small businesses to apply for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) **2015 Omnibus Solicitation**. Through its SBIR and STTR programs, NCATS is working to increase small business participation in federally supported research and development as well as private-sector commercialization of translational technologies.

Applications may address any stage of translation, from target validation through pre-clinical and clinical evaluation to intervention, implementation and dissemination. The next application deadline is **Sept. 8, 2015, 5 p.m. local time**.

- **SBIR:** [PA-15-269](#) (R43/R44)
- **STTR:** [PA-15-270](#) (R41/R42)

SBIR Direct to Phase II

NCATS is also accepting [SBIR Direct Phase II](#) grant applications. Through the Direct to Phase II, a company that has a technology, prototype, or method that has passed the proof of principle stage and has a product that has demonstrated feasibility, can apply for a Phase II research without needing to perform more early stage, Phase-I-SBIR-type research grant. Data or evidence of the capability should be included in the application. Learn about [eligibility](#) for this component of the SBIR program. Applications are due **September 8, 2015 and January 5, 2016**.

- **PAR-14-088:** Biomedical Technology Development
- **PAR-15-288:** Extended Development, Hardening, and Dissemination of Technologies in Biomedical Computing, Informatics, and Big Data Science

Contract Topics:

[Contract funding opportunities](#) are designed to advance NCATS technology areas of need. Applications are due **October 16, 2015**.

- Development of Stem Cell-based Assay for High-Throughput Screening of Chemicals of Toxicological Concern (013)
- Development of Smart Plate Technology (014)

NCATS Targeted Grants:

- **Platform Delivery Technologies for Nucleic Acid Therapeutics** [SBIR: [PA-14-307](#) / STTR: [PA-14-308](#)] - *Applications Due:* Sept. 8, 2015
- **Bioreactors for Reparative Medicine** [[RFA-HL-15-008](#) / STTR: [RFA-HL-15-004](#)] - *Applications Due:* Oct. 14, 2015
- **Development of Appropriate Pediatric Formulations and Drug Delivery Systems**
 - [SBIR: [PAR-13-345](#) / STTR: [PAR-13-346](#)] - *Applications Due:* Sept. 8, 2015
- **Onsite Tools and Technologies for Heart, Lung and Blood Clinical Research Point-of-Care**
 - [SBIR: [RFA-HL-14-011](#) / STTR: [RFA-HL-14-017](#)] - *Applications Due:* Oct. 15, 2015

Tips for Applying: NCATS cohosted an SBIR and STTR informational webinar on June 11, 2015. Visit the [Small Business Resources](#) page to access an archived webinar and find tips for submitting a successful application.

SUBSCRIBER INFORMATION

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

Monthly Newsletter

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

This message was sent to you as a benefit of membership with IowaBio 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 info@iowabio.org. Membership details are also available at www.iowabio.org/membership.

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.

Capitol Report

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

IowaBio began issuing a Capitol Report in February 2015. It is a legislative update issued on a periodic basis and allows readers to learn more about our legislative activities and bills that may affect the biotechnology industry. If you would like to receive these reports by email, please visit www.iowabio.org/capitolreport - a link to subscribe and view archives is available on this page.

SPEAKER OPPORTUNITIES

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

IowaBio 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 Joe Hrdlicka at (515) 327-9156 or joe@iowabio.org.