



March 2008

### Biotech News

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- Investigators discover mechanism contributing to the cells ability to delay apoptosis, providing insights into the control of apoptosis.  
[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2008-02/sjcr-sjr022908.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2008-02/sjcr-sjr022908.php)
- Bioengineers develop a stretchy, biodegradable tape to replace surgical sutures and staples that rely on nanoscale pillars and biocompatible glue, and was inspired by geckos' feet.  
<http://www.technologyreview.com/Biotech/20301/>
- Scientists develop new method to discover low-affinity protein-protein cell surface interactions, sensitive enough to identify weak, short-lived events.  
<http://www.sanger.ac.uk/Info/Press/2008/080222.shtml>
- Agricultural scientists have identified a key gene that carries out the final step in the oil-making process of corn, a finding that could have significance in the biofuels industry.  
<http://www.physorg.com/news122479297.html>
- Biological engineers Robert S. Langer and Jackie Ying (SBE Advisory Board Member) participated with other technology and engineering leaders in identifying the Grand Challenges for Engineering in the 21st Century. Read their findings at the following website: <http://www.engineeringchallenges.org/>

### Society News

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The results of **SBE's election** are in. [Annelise Barron](#) of Stanford University, [William Bentley](#) of the University of Maryland at College Park and [Carole Heath](#) of Amgen will be joining our Managing Board. We would like to thank John Pierce of DuPont and Larry McIntire of the Georgia Institute of Technology, outgoing Board Members, for their dedication and patient service during the formation and growth of SBE.

**Open Job position.** AICHE/SBE is currently seeking a New Technology Associate for our New Technology Initiatives team. In this position, the successful individual will act as a resource for the Society for Biological Engineering and key contact for other initiatives in nanoscale science and energy. They will:

- Develop monthly newsletters
- Implement programming, marketing and sponsorship/exhibits at meetings
- Lead efforts to attract new members
- Build membership campaigns
- Process financial paperwork
- Manage databases and analyze membership trends.

Click [here](#) to find out more about the job requirements.

More job postings can be found at <http://www.aiche.org/SBE/Careers/Find.aspx>

Submit your abstract today to attend **SBE's 4th International Conference on Bioengineering and Nanotechnology**. This Gordon-style conference held on July 22-24, 2008 at the University College of Dublin, Ireland. Topics will include nanosystems for drug delivery, nanomaterials for cellular engineering and nanotools for bioengineering. Find out more at <http://www.aiche.org/icbn>.

**The 13th International Biotechnology Symposium and Exhibition (IBS2008)** will be held on October 12-17, 2008 in Dalian, China. The overall theme is "Biotechnology for the Sustainability of Human Society." Nine thematic areas include:

1. Systems Biology
2. Tissue Engineering and Cell Culture
3. Medical Biotechnology
4. Agricultural Biotechnology
5. Industrial Biotechnology
6. Marine Biotechnology
7. Environmental Biotechnology
8. Food Biotechnology
9. Biosafety and the Bioeconomy.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ibs2008.org>.

A complete bio-event calendar can be found at <http://www.aiche.org/SBE/Events/index.aspx>.

## **Join Now**

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Not a current SBE member? It's never too late to join or renew. Costs are \$75 for regular members, \$25 for graduate students, \$10 for AIChE, ACS and IBE members, or \$5 for undergraduates. Join now at <https://www.aiche.org/apps/ecommerce/bio/index.asp>.

### **Member benefits include:**

- Subscription to SBE's semi-annual BioSupplement to Chemical Engineering Progress.
- Discounts on leading biological engineering conferences including SBE and SBE cosponsored meetings and courses.
- Access to online membership directory.
- A voice in education, employment and technology advancement topics.

## **Comments?**

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SBE's e-Connections is edited by Adrian Andrew Fay, Web Science Editor, with input from SBE staff. Contact us at [bio@aiiche.org](mailto:bio@aiiche.org)

*The Society for Biological Engineering (SBE) is a new technological community of AIChE  
Its mission is to promote the integration of biology with engineering and realize its benefits  
through bioprocessing, biomedical, and biomolecular applications.  
For comments and contributions to SBE Connections, email <mailto:bio@aiiche.org>*

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