



December 2008

Biotech News

- Bioengineering team creates the first stable genetic clock that keeps time by fluorescing proteins which may lead to sensors that can convey information through the blinking rate.
<http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/science/10-08GeneticClockMakers.asp>
- Biologists make significant progress in explaining how plant cells are able to silence potentially harmful genes through two plant-specific RNA polymerases that use the non-coding region of DNA.
<http://news-info.wustl.edu/tips/page/normal/12932.html>
- Researchers develop a cheap, quick blood test using barcode-like microfluidics technology to measure the concentrations of dozens of proteins, including those that herald the presence of diseases like cancer and heart disease.
http://mr.caltech.edu/media/Press_Releases/PR13209.html
- Amyris has started up their pilot plant for producing sugar-cane based, renewable diesel fuel in anticipation of a commercial facility in 2010 in Brazil.
<http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/Amyris-Opens-Pilot-Plant-Produce/story.aspx?quid=%7B6287C775-242C-40F4-ABAA-72F3DBAD2C3C%7D>
- North Carolina State University's College of Engineering will offer a master's degree in renewable energy management starting in fall of 2009.
<http://triangle.bizjournals.com/triangle/stories/2008/10/20/story12.html>
- Professor Jim Swartz of Stanford University delivers James E. Bailey award lecture entitled "Look, Mom, NO CELLS! Providing New Freedom for Engineering Efficient Biological Systems."
- SBE member Maciek Antoniewicz receives the Metabolic Engineering Conference's Jay Bailey Young Investigator Award for developing the Elementary Metabolite Units (EMU) framework, aiding the study of biological systems in detail, reducing complexity without information loss.
<http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2009/nov/metabolic110708.html>

Society News

Director, Society for Biological Engineering (SBE) & New Technical Initiatives

The American Institute of Chemical Engineers is currently seeking to add a Director to its team to lead the programs associated with the Society for Biological Engineering & New Technical Initiatives by building membership within these entities and developing & implementing new meetings, publications, education services, technical projects and industrial alliances.

The Director will:

- Develop business plans

- Manage budgets
- Develop and implement fund raising activities
- Work with SBE Managing and Advisory boards to generate and implement program concepts

Requirements:

- 10-15 years experience in developing new products and services
- Technical degree in chemical/biological engineering or another science or engineering discipline
- MBA or equivalent training preferred
- Broad knowledge of chemical engineering and the bio-processing, biomedical and bio-molecular fields
- Working knowledge of Word, Excel and Powerpoint.

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, including salary requirements, and resume to recruitment@aiiche.org.

SBE Events

Register now to enjoy early bird rates for **SBE's 2nd International Conference on Biomolecular Engineering (ICBE)** on January 18-21, 2009 at the Fess Parker Doubletree Hotel in Santa Barbara, CA. Keynote speakers include Jay Keasling of the University of California at Berkeley, Peter Schultz of the Scripps Institute and James Wells of the University of California, San Francisco. View the preliminary program at <http://www.aiiche.org/sbe/events/icbe/program2009.aspx>

Register now at <http://www.aiiche.org/ICBE> before the early bird rates expire on December 10th, 2008.

Submit an abstract by December 15 for **SBE's 2nd International Conference on Accelerating Biopharmaceutical Development** on March 9-12, 2009 at the Marriott Coronado Island Resort in Coronado, CA. You will learn from others how to improve your company's productivity and lower costs. Keynote speakers include:

- **Janice Reichert**, *Senior Research Fellow*, Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development, Boston, Massachusetts
- **John Carpenter**, *Professor of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, Co-Director*, Center for Pharmaceutical Biology, University of Colorado Denver
- **Rob Garnick**, *Senior Vice President*, Regulatory, Quality and Compliance, Genentech.

Submit an abstract at <http://aiiche.confex.com/aiiche/09abio/cfp.cgi> or find out more at <http://www.aiiche.org/AcceleratingBio>

Join Now

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 and ACS – BIOT members, or free for undergraduates. Join now at <http://www.aiiche.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?

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

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