

Key outcomes of the 6th Commercializing Industrial Biotechnology conference

The 6th Commercializing Industrial Biotechnology conference (CIB) included 7 full engaging sessions, full of leaders in the field discussing current innovations and technologies. More than 130 attendees were present for our 3 keynote talks, 24 invited speaker presentations, a couple sponsored workshops and roundtables, engaging panel discussions, and networking receptions. In addition, some attendees were able to tour the UC Berkeley Bakar BioEgnuity Hub (BBH) and Bakar Labs during an afternoon break. Our full technical program, as well as speaker bios and abstracts can be found on our website here:

<https://www.aid.org/sbe/conferences/commercializing-industrial-biotechnology/2023/technical-program>

This conference delivered on its promise to explore best practices, lessons learned, and innovations for commercializing industrial bio-based processes and products. CIB continues to be an amazing forum for our bioprocess community to connect and grow, as we bring these technologies and innovations to the forefront of policy and industry.

In our second keynote, titled "The US Bioeconomy as a National Priority: From 2012 to 2023 and Beyond", Mary Maxon of Schmidt Futures shared her experience and the latest updates in the federal government's policy and how far we have come since her time in the presidential meetings in 2012. It was truly encouraging to see the difference in knowledge and attention.

CIB also held the honor of hosting a fireside chat with Vinod Khosla of Khosla Ventures; he shared his expertise on funding for biotech start-ups and gave astounding advise for entrepreneurs. It was eye-opening to hear his perspective, as he has been a part of so many company's journeys in the biotechnology space. This fireside chat gave a preview of topic covered later that day in our Funding Development of the Bioeconomy Panel, full of invited venture capitalists and financial advisors.

The bulk of our program was filled to the brim with presentations from companies at various stages of production, from bench-scale ideas with a few large investors to fully-realized commercial products. Conference co-chair Jason Ryder's company, Oobli, shared the steps they took to create their sweet protein-based products. The remaining talks covered best practices for training the current and future workforce through programs and workshops. We held a panel full with students and alumni of one such program, the Master of Bioprocess Engineering (MBPE) at UC Berkeley.

CIB will be back in Boston, chaired by Christine Santos of Manus Bio. We hope to see you there!



These photos and more can be found in our album here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAWivx>