

BERKELEY LAB



BioSci Communiqué

02.09.16

Upcoming Events

Refer to the [Area Events Calendar](#) for more events, details, and up-to-date information.

February 9

John Lawrence Seminar:
Complex Connections Between DNA Repair and Cancer | Roger A. Greenberg, University of Pennsylvania | 4 PM, Aquatic Park, Rm 977-141

February 10

JBEI Seminar Series:
Synthetic Biology: New Tools for an Industry at an Inflection Point | John Cumbers, Founder, SynBioBeta | Noon - 1:30 PM, Emery Station, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

February 11

DOE JGI Science & Technology Meeting: *Pan-genome: What is it and What is it Good for?* | Sean Gordon, JGI | 2 PM, Walnut Creek, Rm 100-149A

February 16

John Lawrence Seminar:
Harnessing Genetic Deficiencies in Cancer Therapy | Alan Ashworth, President, UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center | 4 PM, Aquatic Park, Rm 977-141

February 18

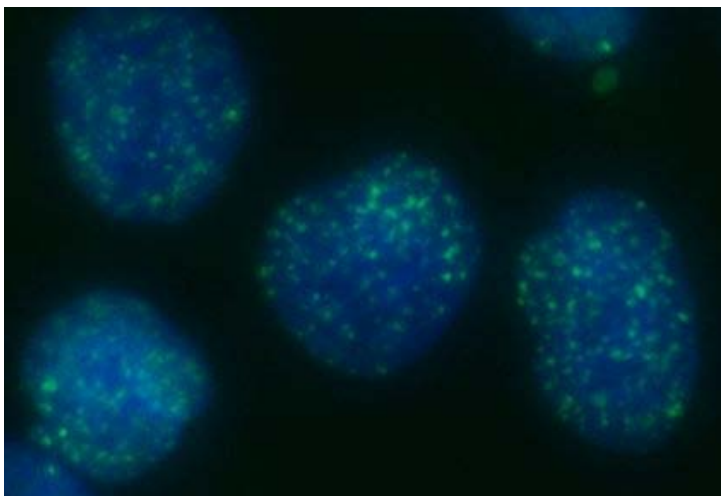
Area Brown Bag on Program Development and Funding @ Bldg 33 | Mary Maxon and Ivy Clift | Noon, Rm 33-106

DOE JGI Science & Technology Meeting | TBD | 2 PM, Walnut Creek, Rm 100-

News Roundup

- CRISPR/Cas9: Ready for Action [>>](#)
- A Key Step Toward Custom-Made Nanoscale Chemical Factories [>>](#)
- Celniker Recognized with 2016 George W. Beadle Award [>>](#)
- Biosciences Area Scientists Participate in World Economic Forum [>>](#)
- Breaking the Xylose Bottleneck [>>](#)
- Scientists Discover Protein's Starring Role in Genome Stability, and Possibly Cancer Prevention [>>](#)
- A Novel Microbial Signal in Metagenomic Noise [>>](#)
- First Marine Angiosperm Genome Sequence [>>](#)
- Simmons Named Division Director for Biological Systems & Engineering [>>](#)

More news on the Biosciences Area [website](#).



Message from the ALD

The last two weeks have been exciting at Berkeley Lab as we learned the news of the appointment of the new Lab Director, Mike Witherell, and hosted the Lab Advisory Board and the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board. I have had an opportunity to meet with Mike Witherell a few times over the last week and am thrilled that he has decided to include the Biosciences Campus Vision as one of his top two priorities (upgrading the ALS to increase its brightness and coherence is the first). The Lab Advisory Board was also supportive of our vision for the future Biosciences Campus, offering their help as we move through the necessary steps to realize the vision for our new campus on the hill.

The Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board (SEAB) held its public

149A

February 19

MBIB Workshop on Abiotic/Biotic Interfaces | Organizers: Caroline Ajo-Franklin and Heinz Frei | 9 AM - 1 PM, Rm 66-316 | RSVP to organizers required (lunch provided)

BSE Division Seminar: *Modeling the Radiation Response in Human Cells and Tissue* | Sylvain Costes, BSE Division | Noon, Emery Station, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

Build Your Startup Team - Cal Innovators Social Mixer | 5 - 6:30 PM, SkyDeck at 2150 Shattuck Ave., Penthouse level | [RSVP](#) required

February 22

Area Brown Bag on Program Development and Funding @ Walnut Creek | Mary Maxon and Ivy Clift | Noon, Rm 100-149A

February 23

Area Brown Bag on Program Development and Funding @ Emery Station | Mary Maxon and Ivy Clift | Noon, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

BioEPIC Seminar: Javier Navarro and Ben Brown present | 11:30 AM - 1 PM, Bldg 66 Aud.

John Lawrence Seminar: *A Systemic Approach for Rejuvenating the Aging Brain* | Saul Villeda, University of California, San Francisco | 4 PM, Aquatic Park, Rm 977-141

February 24

Area Brown Bag on Program Development and Funding @ Aquatic Park | Mary Maxon and Ivy Clift | Noon, Rm 977-141

Events Highlights

meeting in Emeryville, and Harold Varmus, co-chair of the new SEAB Biomedical Task Force, gave an overview of the charge to the task force, which you can learn more about [here](#).

Also during the last two weeks I attended the World Economic Forum (WEF), where I was asked to speak about the future of biomanufacturing as part of a session focused on global manufacturing. While at the WEF, I attended a very interesting session about the global need for new antibiotics to meet a growing challenge of antibiotic resistance, a need that the US government recognized recently with its release of a [strategic plan](#) for a coordinated national response. I look forward to seeing Biosciences researchers respond to this national and global need in the coming year.

Regards,
Jay Keasling

Area Office Update

Biosciences Strategic Plan (BSP) Re-refresh

The five visioning meetings were recently held and the visioning teams developed notional changes to the Goals and Strategies that were approved by the ExComm on February 3. Revisions to the text are now underway and are scheduled for submission to the BSP mentors on February 15. The revised BSP is scheduled to be completed and posted to the Biosciences website on June 1.

DOE EERE Visits

On February 3, the Area office hosted DOE Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE) staff and gave them an overview of Berkeley Lab's bioenergy programs. Michael Mills (Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation), Bioenergy Technologies Office's Alison Goss Eng (Program Manager for Feedstocks Supply and Logistics and Algae) and Daniel Fishman (Technology Manager for Algae and Wet Waste-to-Energy) visited [JBEI](#) to hear about programs at the [ABPDU](#), JBEI, and the [JGI](#). They also toured JBEI and the ABPDU. Two companies that work with the ABPDU also attended to discuss collaborations with Berkeley Lab.

On February 19, Reuben Sarkar (DOE EERE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation) will visit JBEI and the ABPDU in the afternoon to learn about the Area's bioenergy programs, specifically the Agile Biomanufacturing Foundry proof-of-concept project recently funded by EERE. The success of the Agile Biomanufacturing Foundry project is critical for securing future EERE support for the [FutureBio Institute](#).

Area Safety

The Division Safety Coordinators presented a Biosciences safety standardization process to the ExComm on February 3.

LDRD FY17 Information

The Biosciences FY17 LDRD Principal Strategies and proposal review schedule are posted on the Area website [here](#).

Division/Facility News

Area Brown Bags on Program Development & Funding

In the 2nd module of the Biosciences Area program development and funding brown bags Mary Maxon and Ivy Clift ([Berkeley Lab Foundation](#)) will focus on philanthropy as a source of funding for R&D. They will discuss the history of science philanthropy, how it works, when it's the right option for research programs, how the Berkeley Lab Foundation can help you, and more.

The goal of the program development modules is to build capacity for program development within Biosciences staff. All are encouraged to participate at one of the following dates:

Noon on February 18th (Bldg 33), 22nd (Walnut Creek), 23rd (Emery Station), and 24th (Aquatic Park). See [Area Events Calendar](#) for details.

Build Your Startup Team

IPO invites all to learn about shared research interests and begin forming relationships potentially leading to collaboration opportunities at the Cal Innovators Social Mixer on February 19, 5 - 6:30 PM (food and drinks provided). The mixer brings together Berkeley Lab researchers, the SkyDeck startup community and grad students from the UC Berkeley Schools of Information Engineering and Computer Science and Haas School of Business.

At the SkyDeck, 2150 Shattuck Ave., Penthouse level. [Registration](#) is required.



The EGSB Division has adopted a new logo (designed by Creative Services) that represents the variety of interests and research being performed in the Division.

Introduction by BSE Division Director Blake Simmons

Blake Simmons, incoming Division Director for Biological Systems & Engineering (BSE), will host his first all-hands Division Meetings on February 11 where he will give his background, present his ideas for BSE, and answer questions.



At the Emery Station and Aquatic Park Operations Centers, at 1 PM (Rm 978-4132 & 4134) and 2:30 PM (Rm 977-141) respectively.

MBIB Workshop on Abiotic/Biotic Interfaces



A new program in the area of abiotic/biotic interfaces for biohybrids is being initiated by Heinz Frei and Caroline Ajo-Franklin of Molecular Biophysics & Integrated Bioimaging (MBIB). They will hold a mini-workshop that seeks to answer the question: How can we unravel the

structure, energetics, and dynamics of the nanoscale interface between inorganic materials and bacterial cells so as to enable design of efficient, scalable biohybrids?

February 19, 9 AM - 1 PM (lunch provided), Bldg 66, Rm 316. RSVP to cajo-franklin@lbl.gov or hfrei@lbl.gov.

JGI Annual User Meeting

The agenda for DOE Joint Genome Institute's 11th Annual Genomics of Energy & Environment Meeting (March 21 - 24) has been posted [here](#). All poster abstracts are due by March 7. Register now [here](#).

Intellectual Property Office (IPO) News

NDA/MTA Process Altered

As of January 25, all requests for nondisclosure agreements (NDAs) and material transfer agreements (MTAs) must be made through the IPO's Innovation Portal. This faster, paperless system enables requesters to see the status of agreements in progress and approved agreement records. Instructions for the online system are available at the [Innovation Portal link](#).



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