

## BERKELEY LAB



# BioSci Communiqué

03.22.16

## Upcoming Events

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

### March 22

POSTPONED | John Lawrence Seminar: *Genomes as Indicators of Environmental Stress* | Joseph Shaw, Indiana University | 4 PM, Aquatic Park, Rm 977-141

### March 23

JBEI Seminar: *Droplet Microfluidics: Amphiphilic Nanoparticles as Droplet Stabilizers for High-fidelity and Ultrahigh-throughput Droplet Assays* | Sindy K.Y. Tang, Stanford University | Noon, Emery Station, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

### March 28

Film Screening (80 min.): [CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap](#) - Women's History Month | Noon, B50 Auditorium

Area Brown Bag on Program Development and Funding @ Emery Station | Mary Maxon and Ivy Clift | 12:30 PM, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

Berkeley Lab Postdoc Association ([BLPA](#)) Kick-off Social Event | 5:30 PM, Lab Bay View Cafe | [RSVP](#) by March 23

### March 29

Parenting Class: [How to Foster Resilience and a "Growth Mindset"](#) | WSEC/DIO-sponsored, led by Marcilie Smith Boyle | Noon - 1:30 PM, B70A-3377 | [Registration](#) is required

## News Roundup

- Biosciences Researchers Participate in Lab-Corps Program Training [>>](#)
- ESOC Celebrates Women's History Month [>>](#)
- JBEI's Inventory of Composable Elements (ICE) Tutorial Now Available [>>](#)
- Celebrating Biosciences Women in Science and Public Service [>>](#)
- X-ray Studies at SLAC and Berkeley Lab Aid Search for Ebola Cure [>>](#)
- Berkeley Lab to Collaborate with Small Businesses to Commercialize Clean Energy Products [>>](#)

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



## Area News

### JGI Director to Step Down, Assume Scientific Helm of Startup

JGI Director Eddy Rubin [announced](#) that he will leave Berkeley Lab in June to pursue a full-time leadership position as Chief Science Officer at [Metabiota](#), a San Francisco-based startup. In the coming week, ALD Jay Keasling will appoint an Acting Director from the internal JGI leadership team to overlap with Rubin. A slate of candidates for the JGI Director search committee has been assembled and shared with DOE BER. It is anticipated that the search will require 6-9 months to complete.



(limited space)

### March 31

DOE JGI Science & Technology Meeting: *Title TBD* | Chris Streck, 10X Genomics | 2 PM, Walnut Creek, Rm 100-149A

### April 1

BSE Division Seminar @ Aquatic Park: *Microbial Engineering for Advanced Biofuels* | Taek Soon Lee, Biological Systems & Engineering Division | Noon, Aquatic Park, Rm 141

### April 5

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

## Events Highlights

### JGI 2016 User Meeting at Capacity

The 11th Annual Genomics of Energy & Environment Meeting convenes at the Walnut Creek Marriott, March 22 - 24. [Download](#) the Meeting Abstract Book.

### “CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap” Film Screening

In honor of Women’s History Month, the Diversity and Inclusion Office (DIO) will be [screening](#) a film called “CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap” on March 28 at 12:00 PM in the Bldg 50 Auditorium. The film features current programmers in the field, with a brief history of the role of women such as Grace Hopper (below) within computing sciences in the U.S. To learn more about the film (80 min.) or view the trailer, visit [here](#).

### Lab Director Meets Area Leadership

Lab Director Mike Witherell has scheduled two-hour meetings with all Area leadership teams to learn about key programs, goals, and challenges of each Area; the Biosciences leadership team is scheduled on March 29. Witherell has also planned a Director’s Retreat on March 30, where strategic planning will be a major focus. Biosciences Principal Deputy Mary Maxon has been asked to kick off the event with a presentation about Biosciences strategic planning and implementation.

### Biosciences Campus Update

Site preparation planning has begun for the Bayview Campus portion of the Biosciences Campus to enable next steps for Biosciences buildings 2 and 3, BioEPIC and Biofuels and Bioproducts Research Center (BBRC), respectively. Based on programmatic needs and DOE funding, Flad Architects developed its first architectural drawings of BioEPIC and shared them with the Berkeley Lab team on March 17. Highlights of the design include six Ecotrons, “pilot plant” scale experimental ecosystems that will be visible from the outside of BioEPIC.

### Engineering Biology

On March 17, the Biosciences Area Office met with eight delegates from the National Intelligence Council, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the CIA’s Center for the Study of Intelligence to brief intelligence experts on the status and potential of engineering biology.

### LDRD Submission Deadline



Berkeley Lab’s deadline for [LDRD submissions](#) to be complete and uploaded to the Lab’s LDRD database is Friday, March 25. The Biosciences FY17 LDRD proposal review schedule is posted on the Area website [here](#).

### Staffing Changes

Biosciences Development Officer Alicia Yeh will start on March 28.

Durla Kelleher, Sr. HR Division Partner for the BSE, EGSB, and MBIB divisions, will be leaving Berkeley Lab for another position, effective March 23. The Area is actively recruiting to fill her position. As of March 24, HR Center Manager Bettina Brixner will be the interim Sr. HR Division Partner [contact](#).

## Program Development

### Berkeley Lab Hosts Industry Listening Day

On March 15, Berkeley Lab hosted an Industry Listening Day to gather critical feedback on how the Advanced Biomanufacturing BioFoundry, one component of the [FutureBio Institute](#), may address key R&D barriers for engineering biology, process integration, and scaling to relevant production scales. The effort was part of the Lab’s seed project with [EERE](#) and will help realize the scientific vision outlined in the Biomanufacturing section of the Biosciences Strategic Plan.

Participants from over 40 companies registered for the workshop, which featured discussions that spanned a large range of topics of interest to





### Philanthropy Program Development Module

The fourth, and last, philanthropy program development module brown bag, organized by the Biosciences Area Office and presented by Biosciences' Mary Maxon and Ivy Clift of the Berkeley Lab Foundation, will be held on March 28, 12:30 PM, at Emery Station Operations Center, Rm 978-4132 & 4134.

### Lab Postdoc Association Hosts Kick-Off Event

The recently [launched](#) Berkeley Lab Postdoc Association (BLPA) will host their kick-off social event on March 28, at 5:30 PM in the Lab's Bay View Cafe. The group was formed to enhance inclusion and offer assistance to the Lab's early career researchers. Members will organize networking events to connect with other postdocs, and address issues related to professional development, institutional support, and external outreach. BLPA events and meetings are open to all postdocs (LBNL and affiliates), graduate students, and early career researchers. [RSVP](#) by Wednesday, March 23 (refreshments/snacks served).



Thank you  
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Twitter

Ambassadors Nathan Hillson, Andrew Liu, Aindrila Mukhopadhyay (BSE); Cameron Coates and Susannah Tringe (JGI); and

industry, including potential scientific capabilities and intellectual property sharing. They provided input on critical industry barriers to developing biological processes, including the lack of an accessible tool-kit to produce a variety of robust industrial organisms; consideration for downstream techno-economics and processes when designing organisms; and open-source high-quality data.

Compared to the status quo, the BioFoundry aims to decrease the energy intensity of current manufacturing process by 40%, decrease the carbon intensity of current manufacturing processes by 60%, and increase biomanufacturing cycle efficiency by more than 40%. Also, the BioFoundry will develop new manufacturing opportunities, increase U.S. competitiveness, and create new opportunities for private sector growth. These goals, along with findings from the listening day, will be used to develop a vision document for the Advanced Biomanufacturing effort beginning in FY17, which will be vetted with key industry and federal government stakeholders later this spring.

### "Big Ideas" Well Received at the National Lab Summit

Last week, BSE Director Blake Simmons, assisted by Sam Deutsch of JGI and Gregg Beckham from the National Renewable Energy Lab, presented the Advanced Biomanufacturing BioFoundry at the National Lab Summit on behalf of Berkeley Lab and its nine lab partners. At the summit, twelve large, multi-lab concepts that can impact missions across many offices in DOE were vetted and shortlisted for presentation to DOE. Advanced Biomanufacturing and the "Enhancing the Global Carbon Sink" concept, presented by Margaret Torn of the Earth and Environmental Sciences Area with contributions from Biosciences (Jenny Mortimer and Trent Northen), were selected to advance. Both will be presented at the DOE National Laboratory Ideas ("Big Ideas") Summit, which is a mechanism DOE uses to identify new investment-worthy concepts, the week of April 18 in Washington, DC.

### Microbes-to-Biomes Initiative

On March 15, Trent Northen, along with Romy Chakraborty and Eoin Brodie of the Earth and Environmental Sciences Area, visited [Monsanto](#) to present and discuss Berkeley Lab's [Microbes-to-Biomes Initiative](#). The presentation was well received and they are now exploring options for possible collaborations.



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## Innovation and Partnerships Office (IPO)

### Startup Licenses Berkeley Lab Cardiovascular Health Device

Lexington Biosciences, a new startup, exclusively [licensed](#) the Berkeley Lab Enegevity Cuff, a technology to dramatically advance the testing and monitoring of cardiovascular health. The device, developed by Jonathan S. Maltz of the Molecular Biophysics & Integrated Biology Division, measures arterial lining health to assess plaque buildup and atherosclerosis quickly and easily, outside a clinical setting.

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Laleh Coté, Dan Krotz and  
Kelly Owen (LBNL)!

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Ambassador! For more  
details, contact:  
[bioscomms@lbl.gov](mailto:bioscomms@lbl.gov).

## Funding Opportunities

### **FICUS: Access Two User Facilities with One Proposal**

The FICUS call between DOE JGI and Environmental Molecular Science Laboratory ([EMSL](#)) represents a unique opportunity for researchers to combine the power of genomics and molecular characterization in one proposed research project. [Check out](#) the focused topic areas and get more information. Letters of Intent are due Monday, April 4. For questions about the appropriateness of projects or the application process, [contact](#) Susannah Tringe, JGI Deputy for User Programs.



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