

BERKELEY LAB



BioSci Communiqué

03.08.16

Upcoming Events

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

March 9

JBEI Seminar: *How to Use Social Media to Advance Your Research Career* | Catharine A. Adams, University of California, Berkeley | Noon, Emery Station, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

Early Career Scientists Society (ECSS) Technical Seminar: *Latest Western Blotting Techniques and Tools* | Thermo-Fischer | Noon (pizza served), Aquatic Park, Rm 977-141

March 14

BioEPIC Seminar: Romy Chakraborty, Climate & Ecosystems Division, Earth & Environmental Sciences Area, presents on *A Tale of Two N-cycles*; Adam Deutschbauer, Environmental Genomics & Systems Biology Division, presents on *High-throughput Functional Characterization of Microorganisms* | 11:30 AM (pizza and discussion at 12:30 PM), Bldg 66 Auditorium | RSVP required to [Kelly Montgomery](#) or [Eltra Green](#)

Synberc Expanding Potential Meet Up: *Bystander Intervention, Practical and Empowering Advice on How Members of the STEM Community Can Help Protect One Another from Bias-related Harm* | Finn Schneider, UC Berkeley's Bears That Care Program | 5:30 PM, Tupper & Reed, 2271 Shattuck Ave,

News Roundup

- DOE-funded Bioenergy Research Centers File 500th Invention Disclosure [>>](#)
- Tracking the Onset of Alzheimer's [>>](#)
- Brenner Named ISCB Fellow 2016 [>>](#)
- Doudna Interview: Biochemist Meets Geneticists [>>](#)
- Antioch High School Takes Part in Mock Interviews at Biosciences ESOC [>>](#)
- Biosciences Researchers Receive Sloan Fellowships [>>](#)
- New Way to Reduce Plant Lignin Could Lead to Cheaper Biofuels [>>](#)

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



Message from the ALD

There are many exciting new developments to share with you. The search committees for the new Division Directors have concluded their activities and after having reviewed their recommendations with Director Mike Witherell, I am thrilled to [announce](#) that Paul Adams has accepted the position of Division Director for the Molecular Biophysics & Integrated Bioimaging Division. Also, I expect to announce the new Division Director for Environmental Genomics & Systems Biology in the coming weeks. I am very happy with the way the new leadership team is developing and am grateful to the search committees for their hard work.

The first draft of the newly revised Biosciences Strategic Plan has been sent to the ExComm for their review and approval. I look forward to seeing the culmination of the work that the visioning teams started during the Area reorganization, and thank all of you for your efforts to help us develop and realize our ambitious goals.

Berkeley

March 15

Special JBEI Seminar:
Engineering Neurospora Crassa as a Host for Heterologous Protein Production | André Fleissner, Braunschweig University, Germany | 2 PM, Emery Station, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

John Lawrence Seminar:
Constructing and Deconstructing the Tumor Microenvironment (TME) | Mary Helen Barcellos-Hoff, University of California, San Francisco | 4 PM, Aquatic Park, Rm 977-141

March 18

BSE Division Seminar @ JBEI: *Organization, Dynamics and Coordination of Cortical Networks in Humans and Rodents* | Kristopher Bouchard, Biological Systems & Engineering Division | Noon, Emery Station, Rm 978-4132 & 4134

Events Highlights

ESOC Celebrates Women in History Month



Emery Station Operations Center (ESOC) is celebrating "Women in History" this month. Women's History Month is an annual national celebration that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. A number of activities will be organized in March for both Biosciences staff and the public. Details can be found on the [Area Events calendar](#). All are invited to attend!

Secondary Metabolite Meeting Applications Extended Until March 14

Investigators interested in the role of secondary metabolites

On March 22, Susan Hubbard and I will present our strategic visions and priorities to the DOE Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee ([BERAC](#)). BERAC is revisiting and updating the long-term strategic vision for BER, as described in the [2010 Grand Challenges for Biological and Environmental Research: A Long-Term Vision](#). On March 16, Mike Witherell will be in Washington, DC, to meet with the DOE Associate Directors to hear their perspectives of Berkeley Lab, our priorities, and our performance. And while I'm on the topic of upcoming DOE happenings, the recently released President's Budget for FY17 shows some encouraging signs from DOE: EERE has \$35M for sourcing a biofoundry and BER has \$10M allocated for microbiome research.

In my previous message, I mentioned that I was thrilled to hear that Mike Witherell included the Biosciences Campus Vision as one of his top two priorities. I am equally pleased that Mike is making a significant effort to get acquainted with each of the Areas at the Lab, our strengths, priorities, programs, and challenges. Mike will meet with our senior leadership team on March 29, and he sincerely wants to hear from us what we think he should know. Please contact your Division Director with any ideas that you think the leadership team should share with Mike as he begins to get to know us.

Regards,
Jay Keasling

Area News

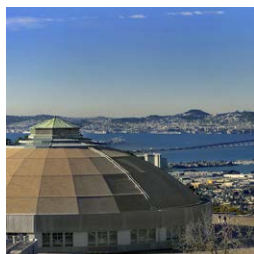
Biosciences Campus Update

Efforts for the first three of five planned buildings of the Biosciences Campus are moving ahead. The Lab Directorate is organizing a ground-breaking ceremony this summer to mark the start of construction of the first, the [Integrative Genomics Building](#) (IGB). The Mission Need Statement for the second building, BioEPIC, was submitted to DOE last week in preparation for imminent FY18 funding decisions. Currently, the Lab's Government Relations team is working on developing a strategy for approaching the Governor's office to secure a state funding commitment for the third, the Biofuels and Bioproducts Research Building.



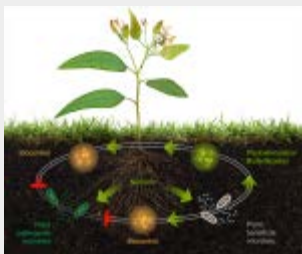
Biosciences Projects Receiving FY16 LDRD Funding

The projects of eleven Biosciences Area scientists and engineers received funding through the FY16 Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) program. These projects cover a broad range of topics, including energy science technology applications, novel computing technologies, and mechanistic understanding of multi-scale interactions among molecules, microbes, plants, metazoans, the abiotic environment, and their feedbacks. Together, these efforts account for nearly 14% of the \$25.3 million allocated. Lab-wide, 84 proposals were selected from a field of 179. Read more [here](#).



Area Safety

in plant-microbe and microbe-microbe interactions, as well as new approaches for studying and manipulating the impact of secondary metabolites on environmental systems, are encouraged to [apply](#) for the JGI's Microbial and Plant Systems Modulated by Secondary Metabolites Meeting, May 2 – 4.



Limited Space Available in Workshops at 11th JGI Annual User Meeting

There are just a few slots left in the [workshops](#) on March 21 - 22 of the JGI's 11th Annual Genomics of Energy & Environment Meeting, including one that delves into the JGI's latest efforts in synthetic biology. The meeting takes place on March 22 - 24 and [registration](#) is required.

Interactive Parenting Workshop

The [Women Scientists & Engineers Council](#) and [Diversity & Inclusion Office](#) are sponsoring a fun and interactive parenting workshop, 'How to Foster Resilience and a 'Growth Mindset,' on March 29 at noon; watch the [Area Events calendar](#) for details.

Workshop on Managing Bioinformatics Data

Registration is now open for the workshop on Improving Data Mobility & Management for International Bioinformatics, April 12-13 at Berkeley Lab. For information and to register, visit the Lab's Energy Sciences Network (ESnet) [website](#).

In celebration

The Job Hazards Analysis (JHA) system will close on March 15. All work and workers must be authorized through the [Work Planning and Control](#) (WPC) Activity Manager. For questions, contact the safety coordinator at your Area operations center: Stephen Franaszek (Walnut Creek), Ben Sandmann (Emery Station and University/Hill (UHOO)), Shraddha Ravani (Aquatic Park and Area Office).

Program Development

Biosciences Development Officer Hired

The Biosciences Area is pleased to announce that Alicia Yeh will be the new Biosciences Development Officer, starting on March 14. Alicia will be visiting the Area operations centers soon to meet with and get to know the staff and research teams.

FutureBio Presented at National Lab Summit

This week, Berkeley Lab will be presenting the Advanced Biomanufacturing BioFoundry at the National Lab Summit which precedes the DOE Big Ideas Summit. The Advanced Biomanufacturing BioFoundry, one component of the [FutureBio](#) Institute, is a DOE-relevant biomanufacturing platform currently under development in partnership

with a consortium of national labs. The Big Ideas Summit solicits large, multi-lab concepts that can impact missions across many offices in DOE and is a mechanism for DOE to identify new concepts in



which to invest. The National Lab Summit is an important step in the process where the concepts are vetted and shortlisted before presentation to DOE. BSE Director Blake Simmons will present on behalf of Berkeley Lab and its nine lab partners, assisted by Sam Deutsch of JGI and Gregg Beckham from the National Renewable Energy Lab.

Funding Opportunities

2017 CSP Call for Large-Scale Projects

The Community Science Program (CSP) Annual Call is focused on large-scale sequence-based genomic science projects that address questions of relevance to [DOE missions](#) in sustainable biofuel production, global carbon cycling, and biogeochemistry. Letters of intent are due April 7. [Check out](#) the areas of special emphasis and submission instructions. Need inspiration? [Review](#) the projects that were supported last year.

Solicitation for FY16 Technology Commercialization Fund

DOE is seeking solicitations for a [Technology Commercialization Fund](#) (TCF) that could be an interesting way to get internal resources to move technologies forward, especially in collaboration with another company or entity (50% matching funds required from a non-Federal entity). The fund's goal is to pursue active industry engagement and to advance the technology readiness level of selected technologies. Application deadline is March 31; internal Lab deadlines apply. For information, [contact](#) Shanshan Li in the Innovations and Partnership Office ([IPO](#)). Intend to submit a proposal? Inform her of who you are considering for potential



of "Women in
History,"
[@LBNLBioSci](#)

will be highlighting
Biosciences scientists and
operations staff throughout the
month of March. With their
achievements, drive and
leadership, these women are
shaping the Area. Join us in
the celebration by re-tweeting
and/or liking the daily tweets!

partners, and if you need help identifying matching funds.



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