

Frontiers in Biorefining

*Chemicals and Products
from Renewable Carbon*



2012 International Conference

St. Simons Island, Georgia, USA
October 30 - November 2

Steering Committee Members

Joseph Bozell

Center for Renewable Carbon
The University of Tennessee

Nicole Labbé

Center for Renewable Carbon
The University of Tennessee

Peter Muller

Perkin-Elmer, Inc.

Timothy Rials

Center for Renewable Carbon
The University of Tennessee

Program Committee Members

Alison Buchan

Department of Microbiology
The University of Tennessee

Mark Davis

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Mario Eden

Auburn University

Claus Felby

University of Copenhagen

Maureen McCann

Purdue University

Jonathan Mielenz

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Brent Shanks

Iowa State University

Christian Stevens

Ghent University

Hosted by:



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

TUESDAY OCTOBER 30, 2012

Registration/Social Hour

5:00-8:00pm

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 31, 2012

Registration

7:00-7:50am Breakfast and Welcome

Plenary Session:

Biorefinery Concepts for Chemicals and Products

- 7:50-8:00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks - Timothy Rials** (University of Tennessee)
- 8:00-8:40 **Gregg Beckham** (National Renewable Energy Laboratory – Computational Modeling of Biomass Conversion Systems)
- 8:40-9:20 **Clint Chapple** (Purdue University – Manipulation of Lignin Biosynthesis in Plants: The Low Hanging Fruit in Feedstock Improvement for the Biorefinery)
- 9:20-10:00 **Percival Zhang** (Virginia Tech – Innovative Biomanufacturing Platform: Cell-Free Synthetic Pathway Biotransformation)

10:00-10:15am Coffee Break

- 10:15-10:55 **Gary Peter** (University of Florida – High Terpene Pines: Transforming Existing and Enabling New Forest Biorefineries)
- 10:55-11:35 **Claus Felby** (University of Copenhagen – Biorefinery Development: The Danish Perspective)
- 11:35-12:15 **Christian Stevens** (Ghent University – Exploiting Nature's Diversity for the Development of Chemical Building Blocks)

12:15 - 1:30pm Lunch **Timothy G. Rials** (University of Tennessee – Introduction to IBSS, Southeastern Partnership for Integrated Biomass Supply Systems)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 31, 2012

Session 2A:

From Pretreatment to Fractionation

- 1:30-1:55 **Julie Carrier** (University of Arkansas - Biomass into Bioproducts)
- 1:55-2:20 **Maobing Tu** (Auburn University - Enzymatic Hydrolysis of Ethanol Organosolv Pretreated Loblolly Pine and Sweetgum)
- 2:20-2:45 **Nancy Nichols** (USDA - National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research - A Biological Approach to Cleaning up Fermentation Inhibitors Present in Biomass Sugars)
- 2:45-3:10 **John Yarbrough** (National Renewable Energy Laboratory - Understanding Biomass Recalcitrance Using Advanced Imaging)

3:10-3:30pm Coffee Break

- 3:30-3:55 **Adriaan van Heiningen** (University of Maine - Biobutanol from Forest Residues by SO₂ Ethanol-Water Fractionation and ABE Fermentation)
- 3:55-4:20 **Scott Renneckar** (Virginia Tech - "Melt-Compounded" Biomass: A Unique Pretreatment for Cellulose Saccharification and Lignin Extraction)
- 4:20-4:45 **Rashmi Kataria** (Trinity College Dublin - Effect of Surfactants Pre-Treatment on Lignocellulosic Biomass)

Session 2B:

Chemical Catalysis

- 1:30-1:55 **Evan Beach** (Yale University - Controlled Catalytic Depolymerization of Organosolv Lignin)
- 1:55-2:20 **Thomas Zawodzinski** (University of Tennessee - Exploring Electrochemical Modifications of Biomass-Derived Components)
- 2:20-2:45 **James Stambuli** (Ohio State University - Site-Selective Functionalization of Fatty Acid Derivatives)
- 2:45-3:10 **Michel Delmas** (University of Toulouse - The BBB Process: Biomass to Biofuels and Bioproducts)

3:10-3:30pm Coffee Break

- 3:30-3:55 **Peter Miedziak** (Cardiff University - The Use of Platinum Alloyed Bimetallic Catalysts to Manipulate Product Distributions During the Oxidation of Polyols)
- 3:55-4:20 **Doug Hayes** (University of Tennessee - Biobased Surfactants: A Useful Biorefinery Product That Can Be Prepared Using Green Manufacturing)
- 4:20-4:45 **Sabornie Chatterjee** (Oak Ridge National Laboratory - Preparation and Characterization of Modified Lignin for the Production of Carbon Fibers)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 31, 2012

Poster Session

6:30-8:30pm

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2012

7:30-8:30am Breakfast

Session 3A:

Biocatalytic Conversion

- 8:30-8:55 **Cong Trinh** (University of Tennessee - Redesigning E.coli Metabolism for Obligate Anaerobic Production of Biofuels and Biochemicals)
- 8:55-9:20 **Timothy Bugg** (University of Warwick - Bacterial Enzymes for Lignin Degradation and Production of Aromatic Chemicals from Lignocellulose)
- 9:20-9:45 **Hugh O'Neill** (Oak Ridge National Laboratory - Investigation of Structural Changes in Cel7A Cellulase when Bound to Cellulose Substrates)
- 9:45-10:10 **Jason Sello** (Brown University - Genetic Engineering of Streptomyces Bacteria as Lignocellulose Biorefineries)

10:10-10:30am Coffee Break

- 10:30-10:55 **Birgitte Ahring** (Washington State University - Producing Drop-In Hydrocarbon Biofuels from Lignocellulosic Biomass Materials)
- 10:55-11:20 **Hossein Nouredini** (University of Nebraska Lincoln - Cellulase Production by Solid State Fermentation on Wet Corn Distillers Grains)
- 11:20-11:45 **Nhuan Nghiem** (USDA - Agricultural Research Service - Integration of Succinic Acid and Ethanol Production in a Biorefinery)
- 11:45-12:10 **Reeta Davis** (University College Dublin - Conversion of Cellulosic Biomass from Grass into Fermentable Sugars and its Effective Utilization for Biosynthesis of Medium Chain Length Polyhydroxyalkanoates (MCL-PHA) by *Pseudomonas* SPP)

Session 3B:

Advances in Analytical Techniques and Computational Processes

- 8:30-8:55 **Laurene Tetard** (Oak Ridge National Laboratory - Surface and Subsurface Physical and Chemical Characterization of Soft Materials at the Nanoscale)
- 8:55-9:20 **Laura Jarboe** (Iowa State University - Enabling Robust Production of Biorenewable Fuels and Chemicals from Biomass)
- 9:20-9:45 **Hilkka Kenttämäa** (Purdue University - Tandem Mass Spectrometry in the Characterization of Converted Biomass)
- 9:45-10:10 **Mark Driscoll** (State University of New York - Ionizing Radiation and a Wood-Based Biorefinery)

10:10-10:30am Coffee Break

- 10:30-10:55 **Thomas Elder** (USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station - Applications of Computational Chemistry to the Reactions of Lignin)
- 10:55-11:20 **Gnana Gnanakaran** (Los Alamos National Laboratory - Overcoming Recalcitrance of Biobased Feedstocks Through Catalytic Conversions)
- 11:20-11:45 **Ariana Beste** (University of Tennessee - Lignin Model Pyrolysis: A Computational Approach)
- 11:45-12:10 **Anis Khimani** (Perkin-Elmer - From Paper Trails to Electronic Management Systems: Green Lining the Biomass Conversion Process)

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2012

Free Time

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2012

Social Hour / Conference Dinner and Keynote Speaker

6:00-7:00pm - Social Hour

7:00-9:00pm - Dinner

Guliz Elliott - Chemtex International, Inc. - Lignin Rich Residues from Biomass to Chemicals and Fuels

7:30-8:30am Breakfast

Session 4A:

Chemical Processes

- 8:30-8:55 **Roberto Rinaldi** (Max-Planck Institute - Solvent-Based Catalytic Strategies for the Selective Hydrogenolysis of Lignin and Selective Defunctionalization of Bio-Oil Under Low-Severity Conditions)
- 8:55-9:20 **Doug Hendry** (University of Missouri - High Throughput Biomass Conversion in Supercritical Water and Product Separations as an "End of Pipe" Technology in a Biomass Refinery)
- 9:20-9:45 **David Johnson** (National Renewable Energy Laboratory - Conversion of Sugars to Hydrocarbons via Depolymerization and Decarboxylation of Polyhydroxyalkanoates)
- 9:45-10:10 **Darren Baker** (University of Tennessee - Carbon Fiber from Engineered Lignin)

10:10-10:30am Coffee Break

- 10:30-10:55 **Hermine Nsa Moto** (University of Toulouse - Synthesis and Physical Properties of Novel Glycerol-Based Monomers and Polymers from Plant Oils)
- 10:55-11:20 **Nicole Brown** (Pennsylvania State University - Pyrolysis of Lignin to Create a New Foundry Fuel Source)
- 11:20-11:45 **Mahdi Abu-Omar** (Purdue University - Cheap and Abundant Catalysts for Biomass Conversion Including Lignin)

Session 4B:

Industrial Processes

- 8:30-8:55 **Orlando Rojas** (North Carolina State University - New Technologies for Wood Pretreatment within the Concept of the Biorefinery and Novel Uses of Cell Wall Components)
- 8:55-9:20 **Joseph Bozell** (University of Tennessee - Integrating Separation and Conversion – Conversion of Biorefinery Process Streams to Biobased Chemicals and Fuels)
- 9:20-9:45 **Hideki Abe** (Tokyo Institute of Technology - Biosynthesis and Characterization of Medium-Chain-Length Poly (3-Hydroxyalkanoates)
- 9:45-10:10 **Foster Agblevor** (Utah State University - Production of High - Valued Chemicals from Fractional Catalytic Pyrolysis of Biomass)

10:10-10:30am Coffee Break

- 10:30-10:55 **David Nielsen** (Arizona State University - Engineering Bacteria to Produce Bio-Styrene and Other Aromatic Chemicals)
- 10:55-11:20 **John Bhatt** (Novasep - Advanced Purification Technologies for your BioBased Chemicals)
- 11:20-11:45 **Steve Kelley** (North Carolina State University - Development of Supply Chain and Engineering Process Models for Predicting the Financial and Life Cycle Performance Bioenergy Systems)

Poster Session

6:30-8:30pm

Louise Ahl - *University of Copenhagen* - Carbohydrate Microarrays for Measuring Cell Wall Polysaccharides in Relation to Biomass Conversion

Frank Armstead - *Auburn University* - Biomass Characterization and Gasification for Transportation Fuels Production

Anton Astner - *University of Tennessee* - Lignin Yield Maximization of Lignocellulosic Biomass by Taguchi Robust Product Design Using Organosolv Fractionation

Priyanka Bhattacharya - *University of Tennessee* - Screening of Lignins by Pyrolysis-Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry

Christine Bohn - *Purdue University* - Dehydration of Plant Derived Sugars Utilizing Iron (III) and Molybdenum (V) Catalysts in a Biphasic Reaction Medium

Federico Cerrone - *Trinity College Dublin* - Conversion of Anaerobic Digested Grass into PHAs by High Cell Density Fermentation Strategies

William Chaplow - *Auburn University* - Dilute Acid and Organosolv Pretreatment of Loblolly Pine and Sweetgum

Paul Filson - *University of Tennessee* - Investigation of Potential Inhibitors from Switchgrass in Biorefinery

Doug Hayes - *University of Tennessee* - Preparation of Oligo Ricinoleic Acid Derivatives via Lipase-Catalyzed Esterification as Lubricant Additives and Star Polymers for Drug Delivery

Doug Hayes - *University of Tennessee* - Poly (Lactic Acid)/Poly (Hydroxyalkanoate) Nonwovens as Biodegradable Agricultural Mulches

Omid Hosseinaei - *University of Tennessee* - Oxidative Stabilization Studies in the Formation of Electrospun Carbon Nanofibers from a Purified Softwood Kraft Lignin

Tiffany Jarrell - *Purdue University* - Characterization of Organosolv Switchgrass by High Performance Liquid Chromatography/Multiple State Tandem Mass Spectrometry Using Hydroxide-Doped Electrospray Ionization

Pyoungchung Kim - *University of Tennessee* - The Effects of Organosolv Fractionation Process on the Properties of Switchgrass Lignin as a Precursor for Carbon Products

Lindsey Kline - *University of Tennessee* - Activation of Lignocellulosic Biomass in Ionic Liquids

Christopher Marcum - *Purdue University* - A Fundamental Study of the Fragmentation of Small Molecules Related to Lignin via Collision-Activated Dissociation (CAD)

James Riedeman - *Purdue University* - Methods for the Identification of levoglucosan Isomers in Bio Oil Obtained by Fast Pyrolysis of Cellulose

Wei Zhang - *Virginia Tech* - Analysis of Novel Lignin Extracted from "Melt Compounded" Biomass

Kelvin Smith - *Auburn University* - Rapid Characterization and Determination of Wood Chemistry and Crystallinity Index of Loblolly Pine

Jacob Wadkins - *Auburn University* - Flowability of Ground Loblolly Pine

Jeff Wright - *ArborGen Inc.* - Advances in Forest Plantation Systems: Implications for Bioproduct Feedstock

Liana Wuchte - *Auburn University* - Gas-Phase Higher Alcohol Synthesis and Fischer Tropsch Synthesis

Trevor Treasure - *North Carolina State University* - Integrated Process, Financial, and Risk Modeling of Cellulosic Ethanol From Woody and Non-Woody Feedstocks via Dilute Acid Pretreatment

Jennifer Davis - *Brown University* - Study of PcaV from *Streptomyces Coelicolor* Yields New Insights into Ligand-Responsive MarR Family Transcription Factors

Jesse Daystar - *North Carolina State University* - Integrated Supply Chain Delivered Costs, and Life Cycle Assessment of Several Lignocellulosic Supply Systems for Biofuels, Bioenergy and Bioproducts in the Southern U.S.

Ingrid Hoeger - *North Carolina State University* - Influence of Feedstock Deconstruction in Enzymatic Saccharification of Softwoods

Carlos Salas - *North Carolina State University* - Lignin-Soy Protein Interactions: Electrospun Nanofibers Based on Soy Proteins and Lignin

Julio Arboleda - *North Carolina State University* - Synthesis and Characterization of Novel Soy Protein-Nanocellulose Composite Aerogels