



2013 Annual State Conference Agenda

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013 * WES WATKINS CENTER * OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY * STILLWATER, OK

7:30 A.M. **Registration & Continental Breakfast** (Lobby); **Poster Set-up** (Exhibit Hall West)

OPENING SESSION (AUDITORIUM)

8:30 A.M. **Welcome and Introductions**
Jim Wicksted, Associate Director, OK EPSCoR
Jerry Malayer, State Director, OK EPSCoR

8:45 A.M. **“Energy R&D in the State of Oklahoma”**
Stephen McKeever, Oklahoma Secretary for Science and Technology

9:15 A.M. **“Bio-Refinery Ground Breaking”**
Brent Kisling, Executive Director, Enid Regional Development Alliance

PLENARY SESSIONS: RESEARCH UPDATES BY OBJECTIVE (AUDITORIUM)

Moderator: Ray Huhnke, Professor, Dept. of Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering, Oklahoma State University

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE I: FEEDSTOCK DEVELOPMENT (AUDITORIUM)

9:45 A.M. **“Do We Know Switchgrass Better in Genetics and Breeding?”**
Yanqi Wu, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Plant & Soil Science, Oklahoma State University

10:05 A.M. **“Biotechnological Approaches to Improve Switchgrass Production”**
Kiran Mysore, Professor, Plant Biology Division, Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation

10:25 A.M. **“Unveiling Grass-Diverged Aspects of Cell Wall Synthesis”**
Laura Bartley, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Botany & Microbiology, University of Oklahoma

10:45 P.M. **BREAK--10 MINUTES**

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE II: MICROBIAL CONVERSION (AUDITORIUM)

10:55 A.M. **“Conversion of Syngas to Alcohols by Microbial Catalysts”**
Ralph Tanner, Professor, Dept. of Botany & Microbiology, University of Oklahoma

11:15 A.M. **“Evaluating the Utility of Anaerobic Fungi in Cellulosic Biofuel Production Schemes”**
Mostafa Elshahed, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Microbiology & Molecular Genetics, Oklahoma State University

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE III: THERMOCHEMICAL CONVERSION (AUDITORIUM)

11:35 A.M. **“Cleaning Biomass-Generated Syngas: Is Biochar a Cheaper Alternative to Expensive Catalysts?”**
Ajay Kumar, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biosystems & Ag. Engineering, Oklahoma State University

11:55 A.M. **“Catalyst Design & Reaction Strategies for the Optimization of Liquid Products from Biomass Pyrolysis”**
Steven Crossley, Assistant Professor, School of Chemical, Biological & Materials Engineering,
University of Oklahoma

12:30 P.M. **LUNCHEON (EXHIBIT HALL-EAST)**

1:00 P.M. **Guest Luncheon Speaker: Sohi Rastegar, Program Director, National Science Foundation**

1:30 P.M. **HYBRID POSTER COMPETITION, 3-MINUTE ORAL PRESENTATIONS (AUDITORIUM)**

Moderator: Lance Lobban, Academic Director & Professor
School of Chemical, Biological & Materials Engineering, University of Oklahoma

Student Presenters: See Program for a Complete Listing

2:45 P.M. **POSTER SESSION & STUDENT COMPETITION POSTER JUDGING (EXHIBIT HALL-WEST)**

4:00 P.M. **POSTER AWARDS PRESENTATION (AUDITORIUM)**

4:15 P.M. **ADJOURN**