



NDSU/MBI  
Biomaterials  
Initiative

Office of the Vice President  
Agriculture and  
University  
Extension

## Northern Plains Bioeconomy: What Makes Sense? 2009

Tuesday, 22 September, 2009: Fargo, ND

### Northern Plains Bioeconomy: What Makes Sense?

Ramada Plaza Suites & Conference Center 1635 42nd Street S.  
Fargo, North Dakota

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

**8:15 –8:30 Welcome**, Vice President of the College of Agriculture, NDSU, D. C. Coston.

**8:30 – 9:10 Biomass Projects Today and Tomorrow**, Shane Goettle, Commissioner, ND Department of Commerce and Chair of EMPOWER Commission

**9:10 - 9:50 The Indirect Land Use Debate**, Bruce Dale, Distinguished Professor: Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Editor in Chief: Biofuels, Bioproducts and Biorefining, Associate Director: Office of Biobased Technologies, Michigan State University.

**9:50 - 10:15 Break**

**10:15 - 11:30 NDSU/MBI Biomaterials Initiative**, Larry Leistritz, Chair



**–AFEX: A Unique Pretreatment for Distributed Bioprocessing**, Bruce Dale, Distinguished Professor, Michigan State University

**–Preliminary Engineering and Design of a Cellulose to Ethanol Pilot Plant**, Bernie Steele, Director of Operations, MBI, International, Lansing, MI.

**–Developing a Biomaterials Industry in North Dakota: Next Steps**, F. Larry Leistritz, Distinguished Professor, North Dakota State University

**11:30 - 12:15 Poster session**, NDSU research, conference sponsors and exhibitors

**12:15 - 1:30 Lunch**

Regional Bioenergy Research: Highlights from the North Central States, Arlen Leholm, Executive Director, North Central Association of Agricultural Experiment Stations

**1:30 -2:00 Great River Energy's Spiritwood Project Biomass Fuel: Which Comes First the Market or the Supply?**  
Sandra Broekema, Manager, Business Development Great River Energy, Maple Grove, MN.

**2:00 - 2:30 POET'S Project Liberty. The Path to Liberty**, Doug Bervin, Director of Corporate Affairs, POET.

**2:30 - 3:00 Snapshots of NDSU Research**, Nancy Hodur, Chair; William Wilson and Mukhlesur Rahman, **Oilseed Development Center of Excellence**; Chad Ulven, **Biocomposite: Opportunities for ND AgByProducts**

**3:00 -3:30 Break**

**3:30 - 4:00 Snapshots of NDSU Research**, Nancy Hodur, Chair; Scott Pryor, **Developments in the NDSU Bioproducts Research Laboratory**; Cole Gustafson, **Economic Feasibility of Fuel Ethanol Production from Sugar Beets in North Dakota**

**4:00 - 4:45 Industry Panel**, [D. C. Coston](#), Chair, Eric Michel, Ulteig; Doug Berven, POET; Mark Luther, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson Engineering; Sandra Broekema, [Great River Energy](#).

4:45 Adjourn