

Research and Innovation Conference

Partnerships for Research Collaboration, and Technology Transfer

PROGRAM

Moderators

David Conrad, *Technology Development, UNL*
and **Amy Recker**, *Bio Nebraska Life Sciences Association*

1:30-2:50

John McClure, Bonnie Ziemann, John Hanson, and Todd Sneller

Moderator: David Conrad
"Partnerships for Tomorrow's Energy"

Break

2:50-3:10

3:10- 4:30

Michael Dixon, Lee Fenicle, Mary Ann Wendland and David Conrad

Moderator: Amy Recker
"Developing Tomorrow's Biosciences"

foster the growth of life sciences within Nebraska. Prior to joining Bio Nebraska, Amy held various project manager and analyst positions in marketing and technology. Over the past 15 years, her career has taken her from an advertising role at Eddie Bauer in Seattle, Washington; to part of the marketing team at MDS Pharma in Lincoln, Nebraska; to Creighton University's Division of Information Technology in Omaha, Nebraska. Amy holds a B.A. in Communications from Nebraska Wesleyan University and an M.S. in Management of Information Systems from University of Nebraska.

John McClure has undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Nebraska. In 1980 he joined NPPD's legal department. Since 1993 he has held several management positions involving deregulation, governmental affairs and strategic planning. McClure is an author of the Legislature's three-year electric industry study (LR 455) and has testified at the state and federal levels on electric industry issues.

Bonnie Ziemann became the Deputy Director of the Nebraska Energy Office overseeing the agency's business and programs in July 2008. She has been an executive administrator in the Nebraska Energy Office for 25 years and served as the Assistant Director for Operations of the Energy Office from 1985 to July 2008. She is an advisor to the Governor and Agency Director on energy management, conservation and efficiency. Prior to being appointed Assistant Director, Bonnie served two years as the state's Weatherization Program Division Chief. She worked for ten years in community action and eleven years in law enforcement prior to joining the Energy Office. She has managed the automation of the agency's largest program, the Dollar and Energy Saving Loan Program. The program, operated in conjunction with the state's lenders at more than 600 locations, will soon allow online submission and processing of energy loan applications. More than \$198 million in energy improvements have been financed through the loan program. The agency's current building efficiency efforts are energy code compliance, building inspections, new construction financing and green buildings. Federal energy programs administered are the Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program, the State Energy Program and Special Projects. She attended the College of Saint Mary from 1986-87 majoring in Business Administration and Nebraska Western College in Scottsbluff from 1981-82 majoring in Business Administration.

Todd Sneller currently serves as Administrator of the Nebraska Ethanol Board, a state agency located in Lincoln, NE. He has served on the board of the Renewable Fuels Association and as Chairman of the National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition. He serves as chairman of the Clean Fuels Development Coalition and is an executive board member with the Clean Fuels Foundation. He also serves as a Nebraska representative to the 35-state Governors' Ethanol Coalition. Mr. Sneller's work includes ethanol plant recruitment, legislative and regulatory assistance to ethanol producers, marketing and policy program development and public outreach activities. Sneller has authored numerous ethanol-related articles for regional and national publications and is a regular guest speaker at national fuel conferences.

Michael Dixon's tenure at the University of Nebraska Medical Center began in 1998 when he joined the Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases at UNMC as a graduate fellow. Dr. Dixon's research interests at UNMC were focused in the areas of molecular biology, genetics, and biochemistry. After completing his graduate work in 2003, Dr. Dixon joined the UNMC Intellectual Property Office (IPO) as a Faculty Liaison and was later promoted to Director in 2005. With the merger of the IPO and UNeMed in 2006, Dr. Dixon has transitioned to the role of Vice President & Chief Operating Officer for the UNeMed Corpo-

ABSTRACTS

"Partnerships for Tomorrow's Energy"

As our nation begins to look for innovative solutions for our future energy needs, Nebraska is well positioned to develop a growing energy industry in our state through partnerships and synergies. Speakers will discuss Nebraska's growing energy industry, research, education, and conservation programs from their various perspectives and offer views on the roles of federal and state government, public power, industry, and agricultural producers in further developing Nebraska's energy industry niche for tomorrow.

"Developing Tomorrow's Biosciences"

Biosciences thrive in an environment where strong partnerships exist between academic institutions and industry—creating a climate where research and development is recognized and cultivated. This panel session will discuss partnering between academic institutions and industry, lessons learned in technology transfer, and academic programs which are developing tomorrow's biosciences in Nebraska.

SPEAKER BIOS

David Conrad serves as the Director of the Office of Technology Development at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Prior to 2006, he worked in university technology transfer at the Iowa State University Research Foundation in Ames, Iowa. From 1999 to 2003, David was employed at Duke University Medical Center, where he was involved in biomedical research and the creation and financing of university spin-out companies. Prior to 1999, he was employed as a project manager and research chemist in both the private and government sectors in Washington, D.C. He has also founded and served as CEO of a web-based startup software company. David holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an M.B.A. from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. Having worked in industry, government and academics, he has a special interest in developing collaboration tools and partnering strategies for building highly effective synergistic public-private partnerships.

Amy Recker is the executive director of Bio Nebraska Life Sciences Association, a state affiliate of BIO the Biotechnology Industry Organization. The mission of Bio Nebraska is to be the champion of biotechnology and the advocate for its member organizations promoting academic, industry and government partnerships to

ration. Dr. Dixon is responsible for directing UNeMed's efforts to protect, market, and license new technology created at UNMC. He serves as a liaison between UNMC inventors and potential company partners and negotiates license agreements that will foster partnerships for the commercial development of new technology. He also acts as a resource for entrepreneurial faculty who are interested in forming a new company for commercialization of their research activities. Before coming to UNMC, Dr. Dixon spent two years as a chemist in the ethanol industry. He received Bachelor of Science degrees in Chemistry and Biology from Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Dr. Dixon is an active member of the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) and the Licensing Executives Society (LES).

Lee Fenicle has been director of Creighton University's Intellectual Resources Management (IRM) for more than 12 years. Originally known as the Office of Technology Transfer, Creighton launched IRM in 2008 with an expanded mission. In addition to its traditional role of transferring Creighton University's research discoveries to the marketplace, IRM serves as a point of entry for businesses wishing to tap the university's vast array of rich intellectual resources. In addition to running IRM, Fenicle has been involved with the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) since the beginning of his career at Creighton, most recently serving on AUTM's Board of Trustees as central region vice president. Fenicle also has had a varied career in business. Six years after he accepted a position with GlaxoSmithKline in diagnostic ultrasound marketing, he became vice president of marketing for a start-up ultrasound equipment manufacturer. He also was a vice president of marketing for a biotech company, and has managed radio stations in Central California.

Mary Ann Wendland serves as associate director of Intellectual Resources Management at Creighton University. In addition to licensing activities, she handles copyrights, trademark licensing, and document reviews. She also facilitates the formation of start-ups based on university technologies, and she builds relationships with the business community. Prior to joining Creighton, Wendland served in a variety of technology-related sales and marketing positions. At Streck Laboratories in Omaha, she was responsible for sales, product management, marketing and licensing products to external companies. She also held key sales and marketing positions at divisions of Warner Lambert, and at Colgate-Palmolive. Wendland has been an Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) Central Region site chair, as well as an AUTM Central Region program co-chair three times. She was also a member of the 2006 and 2007 AUTM Annual Meeting Planning Committee. She graduated cum laude from Doane College, Crete, Neb., with a bachelor's degree in biology.