

# Growing the Bioeconomy: Solutions for Sustainability



December 1, 2009

Lead Institution | Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa



Iowa Governor Chet Culver visits with 2008 conference attendees.

## Imagine the possibilities

A 13-state alliance of simultaneous state conferences—sharing content through high-speed communication systems—to promote agriculturally-based sustainable solutions to global climate change and energy supply.

The conference will tackle the sustainability challenge by:

- exploring a systems perspective on biorenewables
- offering solutions to current questions regarding grain ethanol
- examining the potential role of biochar as an agent for carbon sequestration
- discussing the implementation of new ideas for land stewardship with biofuels agriculture

### Keynote address: James E. Lovelock, Ph.D.

One of the world's most renowned thinkers on global environmental science, Dr. Lovelock has called upon farmers to convert agricultural residues to biochar for incorporation into the soil as the only solution to global climate change.

### Johannes Lehmann, Ph.D.

Dr. Lehmann is associate professor of soil fertility management and soil biogeochemistry at Cornell University and co-author of *Biochar for Environmental Management: Science and Technology*. He will discuss the combined benefit of biochar for carbon sequestration and improved soil fertility.

### Thomas Vilsack, United States Secretary of Agriculture (Invited)

Secretary Vilsack, who has called for major changes in agricultural policy, has been invited to discuss a bioeconomy more engaged in biofuel opportunities and carbon sequestration and less dependent on federal subsidies.

### Steven Chu, United States Secretary of Energy (Invited)

Secretary Chu advocates moving away from technologies responsible for greenhouse gas emissions. The former director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory promotes advanced biofuels made from sources other than food grains and lipids.



Conference attendees tour an Iowa State University lab analyzing alternative fuel combustion.

## Concurrent Sessions e-Hosts

- Net Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Biofuel Systems—University of Nebraska
- Non-traditional Feedstocks—Michigan State University
- Breakthroughs in Biofuels—North Dakota State University
- Bioenergy Economic and Policy Issues—Purdue University

## Conference Co-hosts

Kansas State University / Michigan State University / North Dakota State University / The Ohio State University / Purdue University / South Dakota State University / University of Illinois / University of Minnesota / University of Missouri / University of Nebraska / University of Wisconsin / University of Wyoming / North Central Bioeconomy Consortium / North Central Region Sun Grant Initiative

Help us tackle the sustainability challenge by sponsoring **Growing the Bioeconomy: Solutions for Sustainability**.

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[www.bioeconomyconference.org](http://www.bioeconomyconference.org)

Contact Jill Euken, Conference Chair, [jeuken@iastate.edu](mailto:jeuken@iastate.edu) for more information regarding sponsorship opportunities.