

# DOE Office of Biological and Environmental Research

## Biological Systems Science Division

### Genomic Science Program

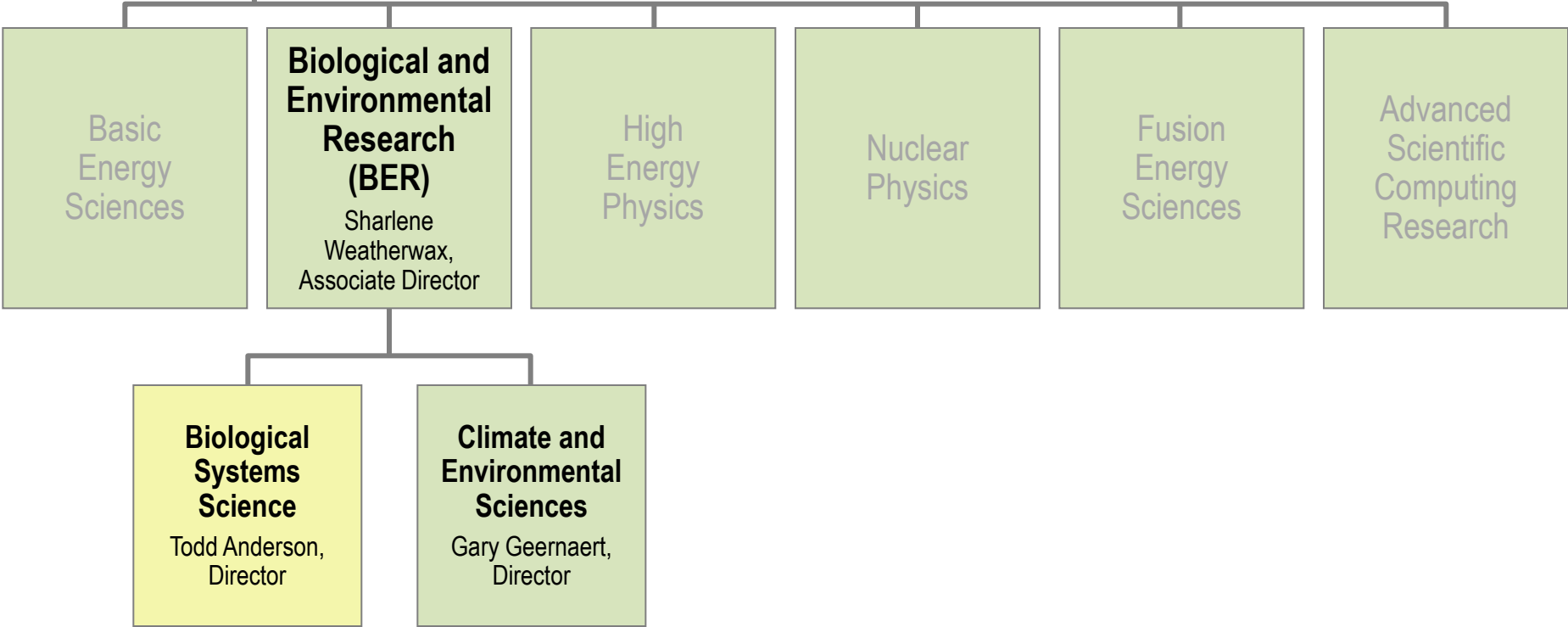
#### Biosystems Design

*Pablo Rabinowicz*  
*Program Manager*

# Department of Energy Office of Science

- *Support fundamental scientific research*
- *Support the development and operation of unique scientific user facilities*

**Patricia Dehmer**  
(Acting) Director  
**Patricia Dehmer**  
Deputy Director

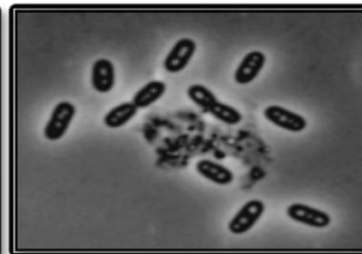
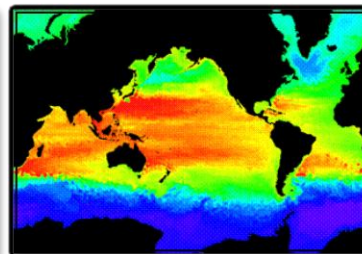
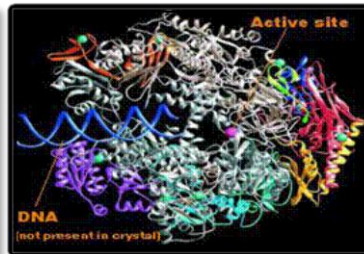


# Biological and Environmental Research

Understanding complex biological, climatic, and environmental systems across vast spatial and temporal scales

## The Scientific Challenges:

- Understand how genomic information is translated to functional capabilities, enabling more confident redesign of microbes and plants for sustainable biofuel production.
- Understand the roles of Earth's biogeochemical systems (atmosphere, land, oceans, sea ice, subsurface) in determining climate so we can predict climate decades or centuries into the future, information needed to plan for future energy and resource needs.



# DOE Genomic Science Program

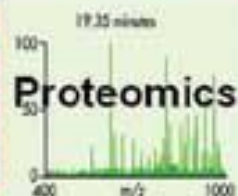
A mission-inspired fundamental research approach

## Genomic Science Program Goal and Objectives

### Genome Sequence



### System-Wide Biological Investigations



### Predictive Understanding



**Goal:** Achieve a predictive, system-level understanding of plants, microbes, and biological communities, via integration of fundamental science and technology development, to enable biological solutions to DOE mission challenges in energy, environment, and climate.

- **Objective 1:** Determine the genomic properties, molecular and regulatory mechanisms, and resulting functional potential of microbes, plants, and biological communities central to DOE missions.

- **Objective 2:** Develop the experimental capabilities and enabling technologies needed to achieve a genome-based, dynamic system-level understanding of organism and community function.
- **Objective 3:** Develop the knowledgebase, computational infrastructure, and modeling capabilities to advance the understanding, prediction, and manipulation of complex biological systems.



# Biosystems Design

Report from the July 2011 Workshop

<http://genomicscience.energy.gov/biosystemsdesign/index.shtml>

Convened by  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Science  
Office of Biological and Environmental Research

***“Synthetic biology, the design and wholesale construction of new biological parts and systems, and the re-design of existing, natural biological systems for tailored purposes, integrates engineering and computer-assisted design approaches with biological research.”***



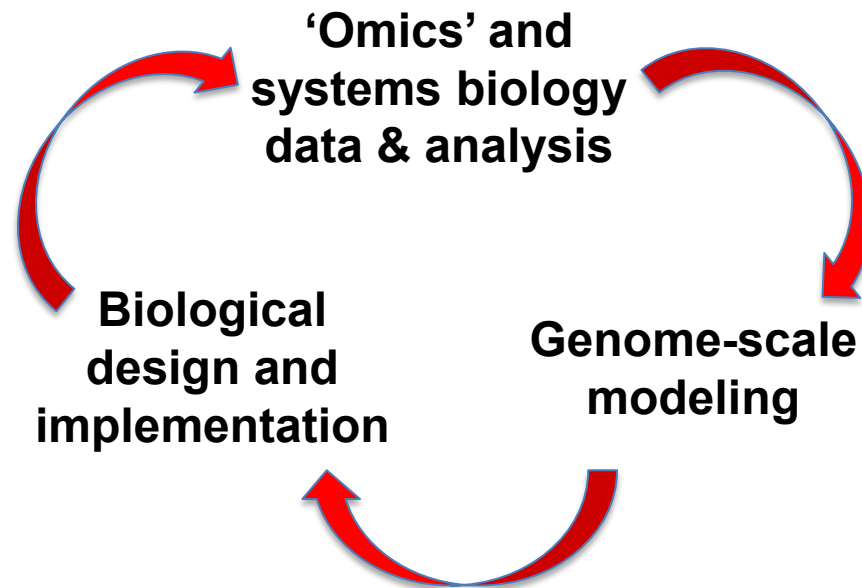
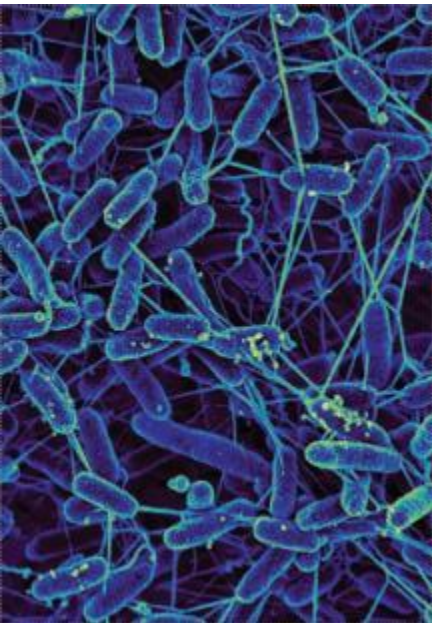
## NATIONAL BIOECONOMY BLUEPRINT

April 2012



# Biosystems Design Program

Iterative cycle to reach comprehensive, predictive understanding of the fundamental laws or principles that govern the function of evolved biological systems



# Systems Biology Knowledgebase (KBase)



<http://kbase.us/>

- About ▾
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- Developer Zone ▾
- KBase Labs
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The Department of Energy Systems Biology Knowledgebase (KBase) is an emerging software and data environment designed to enable researchers to collaboratively generate, test and share new hypotheses about gene and protein functions, perform large-scale analyses on a scalable computing infrastructure, and model interactions in microbes, plants, and their communities. KBase provides an open, extensible framework for secure sharing of data, tools, and scientific conclusions in predictive and systems biology.



## Latest News

**KBase Developer's Minor Release**  
*Posted by nharris Jan 18, 2013*

**KBase at International Plant and Animal Genome XXI**  
*Posted by salazar Jan 09, 2013*

**KBase Team at Argonne for November Build**  
*Posted by salazar Nov 30, 2012*

[View news](#)

**Try KBase Now**  
Use a web-based command-line interface—no installation necessary

### KBase includes

- 5695 prokaryotic genomes
- 175 eukaryotic genomes
- 4985 models
- 12 services

**Download the Tools**  
Install and run KBase command-line tools on your computer

### What can KBase do?

- Efficiently annotate new microbial genomes and infer metabolic and regulatory networks.
- Transform network inferences into metabolic models and map missing reactions to genes using novel data reconciliation tools.
- Test microbial ecological hypotheses through taxonomic and functional analysis of quality-assessed metagenomic data
- Discover genetic variations within plant populations and map these to complex organismal traits.

**Visit KBase Labs**  
Sneak a peek at KBase applications in development

## Upcoming Events

2013-02-18  
[BERAC Presentations](#)

2013-02-22  
[Microbes Webinar](#)

2013-02-24  
[DOE/NIFA Plant Feedstocks Genomics for Bioenergy](#)

2013-02-24  
[Genomic Science Contractors-Grantees Meeting](#)

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# BER-BSSD Genomic Science FOA: *Biosystems Design to Enable Next-Generation Biofuels*

**Solicitation issued on January 2012**


Research areas:

a) Microbial systems design: Iterative network and functional measurements, computational modeling, and genome-scale engineering to design new microbial systems for the production of advanced biofuels

b) Plants systems design: Integrative systems biology and large-scale genome engineering approaches to deconstruct cell walls and convert them into advanced biofuels

**Eight awards in FY 2012: (4 Microbial, 4 Plant)**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT



U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Science  
Office of Biological and Environmental Research  
*Genomic Science: Biosystems Design to Enable  
Next-Generation Biofuels*

Funding Opportunity Number: DE-FOA-0000640

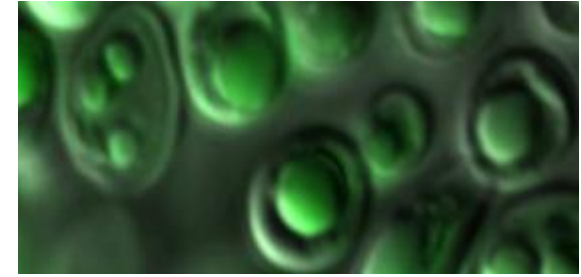
Announcement Type: Initial

CFDA Number: 81.049

ISSUE DATE:	January 13, 2012
Pre-Application Due Date: <i>(Pre-Applications are required)</i>	February 13, 2012
Application Due Date:	April 2, 2012

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# Microbial Systems Design



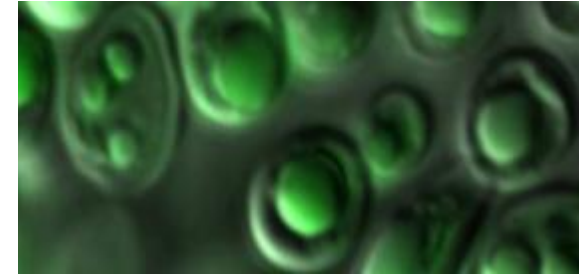
**Gregory Stephanopoulos** (*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*)

*Optimizing oil production in oleaginous yeast by cell-wide measurements and genome-based models*

**Collaborators**: Scott Baker (*Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*), Jens Nielsen (*Chalmers University, Sweden*), James Liao (*University of California, Los Angeles*).

Metabolic modeling (Ensemble Modeling), transcriptomics and metabolomics measurements of lipid biosynthesis to engineer the oleaginous yeast *Yarrowia lipolytica* for ethylene and isobutanol production from sugars and acetate.

# Microbial Systems Design



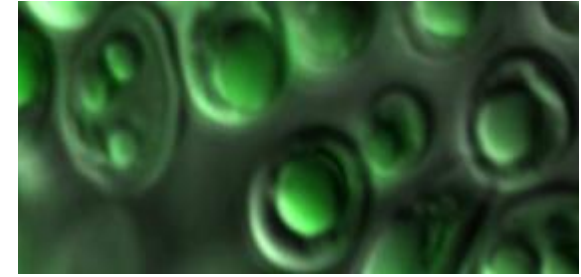
**Ryan Gill** (*University of Colorado, Boulder*)

*A platform for genome-scale design, redesign, and optimization of bacterial systems*

**Collaborators:** Rob Knight (*University of Colorado, Boulder*), Adam Arkin (*Lawrence Berkeley National Lab*), Pin-Ching Maness (*National Renewable Energy Lab*)

Engineer *Escherichia coli* strains with enhanced recombineering capabilities to develop the next-generation of high throughput synthetic biology and genomic engineering technologies.

# Microbial Systems Design



**Eric Alm** (*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*)

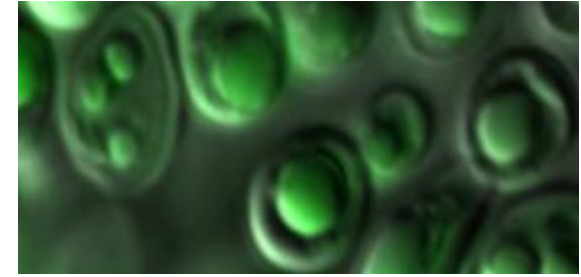
*Assembling reusable genetic modules for efficient biofuel production from marine macroalgae*

**Collaborators:** Martin Polz (*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*), Christopher Rao (*University of Illinois*), HuiMing Zhao (*University of Illinois*)

Brown macroalgae-associated microbes (*Vibrio* and uncultured microbes) to engineer strains that degrade their alginate, laminarin, and fucoidan cell walls, avoiding the problems of recalcitrance of lignocellulose.



# Microbial Systems Design



**Andrew Allen** (J.C. Venter Institute;): Genome-scale metabolic modeling and engineering in the diatom *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* for lipid production.

**Andrew Allen (J.C. Venter Institute, San Diego)**

*Optimization of energy flow through synthetic metabolic modules and regulatory networks in a model photosynthetic eukaryotic microbe*

**Collaborators:** Christopher Dupont (*J. Craig Venter Institute, San Diego*), Bernhard Palsson (*University of California, San Diego*), Graham Peers (*Colorado State University*)

Genome-scale and comparative metabolic modeling of the diatom *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* and other photosynthetic organisms informed by multiple “omics” techniques, to enhance carbon and energy flux toward the production of lipid-based biofuels. Genomic engineering to introduce large extrachromosomal DNA segments into diatoms.

# Plant Systems Design

**Eduardo Blumwald** (*University of California, Davis*)

*Expanding the breeder's toolbox for perennial grasses*

**Collaborators:** John Vogel, Christian Tobias, Roger Thilmony (*USDA Agricultural Research Service*)

Engineering double haploid switchgrass and *Brachypodium sylvaticum* lines using centromere-specific histone mutants to facilitate breeding for drought tolerance and nutrient use efficiency in perennials, avoiding the complications of tetraploidy. Will also develop transgenic systems to minimize gene flow.



# Plant Systems Design

**John Cushman** (*University of Nevada, Reno*)

*Engineering CAM photosynthetic machinery into bioenergy crops for biofuels production in marginal environments*

**Collaborators:** Karen Schlauch (*University of Nevada, Reno*); James Hartwell (*University of Liverpool*); Anne Borland, Jin-Gui Chen, Madhavi Martin, Timothy Tschaplinski, Gerald Tuskan, David Weston, Xiaohan Yang (*Oak Ridge National Laboratory*)

Engineer crassulacean acid metabolism (CAM) photosynthesis in C3 plants like poplar and *Arabidopsis* to increase water use efficiency for better growth in marginal lands. 'Omics analyses of mono and dicot CAM plants to modulate carbon assimilation and stomatal control



# Plant Systems Design



**Clint Chapple** (*Purdue University*)

*Modeling and manipulating phenylpropanoid pathway flux for bioenergy*

**Collaborators:** Natalia Dudareva, John Morgan (*Purdue University*)

Advanced kinetic modeling and flux analysis to engineer the shikimate and phenylpropanoid/phenylalanine pathways in *Arabidopsis* for 2-phenylethanol production, a promising biofuel candidate due to its high energy density, low hygroscopicity, and low volatility.



# Plant Systems Design



**Tom Brutnell** (*Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, St. Louis*)  
*A systems-level analysis of drought and density response in the model C4 grass Setaria viridis*

**Collaborators:** Ivan Baxter (*USDA Agricultural Research Service; Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, St. Louis*); Asaph Cousins (*Washington State University*); Jose Dinneny, Sue Rhee (*Carnegie Institution for Science, Stanford*); Andrew Leakey (*University of Illinois*); Todd Mockler (*Donald Danforth Plant Science Center*); Daniel Voytas (*University of Minnesota*)

Extensive quantitative trait loci (QTL) and phenotyping study of drought tolerance and planting density in the model C4 grass *Setaria viridis* to build integrated metabolic and genetic networks. Plant engineering using new transformation technologies and methods for monitoring transgene flow.



# Genomic Science Program

Systems Biology for Energy and Environment



- About the Program
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## Genomic Science Program

Today, scientists have in hand the complete DNA sequences of genomes for many organisms—from microbes to plants to humans. The U.S. Department of Energy's Genomic Science program (formerly Genomics:GTL) uses microbial and plant genomic data, high-throughput analytical technologies, and modeling and simulation to develop a predictive understanding of biological systems behavior relevant to solving energy and environmental challenges including bioenergy production, environmental remediation, and climate stabilization. [Learn More »](#)

FEATURING



### Biofuels

Alternative fuels from renewable cellulosic biomass are expected to significantly reduce U.S. dependence on imported oil while enhancing national energy security and decreasing the environmental impacts of energy use. Developing a cost-effective, commercial-scale cellulosic biofuel industry will require transformational biological research in feedstock development, biomass deconstruction, and fuel synthesis. [Learn More »](#)

FEATURING



**2013 GSP Research Summary**

- Ongoing research projects in or associated with the program in 2013



**DOE JGI Strategic Planning for the Genomic Sciences [8/12]**

- Executive Summary PDF
- Fast-Download PDF



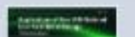
**Plant Feedstock Genomics for Bioenergy Abstracts [08/12]**

- Overview
- Fast-Download PDF



**Biosystems Design [04/12]**

- Funded Projects (PDF)
- Report Download (PDF)
- Executive Summary PDF



**Applications of New DOE User Facilities**

**Thank you!**