



NOVEMBER BIO NEBRASKA E-LETTER

In this issue:

- [Letter from the Executive Director](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Member News and Events](#)
- [Industry News](#)

Letter from the Executive Director:

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving break and is well-rested and ready to take on the busy month of December. This past month was again a busy one for me that provided more opportunities to meet people in the bio industry. Early this month I was in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where I attended the 7th Annual MichBio Expo and Conference; it was valuable to me to receive a new perspective and hear about Michigan's successes and challenges. I returned to Nebraska feeling very good about Bio Nebraska's strategic direction, the strength of our membership, the commitment from our universities to collaborate, and the commitment from our state to the bio sciences.

I am convinced that collaboration is critical to the success of Bio Nebraska. For that reason, I welcomed the opportunity to visit with Dan Hoffman from Invest Nebraska, a nonprofit venture development organization based in Lincoln that advises and invests in companies and early stage business ideas in Nebraska. Also, I spent some time talking with Eric Zeece, business innovation manager with the State Department of Economic Development. There are great opportunities available to partner with both these organizations and they are excellent resources for our members. I encourage you to make use of their expertise.

This month, I also visited with BIO's Manager of State Policy Stephanie Batchelor in Washington, D.C. Stephanie's team is heavily involved in industrial biotechnology areas. Bio Nebraska hasn't had much interaction with her in the past and I feel because of their interest in bio fuels, renewable energy, and agriculture, it would benefit us to be more connected to Stephanie and her organization.

In closing, I want to let you know that we will soon be sending out invoices for 2012. It is because of your support that we can be a vital voice for the bio industry in Nebraska. As always, I want to continue to encourage you to invite Kendra and me to your events and to send us your press releases so that we can post them on our website. We also invite you to join our [LinkedIn group](#). Keeping informed of the bio industry happenings is a big part of what we do, and often leads to new opportunities for our members.





Phil Kozera
Executive Director

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Science Café

Bio Nebraska partners with UNMC to bring you the Science Cafés.

Omaha Science Cafe Presents "What Climate Science is Telling Us"

Mark your calendars for the next Omaha Science Café, which will be held at The Slowdown (729 North 14 St., Omaha) on December 6, 2011, from 7-8 p.m. Andrew Jameton, Ph.D., will talk about "What Climate Science is Telling Us."

Cancer Research Focus of Second Science Café

A second Science Café will take place beginning at 6:30 p.m. on December 8, 2011. Jason Glanzer will discuss "Cancer Research in the Genomic Age" at red9 (322 S. 9th St., Lincoln).

For more information on upcoming speakers and topics, visit www.unmc.edu/sciencecafe.

Are you interested in hosting a Bio Nebraska meeting? Please contact [Phil Kozera](#) today.

Member News and Events

LNK Chemsolutions LLC receives \$2 million grant

The devastating glioma cancer attacks the central nervous system of nearly 10,000 Americans every year. To continue its research efforts in combating this disease, [LNK Chemsolutions](#) LLC received a \$2 million federal grant. The funding allows the Lincoln company to continue working alongside the University of Chicago on experiments using extremely small, drug-loaded particles to target deadly cancer cells.

Industry News

Arlington, Neb., named one of best places in U.S. to raise kids

In its sixth nationwide ranking of the best places to raise your kids in the U.S., Businessweek.com ranked Arlington, Neb., as second in the country, just behind Blacksburg, Va. The site describes Arlington as a community of 1,174 with a median family income of \$70,881 and with average school math and reading scores higher than the state average.

"A small, rural community 30 miles northwest of Omaha, Arlington is a classic Midwest farming town that hosts the annual Washington County Fair, with rabbit showmanship, mud volleyball, and other fun for the kids." [Read more about the rankings.](#)

Congress discussing plans to expedite FDA approval of some drugs

BIO and Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., are proposing that the FDA be allowed to expedite its approval process for some drugs for conditions that do not have approved treatments. These talks are part of the congressional discussion about renewing the fees drug companies pay to fund FDA reviews. See full story: [Bloomberg](#)

Global investment in renewables estimated to double 2020

Investment in renewable power generation may double to \$395 billion a year by 2020, according to a report from Bloomberg New Energy Finance. Growth in offshore wind, solar and biofuels are expected to drive the surge in investment. "Last year's record renewable-energy investment was no one-off despite the recent economic gloom," said Guy Turner, BNEF's director of commodity market research. [Read the full](#)

story: [Bloomberg](#)

Corporate venture funds increasingly supplying biotech's funding

Corporate venture funds are increasingly filling biotech firms' funding needs, according to analysts. Corporate venture funds were tied to 25% of early-stage U.S. biotech financing deals during the first half of 2011, compared with 15% in 2010, according to PricewaterhouseCoopers and the National Venture Capital Association. Read the full story: [Bloomberg Businessweek](#)

Stay Connected

Bio Nebraska membership is open to all employees of an organization. Please inform your associates that they are welcome to attend events, sign up for our E-letter, follow us on [Twitter](#), subscribe to our [RSS Feed](#), or join our [LinkedIn group](#).

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or information to feature in the {Information} E-Letter, please email me at pkozera@bionebraska.org. Thank you.