

ABSTRACT

Adding value, rather than disposing of the waste of agriculture and food, can solve an environmental problem and reduce our dependence on foreign sources of fossil fuel for production of chemicals, materials and fuels. Research and development over the past 40 years have provided a greater understanding of the potential role of microorganisms and enzyme systems. Further discovery combined with commercial applications in fully integrated, robust systems can help realize the full potential of this emerging biofuels and bioproducts industry. Today it is happening with corn. Tomorrow it can happen with lignocellulosic biomass. This so-called "bio-refinery" approach can be tailored to produce a wide variety of products, much like that which built the petroleum industry.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Sharon Shoemaker, Ph.D. is founder and executive director of the California Institute of Food and Agricultural Research (CIFAR) at the University of California at Davis, which she founded in 1991. The mission of CIFAR is to create and further enhance channels for collaboration, multidisciplinary research and technology exchange between the UC Davis and the food and agricultural industries, using its extensive and interactive network of local, regional university, industry and government representatives. Dr. Shoemaker has initiated new opportunities and training for students, faculty and staff as well as directed research in new enzyme and strain development, and bioprocessing to chemicals, materials and fuels. Prior to CIFAR Sharon worked in the biotechnology industry for 13 years on fermentation research and development. She received a B.S. degree in Chemistry, a M.S. degree in Food Science and a Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry and Nutrition from Virginia Tech.

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR
FOOD & AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

www.ncfar.org

R. Thomas Van Arsdall, Executive Director
Phone: (540) 785-0949
E-mail: tom@vanarsdall.com

LUNCH - N - LEARN SEMINAR



THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR
FOOD & AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Program:

**DRINK THE BEST
AND
DRIVE THE REST**

Optimizing the Use of Biomass as a Renewable Resource

April 10, 2006

PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction

JOE LAYTON
National C-FAR Board President

Distinguished Speaker

SHARON P. SHOEMAKER, PH.D.
California Institute of Food and Agricultural Research
University of California, Davis

Open Forum

Closing

JOE LAYTON

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