

ABSTRACT

Current United States dependence on petroleum as the primary source of energy is paramount, determining in large measure the world distribution of wealth, global conflict, human health, and environmental quality. Expanding the use of renewable biomass (i.e., corn starch, agricultural residues, and municipal solid waste) as a feedstock for ethanol (automotive fuel) and biodegradable plastics provides a near term alternative that will add new industries, increase employment, and reverse our growing dependence on foreign petroleum. Fundamental research has provided the molecular tools and background of information to make this possible. Combining these now allows the rational redesign of cellular biocatalysts as factories for the clean production of many compounds from renewable plant biomass.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Ingram received a doctoral degree from the University of Texas at Austin. After completing post-doctoral studies at the DOE Oak Ridge National Laboratory in 1993, he joined the University of Florida in Gainesville. Pioneering research by his laboratory concerning fuel ethanol production from plant biomass was selected to be U.S. Landmark Patent 5,000,000. Results from his group have been published in over 200 papers and patents, some of which are currently under commercial development. Dr. Ingram is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the American Academy for Microbiology, and a fellow of the Society of Industrial Microbiology and Biotechnology. Currently, Dr. Ingram serves as Director of the Florida Center for Renewable Chemicals and Fuels, and as Distinguished Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Cell Science.

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR
FOOD & AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

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BREAK & A BRIEFING SEMINAR



THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR
FOOD & AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Program:

ENERGY – OUR “GROWING” NEED

Expanding the use of biomass to produce renewable
fuels and biodegradable plastics, providing a
near-term alternative to foreign petroleum

April 11, 2005

PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction

JOSEPH H. LAYTON, JR., National C-FAR President

Distinguished Speaker

DR. LONNIE INGRAM
Florida Center for Renewable Chemicals and Fuels,
University of Florida

Open Forum

Closing

JOSEPH H. LAYTON, JR., National C-FAR President



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SERIES DESCRIPTION

The *BREAK & A BRIEFING* Seminar Series will regularly present leading-edge researchers to address pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. National C-FAR and the *Break & A Briefing* seminar series serve as a resource to policymakers and all congressional staff.

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