

From: [Chassy, Bruce](#)
To: [SACHS, ERIC S \(AG/1000\)](#)
Subject: Re: Question
Date: Monday, October 17, 2011 2:38:28 PM

Eric

Best

Bruce

On Oct 17, 2011, at 2:34 PM, SACHS, ERIC S (AG/1000) wrote:

> Bruce- I am interested in hearing about the meeting. It will have to wait a day or so. [REDACTED]

>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Chassy, Bruce [<mailto:bchassy@uiuc.edu>]

> Sent: Monday, October 17, 2011 01:18 PM

> To: SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]

> Subject: Re: Question

>

> thanks

>

> I went to DC this weekend and Nina Fedoroff and I met with Steve Bradbury of EPA -- the one who sent the non-responsive letter to the NAS members letter. Stan Abramson and Adrienne Massey set up the meeting. It was very surprisingly productive. If you're interested in hearing more we can talk about it.

>

> regards

>

> bruce

>

> On Oct 17, 2011, at 1:13 PM, SACHS, ERIC S (AG/1000) wrote:

>

>> Bruce- I forgot to check. I am sending your inquiry to my assistant Sheryl to follow up. If it didn't happen, I will make a gift to the foundation right away.

>>

>>

>> ----- Original Message -----

>> From: Chassy, Bruce [<mailto:bchassy@uiuc.edu>]

>> Sent: Monday, October 17, 2011 12:36 PM

>> To: SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]

>> Subject: Question

>>

>> Eric

>>

>> Were you able to find out if you made a contribution to the U of I Foundation Biotech fund in August. It does not show up yet on my account but that does not mean that you didn't send it. As you recall, sometimes I need to track down where the checks have gone....

>>

>> Regards

>>

>> Bruce
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>

From: [Chassy, Bruce](#)
To: [SACHS, ERIC S \(AG/1000\)](#)
Subject: Re: Question
Date: Monday, October 17, 2011 1:18:42 PM

thanks

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regards

bruce

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> From: Chassy, Bruce [<mailto:bchassy@uiuc.edu>]

> Sent: Monday, October 17, 2011 12:36 PM

> To: SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]

> Subject: Question

>

> Eric

>

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From: [Chassy, Bruce M](#)
To: [KOVALIC, DAVID K \(AG/1000\)](#)
Subject: Re: Question
Date: Monday, April 16, 2012 1:16:20 PM
Attachments: [Can Omics Inform Food Safety Chassy 2010.pdf](#)

David

Surely. See attached and links.

<http://www.intechopen.com/books/metabolomics/challenges-for-metabolomics-as-a-tool-in-safety-assessment>

Nit regulatory but makes the point that conventional crops are more diverse than transgenic parents and their progeny. Ricroch, A. E., Berge, J. B. & Kuntz, M. 2011. Evaluation of genetically engineered crops using transcriptomic, proteomic, and metabolomic profiling techniques. *Plant Physiol*, 155, 1752-61.

<http://www.plantphysiol.org/content/early/2011/02/24/pp.111.173609>

And a view from a scientist from New Zealand who is a leading anti-GM activist:

Heineman, J. A., Kurenbach, B. & Quist, D. 2011. Molecular profiling - a tool for addressing emerging gaps in the comparative risk assessment of GMOs. *Environ Int*, 37, 1285-93.

<http://www.mendeley.com/research/molecular-profiling-tool-addressing-emerging-gaps-comparative-risk-assessment-gmos/>

Not sure there are many more. You might ask George.

Bruce

On Apr 16, 2012, at 1:02 PM, KOVALIC, DAVID K (AG/1000) wrote:

> Bruce,
>
> No problem at all, glad to hear things went well with the class.
>
> Is there any chance you could send me some links to your or other's publications on 'omics in the context of regulatory assessments.
>
> Thanks,
>
> David
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Chassy, Bruce M [<mailto:bchassy@illinois.edu>]
> Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 10:36 AM
> To: KOVALIC, DAVID K [AG/1000]
> Subject: Re: Question
>
> David
>

> I just wanted to say thanks for loaning me the file of what you presented in Beijing. It went over very well in class. They "got it."

>

> I hope the regulators do too.

>

> Best regards

>

> Bruce

> On Feb 16, 2012, at 11:34 AM, KOVALIC, DAVID K (AG/1000) wrote:

>

>> Bruce,

>>

>> OK, sound good. My deck is attached.

>>

>> Feel free to let me know if you have any questions or require anything else.

>>

>> David

>>

>>

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Chassy, Bruce M [<mailto:bchassy@illinois.edu>]

>> Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 11:13 AM

>> To: KOVALIC, DAVID K [AG/1000]

>> Subject: Re: Question

>>

>> David

>>

>> That's great news. If you are able to let me use your PPT file I select a few slides from it that show the blot versus sequencing data. I think I remember what you said pretty well. As it happens when one compares the two approaches I think it illustrates the objective of insert characterization better than can be done with just blots. It's a lot more clear the way you presented it.

>>

>> I will just leave the slides as they are and give you and colleagues credit for them.

>>

>> If the file is too big to e-mail I am sure that you can find some way to upload it to a net server from which I can download.

>>

>> Again thanks.

>>

>> Bruce

>>

>> On Feb 16, 2012, at 10:14 AM, KOVALIC, DAVID K (AG/1000) wrote:

>>

>>> Bruce,

>>>

>>> Just back from Asia and I wanted to let you know straight off that we would be happy to help you share Junction Sequence Analysis information with your class next week.

>>>

>>> Just let me know what type of information/slides/support you would find most helpful and I'll get it to you right away.

>>>

>>> David

>>>

>>>

>>> -----Original Message-----

>>> From: Chassy, Bruce M [<mailto:bchassy@illinois.edu>]

>>> Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 12:42 AM
>>> To: KOVALIC, DAVID K [AG/1000]
>>> Subject: Re: Question
>>>
>>> David
>>>
>>> Thanks....standing by.....
>>>
>>> Typing was fine for the touch screen generation
>>>
>>> Bruce
>>>
>>> Sent from my iPad
>>>
>>> On Feb 14, 2012, at 5:50 AM, "KOVALIC, DAVID K (AG/1000)" <david.k.kovalic@monsanto.com> wrote:
>>>
>>>> BTW, sorry for all the typos, this communication was sent from my phone ;)
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> ----- Original Message -----
>>>> From: KOVALIC, DAVID K [AG/1000]
>>>> Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 03:17 AM
>>>> To: 'bchassy@illinois.edu' <bchassy@illinois.edu>
>>>> Subject: Re: Question
>>>>
>>>> Bruce,
>>>>
>>>> Thanks for the kind words. You are correct we have a draft ms. Nearly ready for submission and are intending
in making the Junction Sequence Analysis method public on publication.
>>>>
>>>> Given the current status it might be possible to share the information with your students; please let me check
and I'll get back with you before the end of the week.
>>>>
>>>> Hopefully we will be able to share the information in which case I can give you the slides I presented in
Beijing.
>>>>
>>>> David
>>>>
>>>> PS. Sorry for the delayed response, I am still in Asia.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> ----- Original Message -----
>>>> From: Chassy, Bruce M [<mailto:bchassy@illinois.edu>]
>>>> Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 12:42 PM
>>>> To: KOVALIC, DAVID K [AG/1000]
>>>> Subject: Question
>>>>
>>>> HI David,
>>>>
>>>> It was great to get a chance to meet you last week. I enjoyed your presentation -- the price drop in sequencing
is amazing.
>>>>
>>>> I have a question about how confidential the data is. Your slides were marked confidential and as I
understood you are waiting to have the paper on what you presented accepted then it will be public.
>>>>
>>>> The reason I ask is this. I teach a graduate course that covers the food safety assessment process applied to
transgenic crops. I usually present molecular characterization using Southern. Having heard your presentation I

don't think we will be doing Southern's much longer (for regulatory submissions). I'd like to present the "new" method you presented to my class next week. How much of what you presented may I present without violating confidentiality?

>>>>

>>>> If it is possible to present the method to class, are you able to let me use the powerpoint slides that outline the method and results? That would make it a lot easier to present but I can understand if it's not possible.

>>>>

>>>> Regards

>>>>

>>>> Bruce

>>>>

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>>

>> <Beijing deck (kovalic) 2-10-2012.pptx>

>

From: [Chassy, Bruce](#)
To: [SACHS, ERIC S \(AG/1000\)](#)
Subject: Re: Questions
Date: Monday, August 29, 2011 5:22:11 PM


Eric

Thanks.

And the Taiwan dates?

Bruce

On Aug 29, 2011, at 5:08 PM, SACHS, ERIC S (AG/1000) wrote:

> Bruce,
> I will discuss with our India team and ask them for some inputs. The organization you need to talk to is Able - Ag Group. <http://www.ableindia.in/sigab.php>. I assume they would love to have you talk to various groups.
> Eric
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Chassy, Bruce [<mailto:bchassy@uiuc.edu>]
> Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 4:47 PM
> To: SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]
> Subject: Questions
>
> Hi Eric
>
> As you saw, I am trying to move the call back one hour. So far looking ok to move.
>
> I have a question about timing of the potential Taiwan trip. I know you are only forwarding a name but when exactly was that going to take place 
>
> While I am at it, another question.
>
> I have been invited to give a talk at the International Conference on Plant Biotechnology for Food Security: New Frontiers 2012 New Delhi Feb. 21-24, 2012. Looks like a good meeting and I know the organizers (letter came from Ananda Kumar). I am pretty sure they won't pay business class fare and I have no desire to sit in a plane for 17 hrs from ORD to DEL in economy. I also can't pay business class from my funding, period no way. The question is do you know who at Crop Life I should speak to about sponsoring me? Maybe do some other talks while I am there. I have not had a recent opportunity to fight the eggplant wars. Any other ideas are welcome. I know you can't send me either so that's not why I'm asking.
>
> <http://www.spbbindia.org>
>
> Regards
>
> Bruce
>
> Bruce Chassy, PhD
> Professor of Food Safety
> Professor or Nutritional Sciences
> FSHN, University of Illinois
> 1101 West Peabody, 40 NSRC

> Urbana, IL 61801
> 217-244-7291
>
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From: [Chassy, Bruce](#)
To: [SACHS, ERIC S \(AG/1000\)](#)
Subject: Re: Questions
Date: Monday, August 29, 2011 5:43:42 PM

that's good enough, that's what i remembered you said but I needed to check my memory

█ is thinking early november would be a good time anyway

thanks

bruce

On Aug 29, 2011, at 5:28 PM, SACHS, ERIC S (AG/1000) wrote:

> Checking...all I have is mid-October.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Chassy, Bruce [<mailto:bchassy@uiuc.edu>]

> Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 5:22 PM

> To: SACHS, ERIC S [AG/1000]

> Subject: Re: Questions

>

> Eric

>

> Thanks.

>

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>

> Bruce

>

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>> Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 4:47 PM

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>> Subject: Questions

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>>

>> <http://www.spbbindia.org>

>>

>> Regards

>>

>> Bruce

>>

>> Bruce Chassy, PhD

>> Professor of Food Safety

>> Professor or Nutritional Sciences

>> FSHN, University of Illinois

>> 1101 West Peabody, 40 NSRC

>> Urbana, IL 61801

>> 217-244-7291

>>

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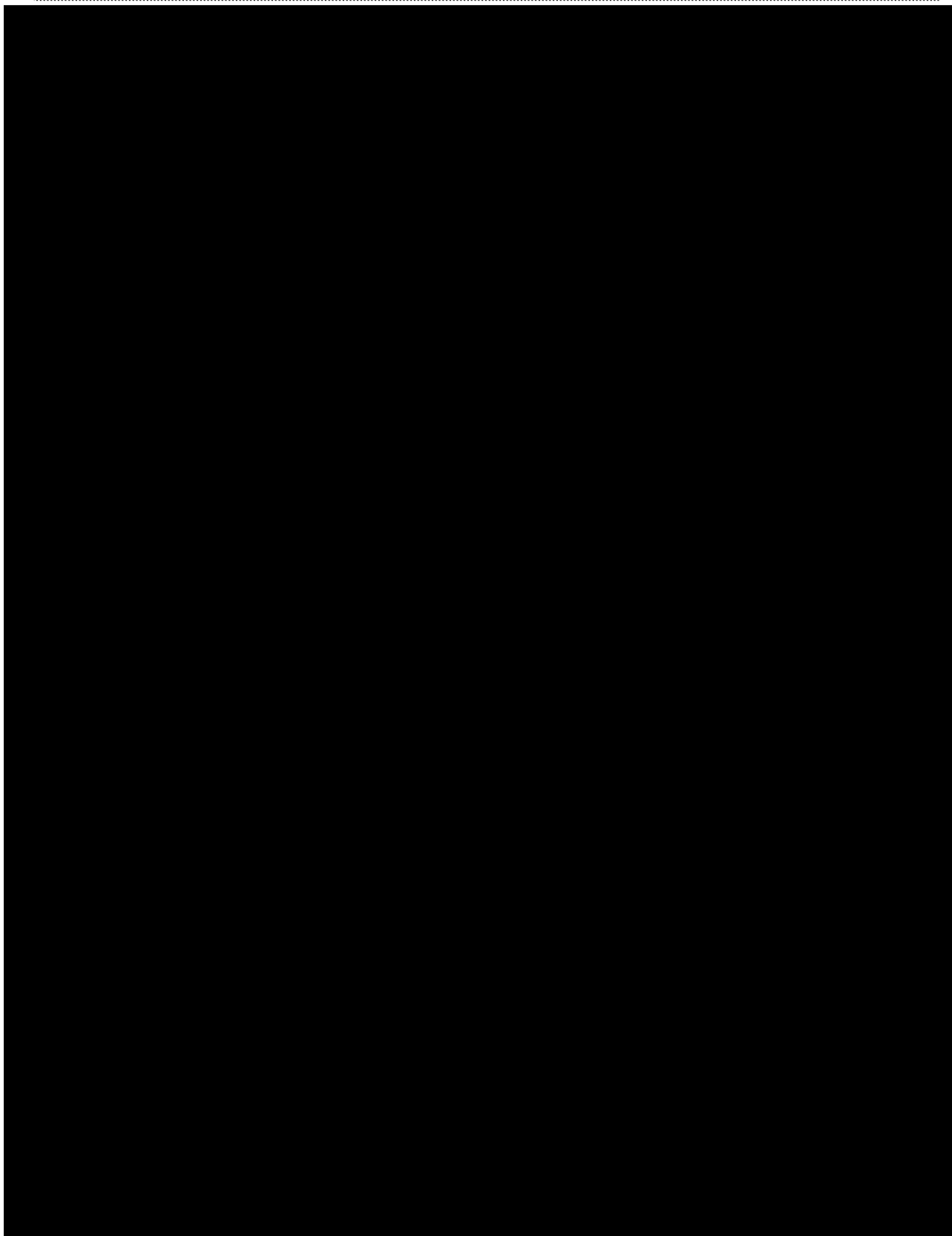
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>

From: [Chassy, Bruce](#)
To: [Adrienne Massey](#)
Subject: Re: regarding examples, for EPA
Date: Saturday, October 22, 2011 11:58:36 AM





Bruce

On Oct 22, 2011, at 11:22 AM, Adrienne Massey wrote:

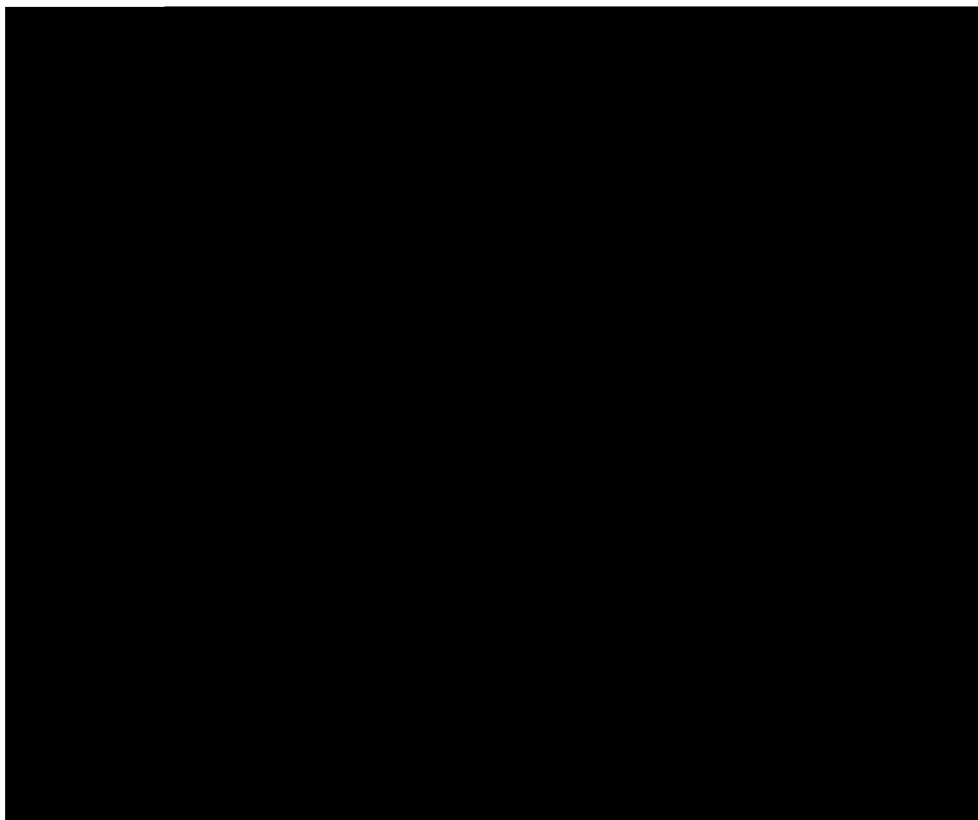


Best regards,

Adrienne

On Oct 21, 2011, at 7:36 PM, Adrienne Massey wrote:

Bruce



I have to draft up a summary of the Bradbury meeting from my perspective. I will try to do that tomorrow and you can use that as a starting point for yours.

Did Nina ever give you any more info about the meeting with Glueck?

My plane to NC is about to board. I am so happy to be going home.

Best,

Adrienne

Adrienne Massey, PhD

Biotechnology Industry Organization

Managing Director, Science and Regulatory Affairs

1201 Maryland Avenue SW

Washington, DC 20024

202 962 9238

From: Chassy, Bruce [bchassy@uiuc.edu]

Sent: Friday, October 21, 2011 6:52 PM

To: Beachy, Roger N.

Cc: Chassy, Bruce; Adrienne Massey

Subject: Re: regarding examples, for EPA

Roger

Sorry you couldn't contact me. In my day job I was serving as a departmental ambassador to visiting prospective undergraduates this afternoon and just finished up.

Yes the meeting with Steve Bradbury of EPA was more than could have possibly been expected.

It's Alan McHughen.

And it will be a lot better if we can follow through on the excellent leads that you have provided and get the information you outline.

I have been trying to put together an e-mail report on our meeting all week and will include your e-mail with it.

Look for that this weekend.

Thanks! And have a safe trip.

Bruce

On Oct 21, 2011, at 5:39 PM, Beachy, Roger N. wrote:

Hi Bruce:

Hi Adrienne:

Bruce: I tried to call earlier, to no avail.

I spoke with Adrienne about the recent successful meeting with EPA: it's great that you and Nina were able to meet with him (name?) and to set out concerns about regulation. As Adrienne described the outcome, she mentioned that 'he' requested information/examples of biotech success, or technologies, that were developed but not commercialized because of lack of clarity of the regulatory path or the anticipated costs of deregulation.

I suggested some examples from the private sector and proposed that

she contact some small companies that are or have been impacted by biosafety hurdles.

We also talked about finding some examples from the public sector: with the data that Alan M. (I seem not to get the spelling of Alan's last name right) has gathered, it seems reasonable to ask Alan to help to gather information from the research directors of such projects for this purpose. Elizabeth Hood might also have some of this information. I wonder if you would contact Alan to ask his help (I am again leaving the country – Sunday Oct 23 – Nov. 2) to gather some information.

A couple of months ago I began to collect some information about companies and individuals who have experience about technologies that were shelved/not developed, or who are currently experiencing regulatory headaches in their current roles. Some of these folks might be willing to provide one pagers for our use. Some of these folks were from Seminis and may be reluctant to reflect on those experiences, but might have some general comments to add that would be helpful in the effort to suggest/encourage/push! Change.

dmtricoli@ucdavis.edu<mailto:dmtricoli@ucdavis.edu> - Dave Tricoli; now at UCD

FBliss@dcn.org<mailto:FBliss@dcn.org>,
fabliss@ucdavis.edu<mailto:fabliss@ucdavis.edu> Fred Bliss;
formerly Seminis, now at UC Davis

redenbaugh@gmail.com<mailto:redenbaugh@gmail.com> Keith Redenbaugh; currently at Arcadia

M.STOWERS@hmclause.com<mailto:M.STOWERS@hmclause.com> Mark Stowers now at Harris Moran/Limagrain, I think

liebershouse@aol.com<mailto:liebershouse@aol.com> Ed Green,
now retired from Seminis

One page descriptions that include some or all of the following:

- (1) Goal of the research
- (2) Name of investigator and institution
- (3) 'driver' for the research: why, who cares, need, and potential

value

- (4) Technical development/achievement
- (5) Indicate if private sector was involved in research support; and how (financial, collaborative in some way, etc)
- (6) Hurdle to product development (cost, lack of 'pull' for the technology; cost; time, etc?)

These descriptions will be helpful for trying to push for some changes. Some may also be useful in discussions with Tom Kalil at OSTP –

Please let me know if there is a problem; and pls feel free to copy some or all of this to Alan if you wish. Unfortunately, I am traveling again on Sunday (through Nov. 2).

Thanks - Roger

Roger N. Beachy

President Emeritus

Donald Danforth Plant Science Center

975 No. Warson Rd.

St. Louis, MO 63132

(314) 323-6030

rnbeachy@danforthcenter.org<<mailto:rnbeachy@danforthcenter.org>>

Professor, Department of Biology

Washington University in St. Louis

(314) 935-8529

rbeachy@wustl.edu<<mailto:rbeachy@wustl.edu>>

From: [Chassy, Bruce](#)
To: [Wayne Parrott](#)
Cc: [Chassy, Bruce](#); [Stan Abramson](#); [Adrienne Massey](#); [Martina \(E-mail\)](#); [ninafedoroff.fedoroff](#); [Eric Sachs](#); [Jim Gaffney](#); [Philip D. Harvey](#)
Subject: Re: Response to proposed EPA Rule Making -- possible next steps
Date: Monday, September 12, 2011 11:43:45 AM

Wayne

It's true that politics makes strange bedfellows.

I leave it to Stan and Adrienne to comment on how this group might react to the regulatory plight of GM foods. They might see it as a distraction, and they might see it as more ammunition.

If we had a way to do it, it certainly shouldn't hurt to give them a chance to join the fight against one more example of EPA over-regulation.

Bruce

On Sep 12, 2011, at 9:20 AM, Wayne Parrott wrote:

I think we also discussed getting key house and senate members more involved, on the premise that the enemy of my enemy is my friend. Eg-- see <http://www.conservative.org/house-republicans-strategy-to-curb-epa-over-regulations/9303/>

They tend to be focused on environmental regs, but should be able to get these on their agenda as well.

On 9/8/2011 3:16 PM, Chassy, Bruce wrote:

Colleagues:

I would like to thank all of you for joining the conference call last Friday. It was a lively conversation which touched on many good ideas for further action. From time-to-time I will schedule a conference call so that we can keep one another informed about each of our activities on the topic of reform of EPA regulation of genetically engineered crops. I will continue try to serve as liaison with the larger academic community and between industry and academe on this important issue. In fact, Stan, Adrienne and I will be talking together this Friday about how we might put some of the points we discussed last Friday afternoon into motion.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide a record of our conversation. I did not keep detailed notes, however, I will briefly summarize the major points we discussed of those below. If I have omitted anything

that we discussed, or if you have new suggestions to make, please let us all know by return e-mail. If any of you has detailed notes that you are willing to share, please do so.

Major Points.

1. Finding a way to ensure that the EPA proposal never sees the light of day would be the best possible outcome we could hope for. Next best would be to make sure it is DOA, but if needs be we must be willing to continue the fight. In this regard, the opposition by scientists may have already caused EPA to delay the schedule for introduction of the proposal from late 2011 to sometime in 2012.
2. The EPA does not believe that the academic community can mount a sustained opposition to their proposed rule making; they believe that only a small handful are behind the petition and that most of the signatories are not committed to the issue. There was a consensus that we need to build a core of leading scientists who are in fact willing to speak out and devote time to this issue. We all agreed that quite a few of us are ready to "draw a line in the sand" on this issue and that the EPA can be pushed back as they have been before (recall that in our discussion we agreed it shouldn't be that hard since EPA doesn't appear to have improved or changed their understanding of the science in the last 20 years).
3. It was also generally agreed that EPA does not like sunshine and is trying to bury the issue of scientific opposition to their proposal. Inviting NAS signers of the letter to EPA administrator Jackson to write-in during the 90-day comment period was viewed as an inadequate and somewhat foolish response to a letter from leading scientists. There was a consensus that we need to identify a well thought out set of actions that will escalate the pressure on EPA.
4. There was a consensus that should continue to communicate with one another as we have much that unites on this issue. This would include bringing other key NAS members into the process (we have already exchanged several e-mails with NAS members who want to get involved this week).

Actions discussed

1. Publicize NAS members' EPA letter and the EPA response. Ditto for Nina's NYT editorial and the FASEB Journal Op Ed. Post on internet. Press releases.
2. Buy space in the Washington Post or NYT for a full page ad (not much discussion because this will cost about \$30,000) -- but worth remembering if the right time arises.
3. Visit to Washington DC by a group of leading scientists. Request

visit with Lisa Jackson, key House and Senate leaders, and others.

4. Develop a white-paper on the history and timeline of expert opinion statements regarding the comparative lack of risks of the technology and the need to regulate product and not process that documents that the scientific community has consistently argued that there is no science-based reason to single out genetic engineering for special regulations. I would add that we also need a 2-3 page briefing paper that summarizes the current scope and requirements of EPA regulations as well as what they propose to change and expand -- it we are going to send NAS members into Washington DC they need to be well briefed.

5. Should we mount a petition from a broader group of scientists? The government now has a petition site that welcomes petition initiatives. Or should we simply petition the EPA for rule making asking them to respond to our request for a simplified and more reasonable regulatory review that makes regulation commensurate with risk?

Key issues and talking points

- EPA proposal not-science based; regulation should be commensurate with real risk
- There is a broad scientific consensus that GM technology is as safe as, or is safer than other methods of plant breeding.
- There is a scientific consensus that government should regulate the safety of the product and not the process used to create it
- As a direct consequence, if GM crops are regulated, all crops should be similarly regulated
- However, since plant breeding has a long history of safe practice, and since 15 years of planting GM crops have demonstrated considerable benefits with no adverse effects, there appears to be no risks that merit regulatory review
- The costly and time-consuming regulatory process damages job creation and economic growth in rural communities in the US and in developing countries
- Over-regulation reduces US competitiveness; costly and time-consuming regulations that provide no reduction in risk discourage innovation.

- Over-regulation raises a barrier to new developments to all but large multi-national corporations -- locks out academic scientists
- Over-regulation gives an advantage to scientists and developers in other countries (for example Brazil can approve a trait in 90-days)
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- US academic community capable of doing this kind of research is shrinking because of regulatory hurdles and lack of support
- Over-regulation is inconsistent with the administration's claim that they are simplifying and reducing regulatory hurdles
- Over-regulation inhibits the introduction of technologies that will add to the productivity and sustainability of agriculture
- Over-regulation contributes to higher cost of foods and feeds and stifles attempts to reduce hunger

[Please feel free to offer corrections and additions to the above -- I just thought we needed to start keeping some hard records of our thoughts]

I look forward to working with all of you to help grow this initiative into a sustainable movement that cannot and will not be ignored. I think we all agreed last Friday that enough is enough. EPA regulations are not based in science and the idea of trying to harmonize US regulations with those of the EU is even more ludicrous.

Best regards

Bruce