

Introduction to the Proceedings of the Tenth Symposium on Biotechnology for Fuels and Chemicals

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INTRODUCTION

Bioprocessing systems continue to have an important place in the fermentation industry and for environmental control technology, but new opportunities continue to appear. For example, the production of polymers or polymer precursors as well as other types of products useful in the materials industry can be produced by bioprocessing concepts. This symposium, the tenth in a series, covered the above topic as well as research and development in a variety of other areas important to the efficient and environmentally acceptable production and use of fuels and chemicals. This meeting is held as a forum for the discussion of innovative processing concepts, with particular emphasis on applied research and process research in early phases of development. General sessions on thermal/chemical conversion of biomass and bioconversion concepts were held and special sessions were held on biological processing of fossil fuels and on biological production of materials. Several discussion groups were also organized.

The meeting was sponsored by the Department of Energy, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Solar Energy Research Institute, and Badger Engineers, Inc. Organization of the symposium was as follows.

Organizing Committee

Charles D. Scott, Chairman, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
James J. Eberhardt, US Department of Energy
Elias Greenbaum, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Donald L. Johnson, Grain Processing Corporation
Frank Landsberger, Alan Patricof Associates
Richard F. Moorer, US Department of Energy
Daniel I. C. Wang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Charles E. Wyman, Solar Energy Research Institute

Session Chairpersons and Cochairpersons

Session 1. Thermal and Chemical Processing

Helena L. Chum, Solar Energy Research Institute
J. Robert Hightower, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Session 2. Applied Biological Research

Sharon P. Shoemaker, Genencor, Inc.
Karel Grohmann, Solar Energy Research Institute

Session 3. Bioengineering Research

William A. Weigand, Illinois Institute of Technology
Charles E. Wyman, Solar Energy Research Institute

Session 4. Biological Processing of Fossil Fuels

Michael E. McIlwain, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
Brendlyn D. Faison, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Session 5. Biological Production of Materials

Ramani Narayan, Purdue University
Elias Greenbaum, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Discussion Leaders

"Biosensors"

J. A. Phillips, Lehigh University

"Environmental Control Technology"

Richard K. Genung, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

"Battle of the Bugs: Bioconversion of Cellulose to Liquid Fuels"

Daniel I. C. Wang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The proceedings of past symposia have been well received (1-9), and we are pleased to have the proceedings of the Tenth Symposium published in this journal.

The Eleventh Symposium in this series is planned for May 8-12, 1989, at Colorado Springs, CO. We encourage comments or discussions relevant to the format or content of that meeting.

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