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Minnesota Renewable Energy Roundtable  
*Renewable Chemicals*

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

9:00 am-2:30 pm

University Enterprise Labs

1000 Westgate Dr.

St. Paul, MN 55114

8:30 a.m. Registration, refreshments and networking

9:00 a.m. Welcome and overview

9:20 a.m. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Toby Ahrens, National Program Leader, NIFA-USDA “*Opportunities with NIFA”*

10:05 a.m. Sun Grant Panel

Moderator: Dr. Vance Owens, Regional Director, North Central Regional Sun Grant Ctr., SDSU “Sun Grant Funding for Renewable Chemicals”

Panelists:

* Dr. Gregg Johnson, Associate Professor, Dept. of Agronomy & Plant Genetics, Biomass Cropping Systems, Southern Research and Outreach Center-Waseca, University of Minnesota “*Feedstock Development for Renewable Chemicals and Other Bioenergy*”
* Dr. Goutham Vemuri, Chief Technologist, Sasya LLC "*Developing Renewable Chemicals from Crop Residues from Biomass Sugars*”
* Dr. Qi Hua Fan, Associate Professor, Depts. of Electrical and Computer Engineering & Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Michigan State University “*Energy Storage Options Using Renewable products*”

11:05 a.m. Networking Break

11:20 a.m. Financing and Technology Support Panel

Moderator: Michael Sparby, Senior Project Strategist, AURI

Panelists:

* Kevin Hennessy, Bioenergy Manager, Ag Marketing and Development Division, MN Department of Agriculture
* Pat Dillon, CDR, USN (Ret.) Director, MN-SBIR, Minnesota Innovation and Commercialization Consortium; Minnesota High Tech Association

12:05 p.m. Lunch

12:55 p.m. Highlight: Entrepreneur in Renewable Chemicals

* Dr. Goutham Vemuri, Vice President of Technology Development, Aemetis Inc.

1:15 p.m. Bioeconomy Panel

Moderator: Rod Larkins, Senior Director of Science and Technology, AURI

Panelists:

* Brendan Jordan, Vice President, Great Plains Institute, Lead Staff for Bioeconomy Coalition of MN
* Dr. Eric Singsaas, Initiative Director-Wood Products and Bioeconomy, NRRI and Entrepreneur



1:55 p.m. Table Discussion

2:25 p.m. Wrap Up