

# International Conference and Exhibition on **Biopolymers & Bioplastics**

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## **Innovations and developments towards advanced biomanufacturing of bio-based chemicals**

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The NSF funded Engineering Research Center, CBiRC, is developing innovative biorenewable chemical platforms from bio-based feed stocks. CBiRC uses state of the art knowhow, components and computational tools combined with core knowhow in biocatalytic and chemical catalytic engineering. Together this is creating an outstanding education program, a powerful R&D portfolio and unique insights into how to pull this together into systems level opportunities. By joining CBiRC's valuable industry membership program, industry members gain access to these technological developments. CBiRC believes the existing petrochemical supply chain can be transformed with key foundational intermediates that deliver an array of drop-in chemistry or similar functionality to existing fossil-carbon-based chemicals. Here we will describe our progress towards creating advanced biomanufacturing systems with new platform molecules for biobased chemicals.

### **Biography**

Peter L Keeling (PhD) is a Director of the Innovation Program at the NSF Engineering Research Center for Biorenewable Chemicals (CBiRC), based at Iowa State University. He has over 30 years of R&D and management experience in the biotechnology and biorenewables sector. He received his PhD and BS degrees in Biochemistry from the Council for National Academic Awards, UK. After his Postdoctoral research, he worked for the R&D division of ICI/Zeneca in what is now Syngenta, was a Co-Founder and Research Director of ExSeed Genetics and then became Unit Research Director of a division of BASF Plant Science. In 2009 he took his current role at the interface of academia and industry when CBiRC became fully operational. As well as working closely with CBiRC's industry members, he teaches entrepreneurship and runs the BioBased Foundry, a startup mentoring program.

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