

**30<sup>th</sup> Annual Crown Gall Conference**  
**November 21-22, 2009**  
**The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation**

The organizers of the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Crown Gall conference thank the Monsanto Company for their continued financial support and the Noble Foundation for providing accommodation and meals for the participants.

**Friday Nov 20, 2009**

6.30-9.00 pm      **Registration, unofficial mixer (Conference Center, Noble Foundation)**

**Saturday Nov 21, 2009**

7.15-8.15 am      **Breakfast (Conference Center)**

**Sessions (Kruse Auditorium)**

8.30-8.40 am      Kiran Mysore  
**Opening Remarks**

**Plenary Talk**

8.40-9.40 am      Barbara Hohn, Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research, Basel  
Switzerland  
**20 Years of *Agrobacterium* Research**

9.40-10.00 am    **Break/Refreshments**

***Agrobacterium* Biology I**

*Session Chair: Tzfira Tzvi*

10.00-10.25 am    Yinping Qin and Stephen K Farrand, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL  
**A quorum-sensing activator uses its body language to instruct the orientation of transcription: RNAP assembles next to the extended protomer of TraR during transcriptional activation.**

10.25 -10.50 am    Jer-Sheng Lin, Laysun Ma, and Erh-Min Lai, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan  
**Dissecting the components and secretion pathway of a type VI secretion system in *Agrobacterium tumefaciens***

- 10.50-11.15 am Athanasios Paschos, Durga Sivanesan, and Christian Baron, Université de Montréal , Montréal, Canada  
**Structure and chemical biology approaches to identify type IV secretion system inhibitors**
- 11.15-11.40 am Brad Goodner, Kathryn Reynolds, Stuart Gordon, Steve Slater, Katey Houmiel, Derek Wood, & David Rhoads, Hiram College, Hiram, OH  
**Functional genomics efforts in *Agrobacterium*: an update & a challenge**
- 11.40-12.05 pm Ajith Anand, Zarir Vaghchhipawala, Ramanjulu Sunkar\*, Xinbin Dai, Patrick Zhao, and Kirankumar S. Mysore, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Ardmore, OK  
**Unraveling the whole genome response of *Agrobacterium* to Acetosyringone**
- 12.15-1.15 pm **Lunch** (Southern Oklahoma Technology Center)

## ***Agrobacterium* Biology II**

*Session Chair: Stan Gelvin*

- 1.30-1.55 pm Pamela Mossey, Andrew Hudacek and Anath Das, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
**The pTiA6 VirB3 is an inner membrane protein and requires three VirB proteins for stabilization**
- 1.55-2.20 pm Durga Sivanesan, Athanasios Paschos, Anna Carle and Christian Baron, Université de Montréal , Montréal, Canada  
**The role of VirB8 dimerization for the function of the type IV secretion system of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens***
- 2.20-2.45 pm Yun-Long Tsai, Yin-Ru Chiang, Christian Baron, Franz Narberhaus and Erh-Min Lai, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan  
**The small heat-shock protein HspL interacts with VirB8 and its chaperone activity is required in promoting VirB/D4-mediated DNA transfer and virulence of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens***
- 2.45-3.10 pm Lois Banta, Annie Knox, Ian Buchanan, Emily Porter, Amulya Iyer, Shengchang Su, and Stephen Farrand, Williams College, Williamstown, MA,  
**Regulation of *vir* gene induction and host cell association by the Lon protease**
- 3.10-3.30 pm **Break/Refreshments**

## **Plant responses to *Agrobacterium* infection**

*Session Chair: Anath Das*

- 3.30-3.55 pm     Adi Zaltsman, Alexander Krichevsky, and Vitaly Citovsky, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY  
***Agrobacterium* induces expression of a host F-box protein required for tumorigenicity**
- 3.55-4.20 pm     Nagesh Sardesai, Gayla Olbricht, Hau-Hsuan Hwang, Yun-Long Tsai, Rebecca Doerge, Erh-Min Lai, and Stanton B. Gelvin, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
**Regulation of a myb transcription factor by trans-zeatin influences susceptibility of *Arabidopsis* roots to *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation**
- 4.20-4.45 pm     Yaling Wang, Lan-Ying Lee, Larry Hodges, Walt Ream, and Stanton B. Gelvin, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
***Arabidopsis* GALLS-interacting protein (GIP) facilitates T-DNA transfer**
- 4.45-5.10 pm     Zarir Vaghchhipawala, Mustafa Morsy and Kirankumar S. Mysore, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Ardmore, OK  
**Role of DNA repair protein XRCC4 during T-DNA integration.**
- 5.10-6.00 pm     **Break (poster setup)**
- 6.00-7.00 pm     **Poster Session and open bar (Conference Center)**
- 7.00 -8.00 pm     **Dinner Buffet (Conference Center)**

### **Keynote Address**

- 8.00-9.00 pm     Richard Dixon, Sr. Vice President, Director of Plant Biology, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Ardmore, OK  
**Genetic engineering of new output traits for biomass improvement**

## **Sunday Nov 22, 2009**

- 7.30 – 8.30 am     **Breakfast (Conference Center)**

## **Plant transformation technologies I**

*Session Chair: Lois Banta*

- 8.45-9.10 am Hau-Hsuan Hwang, Ming-Hsuan Wang, Ying-Ling Lee, Yi-Ho Li, Feng-Jhih Yang, Yu-Chen Liao, Yun-Long Tsai, Shao-Kai Lin, and Erh-Min Lai, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan  
***Agrobacterium*-produced and exogenous cytokinins modulate *Agrobacterium*-mediated plant transformation**
- 9.10-9.35 am Zeng-Yu Wang, Yaxin Ge, Chunxiang Fu, Steven Tudor, Elane Wright, Qingzhen Jiang, Lu Han and Joseph Bouton, Noble Foundation  
***Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation of Forage and Turf**
- 9.35-10.00 am Mery Dafny-Yelin, Raz Dafny, Lorenzo Prieto, Amanda S. Freed, Christine Bizgu, Avner Levy and Tzvi Tzfira, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
**Integration of double-stranded T-DNA intermediates into genomic double-strand breaks**
- 10.00-10.30 am **Break/Refreshments**

## **Plant transformation technologies II**

*Session Chair: Zarir Vaghchhipawala*

- 10.30-10.55 am Manju Gupta, Stephen Novak, Fyodor Urnov, Russell C. Dekelver, Sunita Gopalan, Jeffrey Miller, Edward Rebar, Carla Clifford, Lei Zhang, Sean Russell, James Connell, Daniel Desloover, Rodney Crosley, Alicia Walker, Teresa Bauer, Daniel Gachotte, Josh Flook, Brita McNew, Thomas Patterson, and Joseph F. Petolino, Dow AgroSciences, Indianapolis, IN  
**Gene regulation using engineered zinc finger protein transcription factors**
- 10.55-11.20 am Stanton B. Gelvin, Lan-Ying Lee, Choun-Sea Lin, Fu-Hui Wu, and Mei-Jane Fang, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
**Direct screening of a plant cDNA library against a bait protein *in planta*: A progress report**
- 11.20-11.45 am Rakesh Kaundal and Patrick Zhao, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Ardmore, OK  
**Computational prediction of protein subcellular localization: advantages, challenges and pitfalls**
- 11.45-12.00 pm Kiran Mysore  
**Closing remarks, ceremonial passing of the gall**
- 12.00 -1.00 pm **Sack Lunch and Departure(Conference Center)**