

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Tim Donohue

Professor Tim Donohue has been a member of the UW-Madison Bacteriology Department for over 20 years. His research program studies solar energy utilization by photosynthetic bacteria, specifically how cells divert the energy captured from sunlight into different pathways. He has been a member of various federal research panels, has served on several editorial boards and advisory committees in microbiology, and helped author reports for the Department of Energy of solar energy generation and the conversion of plant biomass into biofuels. He has experience in leading cross-disciplinary research programs like the NIGMS Biotechnology Training Program.

In 2007, Dr. Donohue was named director of new Department of Energy-sponsored Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center (GLBRC), a 25M/year research center. The GLBRC will conduct basic, genomics-based research to design the microbial and plant systems needed to realize the potential of biofuels. Combining innovative science, a critical mass of natural assets and the corporate horsepower to build and advance a new bioenergy economy, the GLBRC will become a worldwide center of excellence for research and development of cellulosic ethanol and other bioenergy products. In support of this vision, GLBRC activities will be led by experts in plant biology, microbiology, molecular or cell biology, biochemistry, protein design, engineering, computer sciences, systems analysis, and ecology.