



Genomatica Recognizes Board Members Elected to the National Academy of Engineering

Three members of Genomatica's Scientific Advisory Board are recognized for outstanding contributions to metabolic engineering

SAN DIEGO, March 2, 2010 – Three members of Genomatica's Scientific Advisory Board were elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) on February 17. They include Jay Keasling, Sang Yup Lee, and Jens Nielsen, all recognized for their contributions in metabolic engineering. They join three other members of Genomatica's Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) who are already members of the NAE, along with three members of Genomatica's Engineering Advisory Council (EAC).

"We are thrilled to see that the Academy has recognized the great accomplishments of Drs. Keasling, Lee, and Nielsen," said Genomatica CEO and co-founder Christophe Schilling. "They represent three of the true luminaries in the field of metabolic engineering, and we are fortunate to have them engaged in helping to impact the success of our metabolic engineering programs and the strength of our technologies."

Election to the NAE is one of the highest professional recognitions for an engineer. Membership honors outstanding contributions to engineering research practice or education. Election criteria include "pioneering of new and developing fields of technology, making major advancements in traditional fields of engineering, or developing or implementing innovative approaches to engineering education."

Jay Keasling, Hubbard Howe Jr. Distinguished Professor of Biochemical Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, was elected for his work developing tools to metabolically engineer organisms to produce the antimalarial drug artemisinin. In addition to serving on Genomatica's SAB, Keasling is chief executive officer and vice president of fuels synthesis for the Joint BioEnergy Institute, Emeryville.

Sang Yup Lee is dean of the college of life science and bioengineering at KAIST in Daejeon, the Republic of South Korea. Lee was elected as a foreign associate of the NAE for his "leadership in bacterial biotechnology and metabolic engineering, including development of fermentation processes for biodegradable polymers and organic acids."

Jens Nielsen, who joined Genomatica's SAB in 2009, was elected as an NAE foreign associate for his contributions to the development of fungal biotechnology for pharmaceutical chemicals. Nielsen is a professor in systems biology, in the department of chemical and biological engineering at Chalmers University of Technology in Göteborg, Sweden.



In addition to Keasling, Lee and Nielsen, three ongoing members of Genomatica's SAB are also members of the NAE: Bernhard Palsson, Harvey Blanch, and Lee Hood. Three of the four members of Genomatica's Engineering Advisory Council are also members of the NAE: Rakesh Agrawal of Purdue University, Matthew Tirrell of the University of California at Santa Barbara, and Frank Bates of University of Minnesota.

SAB chair and company co-founder Bernhard Palsson was elected to the Academy in 2006. Palsson is the Galetti Professor of Bioengineering and Adjunct Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego.

Harvey Blanch was elected to the NAE in 2005 and joined Genomatica's SAB in 2008. He is also a fellow of AAAS and the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineers. Blanch is a professor in the department of chemical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley.

Lee Hood joined the Genomatica SAB in 2005 and he is not only a member of the NAE, but he is one of just seven scientists elected to the National Academy of Science, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine. Hood has also played a role in founding the Institute for Systems Biology and more than 14 biotechnology companies, including Amgen, Applied Biosystems, Systemix, Darwin and Rosetta.

The Scientific Advisory Board, which also includes Professors George Church of Harvard and Bernhard Hauer of the University of Stuttgart, has been a valuable contributor to Genomatica's research and development progress since the company was founded in 2000. The SAB has advised Genomatica researchers in many product-focused areas including molecular biology, metabolism, enzymology, protein engineering, genetic and metabolic engineering and flux analysis.

About Genomatica

Genomatica is a sustainable chemicals company developing groundbreaking technologies to transform chemical production processes through bio-manufacturing. The company targets chemicals that are essential to many major industries and are incorporated into products that shape much of the world in which we live. With a proven, proprietary technology platform, Genomatica is creating a robust pipeline of bio-manufacturing processes that targets chemicals with large existing markets. These processes are aimed to compete head-on with current petrochemical processes, delivering compelling cost advantages and sustainability through renewable feedstock sourcing and less energy intensive processes.

A privately held company, Genomatica is backed by top venture capital firms Mohr Davidow Ventures, Alloy Ventures and Draper Fisher Jurvetson. Genomatica is based in San Diego.



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