Industrial Associate Program Benefits

Center for Biofilm Engineering

The CBE Industrial Associates Program provides support for industrially relevant research and promotes productive interaction between industry representatives and CBE faculty, staff, and students.

For more information
To see if membership is a good fit for your company, please contact Paul Sturman, CBE Industrial Coordinator, at (406) 994-2102, or via email at: paul_s@biofilm.montana.edu

Research and testing projects
CBE members can fund research and testing projects at a discounted rate. Advantages of directly funding project work at the CBE include complete confidentiality and project direction by scientists and engineers at the top of biofilm investigation. In addition, the CBE offers Industrial Associate members no-cost participation in small testing projects of their choosing. This is an opportunity to have a top-notch student or CBE staff member work on a problem specific to your needs, at no additional cost.

Product/IP development consulting
CBE faculty and staff can assist members in evaluating commercial or product-related ideas as they relate to biofilms or biofilm control. Each member company is entitled to two free days of consulting annually. We can offer confidential feedback on R&D direction, marketing ideas, or strategic decisions. Many of our members have found that this benefit alone is worth the annual membership fee.

Regulatory interactions
Bringing a product to market today frequently requires registration with, or approval of, a regulatory agency. CBE staff maintain close ties with decision makers at FDA, EPA, and other US Government agencies concerned with biofilms. CBE scientists are on the forefront of biofilm methods development and assessment—areas of expertise frequently sought out by the regulatory community. In addition, it’s our policy to feature regulatory agency speakers at our Montana Biofilm Meetings whenever possible. If you are seeking insight into the process of registration or approval, the CBE can help.

Montana Biofilm S&T Meetings
Twice each year CBE members convene in Bozeman for the Montana Biofilm Science & Technology Meeting (MBM)—an exposition of what’s new in CBE research and a perspective on what’s happening around the world in biofilm science. The MBM is a great way to keep up on the science as well as to interact with other industry and government representatives and CBE researchers. Meetings are open only to CBE members and invited guests.

Education and training workshops
CBE members are entitled to attend either basic or advanced biofilm methods workshops free of charge. Workshops are held the day before Montana Biofilm Meetings in both winter and summer, and feature the latest techniques in growing and assessing biofilms. In addition, the CBE offers specialty workshops (either in our laboratories or at your facility) tailored to your individual company needs. These can range from covering the latest microscopy techniques for your R&D department to assisting the education of your sales force in basic understanding of biofilm concepts.

CBE Industrial Associates receive a 10% discount on all products (biofilm reactors, flow cells, and assay plates) from BioSurface Technologies: http://www.biofilms.biz/