

## SCRIPT AND PROGRAM FLOW



**Bioproducts, Sciences, and Engineering Laboratory  
Building Dedication Celebration  
Thursday, May 8, 2008, 11:00 a.m.  
Washington State University Tri-Cities**

11:00 a.m. **Vicky L. Carwein and Michael Kluse: Co-Master of Ceremonies: Opening Remarks**

11:03 a.m. **President Elson S. Floyd: Welcome**

11:07 a.m. **Francois X. Forgette: Remarks**

11:11 a.m. **Michael Kluse: Remarks**

11:14 a.m. **Michael Weis: Remarks**

11:18 a.m. **Alexander Karsner: Remarks**

11:23 a.m. **Vicky L. Carwein: Closing Remarks**

11:30 a.m. **Reception and Tours**

### ***Participants:***

- *Vicky L. Carwein, Chancellor, Washington State University Tri-Cities*
- *Elson S. Floyd, President, Washington State University*
- *Francois X. Forgette, Board of Regents, Washington State University*
- *Michael Kluse, Laboratory Director, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*
- *Michael Weis, Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, Pacific Northwest Site Office*
- *Alexander (Andy) Karsner, Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy*
- **11:00 a.m. VICKY CARWEIN (scripted remarks-three minutes)**

Welcome to our campus on this gorgeous spring day. I am Vicky Carwein, Chancellor of WSU Tri-Cities and it is my honor to serve as the Master of Ceremony. Many of you gathered here two years ago to break ground on the Bioproducts, Sciences, and Engineering Laboratory, and we're pleased so many of you could join us today to celebrate its dedication.

My colleagues on the platform will be introduced more fully as they speak, but let me acknowledge them now.

My co-host, Mike Kluse, director of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, operated by Battelle Memorial Institute for the U.S. Department of Energy.

Alexander (Andy) Karsner, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy.

Michael Weis, Manager, Pacific Northwest Site Office, U.S. Department of Energy

Elson S. Floyd, President, Washington State University.

Fran Forgette, Board of Regents and Chair Elect, Washington State University.

We are here today to recognize and celebrate a new and incredible partnership of the State of Washington, Washington State University, the Department of Energy, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. This partnership is a first of its kind for WSU and for PNNL, a partnership that promises innovation, new technologies and technology transfer, leading edge teaching and research, and scientific discovery—work that will lead the state, the nation, and the world in the conversion of biomass to products and energy.

The synergy of this innovative partnership and the complementary expertise

that each partner brings to this work allows each of us to do far more together than we ever would be able to do on our own. It leverages the assets of two great institutions into something that will truly be larger and grander than the sum of its parts. The leveraging of partner assets is immediately evidenced by what you see today. This \$24.8 million facility has been built with only \$13 million in state funds with Battelle contributing the balance through a long-term lease. In addition, PNNL is moving, as we speak, \$9 million in state-of-the-art scientific research equipment into the building that will be available to our students and faculty. And this is only the beginning of the entrepreneurial thinking that brings this great university and this national laboratory together in education, research, and development to shape the future — addressing national and global energy independence, growing the state's economy, further diversifying the Tri-Cities

economic base, and developing the leaders and researchers of tomorrow.

At the forefront of this dynamic field and burgeoning industry is Dr. Birgitte Ahring, our newly appointed director of the Washington State University Center for Bioproducts and Bioenergy and Battelle Distinguished Professor, who I would also like to welcome today. Dr. Ahring has traveled from her home in Copenhagen, Denmark for the dedication and will be here full-time beginning mid-August. Dr. Ahring's international reputation, her stature in the bioproducts and biofuels research arena, and her talents and energy are exactly what we were looking for in the person to lead the Center and the cooperative work of this laboratory. Dr. Ahring was recruited under the state's "star researcher" program for WSU and UW funded in the last legislative session. We thank the Legislature and the Governor for this

program and are thrilled to have our “star” on board. There is no question in my mind that WSU, PNNL, and WSU and PNNL together, are taking another major step toward becoming a nationally and internationally recognized center for bioproducts and biofuels.

Ongoing support of our elected leaders at all levels — national, state, and local — is key to the success and continued development of WSU Tri-Cities. Thank you! Senator Maria Cantwell and Senator Patty Murray could not be with us today but I would like to read a letter from each of them.

[Read letter from Senator Maria Cantwell.](#)

*Dear Friends*

*I am pleased to welcome you to the Bioproducts, Sciences, and Engineering Laboratory Dedication Celebration. I regret that I am unable to join you in person for this important event, but I would like to express my sincere enthusiasm for this new facility and the exciting work that will be done here through the partnership of WSU- Tri Cities and PNNL.*

*I am looking forward to hearing about the many research & development efforts that will be undertaken at BSEL. Groundbreaking research is done everyday in the Tri-Cities and I am sure the work done here will follow in that great tradition.*

*As a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I believe we*

*must tap into our nation's spirit of innovation, stabilize prices, diversify and expand energy sources, and break our oil addiction. I have supported significant investment in renewable energy alternatives from domestic sources and have developed strong new initiatives to prevent market manipulation and protect consumers. To expand and grow the Washington biofuels industry, I also launched the Washington BioFuels Business Collaborative bringing together interested entities from every step in the biofuel production and use chain. I continue to be a steadfast supporter of clean, innovative solutions to our nation's energy needs, and look forward to continuing to support WSU and PNNL's research and development efforts.*

*Again, thank you for your efforts to create a safer, cleaner and more sustainable energy future. Please accept my best wishes for a successful event!*  
*Sincerely,*



**Maria Cantwell United States  
Senator**

Read letter from Senator Patty Murray.

**Dr. Birgitte Ahring  
Washington State University Tri-Cities  
Bioproducts, Sciences and Engineering  
Laboratory  
2710 University Drive  
Richland, WA 99354**

**May 8, 2008**

**Dear Dr. Ahring,**

**Today is truly an exciting day for the Tri-Cities, Washington State, and our nation. While I cannot be there in person due to my responsibilities in the U.S. Senate, I am proud to offer my congratulations as you dedicate the Bioproducts, Sciences, and Engineering Laboratory.**

*We are celebrating more than the opening of a new building. This state of the art facility will be a magnet for the brilliant minds who will work to solve the energy issues we face today and in the future. WSU, PNNL, and the Tri-Cities community have been visionary in their approach by creating a partnership that will reap benefits locally and nationally. At a time when many Americans wonder how they will afford the ever rising cost of fuel and other petroleum based products, researchers at BSEL will be working on solutions.*

*I know how important WSU and PNNL are to the Tri-Cities community, and this new collaboration will only further enhance your position as a research and technology center in Washington State. I have fought for years to adequately fund research facilities, projects and programs, and am thrilled that this \$24 million facility will be a key part of our bioproducts innovation infrastructure.*

*As a nation, we are at a point where we need to focus on finding answers that will make us more energy independent and secure. Now more than ever, we need BSEL. The research that occurs in this facility will help grow our economy and change the way we think about energy issues.*

*Congratulations, and I look forward to the fine work that will come from this partnership.*

*Sincerely,  
Patty Murray  
United States Senator*

We have a number of elected officials here today and I ask you to join me in welcoming them.

- Senator Jerome Delvin
- Representative Larry Haler
- Representative Shirley Hankins
- Richland City Mayor, John Fox
- Pasco City Mayor, Joyce Olson
- Kennewick City Mayor, Jim Beaver

**(APPLAUSE)**

In addition, please welcome those responsible for the design and construction of BSEL.

- Eric Wilson, and Jon Schleuning, architects, SRG Partnership from Portland

- Bill Bouten, President, Bouten Construction Company from Spokane
- Scott McGlocklin, project manager, Bouten Construction Company

**(APPLAUSE)**

There are so many people at WSU and PNNL, past and present, who have played critical roles in the visioning, development and implementation of this project. To all of these individuals, thank you, for bringing us to where we are today, and continuing to move us forward. I would like to take just a moment to recognize one individual from PNNL who has been such a vocal, out front, and persuasive leader in bringing our teams together, Mike Davis, Associate Laboratory Director, Energy and Environment Directorate. His “big” vision, his out of the box thinking, and his ability to keep the focus on what we “can” be rather than what we are today, have been a driving force. Thank you Mike for your leadership.

Now I'm pleased to introduce Elson S. Floyd, President of Washington State University.

Dr. Floyd is WSU's 10th president and is a nationally known academic leader. Before taking the helm at WSU almost exactly a year ago, he was president of the four-campus University of Missouri. He previously led Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo and was an administrator at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and at Eastern Washington University. Prior to that, Dr. Floyd was executive director of the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board.

A native of Henderson, North Carolina, Dr. Floyd holds a bachelor's degree, a master's degree, and a Ph.D., all from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Dr. Floyd brings a renewed commitment to and investment in WSU as a multi-campus university. He is reaching out to each of our campuses and communities to identify their priorities and needs. He is working to assure that our campuses are responsive to the communities in which they reside and working in partnership "with" them. He is dedicated to bringing research and economic vitality to our region and the state, and is committed to making sure that WSU stands behind its promise of excellence.

Please welcome President Elson S.

Floyd. **(APPLAUSE)**

*(Vicky returns to her seat)*

*(President Floyd goes to the podium)*

**11:03 a.m. PRESIDENT FLOYD** *(scripted remarks-three minutes)*

- Thank you to all of you for joining us today as we dedicate the newest building on the WSU Tri-Cities campus

and celebrate Washington State University's exceptional partnership with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

- The Bioproducts, Sciences, and Engineering Laboratory (BSEL) is a \$24.8 million multi-purpose facility where WSU faculty and students and PNNL researchers will collaborate. Their shared focus is developing science and engineering processes for manufacture of bio-based products – such as fuels, plastics, solvents, and fibers.
- This facility and the people who will work here form the cornerstone of efforts by our university and our state to take a leadership role in the areas of sustainability and clean energy.
- Research conducted at the Bioproducts, Sciences, and Engineering Laboratory



will help boost the creation and use of biofuels and bioproducts, enhancing economic strength and environmental sustainability in eastern Washington and statewide, while improving the nation's energy independence.

- This new building will also provide enormous opportunities to our students. It will assist our professors as they provide students with the tools, knowledge and experience they need to make an impact on solving regional and national problems.
- This facility -- and the collaboration with PNNL -- will help train the next-generation of scientists and shape the next-generation of leaders. The time students spend here will prepare them to drive next-generation bioproducts and biofuels from concept to reality in the marketplace.

- WSU and PNNL each have unique and complementary capabilities in the area of bioproducts and biofuels.
- Bringing the strengths of these two institutions together presents opportunities for creating long-term solutions for the state of Washington and for the nation.
- We are delighted that Birgitte Ahring (*Bir-gee-ta Ah-ring*), an outstanding researcher from Denmark, will direct the Center for Bioproducts and Bioenergy. She will coordinate related research around the university, much of it based in the new facility.
- Her hiring is funded through the “star researcher” program, funded by Washington State’s Economic Development Commission and the Higher Education

Coordinating Board, which we see as a vital initiative to position Washington as a leader in this emerging field.

- I am deeply committed to Washington State University's role and responsibilities as our state's land-grant research university -- working every day through education, research and engagement on the major challenges facing our people, our industries, and our communities. The Bioproducts, Sciences, and Engineering Laboratory is a superb example of building capacity to fulfill our mission to serve Washington's citizens.
- Again, I salute PNNL for their forward-looking partnership.

And thank you again for joining us today.

*(President Floyd returns to his seat)*

*(Vicky Carwein returns to the podium)*

**11:06 a.m. VICKY CARWEIN**

- Introduces Fran Forgette, Vice Chair, WSU Board of Regents

Fran Forgette was appointed by Governor Gregoire to the WSU Board of Regents in 2005, and after serving as Vice Chair of the Board last year, assumes the Chairmanship on May 16. Regent Forgette is a partner in the Tri-Cities law firm of Rettig Osborne and Forgette, LLP, whose practice includes business and real estate law, agriculture, insurance defense, health care and related mediation and civil litigation. Regent Forgette, in his 30 years as a community leader and activist in so many community initiatives, has been a passionate and vocal supporter of education and it is our honor and pleasure to have his advocacy on behalf of WSU and WSU Tri-Cities in particular. Please welcome the 2001 Tri-Citizen of the year, the 2001 Kennewick Man of the year, friend and Regent, Fran Forgette.

**(APPLAUSE)**

*(Vicky Carwein returns to her seat)*

*(Fran Forgette goes to the podium)*

**11:07 a.m. FRAN FORGETTE** *(suggested  
remarks-three minutes)*

- Today I am representing the WSU Board of Regents, but I'm also here as a member of this community who cares about education, the environment and the economy.
- I've been involved with the Tri-City Industrial Development Council, or TRIDEC, for many years.
- And over the years, I've seen countless examples of how partnerships and collaboration are critical to making progress.
- I believe that the partnership and collaboration that will happen here

will be equally critical to driving breakthrough solutions.

- Washington State University and PNNL are working together on solutions that promise to strengthen the state's economy, including agriculture, and address national energy and environmental needs.
- As a WSU regent and a member of the community—I'm thrilled to see a facility and partnership that will deliver on those promises.

*(Fran Forgette returns to his seat)*

*(Vicky Carwein goes to the podium for introduction)*

**11:10 a.m. VICKY CARWEIN**

It is now my pleasure to introduce Mike Kluse the Laboratory Director of PNNL. Mike joined Battelle in 1976 as a defense and space systems research scientist. He

came to the Tri-Cities in 1997 and previously was responsible for all of PNNL's national security business.

Mike also is a member of the WSU Tri-Cities Advisory Council, supporting a key era in our growth during construction of this building and with last fall's addition of our first freshman class. In turn, we are proud to be a partner with him on the project to develop a Tri-City high school focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Please welcome Mike Kluse. **(APPLAUSE)**

*(Vicky Carwein returns to her seat)*

*(Michael Kluse goes to the podium)*

**11:11 a.m. MICHAEL KLUSE** *(suggested remarks-three minutes)*

Washington State University and PNNL have spent the past four years taking BSEL from a vision to an actual facility. Thanks to all of the WSU and PNNL staff who

have worked so hard to make this effort a reality.

Without a doubt, BSEL is going to be very important to PNNL. In addition to being the first of among several new facilities that we'll count as part of PNNL's campus renewal and expansion, BSEL gives us the opportunity to team with this major university to further develop a world-leading research signature in bioproducts.

Beyond our own staff and WSU, we have others to thank for making BSEL happen. The Department of Energy showed foresight in seeing the value BSEL will bring in helping reduce the nation's dependence on imported oil, develop alternative fuel sources, and protect the environment.

Thanks to Mike Weis of DOE's Pacific Northwest Site Office for helping equip BSEL as a first-class laboratory.



DOE agreed to transfer \$9 million dollars worth of equipment from PNNL to BSEL. This equipment will be available for use by WSU faculty and students for academic purposes as well as for PNNL research.

Although Governor Chris Gregoire couldn't be with us today, she also deserves a great deal of credit. She knew early on that BSEL was destined to deliver the results needed to build a competitive biofuels and bioproducts industry in the Northwest, so she invested \$13 million of state funds in this facility.

I'd be remiss not to mention some other key people.

- o The late Walt Apley and Theresa Bergman, who had the initial vision for this building and inspired those around them to pursue it. Unfortunately, Walt passed away before we broke ground on BSEL. Walt's wife, Gail, is with us today

- (if she's in attendance) to help celebrate this accomplishment.
- o Mike Lawrence, who helped pave the way for this facility with the state.
  - o Len Peters, who was Laboratory director as we formed our partnership with WSU and worked directly with their leadership and the state as plans progressed.
  - o Ed Baker, who shaped our research agenda.

Seeing this building completed and watching people move in is just the beginning. Now we begin to see—with world-renowned Birgitte Ahring (*Bir-gee-ta Ah-ring*) at the helm—just what this exciting partnership between PNNL and WSU can deliver.

I'd like to now introduce Mike Weis, Manager of DOE's Pacific Northwest Site Office.

*(Michael Kluse returns to his seat)*

*(Michael Weis goes to the podium)*

**11:14 a.m. MICHAEL WEIS** (*suggested  
remarks-three minutes*)

- Thank you, Mike. I'm glad to be here today.
- On behalf of DOE, I'd also like to welcome Bill Valdez, Acting Director of DOE's Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists, who has joined us today.
- While I have a scientific background and have spent the recent years of my career overseeing technical programs for the Department of Energy, I also am a certified high school teacher.
- I have witnessed the importance of education in developing opportunities

for students and leaders for our nation.

- I'm proud to see this facility added to Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's suite of capabilities and I'm proud of the partnership with WSU.
- The collaborations that will happen within these laboratories and classrooms will help develop biofuels and bioproducts processes and technologies that can move out of the lab and into industry.
- And doing so can be part of addressing an area of critical importance to the Department—providing clean products and fuels that can help reduce our dependence on imported oil.

*(Michael Weis returns to his seat)*

*(Michael Kluse returns to the podium)*

**11:17 a.m. MICHAEL KLUSE**

It's now my pleasure to introduce Andy Karsner, Assistant Secretary for DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. We're looking forward to demonstrating to him how BSEL's capabilities and expertise will leverage the investments DOE has already made to advancing biomass research. Andy..

**(APPLAUSE)**

*(Michael Kluse returns to his seat)*

*(Alexander Karsner goes to the podium)*

**11:18 a.m. ALEXANDER KARSNER** *(suggested remarks-five minutes)*

- Thank you, Mike. It's a pleasure to be here to celebrate the dedication of this building and witness first-hand this innovative partnership between the state, Washington State University and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.
- As we all know, addressing the growing need for clean, affordable and

sustainable energy supplies is a national and global challenge.

- While there's no easy or single solution, fuels and products from biomass can help reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions while increasing our energy independence.
- Making an impact in this area will require scientific advancements and new technologies.
- This building, and the collaboration it enables, will help move next generation biomass technologies forward. It will combine:
  - WSU's expertise in plant science focused on purpose-driven energy crops
  - With PNNL's expertise in chemical sciences that will improve lignocellulosic conversions.

- I look forward to watching the researchers in this building work together, work with DOE and work with industry to move new solutions into the marketplace.

- Congratulations to everyone.

*(Alexander Karsner returns to his seat)*

*(Vicki Carwein goes to the podium)*

**11:23 a.m. VICKY CARWEIN-CLOSING REMARKS**

Thank you Andy for your remarks and thank you to all of you for attending our building celebration this morning.

Please join us inside for a reception and guided tours. There are signs that indicate the starting locations for the tours.