



# NANOSCALE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

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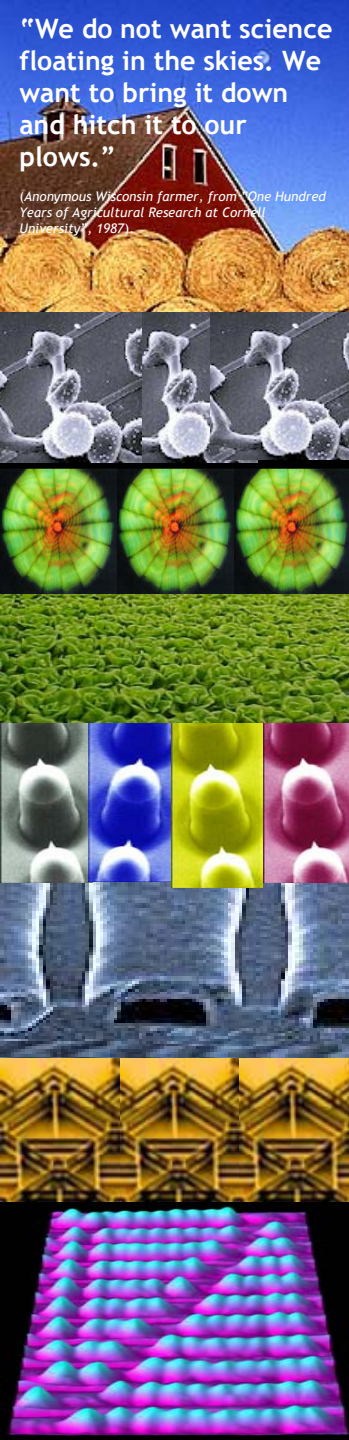
**&**

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**USDA/CSREES**

**[www.nseafs.cornell.edu](http://www.nseafs.cornell.edu)**



"We do not want science floating in the skies. We want to bring it down and hitch it to our plows."

(Anonymous Wisconsin farmer, from "One Hundred Years of Agricultural Research at Cornell University", 1987)

# ***A National Planning Workshop:***

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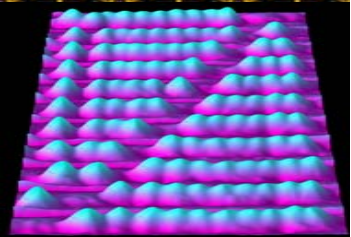
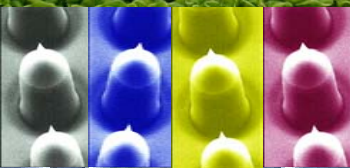
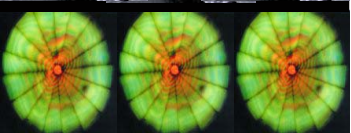
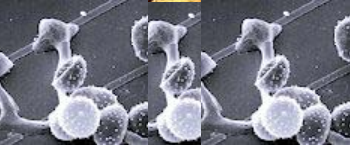
## **NANOSCALE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS**

**November 18 – 19, 2002  
Washington, D.C.**

**Hongda Chen, USDA  
Norman R. Scott, Cornell University  
[www.nseafs.cornell.edu](http://www.nseafs.cornell.edu)**

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# A NEW SCIENTIFIC FRONTIER

## Broad spectrum of opportunities

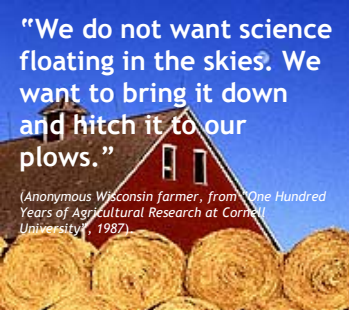
- Research community
- Industrial development



# Significant focus for federal research investment

## National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI)

- Formed in 2000
- Involving 10 federal departments and agencies
- Emphasizes long-term, fundamental research
- Focused on discovering novel phenomena, processes, and tools
- Supports new interdisciplinary centers and networks of excellence, shared user facilities
- FY 2003 Congressional appropriations: \$ 774M
- FY 2004 President's budget request \$ 847M
- **USDA increase from \$1M to \$10M (2004)**



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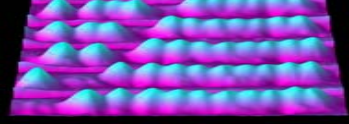
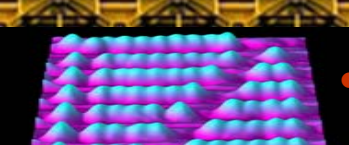
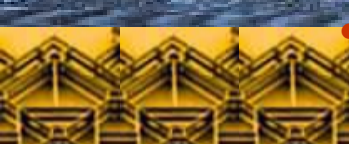
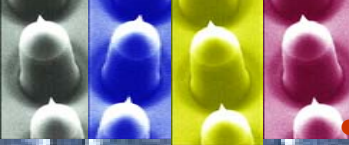
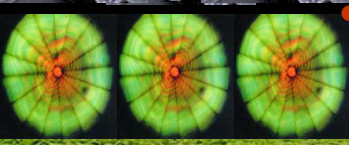
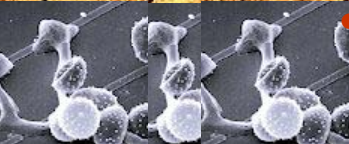
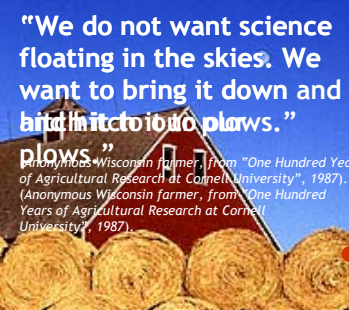
(Anonymous Wisconsin farmer, from "One Hundred Years of Agricultural Research at Cornell University", 1987)

# National Nanotechnology Initiative

## President's 2004 R & D Budget

	2003	2004	Difference from 2003 to 2004	Percent Difference from 2003 to 2004
National Science Foundation	221	247	26	11.8%
Defense	243	222	-20	-8.3%
Energy	133	197	64	48.1%
National Institutes of Health	65	70	5	7.7%
Commerce	69	62	-7	-10.1%
NASA	33	31	-2	-6.1%
Agriculture	1	10	9	900.0%
EPA	6	5	-1	-16.7%
Homeland Security	2	2	0	0.0%
Justice	1	1	0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>9.5%</b>

# Potential to revolutionize agriculture and food systems



• **Microfluidics**, micro/nanoanalysis, lab on a chip

• **BioNEMS**, bionanoelectromechanical systems biodevices, levers, sensors, pumps, rotors, motors

• **Drug delivery/biochips**, nanocapsules, nanoporous materials, antiviral/antibacterial nanoparticles, nanotubes, nanoprosthetics

• **Nucleic acid bioengineering**, nucleic acid segregation

• **Nanobioprocessing**, cellular manipulation, self-assembly, biotissue/bioproducts manufacture

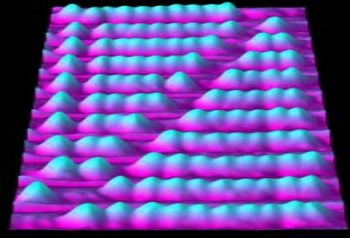
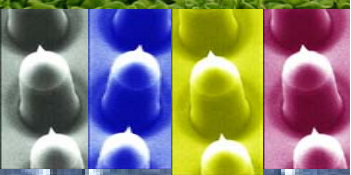
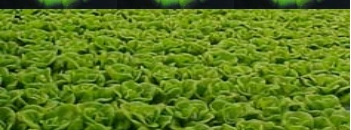
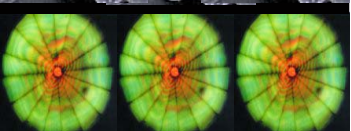
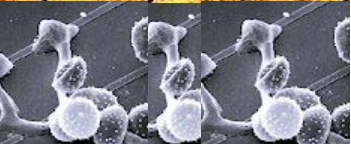
• **Biosensors** for food safety and environmental assessment, sensing, monitoring, and controlling bioprocesses in agriculture and food systems

• **Nanomaterials**, biopolymer composites, nanomembranes, nanowires, nanostructured materials from agricultural substrates

• **Bioselective surfaces**, bioseparation technologies

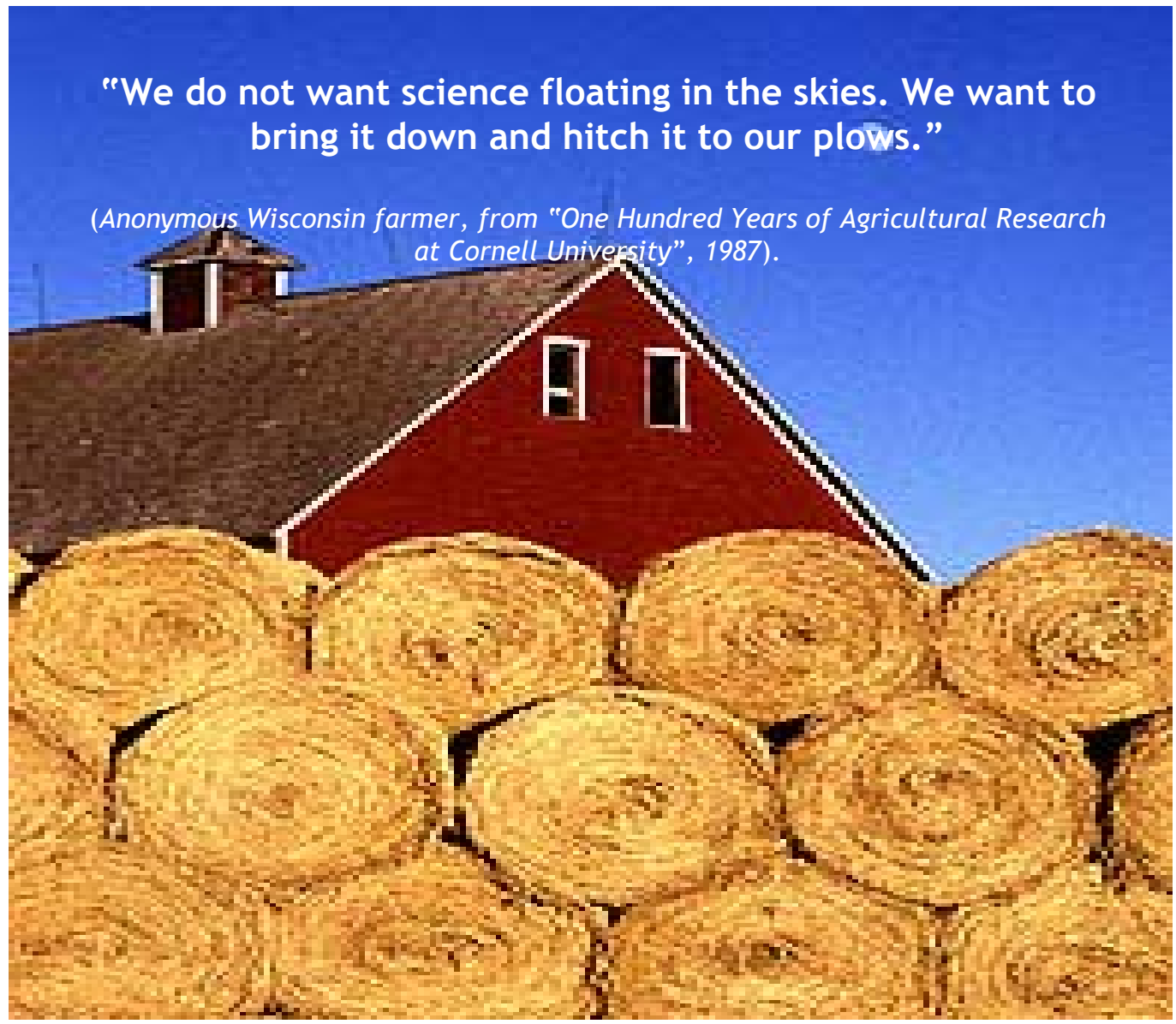
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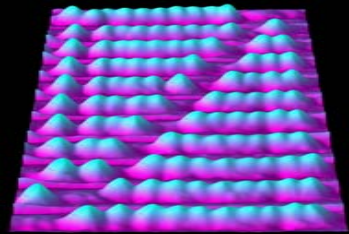
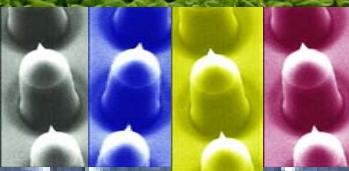
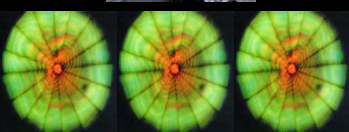
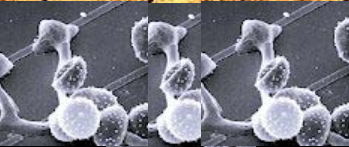


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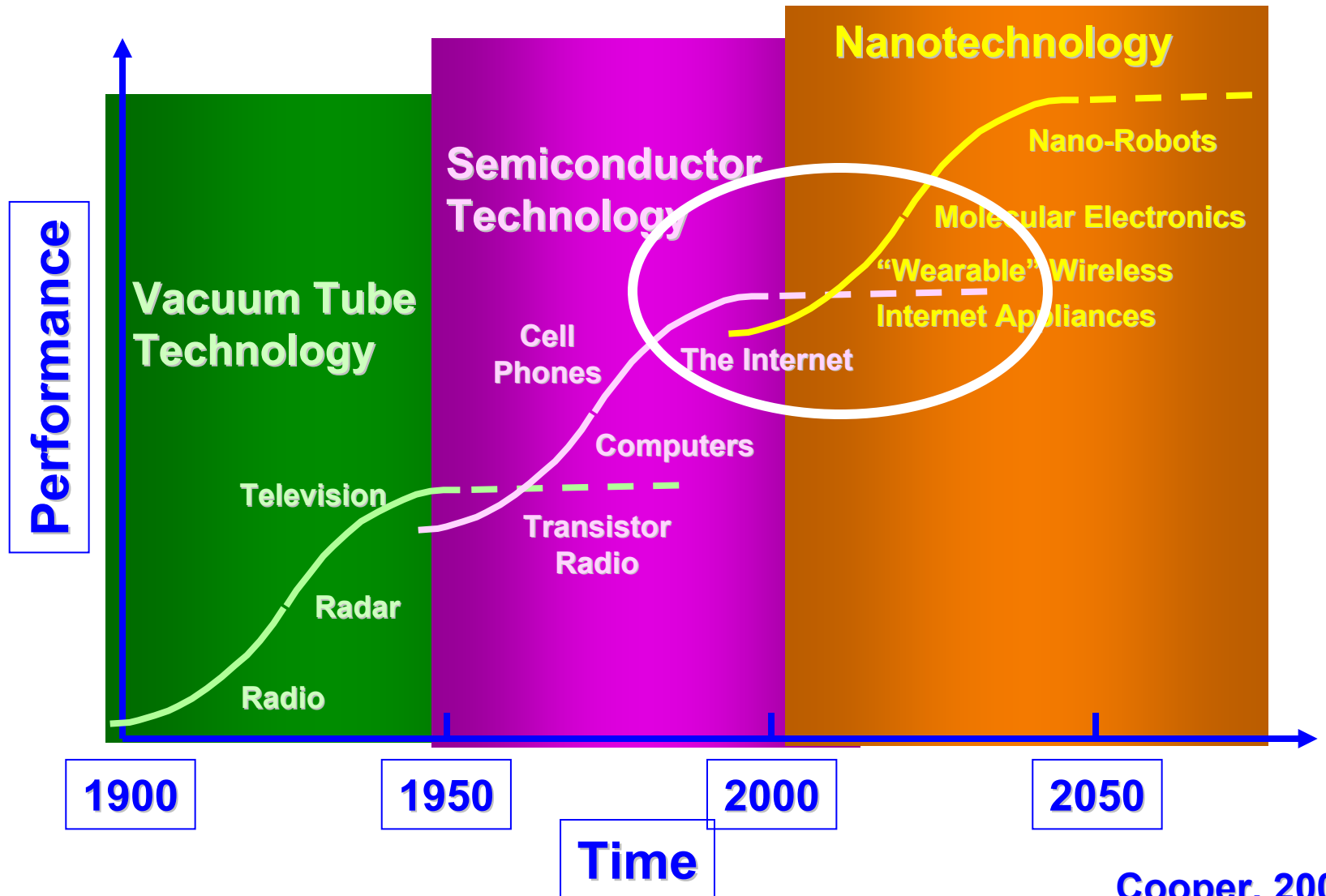


# Nanotechnology Science & Engineering in Agriculture and Food Systems

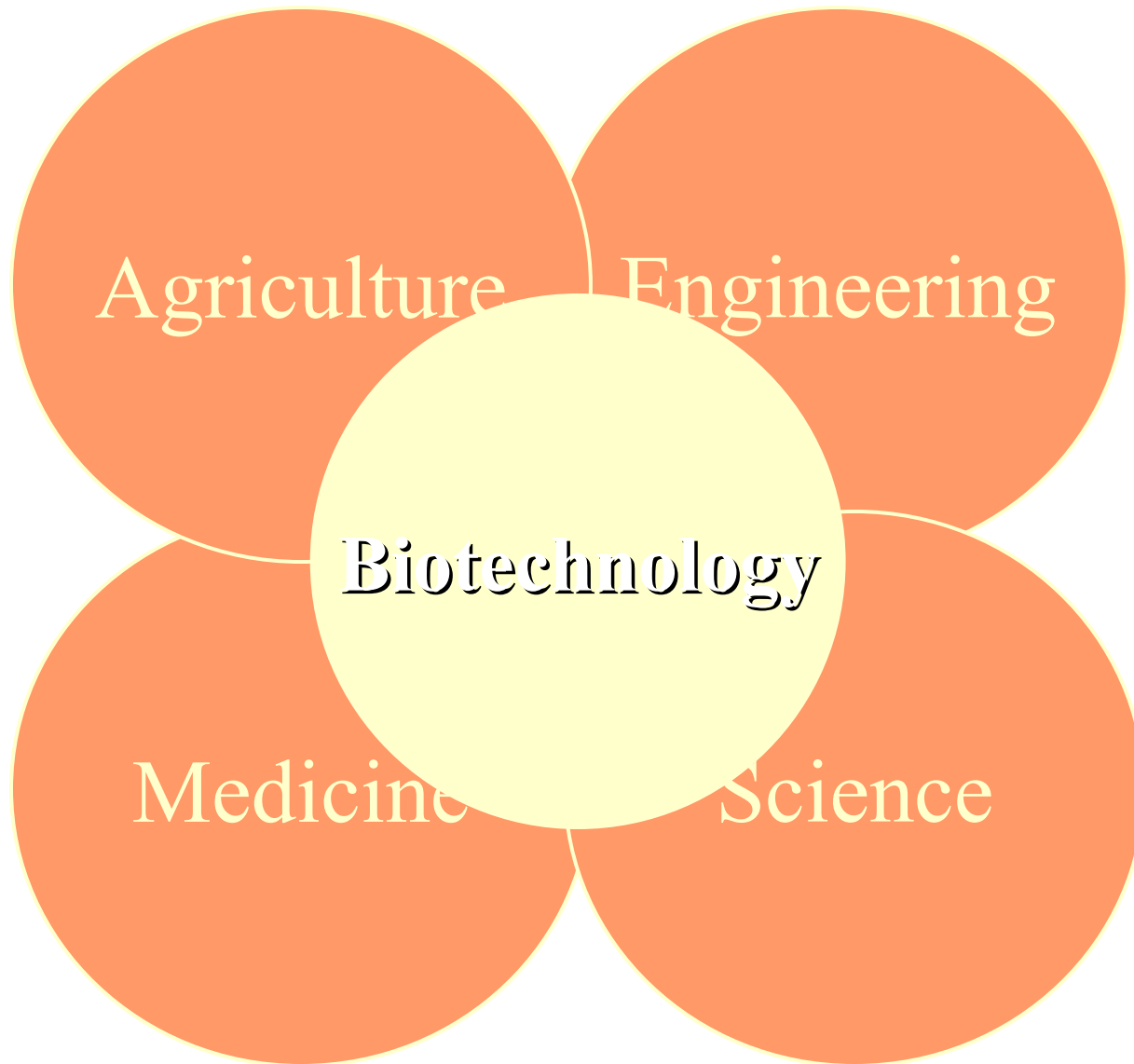
- Food supply can be monitored and protected by using nanotechnology
- Production, processing and shipment of food products can be made more secure through pathogen & contaminant detection
- Nanodevices can allow historical environmental records & location tracking
- "Smart systems" provide sensing, localization, reporting and remote control



# Evolution of Technologies

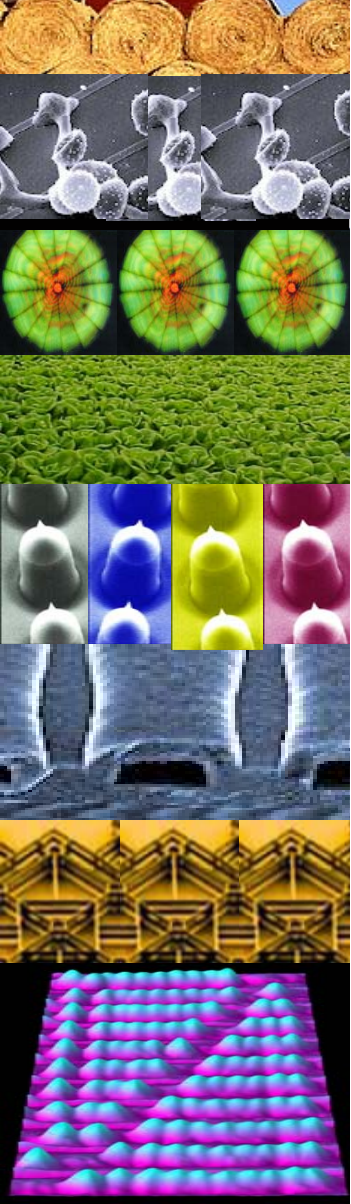


# Multi-disciplinary



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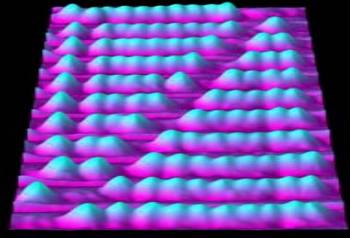
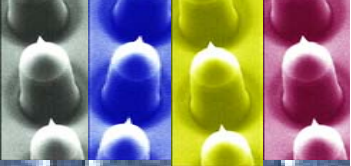
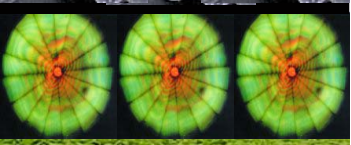
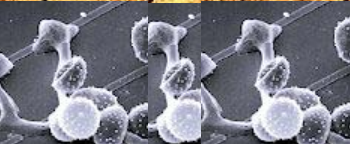
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# Planning Workshop Objective

The **planning workshop objective** was to develop a science roadmap (strategic plan) with recommendations for implementation of a new program in nanotechnologies in the USDA (as a partner in the federal NNI) for agriculture and food systems.

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# Agency Presentations

## National Nanotechnology Initiative

**Dr. Mihail C. Roco, Senior Advisor, NSF** and Chairman, National Science and Technology Council's Subcommittee on Nanoscale Science, Engineering and Technology (NSET)

## Defense University Research on Nanotechnology

**Dr. Cliff Lau**, Office of Basic Research, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense

## Nanoscale Science, Engineering, and Technology in the DOE

**Dr. Walter J. Stevens**, Office of Basic Energy Science, Department of Energy

## Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Programs at NIH

**Dr. Eleni Kousvelari**, Chief, Cellular & Molecular Biology, Physiology & Biotechnology Branch, Division of Basic and Translational Sciences, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, NIH



# Agency Presentations

The Convergence of Bio and Nano Technologies: A NASA Perspective

**Dr. Minoo N. Dastoor**, Senior Advisor to Associate Administrator, Office of Aerospace Technology, NASA

Measurements and Standards for Nanotechnology

**Dr. Michael P. Casassa**, Director, Program Office, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce

Nanotech at EPA: Applications and Implications

**Dr. Barbara Karn**, National Center for Environmental Research, ORD, EPA

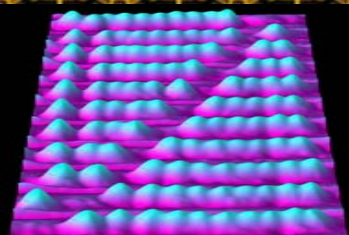
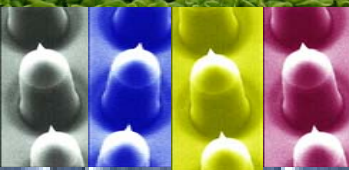
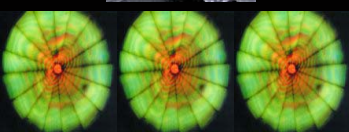
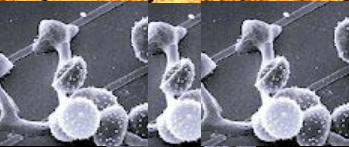
Regulatory Considerations for Nanotechnology in Public Health

**Dr. Norris Alderson**, Senior Associate Commissioner for Science, Office of Science and Communication, FDA

The NNI Grand Challenges - Selection, Investment Strategy and Metrics

**Dr. James S. Murday**, Director, National Nanotechnology Coordinating Office (NNCO)

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# AGRICULTURAL NANOTECHNOLOGY THEMES

- **Microfluidics** (Matthew Wheeler)
- **BioNEMS** (Michael Ladisch)
- **Drug Delivery/Biochips** (Mauro Ferrari)
- **Nucleic Acid Bioengineering** (Dan Luo)
- **Nanobioprocessing** (Larry Walker)
- **Biosensors** (Antje Baeumner)
- **Nanomaterials** (Alexandra Navrotsky)
- **Bioselective Surfaces** (Harvey Hoch)



# Opportunities for Nanotechnology in Agriculture and Food Systems Research

## 1. Food and water supply monitoring:

- presence of residues, trace chemicals, antibiotics, pathogens, toxins;
- integrated, rapid DNA sequencing to identify genetic variation and GMO's;
- integrity of food during transportation and storage

## 2. Animals health monitoring:

- developmental biology;
- presence of residues, antibiotics, pathogens, toxins;
- biosensors

## 3. Environment monitoring:

- land, water and air pollution;
- remote/distributed sensing

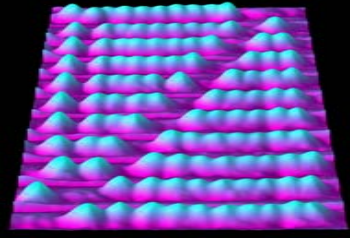
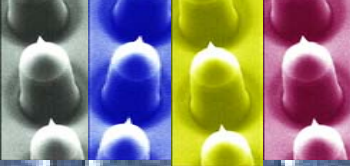
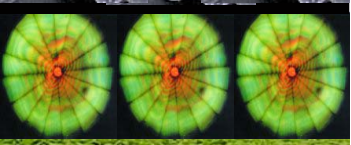
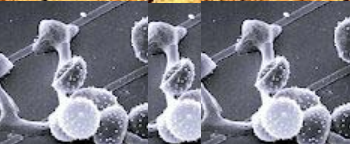


# Areas of Focus

- **Pathogen & contaminant detection**
- **Nanodevices for identity preservation & tracking**
- **Nanodevices for smart treatment delivery systems**
- **Smart systems integration: sensing, localization, reporting & control**
- **Nanodevices for molecular and cellular biology**
- **Nanoscale materials science & engineering, environmental issues, agricultural waste & nanoparticles in the environment**



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# Other Chapters

- **A Nanotechnology primer**
- **Relationship of nanotechnology to science and engineering in agriculture & food systems**
- **Educating the public and future workforce**
- **Budgetary considerations**



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# Proposed Budget

## Fundamental Research (Principal Investigator Initiated)

6 areas @ 3 projects per area x \$250K/project

Million \$

4.5

## Theme Area Challenge (Multidisciplinary)

6 areas @ 2 projects per area x \$350K/project

4.2

## Centers of Excellence

4 regional Centers @ \$5 Million/year

Public Outreach/Educ. 1% of budget=\$50K/y/Center

20.0

## Research Infrastructure

Specialized equipment @\$5 Million/year

5.0

## Education

Graduate Fellowships (\$32K/y \* 50/y) = 1.6

Postdoctoral Training (\$60K/y \* 15/y) = 0.9

Professional Development (\$10K \* 10/y) = 0.1

Public Outreach & Education (see Centers of Excellence)

2.6

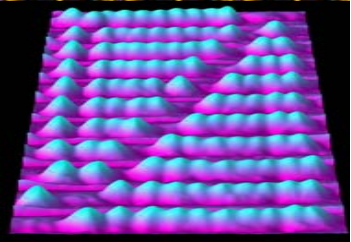
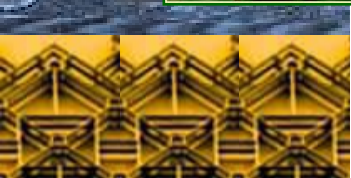
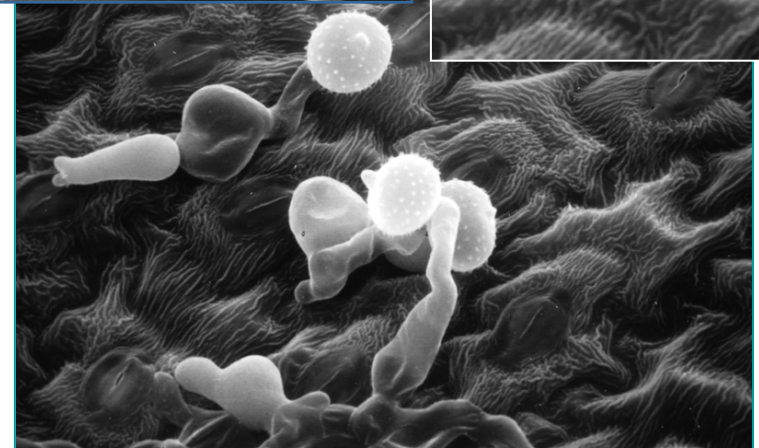
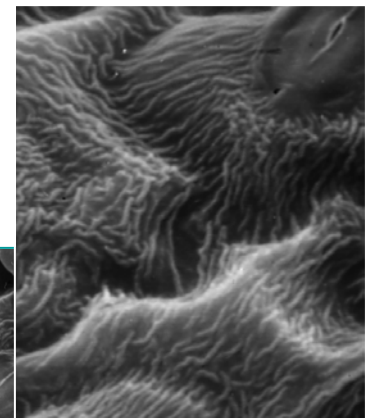
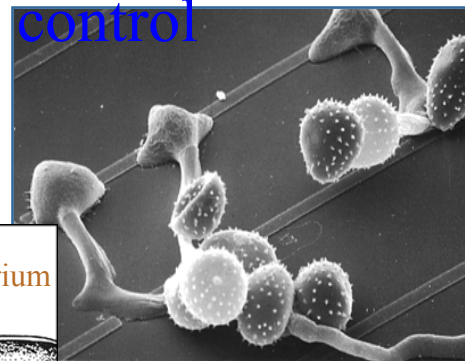
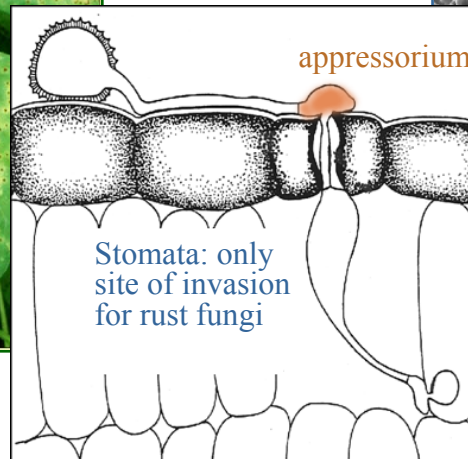
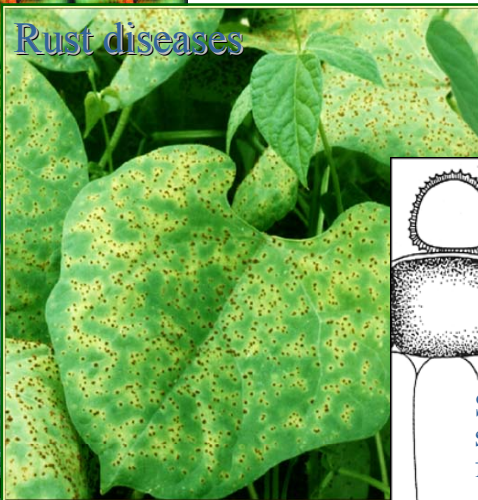
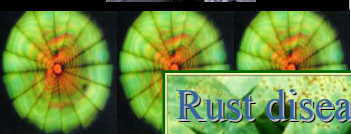
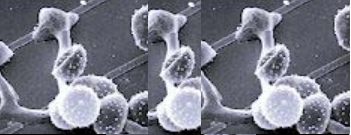
**TOTAL \$36.3 M/yr.**

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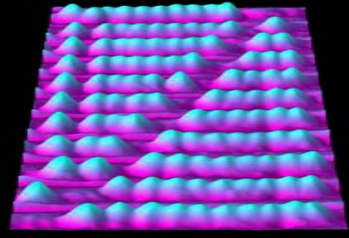
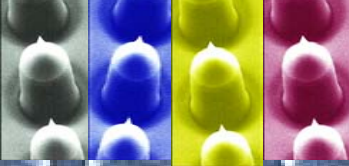
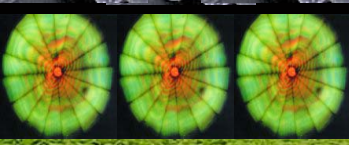
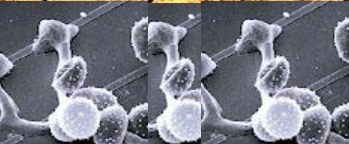
# Bioselective Surfaces

- Biology of pathogen/pest/host interactions--e.g., basic studies lead to concepts for possible approach to plant rust disease control



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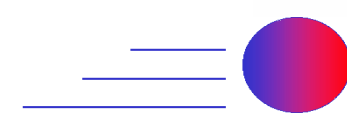
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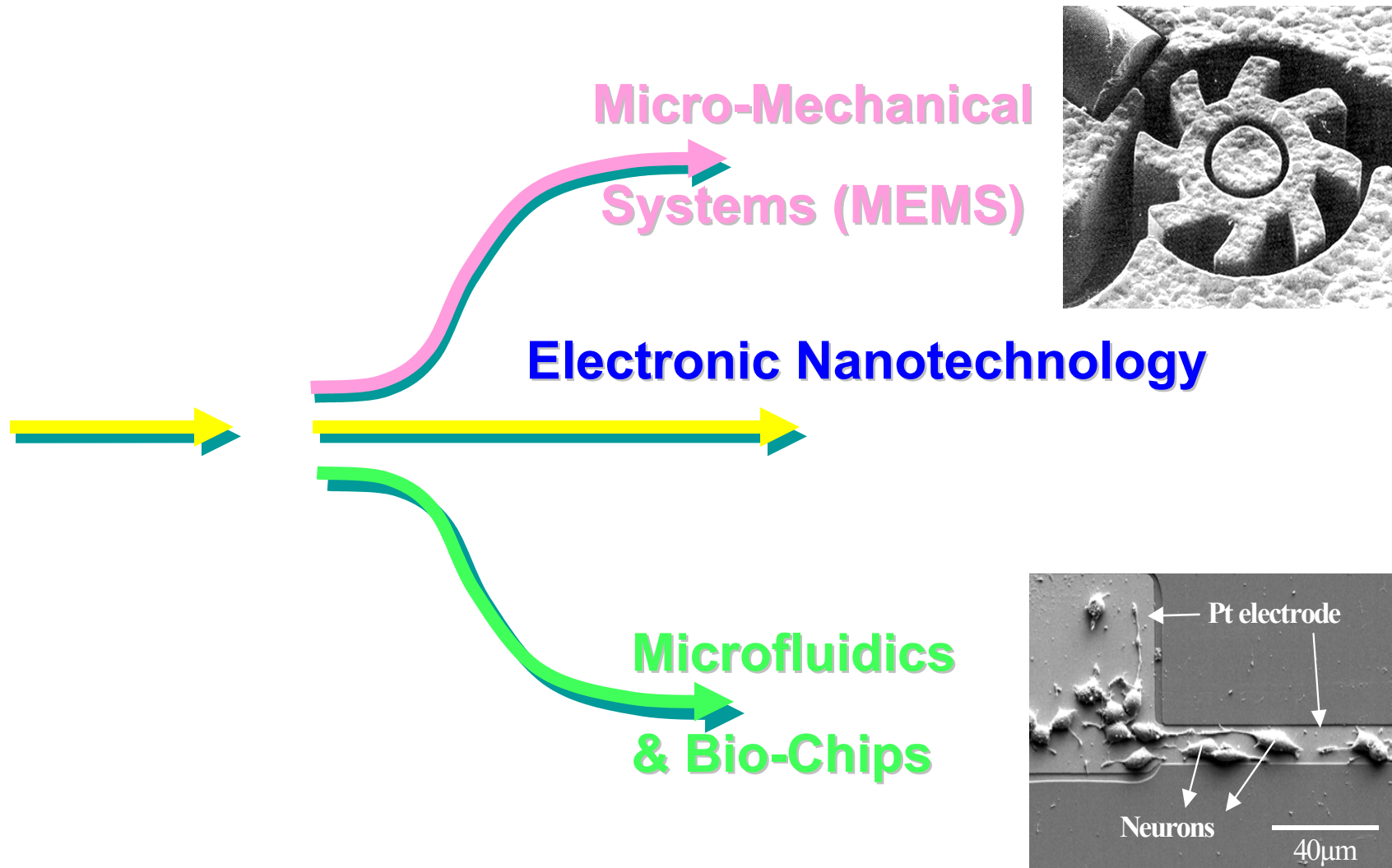
# Microfluidics Applications

- MIT technology review (2001) - "one of technologies that will change the world"
- Markets

- Point of care diagnostics
- Discovery/screening (not just
- DNA manipulation and proce:
- Analytical instruments
- Drug delivery
- Sensing
- **Assisted Reproduction**
- Bioproduction
- Chemical engineering
- Chemistry

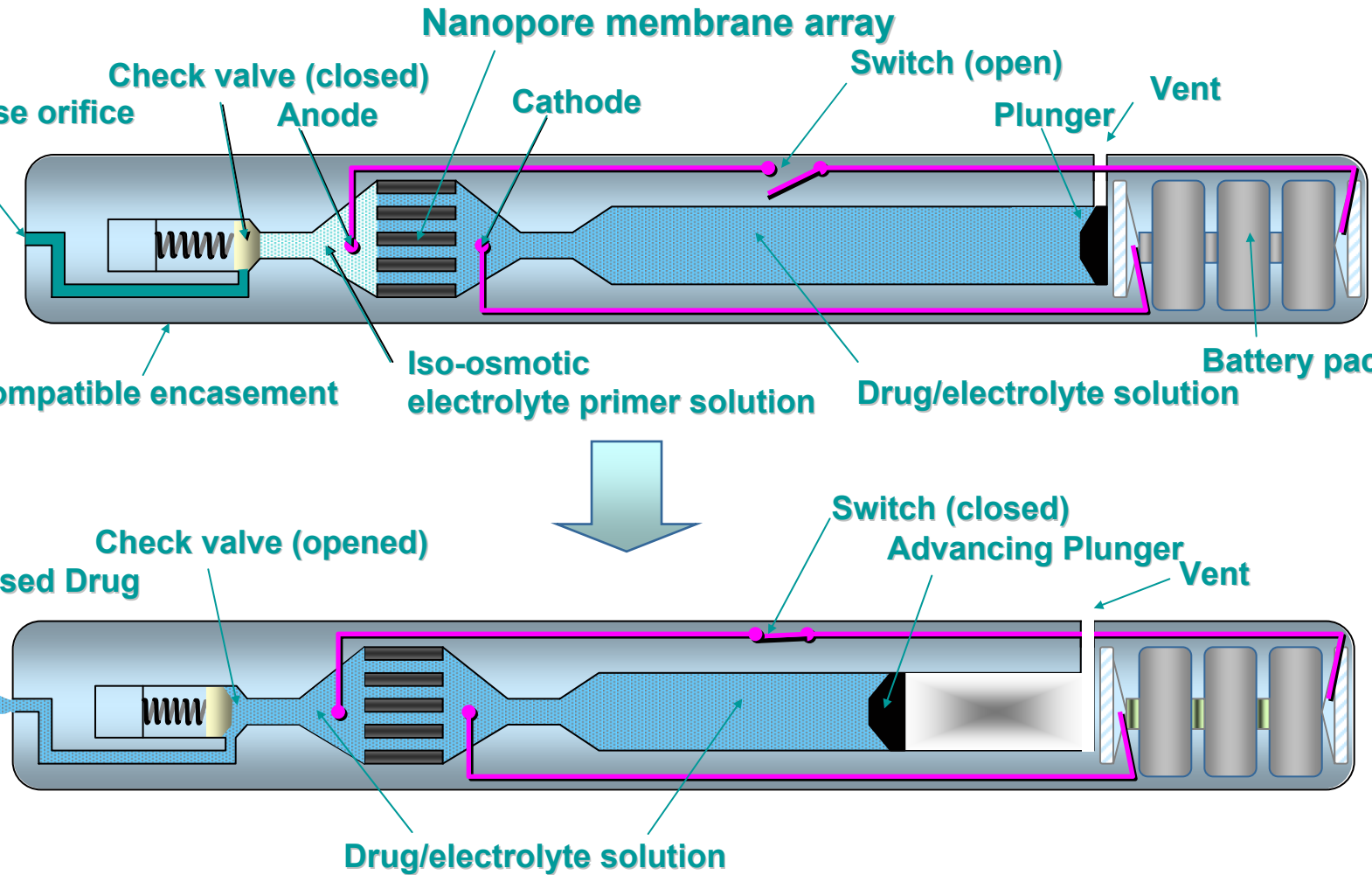
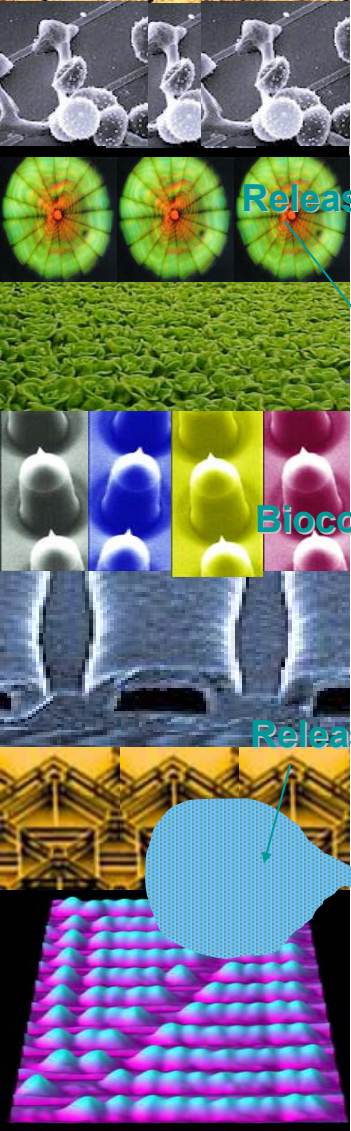


# Branches of Nanotechnology



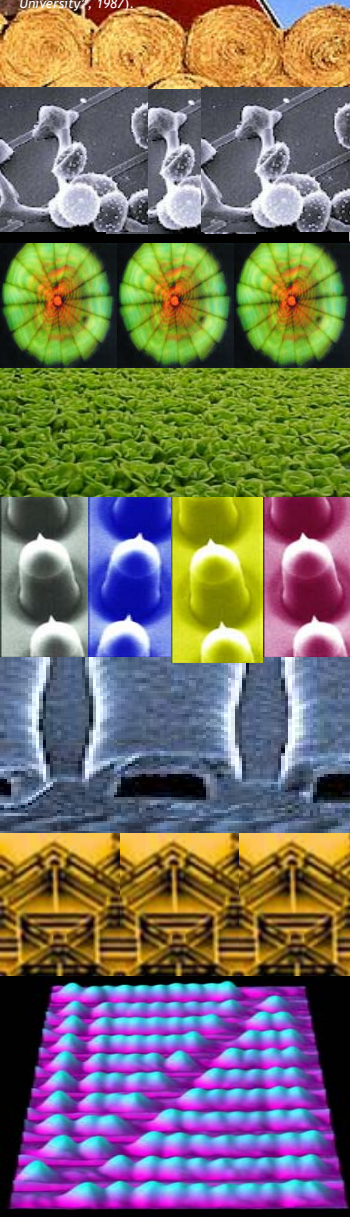
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# NanoPUMP Implantable Drug Delivery Device

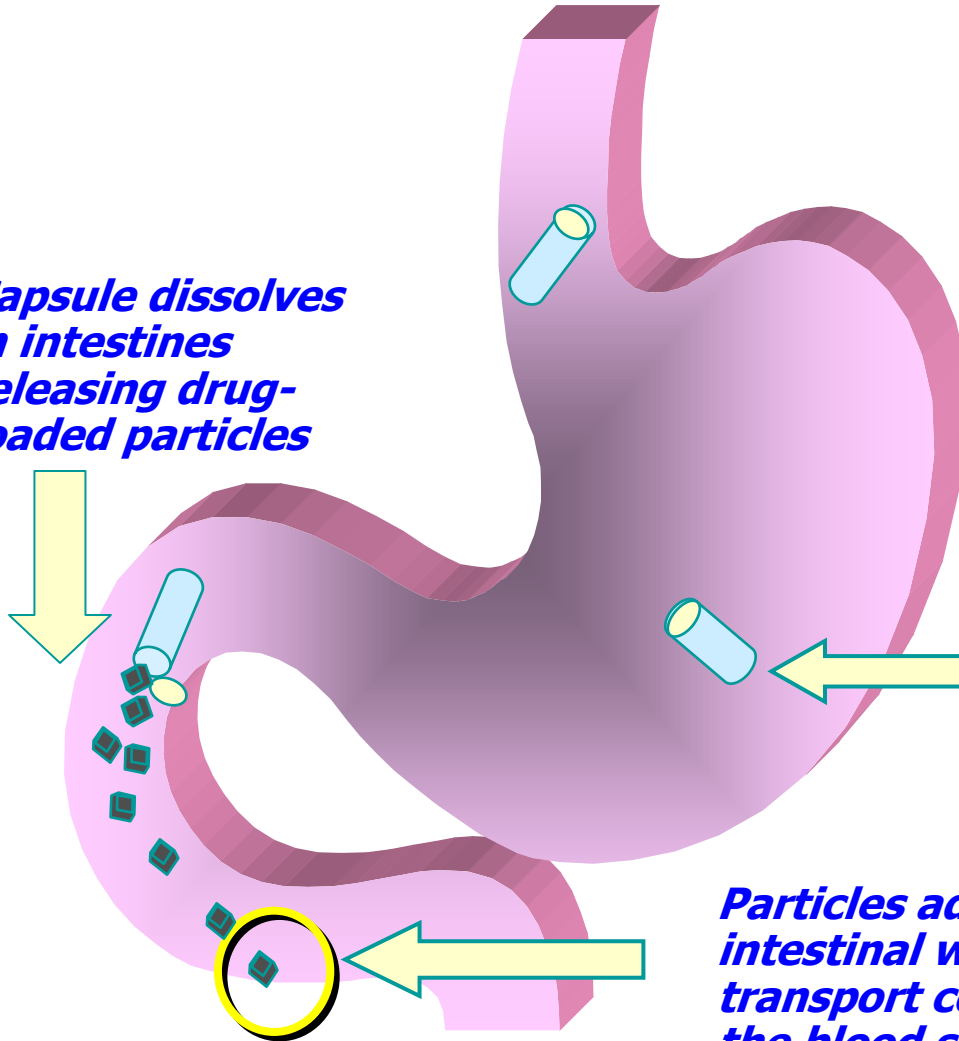


# Oral Peptide Delivery: Transport through the GI Tract

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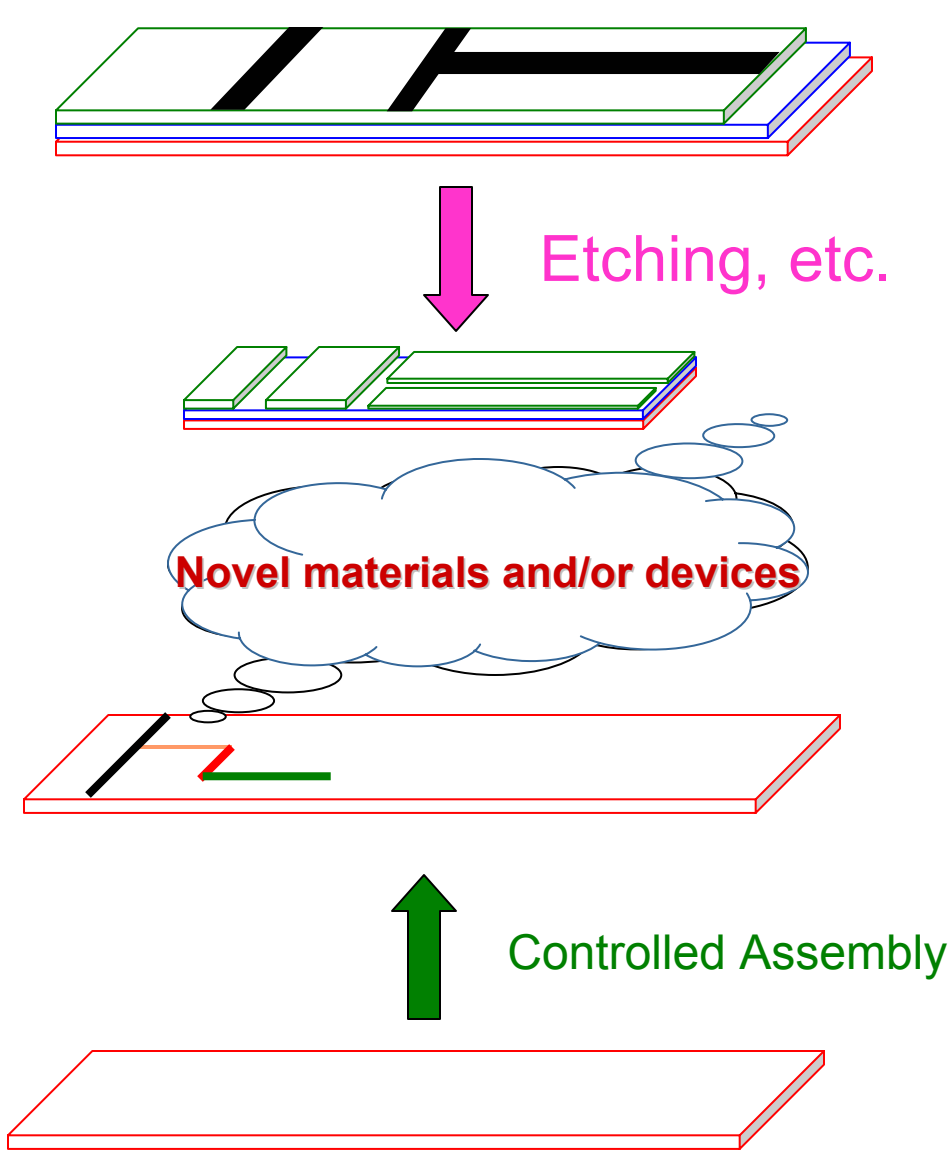
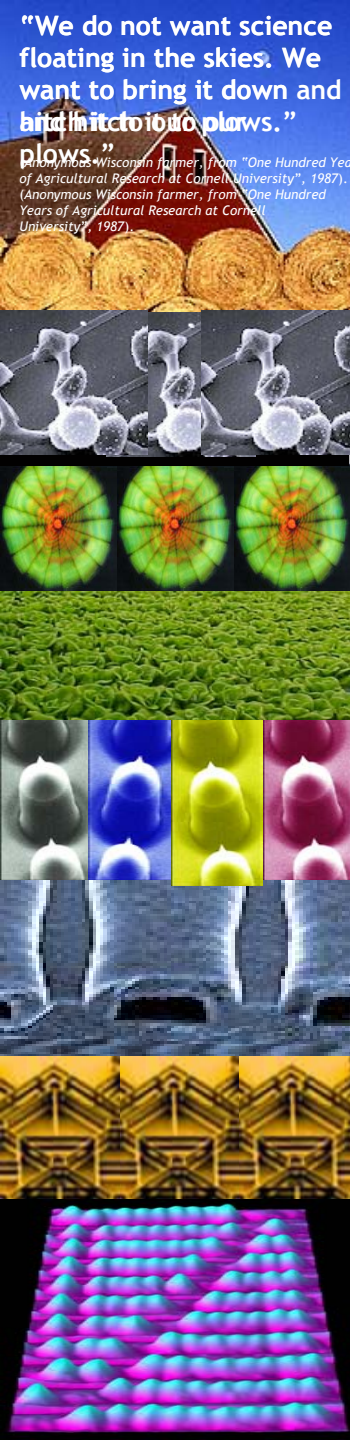
*Capsule dissolves in intestines releasing drug-loaded particles*



*Enteric coating protects drug-loaded particles in acidic stomach*

*Particles adhere to intestinal wall and transport contents into the blood stream*

# Two Directions in Nanotechnology



TOP-DOWN



Control the "Knife"

BOTTOM-UP



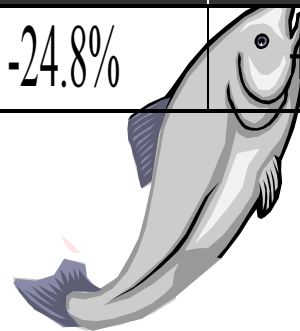
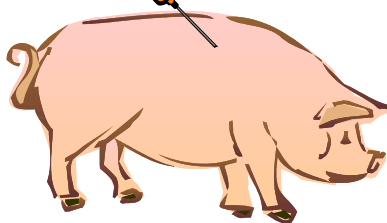
Control the "building blocks"



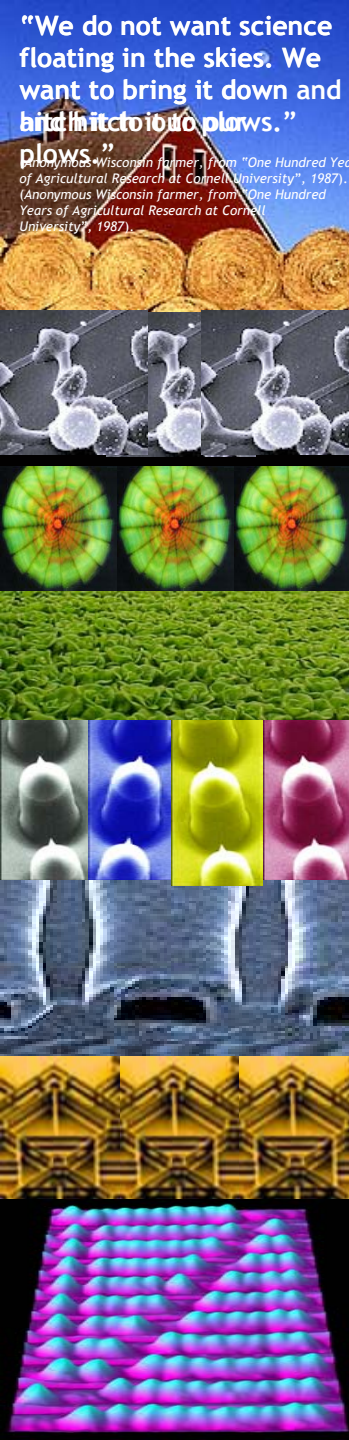
# DNA Delivery to Agriculturally Important Animals

## Percent changes between pST-treated pigs and controls

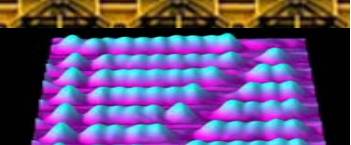
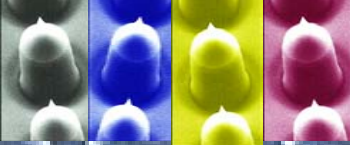
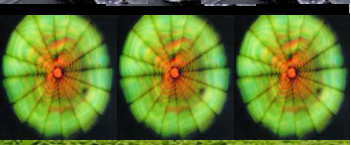
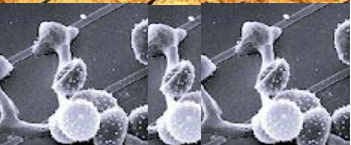
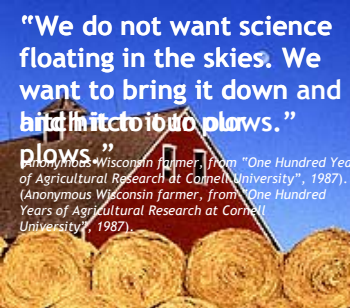
Daily Gain	Feed/Gain	Backfat	Loin Eye	Muscle
+15.2%	-21.1%	-24.8%	+18.5%	+9.9%



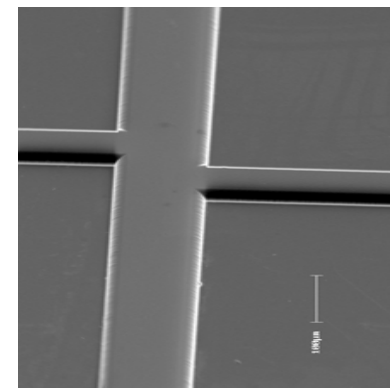
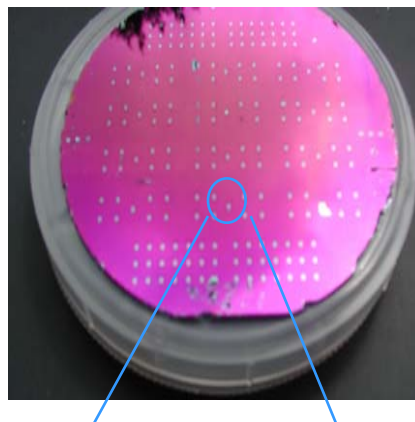
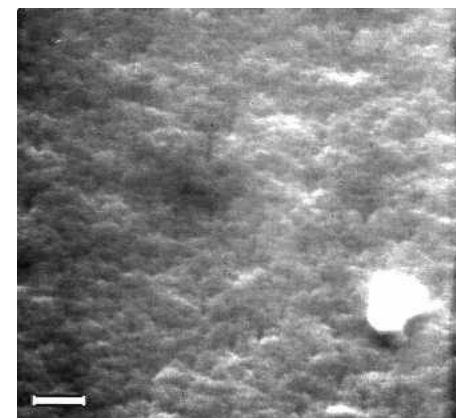
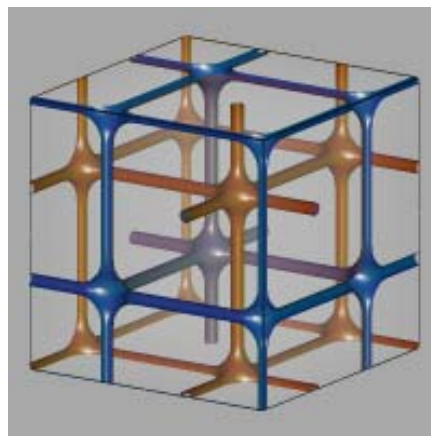
- DNA vs. Protein Delivery (cost; safety; simplicity; etc.)
- Bolus vs. Controlled Release Delivery
- DNA Encapsulation in Molded-Nanowells
- Multi-gene Delivery in Controlled Release Polymers
- DNA-polymer Hybrid Materials for Delivery



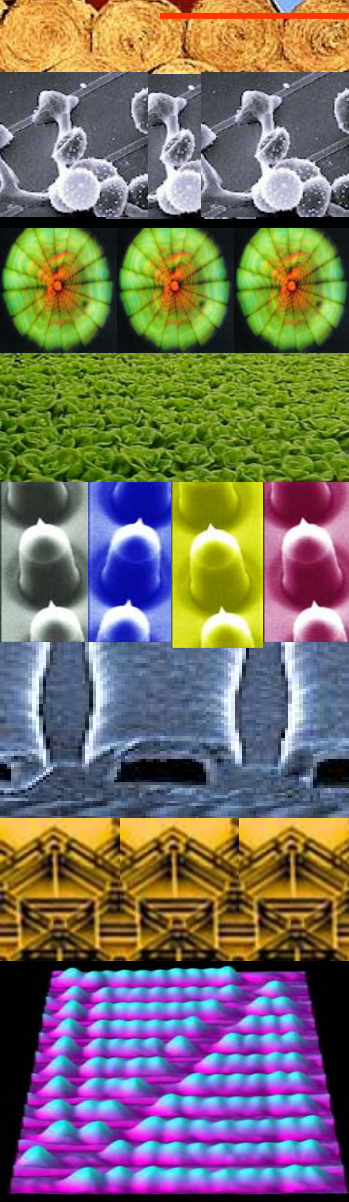
# Biomolecular Devices and Analysis



Major research and development activities in the life sciences has generated the need for materials, methods, and devices for sorting, separating, and analyzing proteins, DNA and other biomolecules.



"We do not want science floating in the skies. We want to bring it down and hitch it to the plows."  
Anonymous Wisconsin farmer, from "One Hundred Years of Agricultural Research at Cornell University", 1987.  
(Anonymous Wisconsin farmer, from "One Hundred Years of Agricultural Research at Cornell University", 1987).



# Nanobiosensors and Milking

## Approach:

Location of an array of nanobiosensors directly at the inlet of the milking machine to monitor for the presence of bacteria in the milk of each cow and reproductive state (estrus)

## Outcome and Impact:

Direct quality control of milk

Avoiding the spoilage of large quantities of milk

## Requirements:

Rapid detection (seconds)

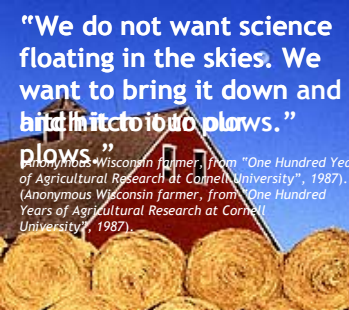
No sample pretreatment (since in-line detection)

Continuous monitoring

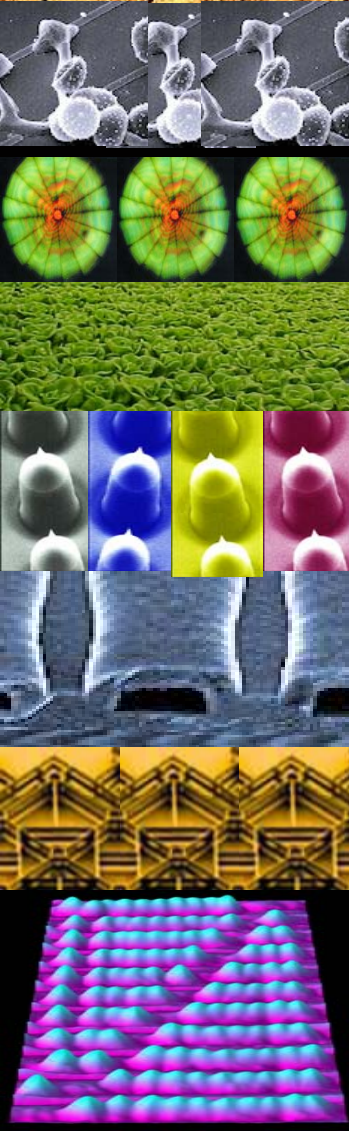
Remote sensing capability

## Obstacles:

Not possible with current technology



# Materials, Environmental, Agricultural Waste, Nanoparticles



- Develop novel nanomaterials**
- Nanocomposite polymer films for enhanced functional properties and biodegradation
  - Naturally occurred nanoparticles
  - Nanocatalysts design for waste bioprocessing

**Alexandra Navrotsky**

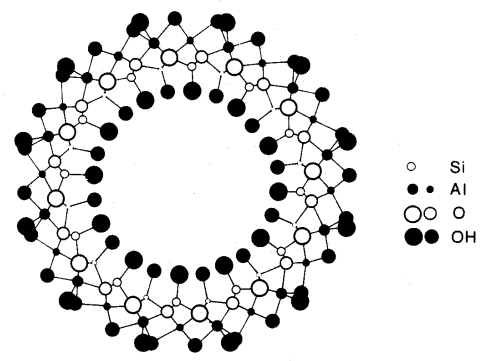
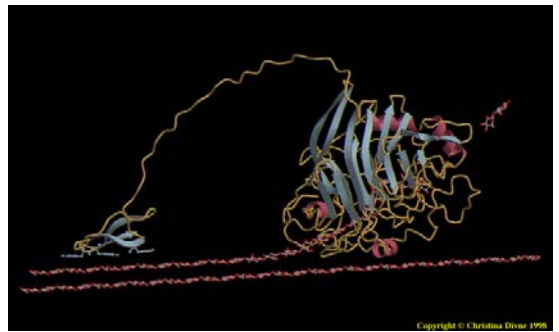


Fig. 1. A cross-section of the structure of an imogolite tube

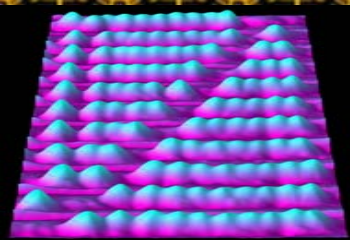
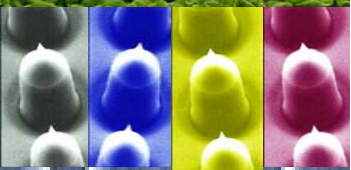
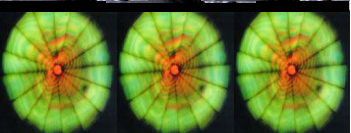
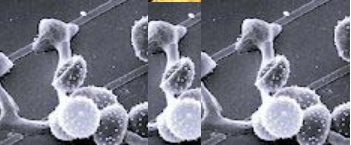
**JoAnn Ratto**



**Larry Walker**

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# A NEW SCIENTIFIC FRONTIER

## Broad spectrum of opportunities

- Research community
- Industrial development