

**Press Release**

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**Triangle Biotech Research Symposium III:
Innovating Through Partnerships and Collaborations
Plant Pathways Elucidation Project (P2EP)**

(Tinton Falls, NJ) The Plant Pathways Elucidation Project will present a panel at the Triangle Biotech Research Symposium III: Innovating Through Partnerships and Collaborations, October 28, 2014. The Symposium is hosted by the Biopharma Research Council and the NC Biotechnology Center in Triangle Research Park.

The Plant Pathways Elucidation Project, or P2EP, gathers college students from across North Carolina in an education and research endeavor at the North Carolina Research Campus. Billed as “a student-driven initiative that fuses plant science with human health,” P2EP fosters collaboration between STEM students, educators, and industry leaders; together they explore plant pathways and determine how and why crops benefit human health. In addition to scientific discovery and educational collaboration, P2EP aims to yield a database for ready access of the accumulated plant pathway knowledge.

The panel will include P2EP participants Dr. Cory R. Brouwer, Director of the Bioinformatics Services Division and Associate Professor of Bioinformatics and Genomics at UNC Charlotte, and Dr. Mary Ann Lila, Director of the Plants for Human Health Institute and Professor of Food Science at NC State University.

Dr. Brouwer’s work spans bioinformatics and computational biology services including next generation sequencing, clinical association studies and comparative genomics.

Dr. Lila’s research focuses on defining the nature of bioactive compounds that are known to promote human health benefits. By ascertaining the function and composition of these compounds, Dr. Lila intends to discover new methods of counteracting chronic disease and promoting endurance.

Additional panel participants include Michael Todd, Executive Director for the North Carolina Research Campus; Clyde Higgs, VP for Business Development for Castle & Cooke NC, Inc.; and Richard Linchango, Ph.D. Student in Bioinformatics at UNCC.

The BioPharma Research Council (BRC) offers this education program and conference as part of its mission to stimulate interaction among functional silos across the biomedical research and development community.

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Founded in 2009, the BioPharma Research Council is an association for scientists throughout the biomedical research community- industry, academic, nonprofit, government, and supplier labs and their teams.
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