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**“A desk is a dangerous place from which to view the world.”**

**-John LeCarre-**

**MEETINGS and EVENTS:**

Links will provide additional information. Dates for recent additions are in **bold**.

<i>What</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Where</i>
<a href="#">Science Symposium</a>	<b>July 17 – 18</b>	All Day	UW - Stout
<a href="#">Lake Superior Day</a>	<b>July 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>Everywhere! Especially in the Lake Superior Basin</b>
<a href="#">WIN Technology Conference</a>	August 7 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	WITC Ashland
<a href="#">Inventors &amp; Entrepreneurs Club</a>	<b>August 7<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30 PM	<b>Coffee Shop US 2 &amp; 63</b>
BCEDC Board Meeting	August 11 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – Noon	Washburn Library
<a href="#">2008 Resource Rendezvous</a>	August 28	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Marshfield Clinic
Lake Superior Binational Forum	Sept 5-6	All Day Fri. 8-12 Sat.	Houghton, MI
<a href="#">Sustainable Communities &amp; Farms</a>	<b>Sept 11 &amp; 12</b>	All day	Oconomowoc, WI
<a href="#">Northshore In-line Half Marathon</a>	<b>Sept 13<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30 AM	Two Harbors to Duluth
<a href="#">Bioneers Conference 2008</a>	Oct. 17-19	All Day	San Rafael, California

## Inquiring Minds

Inquiry probes the unknown and advances opportunity for taking action based on new knowledge.

Yesterday, Governor **James Doyle** spoke at the **Wisconsin Science and Technology Symposium** emphasizing how Wisconsin values research because probing questions will pave the way to economic opportunity. After emphasizing how he expects Wisconsin investment in research to maintain and expand its national and international leadership, Doyle announced an initiative to encourage research and development among private companies. The initiative will

provide tax incentives for companies that are able to demonstrate 25% increases in spending for R & D as well as sales-tax exemption for purchase of R & D equipment.

The remarks set the stage, providing a backdrop for a day filled with amazing presentations about what is happening on the campuses of Wisconsin Universities. UW Madison is widely recognized as one of the top tier public research institutions in the United States. The conference provided a showcase for cutting-edge work at the comprehensive campuses of the UW System. Research highlighted at the conference included an array of interdisciplinary efforts in nanotechnology, bio-based energy, and medical science. A [synopsis](#) of conference presentations is available.

Stem cell research receives justified attention for potential tissue replacement therapy. While the promise is there, critical steps are needed to enable applications to clinical problems including spinal cord injury, heart muscle loss and replacement of pancreatic cells in diabetic patients. Dr. **Timothy Lyden** at UW River Falls described research projects with 3D “artificial tissues.” Most conventional tissue culture involves production of single layers of cells growing on a plastic or glass plate. Lyden described use of a cell-free matrix that enabled cell growth and promoted stable differentiation. His lab has worked with matrices from brain, heart, bone as well as other organs. The work, which has its roots with cells derived from chicken embryos, has recently moved to building artificial tissues using human embryonic stem cells. Amazingly, Lyden's research is accomplished while he maintains a full-time teaching load. Like other presentations yesterday, Lyden described how undergraduate students contribute to his research projects.

Funding for research projects like that of the Lyden Lab at River Falls, is supported, in whole or in part, by grants from the **WiSys Technology Foundation**. With leadership from biochemist, Dr. **Maliyakal John**, WiSys provides funding for Post-doctoral Research Fellowships and equipment. WiSys is a non-profit subsidiary of WARF, the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation. WARF is one of the most robust funding sources for research at UW-Madison. WiSys extends research support to the comprehensive campuses of the UW System.

Conferences are a wonderful opportunity for networking. Serendipity plays a curious role in making connections. Picking a random table for breakfast yesterday I met **Jeff Mullins**, an industrial designer who is developing a course that will include a major segment on industrial ecology. This course will be an adjunct to a new **Sustainable Technology and Energy Center** that aims to support eco-industrial development. The Center will work with multiple stakeholders to facilitate opportunities for resource exchanges, sharing of services and workforce training.

Research conferences bring together those who know and those who want to know. Inquiring minds want to know.

## **LIGHTER SIDE:**

As with most jokes the original author is unknown. Whoever you are; “Thanks!” Names, when added, are intended to tease the innocent.

## **LIFE SUPPORT AGREEMENT**

One night Patti and I were sitting in the den and I said to her, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle to keep me alive. That would be no quality of life at all. If that ever happens, just pull the plug.

So she got up, unplugged the TV, and poured my wine into the sink.

Take care and enjoy a great weekend!

/BRUCE

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*Bruce Lindgren is Principal of [B.Lindgren CONSULTING](#). The consulting practice serves small business, local government, school districts and non-profits providing support for research, grant development, technical writing, marketing support and project management. Bruce brings his background in biological sciences, education, small business and media technology to generate and implement ideas contributing solutions to mission critical challenges.*

*In addition Bruce maintains the following affiliations:*

[Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation](#), (BCEDC) *Director*

[Bayfield CountyLakes Forum](#), *Board Secretary*

[Chequamegon Institute, Inc.](#) *Initial Registered Agent*

[Coalition for Eco-Industrial Development](#), (CEID) *Acting President & CEO*

[IDEA Consortium LLC](#), *Owner*

[Inland Sea Society](#), (ISS) *Director*

[Lake Superior Binational Forum](#), (LSBF) *US Co-Chair*

[Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board](#), (WIB) *Member*

[Raindrop Garden Gallery](#), (RGG) *Co-owner*

*The encircled fractal triangle represents an integrated cluster of seven ideas – economics, ecology, equity, ethics, experience, education and energy – that may be considered a core for sustainability studies. Bruce is available to present illustrated*

*lectures and facilitate discussions about role of education in Industrial Ecology, Sustainable Development and the Sustainability Revolution.*