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Edited by

Gary S. Sayler
John Sanseverino
and
Kimberly L. Davis

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PREFACE

The purpose of these proceedings was to address the technological, economic, institutional and social questions raised by the rapidly evolving use of biotechnology for the protection, restoration, and sustainability of our environment. The symposium, "Biotechnology in the Sustainable Environment" emphasized the future-oriented nature of biotechnology, that is, the potential use of biotechnology in upstream decisions about materials management, in addition to the status and directions of current applications. This symposium incorporated state-of-the-science, as well as risk and policy issues into the topics of biotechnology and remediation, waste treatment, environmental evaluation and monitoring, and versatility and future directions in biotechnology and sustainability. Achieving a sustainable environment cannot be accomplished by one discipline or one sector of society. Likewise, long-term environmental sustainability cannot be accomplished by one government. Sustainability must be a global effort as is evident from the multinational participation in these proceedings.

The importance of biotechnology, sustainability, and the environment is highlighted by the combined support that this discipline receives from industry and the government. In this regard, we acknowledge the foresight of the sponsors and supporters of this symposium: Eastman Chemical Company, E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company, Inc., Procter and Gamble, IT Corporation, Dow Chemical Company, Science Applications International Corporation, Oak Ridge National Laboratories, General Electric, the Waste Management Research and Education Institute of the University of Tennessee, Biotreatment News, and the Bio-Cleanup Report. The efforts of the planning and steering committee as well as the symposium participants were essential for the execution of this successful symposium.

John Sanseverino
UT Center for Environmental Biotechnology

Kimberly L. Davis
UT Waste Management Research and Education Institute

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