

400b NSF Workshops on Biorenewable Resources and Sustainable Development: Research Directions and Opportunities

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The NSF has recently conducted several workshops that address the fundamental scientific barriers that must be overcome for the successful utilization of biorenewable resources for chemicals, fuels, and consumer products. These workshops have outlined general directions for engineering research with a focus on the specific opportunities in chemical catalysis and biocatalysis, as well as associated issues related to chemical reaction engineering. This presentation will summarize the conclusions of these reports and will provide a broader context for potential research opportunities at NSF. Future workshops related to sustainable development, green chemistry, and environmental concerns will also be outlined.