

## Michelle Miller

**From:** mmiller@mbcoi.net on behalf of Marine Bio-Technologies Center of Innovation (MBCOI) <mmiller@mbcoi.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 06, 2013 4:57 PM  
**To:** mmiller@mbcoi.net  
**Subject:** A Nexus for Marine Biotechnology

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Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Marine Bio-Technologies Center of Innovation. Don't forget to add mmiller@mbcoi.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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### Save the Date

December 2013

NC Aquaculture Development  
Conference Feb 21-22, 2014, New  
Bern, NC

CED Life Science Conference Feb  
26-27, 2014, Raleigh, NC

Gordon Research Council Marine  
Natural Products, Mar 2-7, 2014,  
Ventura, CA

National Council of Entrepreneurial  
Tech Transfer, Mar 19-21, 2014,  
Washington, DC

BioMarine Oct 30-31, 2014 Portugal

### What you may expect from our newsletter...

*Fathom the Opportunities* will offer insight into various companies, ongoing research, and events occurring in marine biotechnology. The newsletter will also serve as a tool to keep stakeholders updated and highlight MBCOI's progress and programs. Look for stories from

### Greetings from the CEO

I am excited to launch the Marine Bio-technologies Center of Innovation's (MBCOI) quarterly newsletter.

*"Fathom the Opportunities"* will serve as a platform to bring you information about marine biotechnology not only in North Carolina (NC) but around the world. North Carolina is making significant investments to advance marine biotechnology and is among the top three biotechnology states in the US with more than 500 businesses and 59,000 employees. Efforts include marine chemistries with potential as pharmaceuticals, cosmeceuticals, and nutritional supplements, novel sources of fuel and energy, aquaculture, seafood preservation, water-quality testing, and waste remediation.

Our inaugural newsletter includes an introduction to MBCOI, its programs, and what you can expect from MBCOI as we implement our programs to facilitate the development of NC biomarine resources. We welcome and encourage your input about the type of content you would like to

industry partners, articles focusing on research and development, and newsletter themes focusing on specific topics such as aquaculture, ocean chemistries, and other marine biotechnology topics.

***Fathom the Opportunities***  
**is intended to serve:**

**Academia**

We will highlight ongoing research and new discoveries related to marine biotechnology. Future newsletters may focus on specific topics such as new advances in diagnostics or food safety. Researchers can utilize the newsletter and our website ([www.MBCOI.net](http://www.MBCOI.net)) to identify possible collaborations and technologies that may be beneficial to their research.

**Industry**

We will serve the business community by featuring information about established businesses and promising startups who are utilizing marine biotechnologies. The newsletter will assist businesses find and explore possible partnerships, and aid the investment community to identify possible funding opportunities.

**Government**

We will offer insight into the development of marine biotechnology and the needs of industry. The newsletter will help identify research funding gaps that can be filled by government loans and grants, highlight regulatory matters, and identify economic development groups.

**Public**

This newsletter will review the diverse applications utilized in the field of marine biotechnology, explore current research efforts, and provide status updates on MBCOI programs. "*Fathom the Opportunities*" will provide a platform for the general public, educators, students, and special interest groups and associations to understand the importance of marine biotechnology and how technology from the sea is incorporated into our lives.

see in upcoming newsletters, and invite you to take our [brief survey](#) to aid us in developing "*Fathom the Opportunities*." We are also excited to announce the launch of our redesigned website at [www.MBCOI.net](http://www.MBCOI.net).

Thank you for your interest in marine biotechnology!

Sincerely,  
Deb Mosca, PhD  
CEO, Marine Bio-Technologies Center of Innovation  
Wilmington, NC

**Marine Bio-Technologies Center of Innovation**



**Defining Marine Biotechnology**

North Carolina is rich with marine science resources boasting more than 300 miles of Atlantic coastline, world-

renowned universities, and outstanding human capital with a strong entrepreneurial spirit! The Marine Bio-technologies Center of Innovation ([MBCOI](#)) is a nonprofit organization focused on facilitating collaboration among universities, scientists, industry partners, and funding organizations to accelerate the commercialization of innovative marine biotechnologies to benefit North Carolina's economy. Headquartered in Wilmington, North Carolina, with additional offices in Morehead City and the Research Triangle Park (RTP), MBCOI combines a regional focus with a global perspective.

MBCOI defines marine biotechnology broadly as the 'discovery and application of products and processes derived from marine organisms as well as those that may provide a benefit to marine organisms.' Recently, the global market for marine biotechnologies was estimated to be as high as \$168 billion, with significant room for growth in certain sectors such as aquaculture and energy (BioMarine 2013). MBCOI embraces the development of technologies related to aquaculture and fisheries, ocean chemistries, diagnostics, energy, environment, food safety, and health. Through our efforts we aim to become

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a nexus for education, collaboration, and expertise in the commercialization of marine biotechnologies.

## MBCOI Programs

### Introduction

To support MBCOI's mission and vision, four key programs have been established: Marine Assets Inventory, Technology Translation, Marketing, and Grants and Contracts. Collectively, these programs provide a synergistic value which will propel North Carolina and MBCOI into the future as a cluster for marine biotechnologies.

**Marine Assets Inventory** - MBCOI is creating a comprehensive inventory of North Carolina's vast marine assets as a tool to match researchers and resources with industry needs in order to identify [technologies](#) with the greatest potential for commercialization. The Marine Assets Inventory is the foundation for all of our programs; it will attract and build marine biotechnology related businesses and increase contract/grant revenue through collaborative research endeavors.

**Technology Translation** - this program is dedicated to the establishment of formal and informal agreements among stakeholders and institutions to enhance the commercialization of marine biotechnologies through education, market research, and business development activities. MBCOI will also act as the single point of contact (formal agent) on behalf of its stakeholders to evaluate interest from potential industry partners.

**Marketing** - significant progress has been made in promoting the MBCOI regionally, nationally, and internationally. MBCOI was integral in securing the 2015 BioMarine Business Convention for Wilmington, NC, which will serve as platform to showcase North Carolina's marine technologies and expertise to a global audience. As a founding member of the BioMarine International Clusters Association (BICA), MBCOI will further increase its network of stakeholders and industry as well as serve as a conduit for the global exchange of ideas, perspectives, and collaboration on a range of projects and programs stemming from North Carolina's efforts.

**Grant and Contract Research Services** - as an umbrella organization for the state of North Carolina's marine-focused researchers, MBCOI is uniquely positioned to identify funding opportunities appropriate for developing marine biotechnology. The Marine Assets Inventory will allow MBCOI to match faculty and researchers with funding opportunities and suggest multidisciplinary collaborations and partnerships with other stakeholders and industry partners.

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