

Shaping the Future of Engineering Biology

Institutional Membership Overview



What is EBRC?

EBRC is the leading U.S.-based non-profit, public-private partnership dedicated to bringing together an inclusive community committed to advancing engineering biology to address national and global needs. We showcase cutting-edge research in synthetic biology, identify pressing challenges and opportunities in research and application, articulate compelling research roadmaps and programs to address these challenges and opportunities, and provide timely access to other key developments in engineering biology.

Our four focus areas, driven by member-led working groups:



Research
Roadmapping



Education



Security



Policy and
International
Engagement

THE EBRC COUNCIL

Council Members are a core group of EBRC members that are responsible for implementing the vision and mission of EBRC. Council Members form the core of the EBRC working groups (serving as chairs as well as working group members), and serve on committees to fulfill EBRC governance duties. Each member organization has a seat on the council and join with 30 elected individual members to form the full EBRC Council. Additional employees are encouraged to participate in EBRC Working Groups and attend relevant events.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Institutional Members come from the full range of organizations interested in synthetic biology. From large multinational corporations to non-profit research institutions, our members play a critical role in helping guide the field by working with a community of academic scientists and engineers committed to rapid advancement. Members participate in or lead working groups on topics of interest to their companies and in shaping EBRC's programs and activities. EBRC Working Groups provide a unique forum where industry scientists work side-by-side, and on an equal playing field, with academic faculty to advance the field. EBRC activities not only provide opportunities to help shape the field's vision and direction but also provide unique access to cutting edge research taking place in academic labs and to EBRC's young leaders, students, and postdocs.

Benefits

- Learn about pre-disclosure, cutting-edge research taking place in academic labs. Access slides and posters after the event.
- Participate in or lead working groups on topics of interest to your company.
- Help shape engineering biology's national roadmap, catalyze new technical advances, and direct the future of the field.
- Work side-by-side, and on an equal playing field, with EBRC's distinguished academic faculty on projects to advance the field of synthetic biology.
- Meet and get to know the next generation of talented scientists, engineers and policy experts working to advance the engineering of biology.

Criteria

- Mission, products and/or services related to biotechnology.
- Interest in participating in EBRC working groups, programs, council, and other activities.
- Pay annual membership dues based on the size of your organization.

Membership Meetings

ANNUAL MEETING **SPRING**

Hosted at rotating locations around the US, annual meetings include scientific content, interactions amongst the membership, working group meetings, and last 2-3 days. Member organizations are encouraged to send multiple representatives to participate. The meeting will include a robust technical program with talks and posters. They will also include sessions designed around EBRC Working Groups (e.g. a session on the EBRC Research Roadmap). The meeting will be extended to a third day for Council Members to work in committees and working groups.

COUNCIL RETREAT **FALL**

Once a year, in the other half of the year from the Annual Meeting, hosted at rotating locations around the US, but focused on making travel easy (prioritized over diverse locations). This will serve as the primary working meeting for EBRC Council Members. Meetings would likely be tied into workshops and other activities by the working groups to maximize utility and minimize additional travel. These meetings could include a short technical component for faculty and industry. EBRC will extend travel support to EBRC Council Members to participate in this event.

MEMBERSHIP TIERS

Institutional members join by signing a membership agreement and paying annual membership dues based on the size of the company. EBRC is exempt from income tax under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and membership dues are generally tax-deductible.

Number of Employees	Annual Dues
1 - 20	\$1,000
21 - 75	\$5,000
76 - 250	\$10,000
251 - 500	\$15,000
500+	\$30,000

Non-profits and companies whose primary business is outside biotechnology may be eligible for reduced dues.



EBRC Focus Areas & Working Groups

EBRC has organized Working Groups to carry out the externally-facing activities of the organization. EBRC working groups are charged with identifying and promoting synthetic biology research opportunities (including developing and maintaining components of the EBRC roadmap), and building solid and durable ties to federal agencies, institutions, and the larger community in each area. Their activities include engaging these communities, institutions, and agencies about the role of synthetic biology research, as well as engaging synthetic biologists about the challenges and opportunities in these fields. Working groups have regular teleconferences, and host meetings and workshops on specific topics. EBRC working groups also have periodic in-person meetings throughout the year.



Technical Research Roadmapping

EBRC's Research Roadmapping efforts are intended to create and promote a regularly updated roadmap for the engineering biology research community – academic and industrial – that identifies priority areas for basic (pre-competitive) research over the next two decades. This focus area aims to guide better-coordinated efforts throughout the U.S. government to fund and expand engineering biology research, to engage new stakeholders, and to inform the research and scientific support community about the challenges and potential of the engineering biology field.



Security & Synthetic Biology

The potential for synthetic biology to be used for nefarious purposes is a concern for the engineering biology research community, government agencies who seek to mitigate such threats and society at large. We facilitate government security stakeholder and researcher dialogue and enable processes to advance security. Building on these foundations of security in research and alignment with government, our outreach efforts promote the economic benefits of synthetic biology and build confidence that those benefits are achievable without taking on unacceptable risks of misuse. The group is currently developing a security framework for researchers to consider the security implications of their work. This group is not limited to a traditional definition of biosecurity, but considers any potential security issues that affect or are affected by engineering biology.



Policy & International Engagement

EBRC works to proactively engage on public policy issues that affect or are affected by the advancement of engineering biology. Through the Policy & International Engagement Working Group, EBRC serves as a focal point for international engagement, representing the U.S. engineering biology community in key international forums and processes. In the U.S., the group engages directly with government stakeholders to provide insight from the research base to promote the economic value of U.S. leadership in the field. Community engagement extends to the local level, to build awareness of research and economic activity and create supportive research environments. EBRC members have access to resources on approaches for effective engagement locally, nationally, and internationally.



Synthetic Biology Education

EBRC is committed to improving education, training, and workforce development in synthetic biology. This includes establishing engineering biology to be on par with other STEM fields and ensuring that the U.S. education system produces qualified engineering biology practitioners for roles in research, manufacturing, and throughout the scientific enterprise. The working group facilitates sharing and promotion of high-quality materials and resources for use at all levels, including masters degree and community college programs. Through various programs and dynamic industry engagement, EBRC aims to develop the engineering biology workforce and train the next generation of engineering biology industry and academic leaders.



Visit www.ebrc.org/join to learn more.