

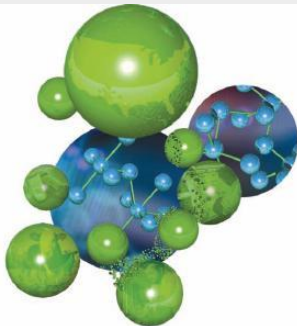
Please take a moment to read the latest news from Columbia SC's knowledge economy.

For continuous updates, check out www.engenuitysc.com

In This Month's Edition:

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Advanced Tissue Biofabrication Center Building SC's Bioscience Sector



USC has recently been awarded an endowed chair in a new Center of Economic Excellence Center in Advanced Tissue Biofabrication, which is a collaborative effort with MUSC and Clemson. Research will focus on developing a technique called "bioprinting," which is used to assemble human tissues and organs by layering living cells and a hydrogel. The Center will add to SC's bioengineering program which includes the Center in Regenerative Medicine and the South Carolina Bioengineering Alliance.

The CoEE Review Boards announcement of this new Center comes on the heels of the release of the Biotechnology Industry Organization's (BIO) annual review of state bioscience initiatives. The study, [Technology, Talent and Capital: State Bioscience Initiatives 2008](#), found that the biotechnology sector continues to be an important asset for state economies with the industry employing 1.3 million people in 2006 with an average pay of \$71,000 per year. The largest bioscience subsector in SC is medical devices and equipment (4,274 job in 2006); and the research, testing, and medical equipment laboratories subsector has grown rapidly (61% over 6

Three Technology Incubator Companies Awarded Prizes For Their Ideas

GOT A GREAT BUSINESS IDEA?



NEW IDEAS
for a New Carolina.

Innovation is thriving in the Columbia region with entrepreneurs generating new and progressive ideas and working to turn these ideas into a reality. The 2008 New Ideas for a New Carolina statewide business idea contest recently announced the winners of this year's competition, and three USC/Columbia Technology Incubator Companies - MadWise, Alala, and Palmetto Solar - walked away with top honors and prizes to get

years ending in 2006).

SC is not *yet* a leading state in the biosciences sector but our region is coming of age as more initiatives, like the [Center of Economic Excellence Program](#), are focusing efforts on technology, talent, and capital, all key building blocks for the knowledge economy

National Innovation Bill Makes Its Way To The US Senate

The Brookings Institution and the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) are a step closer to realizing their vision of creating a new National Innovation Foundation to consolidate federal programs involved with innovation into a single organizing office.



[S. 3078, the National Innovation and Job Creation Act of 2008](#), was introduced early this month. The bill calls for the creation of a National Innovation Council within the Executive Office of the President and several new grant programs to support state-directed technology-based economic development initiatives. The Council would be tasked with creating and collecting data for improved measures of innovation and productivity and would administer five new grant programs, opening up a new pool of federal investment for federal tech-based economic development spending.

Knowledge-oriented companies migrate to and cluster in areas with sufficient investment capital and resources to support their start-up and rapid growth needs. With access to the funds proposed under this bill, the Columbia region could begin to enhance and enrich its innovation and knowledge-based landscape. The bill's federal grant funds could be used to establish technology commercialization centers, industry-university research centers, regional cluster development programs, regional skills alliances, entrepreneurial support programs, science parks, and more related activities to spur innovation or productivity.

S. 3078, the National Innovation and Job Create Act of 2008, has been referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation for its consideration. Cross your fingers and stay tuned!

Making Black A Little Bit Greener

their ideas started.

Anandha Kumar Deekaram and Shaun Abraham of MadWise took home first place in the Engineering category for their idea called Mount1. Ron Norris of Alala was awarded Honorable Mention in the Bio- Science category for his idea called Sleeve-On. Andrew Epting of Palmetto Solar took home Honorable Mention in the Environmental Sustainability category for his vision of Palmetto Solar.

"We are very happy and proud that these companies have been recognized for their good work," said Joel Stevenson, Executive Director of the USC Columbia Technology Incubator. "We hope MadWise, Alala and Palmetto Solar continue their successful journey in South Carolina".

For more information about these companies and their ideas, visit [USC Columbia Technology Incubator](#)

Quick Links...

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[Greater Columbia Fuel Cell Challenge](#)



When one thinks of clean energy sources, coal does not come to mind. Currently, coal is by far the dirtiest way to produce electricity, but at the same time it's one of the cheapest and most plentiful sources. But, a cleaner and greener energy future doesn't

have to exclude coal. Armed with a new research center focused on clean coal research, USC will be working on technology to make coal a greener energy source.

The Center for Clean Coal Research will be housed under the umbrella of USC's Future Fuels Center directed by Dr. Ken Reifsnider. The center is funded in partnership by the state and the Electric Cooperative of South Carolina and Santee Cooper. Research efforts will be geared toward carbon removal methods that capture and sequester CO₂ released from coal burning plants.

To learn more about USC's efforts in making clean coal a reality, stay tuned with the [Future Fuels Center](#).

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