



Algae Foundation Mission Statement

The Algae Foundation's mission is to promote the power of algae to transform human society and the environment upon which it depends. We work towards a future in which algae are a fundamental source of energy, nutrition & health products, industrial chemicals, dyes, and ecological services for sustainable societies globally. To accomplish its mission, the Algae Foundation engages in and funds:

- Educational outreach
- Research, development, and other activities
- Development of future leaders of the algae industry through scholarships, grants and other financial and organizational support
- Communication among private, academic and public sector leaders, and the public generally, to increase broader literacy and awareness of the benefits of commercialization of algal-based technologies

We believe that a fully realized algal biomass industry in the U.S.A could employ thousands of technically trained workers in a unique 21st century form of agriculture, supplying a variety of critical market sectors including food, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and fuels. Much of this work will take place in areas ideal for algal cultivation but historically underpopulated and underserved by technical trade schools and community colleges that have become vital resources for training the American workforce. Assuming the success of algae related industries, it is important to plan for the human resources that will be required in a few short years. A key focus for the Algae Foundation is the development of this workforce.

Our first targeted project in STEM workforce development is the establishment of the Algae Technology Educational Consortium (ATEC) to deliver curricula for training algal technologists,

supporting textbooks and course manuals, and implemented across at least five geographically diverse locations. Our partners include the Algae Testbed Public Private Partnership (ATP3), a DOE-funded consortium made up of academic institutions, national labs, and private industry; the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), especially its partnership with DOE; the American Indian Research and Education Initiative (AIREI) which has supported tribal community-based energy research involving tribal colleges, regional universities, and national laboratories; and a range of universities, technical and community colleges throughout the U.S.A. An additional part of this program is the retraining of existing aquaculture specialists to include basics of algal culture. This retraining effort will be implemented through the design of an agriculture/aquaculture extension training program to be offered by extension agents throughout the U.S.A.

Additionally, the Algae Foundation provides student travel grants, on a competitive basis, to students and post-graduate algal researchers to attend and present their work at the Algae Biomass Summit, the world's leading algae conference.

The Algae Foundation is seeking interested parties to support future program opportunities that include development of a range of classroom materials for K-12 STEM education. At the other end of the workforce development spectrum, we are seeking funders and partners to develop an algae internship clearing house, tapping into the growing on-the-job training opportunities that the rapid growth of the algae industry presents.

Finally, the Algae Foundation recognizes that the current trajectory of the algae industry is based on a centuries-long foundation of fundamental and applied algal research. Many of the seminal publications from the pre-digital age, especially technical reports from the "grey literature" are not readily available using standard search engines. Further, as many classical phycologists reach retirement age, their collections of research literature face an uncertain future. The Algae Foundation intends to launch an algae literature digitalization campaign to collect, digitize and make freely available (copyrights permitting) this vast wealth of collected knowledge and experience.

**For more information or to get involved,
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