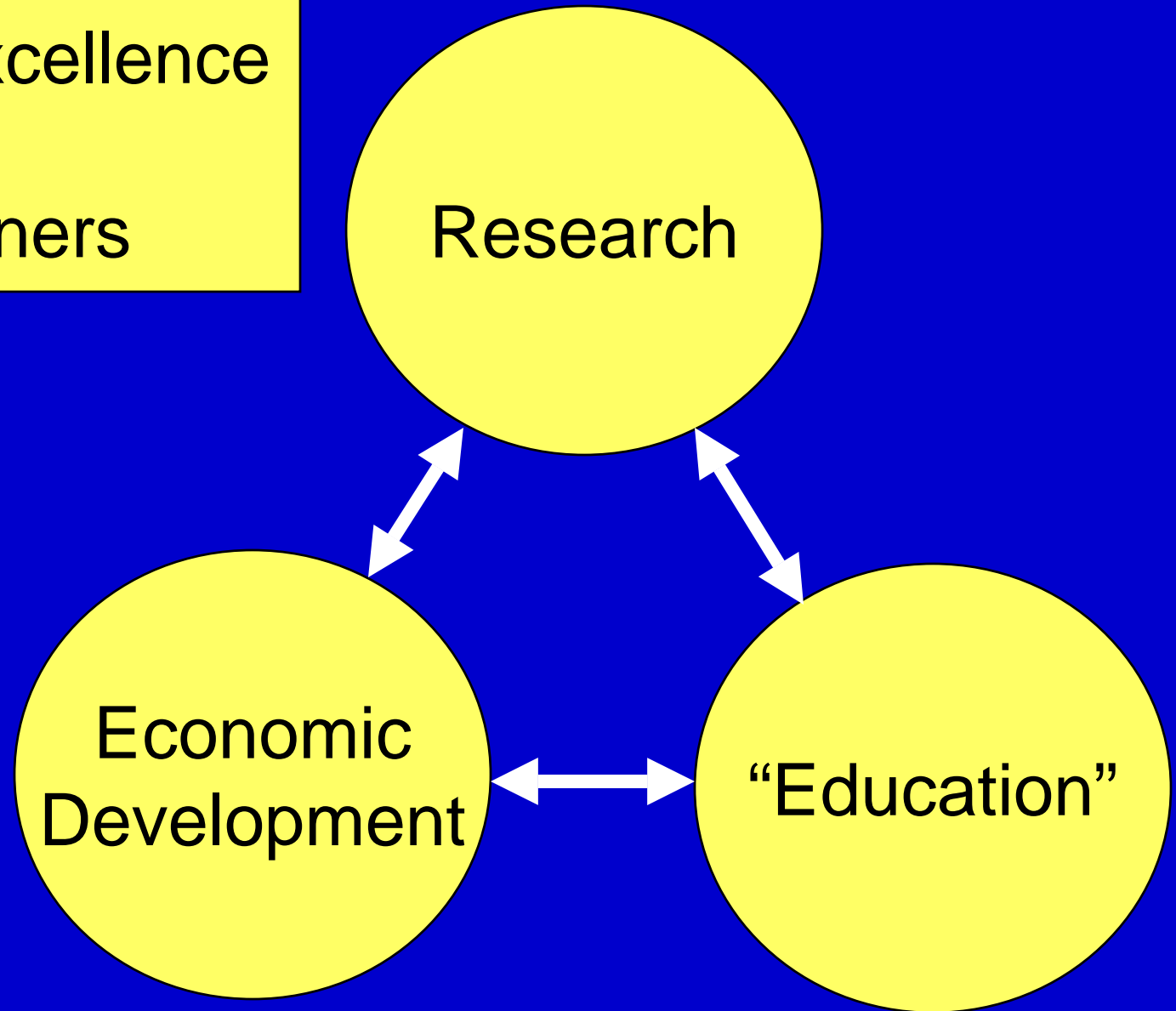


Interactions Between  
the  
Center of Excellence  
and  
Its Partners



Strategic Summit and  
Expo on Bio-Energy and  
Rural Economic Development

*proposed for*

Summer 2006

The Proposed Focus:

# Biomass Energy Can Be a Vehicle for Rural Economic Development

- Biomass is largely untapped as a resource in Northern NY
- Long Range Objective – Put this resource to use by building a sustainable industrial base using an energy source that gradually displaces petroleum.
- Summit Goal – Identify steps that can and should be taken now to prepare NNY region to successfully exploit existing underdeveloped biomass resources for renewable energy.

# Long – Range Objectives/Outcomes

- Develop a plan for creating a bio-energy technology company that is part of a renewable energy corridor in the St. Lawrence River Valley (Power Valley)
- Develop a plan for an economic development incubator that focuses on fostering fledgling bio-energy industries
- Increase economic opportunities for local biomass producers
- Increase entrepreneurial activities and jobs in biomass-related manufacturing and retail sectors
- Displace costly imported energy sources with locally grown energy and increase energy security
- Respond locally to the global challenges of dwindling fossil fuels and climate change

## Structure of Summit

- Plenary sessions with invited speakers on global framework, success stories (day 1)
- Break-out sessions on technologies, strategies, planning and implementation (day 2)
- Expo showcasing technologies and crops (Days 1 & 2)
- Field trip(s) (Day 3)

# Local Organizing Committee

- **Clarkson University** – Susan Powers, Prag Pillay, Rick Welch, Fred Menz
- **St Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce** – Karen St Hilaire, Shannon Brown, Mark Scott
- **NYSERDA/North Country Energy Smart Communities** – Ann Heidenreich
- **Cornell Cooperative Extension** – Bill van Loo
- **SUNY-Canton** – Carson Smith
- **New York State Farm Bureau** – Kirby Selkirk
- **USDA Rural Development** – Brian Murray
- **Jefferson County Job Development Corp** (proposed)

# Regional Advisory Committee (Proposed)

- NYSERDA
- Empire State Forest Producers Association
- SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
- Syracuse Center for Excellence
- Northeast Regional Biomass Program
- Northern Forest Center
- Environmental Business Association of New York State
- Adirondack North Country Association
- New York State Ag & Markets
- Development Authority of the North Country
- GTZ (German Agency for Technical Cooperation) Energy Advisor
- Biomass Energy Resource Center
- Resources for the Future

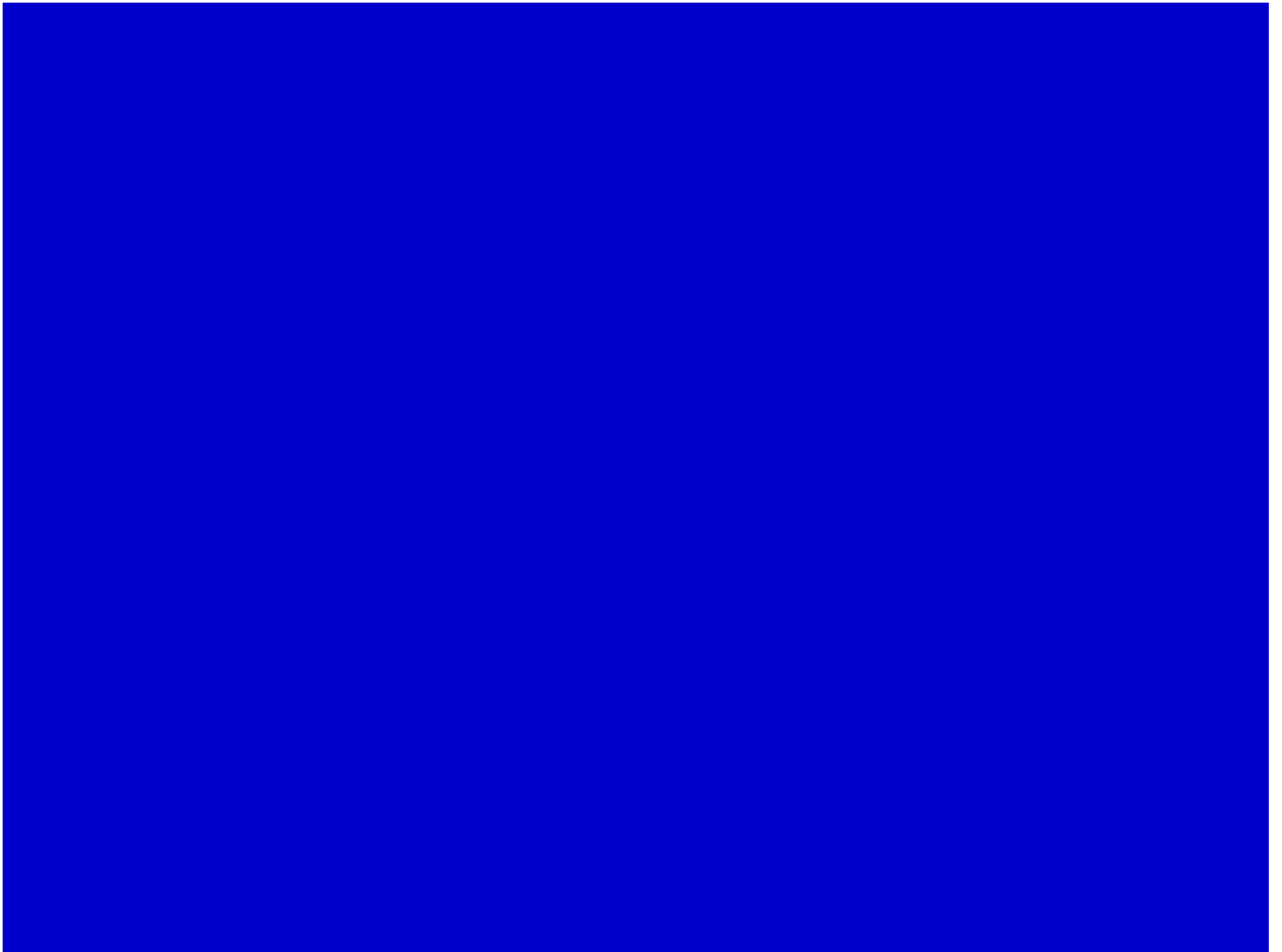
# Commercial Interests on Advisory Committee (Proposed or Suggested)

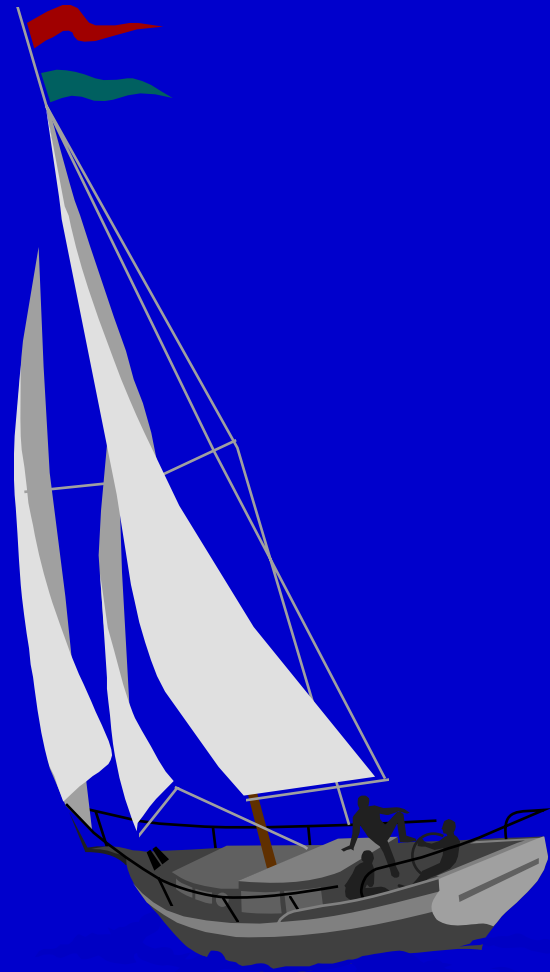
- NextGen Chemical Processes, Inc.
- Empire State Paper Research Association
- International Paper Company
- MVV Energie AG
- United Soybean Board
- AgPro, Ltd.

# Target Audience for Summit

- Biomass producers (farmers and foresters)
- Farm and forestry support agencies (government and not-for-profit)
- Biomass businesses and manufacturers, including the paper and other bio-products industries operating in NNY
- Rural economic and community developers
- Policy-makers
- Business associations
- Financing agencies and institutions
- Educators and researchers
- Environmental organizations
- Energy companies
- Media
- Students









# Objectives to Achieve During Summit

- Identify opportunities and benefits associated with biomass energy
- Inventory of actual and potential biomass energy resources in NNY
- Provide information and demonstrations on various biomass energy crops and conversion technologies, particularly those suited to NNY
- Showcase successful bio-energy ventures (commercial and manufacturing)
- Showcase successful utilization of biomass energy for heating, processing and electricity production
- Examine policies that affect bioenergy development (renewable energy laws, net metering, the Kyoto Treaty, and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM))
- Prepare a plan that engages local academic institutions, business associations, farm support agencies, financing agencies and institutions and not-for-profit agencies in supporting growth in the biomass energy sector
- Establish an energy working group that will move forward with the planning and implementation of biomass energy development in NNY

## Detailed Goals

- Identify ways to improve the North Country economy through sustainable production and sustainable use of biomass energy resources;
- Provide a venue to integrate academic research with economic development and agricultural sectors to provide interdisciplinary perspectives and share research and expertise in biomass energy technologies, rural economic development, and sustainable economies;
- Showcase state-of-the-art bio-energy technologies and how they might be implemented;
- Generate an action plan for development of the bio-energy sector and deployment of at least one bio-energy demonstration project in St Lawrence County.

# Outline of Summit Outcomes

- Introduction – Overview of global to local energy, environment and economic issues.
- Potential solutions – Implementation of bio-energy projects
  - ◆ Economic Opportunities in Bio-energy.
  - ◆ Bio-energy technologies.
- Implementation Success Stories
- Workshop/planning session – Breakout sessions (regulatory/economic, social, and technological)
- Breakout session debriefing, conclusions and looking forward.

# Task Organization

- Identify and invite additional organizing group members
- Fundraising
  - ◆ Develop full proposal with budget
  - ◆ Prepare list of potential donors
- Identify invited speakers
- Identify places to advertise conference
- Identify potential exhibitors