Program Management for Plant Breeders

Course Overview
Managing plant breeding and laboratory programs is becoming increasingly complex. This course is designed to enhance management skills of plant breeders and technical leads. Professionals directing these programs in agricultural research, in agribusiness development, and those from the public sector will benefit from attending this course.

Course topics include:
- How plant breeding or a research program fits within the organization’s strategy
- Establishing visions and goals
- Defining key strategies and capacities
- Creating efficient and effective programs
- Managing resources within the goals of the organization
- Budget management: controlling and tracking expenses
- Managing capital projects
- Reading and interpreting financial statements
- Intellectual property and contract issues, treaties and agreements
- Developing reports
- Understanding human resource principles
- Using conflict resolution to handle difficult situations
- Learning to lead employees toward a common goal
- Analyzing work flow, scheduling, safety and legal compliances
- Dealing with and embracing change to create a culture of innovation

Empower your most valuable plant breeding resources—your employees
Instructors

Fred Bliss is a professor emeritus of the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis. As a plant breeder he led improvement programs for cowpea, common bean, tomato, stone fruits and tree fruit rootstocks. He is an author or co-author of more than 100 journal articles, twenty book chapters and review articles and has released germplasm and cultivars of legumes and tree fruits. In 1998 he joined Seminis Vegetable Seeds as director of worldwide breeding. In 2010 he retired and became an active participant in research and development projects globally including work in Nigeria, Somalia, Honduras and Brazil.

Tom Francis began his career with Agriculture Canada as a research scientist after obtaining his PhD in Genetics and Plant Breeding from the University of Guelph. In 1980 he joined Northrup King as research director and held various roles within that company including general manager for the Canadian division and vice president of research for the U.S. and global head of product evaluation and assessment at Syngenta. Following retirement from Syngenta, Tom continues to consult to the industry and maintains a special interest in developing new talent.

Rale Gjuric is the director of education at the UC Davis Seed Biotechnology Center and coordinator and lecturer in the Plant Breeding AcademySM. After completing his PhD at the University of Manitoba, Rale spent 15 years as a breeder in the private seed industry. He was the breeding manager of DL Seeds and research and managing director of DSV Canada. He is the founder and president of Haplotech Inc., a company specialized in consulting and technical services for the plant breeding industry. He is an accomplished plant breeder with numerous canola varieties and hybrids released during his career in the private sector.

Information & Registration

Location & Dates
September 16-18, 2014
UC Davis, Bowley Center

Tuition includes all course materials, lunches and breaks. The course format consists of interactive lectures and problem solving exercises.

Early-bird Registration: until August 4, 2014 $750.00
Full Registration: $850.00

For more information contact:
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