



GEORGIA
RESEARCH
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Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Expert Joins UGA as GRA Eminent Scholar

Gilbert to Expand Bioenergy Research Efforts

ATLANTA, Dec. 2, 2008 – Harry Gilbert, Ph. D., a world-class researcher, has joined the University of Georgia (UGA) as a Georgia Research Alliance (GRA) Eminent Scholar.

Dr. Gilbert is the GRA Eminent Scholar in Bioenergy at the University of Georgia's Complex Carbohydrate Research Center (CCRC). In this position, he is studying carbohydrate enzymes, particularly cellulosic biomass, in hopes of creating a cost-competitive ethanol fuel to reduce the nation's gasoline consumption. Cellulosic biomass is key to the mass production of biofuels and is a basic component of green plants.

"Alternative energy research is increasingly important," said GRA president and CEO C. Michael Cassidy. "Dr. Gilbert will add to what is already an incredible team at UGA's Complex Carbohydrate Research Center and we are excited about the expertise he brings to Georgia."

"The search committee chaired by Professor Michael Adams, of the department of biochemistry and molecular biology, set a very high bar of recruiting the world's best scientist working in this area," said UGA vice president for research David Lee. "We are all delighted that they hit the mark. Professor Gilbert is a world-class scholar with diverse interests and a highly creative mind. He will add considerably to our bioenergy initiative."

Gilbert joins UGA from the Institute of Cell and Molecular Biosciences at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, where he was a professor for 16 years. He has been awarded five patents, and has published more than 180 research articles in refereed journals.

Gilbert received his Bachelor of Science in Physiology and Biochemistry and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Southampton.

About GRA

A model public-private partnership of Georgia's research universities, business and state government, the Georgia Research Alliance helps build Georgia's technology-rich economy in three major ways: through attracting Eminent Scholars to Georgia's research universities; through helping create centers of research excellence and through converting research into products, services and jobs that drive the economy. To learn more about GRA, visit www.gra.org.

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