



Background

The National Algae Association has been reporting that taxpayers have spent over \$2.5 billion dollars on algae research starting with the first Carnegie Mellon algae study 75 years ago. We continue to promote balance between the university algae research world, private industry and the investment community to create new jobs and new business opportunities but, with all due respect to constrained algae research grant recipients, there is a huge learning curve between what takes place in the labs and commercial scale-up of algae farms and biomanufacturing facilities. That is why the National Algae Association was created as the first non-profit algae education and production trade association in the world over 13 years ago.

Only through real collaboration will algae researchers understand the needs and requirements of the commercial algae production industry. Writing more white papers, searching for the next research grant funding needs to be useful to the commercial algae production industry. It takes a variety of disciplines. Algae research today must communicate and collaborate more due to the constant changes taking place in our industry and to create value in their IP as well as potential licensing opportunities.