

## **Dr. Jay Keasling**

**Hubbard Howe Distinguished Professor, Biochemical Engineering, Departments of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering, University of California, Berkeley, and CEO, Joint BioEnergy Institute**



Jay Keasling joined the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley as an assistant professor in 1992, where he is currently the Hubbard Howe Distinguished Professor of Biochemical Engineering. Dr. Keasling is also a professor in the Department of Bioengineering at Berkeley, a Senior Faculty Scientist and Acting Deputy Director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Chief Executive Officer of the Joint BioEnergy Institute. He is considered one of the foremost authorities in synthetic biology, especially in the field of metabolic engineering, and his research focuses on engineering microorganisms for environmentally friendly synthesis of small molecules or degradation of environmental contaminants. Dr. Keasling's laboratory has engineered bacteria and yeast to produce polymers, a precursor to the anti-malarial drug artemisinin, advanced biofuels, and soil microorganisms to accumulate uranium and to degrade nerve agents.

Keasling studied Chemical Engineering at the University of Michigan, where he received his Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees. He received his B.S. degree from University of Nebraska in Chemistry and Biology in 1986. He did post-doctoral work at Stanford University in Biochemistry from 1991 to 1992.