

W. Steven Burke - bio

- **W. Steven Burke**, is President and CEO of the Biofuels Center of North Carolina. The Biofuels Center is a private non-profit corporation established by the State of North Carolina to craft and implement a policy commitment for a sustained statewide biofuels initiative. Programs and activities address the complex, interrelated components required to move biofuels from land to consumers: science and agronomy, farms and forests, small and large companies, production and distribution, education and workforce training, environmental and societal issues, and policies. The Center is judged the nation's only agency working within a long-term and comprehensive framework for all aspects of biofuels development. Prior to this, Mr. Burke occupied the position of Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs, for the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. Over a 24 year period, he helped shape the approach and strategies of the Center, the world's first targeted initiative for biotechnology development. He was responsible for varied activities and programs addressing strategic, governmental, policy, societal, and international issues. Among key outcomes: oversight of *Growing North Carolina's AgBiotech Landscape*, a *multi-party task force* shaping long-term state vision in the sector; development of a nationally unique program to strengthen niche biotechnology through five regional offices across North Carolina; development with partners of *North Carolina's Strategic Plan for Biofuels Leadership* and the Biofuels Center of North Carolina; activities and policy recommendations shaping forest biotechnology and establishing the Institute of Forest Biotechnology. Mr. Burke has been an active participant in the national and international life science and biotechnology communities since the mid-1980's. He speaks frequently throughout the United States and internationally on biotechnology development, with particular attention to:
 - The factors, strategies, and issues shaping effective biotechnology and life science communities.
 - The policies, issues, and development of biofuels and forest biotechnology.
 - The international and cultural imperatives of biotechnology development.

Mr. Burke serves on the boards of a host of biotechnology-related boards. Prior to joining the North Carolina Biotechnology Center in 1985, Mr. Burke taught Instructional Design at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. He has an undergraduate degree in Religion and Literature from Duke University, and a Master of Education in Instructional Design from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He owns, curates, and speaks about the nation's largest collection of folk art buildings -- like technology, a manifest example of American spirit and imagination.