

# Activity Summary:

## Expanding Biofuel Production: Sustainability and the Transition to Advanced Biofuels

### Lessons from the Upper Midwest for Sustainability

Held June 23 – 24, 2009  
Madison, Wisconsin

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# Regional Biofuels Sustainability Meeting

Subject: Lessons from corn ethanol?  
Future for cellulosic feedstocks?

Regional: Topics and members

Sustainability: Economic, social, environmental

Structure: 75 participants

Academia (broad expertise)

Government (state, federal)

NGOs

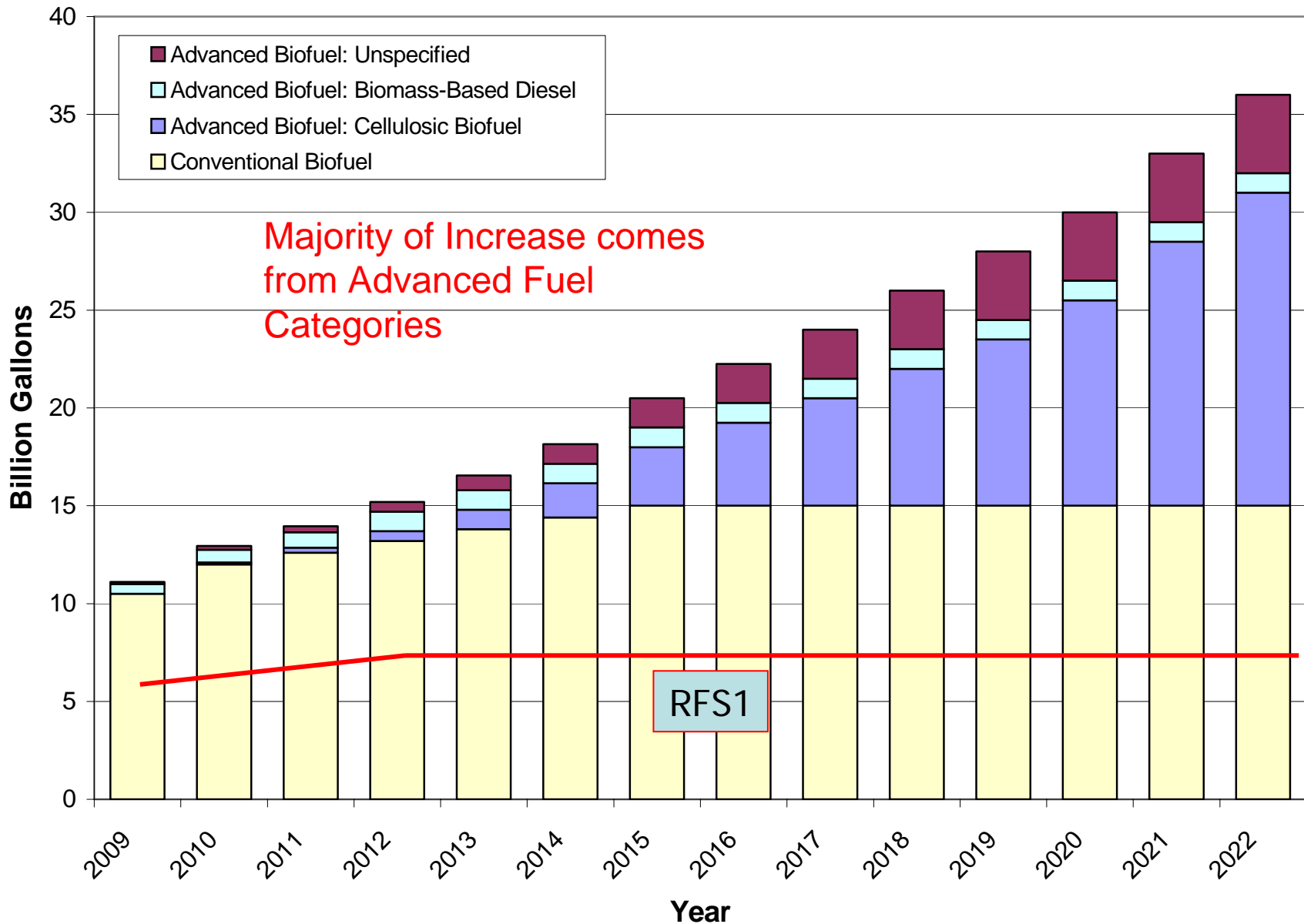
Business and venture capital

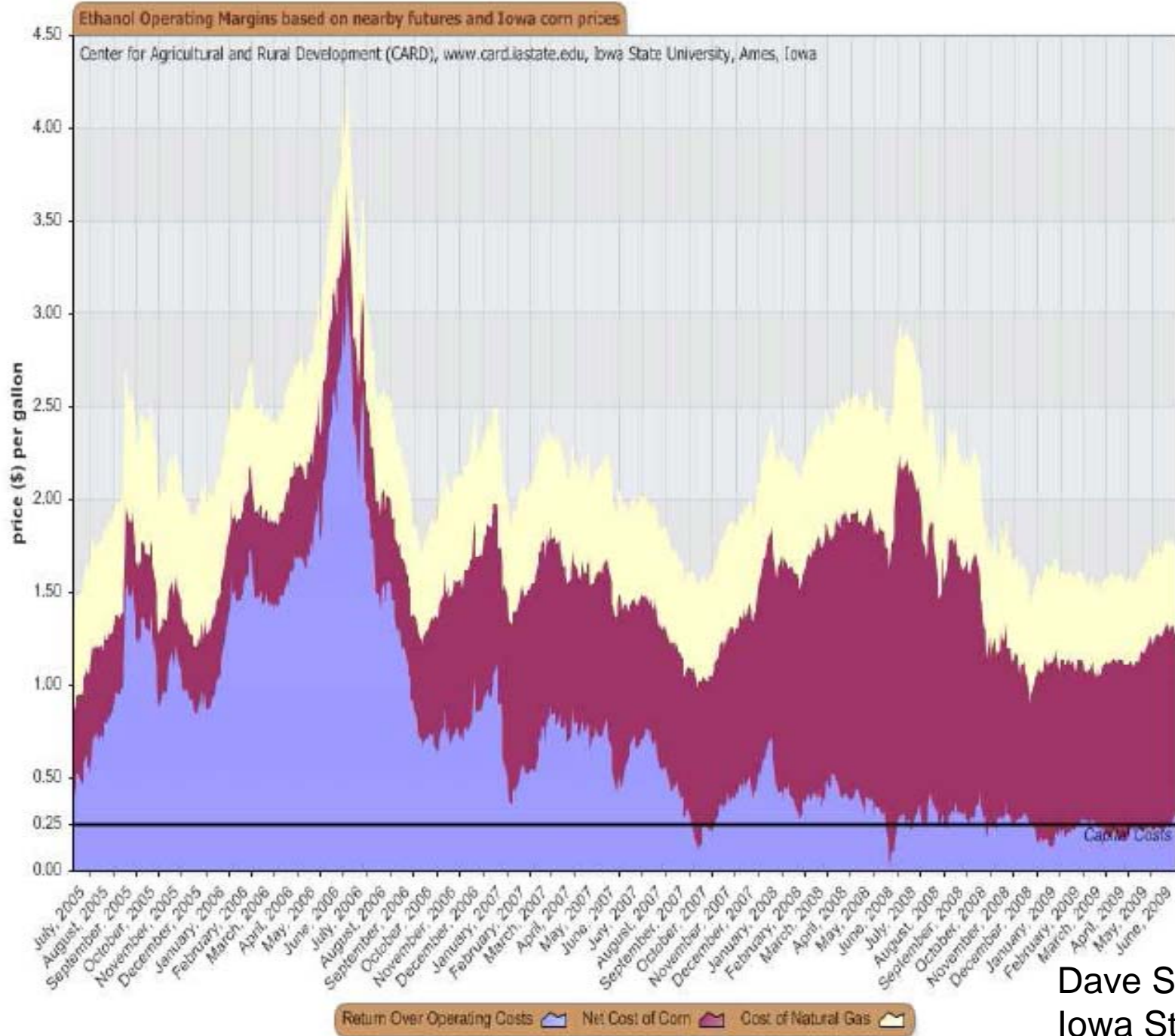
Plenary and breakout sessions



\*NAS Organization

# RFS Volume Changes Over Time – USEPA-OTAQ





Dave Swenson  
Iowa State U

# Results and Impressions

- Many impacts of corn ethanol: economic, social, environmental
- Uncertainty with cellulosic feedstocks; fuels produced
  - Investment requirements
  - Beyond GHG, limited influence on other sustainability aspects (food, water, biodiversity)
  - Land use (primary and secondary)
  - Health issues
  - Community issues
- Excellent meeting format: diverse expertise, open and informed discussion, regional input, cross-communication
- Timed before cellulosic, but late for corn ethanol
- Academy staff working on a summary report; website online
- \* Similar informed science discussion across broad expertise would be invaluable before other major policy decisions