Welcome, Rina Singh, PhD

The Alternative Fuels & Chemicals Coalition (AFCC) added a new executive staff member at the beginning of April 2019: Rina Singh, PhD. Rina will serve as AFCC's Executive Vice President for Policy.

Rina has extensive experience in helping biotechnology start-ups, medium size, and mature industrial biotechnology companies. She has been a strong advocate in advancing policy for the biotechnology sector at the state and federal levels.

Rina also has been appointed to a three-year term on the ASTM International Board of Directors, which began in April with her first ASTM Board Meeting in Philadelphia. This is a bonus for AFCC.

ASTM, formerly known as American Society for Testing and Materials, is an international standards organization that develops and publishes technical standards for a wide range of materials, biotechnologies, systems, and products, including transportation fuels (see ASTM Standards by Category).

This position will be of particular benefit to AFCC's members. For example, of the four pathways for producing sustainable aviation fuels, only two pathways so far have ASTM standards.

Prior to joining AFCC, Rina was the managing director of policy, science, and renewable chemicals in the industrial and environmental section at the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO), the world's largest trade association representing biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers, and related organizations across the U.S. and more than 35 other nations.

Prior to BIO, Rina was with Ashland Inc., working in general management positions in technology and business development, including renewable chemicals and bioproducts business development and platform technology manager. She was appointed to a team to develop a new strategic direction for Ashland. Before Ashland, Rina was at The Dow Chemical Company, where she started her career and was a senior research chemist in the engineering thermoplastics group.

Rina holds a number of patents and has written several technical publications. She earned her B.Sc. in honors chemistry and her doctorate in natural products (synthetic organic chemistry) from McGill University, where she also completed a post-doctoral degree in polymer science.

AFCC is delighted to have her join our team.