

Dr. F. C. Thomas Allnutt is a Program Director and Biotechnology/Chemical Technology Cluster Lead in the SBIR/STTR Program (Small Business Innovative Research/Small Business Technology Transfer) at the National Science Foundation. The SBIR/STTR program provides grant funding to small businesses on commercially relevant projects in Software and Services (SS), Biotechnology and Chemical Technologies (BC), and Electronics, Components, and Engineering Systems (EL) research. A goal of the program is to leverage governmental funding to facilitate more rapid development of high impact and commercially viable products that might otherwise not be attempted by a small business due to the level of risk required. Dr. Allnutt comes out of the small business community where he spent over seventeen years. He was an early employee of Martek Biosciences Corporation where he was a Research Director for twelve years. He later moved to Advanced BioNutrition Corporation, a start up company as the third employee and Vice President of Research & Development. Both companies are located both in Columbia, MD. He joined the National Science Foundation in 2006. Dr. Allnutt's area of expertise is algal biotechnology but he has acquired broad knowledge of related areas and the business of science as he worked to commercialize algal products in a variety of fields. He is the inventor on over 17 patents filed or pending and has published over 25 papers in peer reviewed journals.