Welcome to the new look of IUFoST’s first News Brief of 2017!
Here we report on latest activities and new committees that the Governing Council has decided upon. Stay tuned for more on other news items and new committees being developed, in our News Briefs that will be featured every two months.

NEW MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Mike Knowles (Greece) is heading up this committee and is ably assisted by Jose Aguilera (Chile), Mike Nikerson (USA), Jon Poole (USA), Richard Khaw (Singapore) and Diana Banati (Belgium). The committee has made significant strides in assessing current and lapsed memberships.

NEW FOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE
Leon Gorris (The Netherlands) chairs the newly composed Food Safety Committee, with Lucia Anelich (South Africa), Bobby Krishna (Dubai), Lara Hanna Wakim (The Lebanon) and Adriana Pavesi Arisseto-Bragotto (Brazil) as members.

ASEAN FOOD CONFERENCE 2017 in VIETNAM
The 15th ASEAN Food Conference, a FIFSTA’s bi-annual event, took place successfully in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from 14 - 17 November 2017 with the theme Food Science & Technology: Integration for ASEAN Economic Community sustainable development. Organizer VAFoST also held the first ASEAN Food Students’ Day at Saigon Technology University, with dialogues led by Aman Wirakartakusumah and Alastair Hicks. AFC 2017 attracted 570 delegates from 28 countries including all 10 ASEAN countries. Mary Schmidl, IUFoST president-elect, Paul Singh, IAFoST president-elect, V. Prakash, chairman of IUFoST 2018 were among the plenary speakers.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Adhering Bodies have been sent receipts and invoices for 2017 Membership Dues. Should there be any enquiries, please contact Lynnda at iufost@iami411.org.
Rickey Yada, Interim Treasurer, together with the newly compiled Finance Committee, has worked tirelessly to institute clear and transparent financial procedures for claims and payments from IUFoST, and to develop a working budget for 2018. Darunee Edwards (Thailand), Mary Schmidl, and Joseph Scimeca (USA) complete the Finance Committee membership.

NEW CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE
Walter Spiess (Germany) has agreed to chair this committee, and has already undertaken much work toward collating the various versions of the IUFoST Constitution that exist and ensuring that Bylaws are up to date. Walter is assisted by Rosie Maguire (South Africa), Andrew Cleland (New Zealand), Lilia Ahrne (Denmark) and Darunee Edwards (Thailand).

WORLD CONGRESS 2018: MUMBAI, INDIA
Scheduled to take place from 23 - 27 October 2018, the World Congress planning is progressing. Competition announcements have gone out (and reminders will follow). The Abstract deadline for oral and poster presentations of 31 January 2018 is to be extended to allow for December summer holidays in the Southern Hemisphere. There is a great deal of interest in the event from corporate sponsors. The Scientific Council is working closely together with “Team India” to make this Congress simply amazing.”