



INTERNATIONAL UNION of FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



The Global Focus of Food Science Excellence

IAFoST-The International Academy of Food Science and Technology

Activity Report 2012 to 2014

The activities of the Academy in the period under report were initiated and supported by the Academy Executive Council (AEC)-Term 2012-2014-

- President, W. Spiess - Germany
- President-Elect, Delia Rodriguez-Amaya - Brazil
- Past-President, D. Lund - USA
- Councillor, Ruth Oniang'o - Kenya
- Councillor, R. Hai Liu - USA

The Secretary General of IUFOST Ms Judith Meech acted as Secretary to the AEC.

The AEC discussed and prepared individual activities by direct personal contacts, conference calls and e-mail correspondence.

Major Activities were

- Support of the Visioning Projects
- Organization of the IAFoST Symposium in the Frame of the 17th IUFOST World Congress, Montreal, August 17.-21.2014,
- Mentoring Young Scientists
- Election of a new class of Fellows
- Selection of the Distinguished Lecturer
- Election of New AEC

Visioning Projects

During informal discussion amongst IAFoST Fellows at the 16th IUFOST World Congress in Iguacu, Brazil in 2012, it was stated that a good understanding of the position and relevance of Food Science and Technology at the level of Governments and International Organizations was missing. It was decided that an attempt should be made to close this gap and that IAFoST can lead the way with insights in conceptions and plans for future developments on the Government level.

Fellows Anne-Marie Hermansson and Peter Lillford volunteered to design a project to organize the necessary activities and finally compile the information in a report. The project was called “Global Visions for the role of Food Science and Technology to meet Societal and Technological Challenges,” in short “Visioning Project”. In addition to the report on the Visioning Project, a compilation of “Key Needs in Food Science and Technology” was planned and facilitated by Walter Spiess.

Visioning Project

The key drivers and issues facing food production and security on a global basis are well known. However, the way the issues are addressed and ultimately solved will be very different in terms of resource availability, technical capabilities and economic status in the various regions of the world. What is not known is how regions, nation states, and even the global food businesses are developing individual strategies to cope with food availability for people.

In a first phase, with the support of Fellows with appropriate regional and local knowledge, a detailed picture at the regional level has been developed of initiatives currently underway and proposed or necessary for future Research, Training and Innovation (i.e. RTI). Based on the data submitted by region, a roadmap was prepared addressing the needs and forward looking strategies for food science and technology including recommended collaboration, change of programs, and best practice in R, T and I worldwide. First results were presented by Anne-Marie Hermansson at the 2013 SAAFoST Conference in Johannesburg. The final report will be presented in the frame of IAFoST Symposium at the 17th IUFOST World Congress, August 17.-21.2014.

Key Needs in Food Science and Technology

The development of the global population which is amongst others characterized by major segments of elderly people in developed industrialized countries and large numbers of younger people in developing and emerging countries, food scientists, engineers and marketers are challenged to produce not only sufficient food but also products which meet the diverse physiological needs of those segments of the world community. The technology to provide sufficient food and food adapted to the diverse needs of the consumers already exists but significant effort has to be undertaken to utilize and exploit the available natural and technical resources in a sustainable way and to minimize the interventions and impact into and on the environment. This project aims to identify especially needs and deficiencies in relevant areas of Food Science and Technology in order to comply successfully with future challenges. The completed study is available for publication.

IAFoST Symposium

In order to provide an adequate frame for the presentation of the results of the Visioning project at the 17th IUFOST Congress, a Symposium “**Global Visions for the role of Food Science and Technology to meet Societal and Technological Challenges**” has been planned and will be presented. The Symposium will be dedicated to the memory of the late Dr. Joseph Hulse, a member of the IUFOST Founder Generation, who was not only active in developing IUFOST in its early days to an organization well recognized in the world of science but who also inspired and supported Food Security initiatives around the world especially in India.

Besides the results of the project, the symposium will have presentations with additional views on future developments in Africa, Asia and South America, a global view from the perspective of the United Nations, and the perspective of the Food Industry.

Mentoring Young Scientists

In order to demonstrate IUFOST's ongoing commitment of nurturing the next generation of food scientists at each World Congress since 2006, IUFOST has identified eight Young Scientists to address the world community of food science and technology assembled at the Congress. To develop a closer relationship between the selected Young Scientists and IUFOST Food Science Community at large, it is planned that Mentors recruited from the Academy Fellows attending the Congress will take care of the Young Scientists during the Congress. The Mentor should help the Mentee to find his or her way through the jungle of the Congress Program, point to special features, and help the Mentee to network with interested colleagues.

Election of the 2014 Class of Fellows

The call for nominations of Fellows for the 2014 Academy Class was very successful so that thirty new Fellows could be elected. It was hoped that a significant share of women and colleagues from developing countries and newly industrialized countries could be increased since most of the Fellows are still found in the USA, United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. More work needs to be done to correct this situation. The 2014 Academy Class will be inducted at the Montreal World Congress. According to the present schedule the ceremony will take place on Monday, August 18, 2014

Distinguished Lecturer

As Distinguished Lecturer for the Montreal Congress Dr. Brian Keating, Deputy Director of CSIRO's Agriculture Flagship (CSIRO EcoSciences Precinct - Dutton Park QLD 4102, Australia) was elected with AEC support and input.

According to the Academy Statutes, Section 2 The IUFOST Distinguished Lecturer at each IUFOST World Congress shall be considered on an individual basis for immediate Fellowship in IAFoST.

The Fellows will be approached in the near future and asked for consent.

Election of New AEC

After the timely call for nominations for the vacant positions of the AEC, the following Fellows were nominated:

Hon. Prof. Ruth K. Oniang'o, PhD, Kenya: President-Elect,

Prof. Paul Singh PhD, USA: Councilor

Prof. Been-Huang Chiang PhD, Taiwan: Councilor

Since these nominations are unopposed, the nominees move automatically in the considered positions.

WELS/RO/DR/DL/VP July 2014

Walter Spiess
President