



NEWS in BRIEF

NOVEMBER 2019

Introducing IUFOST SCIENTIFIC ROUNDTABLE Discussion Series (SRDs): DECEMBER 6 AND 12, 2019

Members of IUFOST have provided their comments on how to make the Union stronger and expressed significant support for the Board's proposal to host a series of Scientific Roundtables on topical issues. After reviewing an extensive list of proposed topics, the Board chose to start with two issues: **Food Losses and Food Waste (December 6)** and **Climate Change and Food (December 12)**.

While final details remain to be confirmed, distinguished panels of experts have agreed to participate, ensuring cutting-edge presentations and discussions. The December 6 Scientific Roundtable on *Food Losses and Waste* will be chaired Dr. R. Clemens, Presiding Officer of IAFoST, and Dr. V. Prakash Past Chair of the IUFOST Scientific Council. Panelists will include Dr. Hongda Chen, USDA and IUFOST Scientific Council member; Dr. R. Vos, International Food Policy Research Institute; Prof Dr-Ing A. Mathys, Assistant Professor in Sustainable Food Processing at ETH in Zurich; and Dr. J. Ambuko, Head, Department of Plant Science and Crop Protection at the University of Nairobi, expert panel member for the Report on Food Losses and Food Waste (HLPE/CFS Report). Background papers include contributions from Dr. M. Augustin, Chief Research Scientist, CSIRO Australia, and Dr. C.M. Galanakis, Coordinator, Food Waste Recovery Group of ISEKI Food Association, Vienna.

Dr. Clemens and Dr. F. Shahidi, Chair of IUFOST Scientific Council, will co-chair the December 12 Scientific Roundtable session on *Climate Change and Food*. Dr. Gordon McBean, Nobel Laureate re: Climate Change and immediate Past President of the International Science Council (formerly ICSU), has agreed to participate as a panelist, along with others, including IFPRI representatives. More will be forthcoming prior to this session.

Details on joining these exciting and timely podcasts, including information on background papers and how to submit real-time questions to the panelists, will be made available to all those registering interest by emailing secretariat@iufost.org, so mark your calendars for the 6th and 12th of December. Both sessions will start at 08.00 Eastern Standard Time – North America (13.00 Greenwich Mean Time).

IUFOST Congratulates FIFSTA



IUFOST representatives attended the 16th ASEAN Food Conference 2019, *Outlook and Opportunities of Food Technology and Culinary for Tourism Industry*, in Bali, Indonesia, from October 15 to 17.

The event was organized by ASEAN COST-INDONESIA and IAFT/PATPI and co-organized by FIFSTA, LIPI, SELAMAT Global Food Safety Network. FIFSTA is IUFOST's regional grouping representing the ASEAN (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam).

Pre-conference workshops featuring various topics, including food engineering, food microbiology and food analysis, were well attended by students and young faculty members, as well as food industry personnel. Two plenary sessions took place during the conference featuring IUFOST speakers. In the first, Dr. Mary Schmidl presented on *Trends in Nutraceutical and Functional Foods*. Dr. Vish Prakash took part in the second plenary, speaking on *The Culinary Mix of Traditional and Ethnic Foods Wisdom*, which promoted modern adaption and

innovation of traditional and ethnic foods for better health and wellness of the diverse population. In total, more than 100 presentations and more than 300 posters were highlights of the Conference, which included three plenary sessions and three workshops. Participants from countries such as Italy, China, India, Taiwan, USA, Iran, Pakistan, Netherlands, and all the ten FIFSTA countries were at the conference, along with more than 20 industry and organisation representatives.

Very productive meetings were held with FIFSTA members and other country representatives regarding their collaboration with IUFOST. Several IUFOST initiatives and activities were discussed and FIFSTA members were encouraged to contribute to the Union's work. Dr. Prakash also had the opportunity to introduce students to IUFOST and its activities and opportunities, especially the student competitions held in conjunction with the upcoming IUFOST World Congress. Drs. Prakash and Schmidl also attended the FIFSTA regional meeting where FIFSTA was congratulated for its role in representing food science and technology in the region on behalf of IUFOST.



NIFST Recognition and Rose Spiess Video Awards Presented in Nigeria

The President of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, signed into law on 16 October 2019 (World Food Day) the establishment of the Nigerian Council for Food Science & Technology (NCFST). This means that, hitherto, the Nigerian Institute of Food Science & Technology, operating as a non-profit umbrella body for the knowledge and practice of Food Science and Technology in Nigeria, is now a Chartered Institution under the Federal Ministry of Science & Technology as the Nigerian Council for Food Science & Technology Establishments (NCFST). The Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology (NIFST), the only Registered Non-Profit Body representing Food Professionals drawn from Academia, Industry, Government and Research Institutes in Nigeria, held its 43rd annual meeting between 14 -18 October 2019 in Awka, Anambra State.

The meeting was well attended by participants from industry and academia. Presentations included food science developments in food products that were important for not only Nigeria but all of Sub-Saharan Africa. Of particular note was a film festival featuring the Rose Spiess Video Award for a Sustainable Food Supply, initiated by Prof. Walter Spiess, Past President of IUFOST, in memory of his late wife Rose Spiess. The goal of the competition was for student teams to use video to spotlight the positive impact of food science and technology in their everyday lives. First prize of \$250 went to Zainab Hussainin for his video titled *Sweet Potato Peel: From Trash to Tray*; Mhadijat Abdulhamid Abdallah was awarded 2nd prize (\$150) for producing *Utilization of Soyabean Husk as Nutritious Edible Food for Man*; and Hussaini Maijama'a received 3rd prize (\$100) for his video *Pudding Leftover Reused*. Dr. Obadina Adewale, Head of Department, Food Science and Technology at the Federal University of Agriculture in Abeokuta, and NIFST leadership presented the awards to the winning students.

Global Challenges Report Presented at ALACCTA Meeting, Buenos Aires



The Argentine Association of Food Technologists (AATA) hosted the meeting of ALACCTA (IUFOST regional group) in Argentina last week, which brought together nearly 900 participants from countries throughout Latin

America. This was also the annual meeting of AATA, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary as the oldest association in the region and which predates IUFOST by one year. Dr. Susana Socolovsky, AATA President and Fellow of the IAFoST, chaired the meetings. Drs. Anne-Marie Hermansson and Peter Lillford, distinguished IAFoST Fellows, delivered keynote presentations on the *Global Challenges and the Critical Needs of Food Science and Technology*, based on the report commissioned by IAFoST/IUFOST. Their presentations were made possible in part by support provided by IUFOST. Videos of their presentations will be made available to all IUFOST members once they are finalised. The meeting was attended by Prof. Suzana Caetano da Silva Lannes representing IUFOST, who discussed with ALACCTA members their interests and concerns regarding food science and technology in their regions and their involvement in IUFOST.

IUFOST in Costa Rica and Uruguay

The VI International Congress of Food Science and Technology was held in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 14 to 21 September. It was organized by the University of Costa Rica in cooperation with the National Center for Food Science and Technology (CITA), ASCOTA (Costa Rican Association of Food Technology), and the Allergens in Food Platform. Prof. Suzana Caetano Da Silva Lannes attended the Congress representing IUFOST and presented a lecture on *Chocolate and Cocoa Products as a Source of Health and Wellness*. She also talked with participants about IUFOST and the World Congress in New Zealand and encouraged students and young scientists to get involved in the Congress competitions.

IUFOST support also was provided for the International Symposium of Food Innovation and Development (INNOVA19), sponsored by LATU in Uruguay from 2 to 4 October. The meeting brought together more than 300 participants.

Adhering Bodies and regional representatives are reminded that if you wish to be included in IUFOST communications regarding your meetings, you should let us know as soon as details of your meeting are set. For support for and/or active IUFOST participation in your meeting, contact the IUFOST Secretariat at least six to nine months in advance of the planned meeting.



IUFOST Members' Meeting: 31 January 2020

The official Members' Meeting for IUFOST will take place on 31 January 2020. In December, Adhering Bodies will begin receiving documentation pertaining to this meeting, including the reports on the financial status of the Union, among other governance and scientific activity reports, along with an update on the preparations for the IUFOST World Congress in New Zealand. Registration of delegates of Adhering Bodies for this January meeting will begin shortly, as this is the official IUFOST meeting for members. Please mark your calendars now to be sure to be available for this important meeting.

IUFOST Members Respond to Board Outreach

The IUFOST Board prepared a questionnaire in early October to obtain your views on matters currently before the Union and to seek your suggestions related to the Board's efforts to implement the IUFOST Plan of Action, which is based on the Cape Town Declaration. We asked what you would like to see regarding the operations and functions of the Union. You replied that you are satisfied with the Board continuing its monthly meetings and briefing Adhering Bodies with a synopsis every quarter. With respect to the implementation and interpretation of the new IUFOST By-Laws, you told us that you would like to discuss this at the New Zealand Congress and, in the meantime, modifications can be suggested. Some wanted to leave this in the hands of the Board entirely and to learn the rationale for the actions at the next General Assembly. You told us that regional meetings, workshops, seminars on topics of scientific interest and focus on the World Congress and scientific activities around it were all important. There was keen interest in ensuring participation in the global meeting for Food Science and Technology. Overwhelmingly, you asked that IUFOST turn its attention to its scientific mission and vision and were particularly supportive of the Roundtables in critical and emerging issues. Below are the top four IUFOST activities in order of preference:

1. Providing scientific expertise through the provision of experts for short courses and workshops, and organizing conferences and symposia, in partnership with IUFOST national scientific members (Adhering Bodies), on important current issues such as food safety, security, traceability, and food defense, fraud, food waste.
2. Representing scientific integrity as an authoritative global scientific voice representing the world's food science and technology community. This includes endorsing and sponsoring programmes of scientific merit worldwide.
3. Delivering educational programmes, student scholarships and leadership opportunities for young scientists, as well as Distance Assisted Training Programmes.
4. Stimulating exchange of knowledge in the international food science and technology community through all media, including peer-reviewed publications, review papers, lectures, workshops, symposia, newsletters, social media and award programmes.

In addition, here are some general comments:

"Promote food science and technology in the different countries through regional or local events (seminars or congress); Support the visit of experts in different fields of food science and technology and nutrition to the countries of adhering bodies to give conferences that help to dispel myths and misleading information about foods."

"Strengthen food science and technology research, as well as the new technology research."

"Lead comprehensive or systematic reviews on topics such as functional foods, risk assessment; Set up plan of action per region, in line with IUFOST's vision and mission."

"Ensure an adequate supply of appropriately prepared personnel to meet the needs of the global food supply in the coming years; Ensure that academic research is relevant to bringing solutions to food security and that the research can be applied to the real world."

"We urgently need to unify different adhering bodies to work together and support the Union; We need to rebuild the trust of the members and strengthen it."



“Utilise the huge skills among the Academy Fellows to train/mentor young researchers/academics/technical personnel to enable the latter to more appropriately address the major food issues in the still-developing world. Can the ‘Visiting Professor’ scheme pioneered in Vietnam be expanded to other countries by Fellows for training courses for local personnel (e.g. food inspectors)?”

In response, we have launched a series of Scientific Roundtables on topics that you have identified and have more initiatives under discussion for the near future. We want to continue to hear your views on the Union’s activities and on how the Union can support you going forward. Please contact the IUFoST Secretariat at secretariat@iufost.org if you have any comments or suggestions.

Your Board Members

We have become aware that many Adhering Bodies may not know the current members of the IUFoST Board and, therefore, we are pleased to introduce them to you here. They all have distinguished careers related to food science and technology, extensive governance experience, and a comprehensive knowledge of IUFoST, its Adhering Bodies, and the Union’s Mission and Vision.

Professor Mansel Griffiths, Canada: Former Canada Food Safety Chair; Former advisor to Maple Leaf Foods and Dairy Industry in Canada and numerous appointments internationally; Founding Director, Canadian Research Institute for Food Safety and the Food Safety & Quality Assurance graduate program at the University of Guelph; editor for many international journals, such as *Journal of Food Protection*, *International Journal of Food Microbiology*, *Journal of Dairy Science*, among others; Professor Emeritus at University of Guelph; appointed to the Board in late May 2019.

Dr. Suzana Caetano da Silva Lannes, Brazil: Professor at University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Past President of Brazilian Adhering Body, SBCTA; Scientific Programme Chair, Member of the Executive Committee for IUFoST World Congress in Brazil 2012; Past Director of ALACCTA; Editor-in-Chief of several Scientific Journals; author and co-author of numerous publications including *Food Microstructure*, *Global Food Security and Wellness*; national and international speaker; numerous Food Science and Technology patents granted and four In process; Director of The Brazilian Association of Scientific Editors; elected to the IUFoST Board by the General Assembly, in October 2018.

Dr. Gerald Moy, Switzerland, FIAFoST: retired staff scientist with World Health Organization and WHO liaison for IUFoST; co-author with Dr Ted Hood of IUFoST’s Victoria Falls Declaration (1994); co-editor of “Food Safety Encyclopedia” (2014) and “Total Diet Studies” (2014) and author of many other publications; member of Editorial Board of *Food Control*; consultant for national and international organizations presently working in China, Germany and Lebanon; Fellow of the International Union of Food Science and Technology; elected to the Board by the General Assembly in October 2018.

Professor Ruth Oniang’o, Kenya: Editor-in-Chief, African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development (AJFAND); Winner, African Food Prize (2017); Founder, Rural Outreach Program (ROP) Africa; IFAMA Distinguished Service Award Recipient (2014); FORTUNE Magazine one of 30 Most Innovative Women in Food and Drink (2014); Adjunct Professor of Nutrition, TUFTS University; Past President of the IAFoST; Elected Nestle Global Board member until June 2019; Founder and Past President of Kenya Adhering Body; former Shadow Minister for Education and member of Kenyan Parliament; appointed to the Board in June 2019.

Prof. Dr. Vish Prakash, India: FRSC, FIFT, FIAFoST, FIAS, FNAAS, FINAE, FAFST(1). Former Distinguished Scientist of CSIR India; Former Director of CFTRI Mysore; Past President of IAFoST; Chair of the IUFoST World Congress in Mumbai 2018; Vice President of IUFoST Sister Union – International Union of Nutritional Sciences; Founding Chairman of IFRIFANS, India, the International Foundation for Research in Food and Nutrition Security; member of numerous scientific publication boards; Chairman India Region of European Hygienic Engineering Design Group, Germany; Member, Global Phytonutrient Society (GPS) Tokyo, Japan; elected to the Board by the General Assembly in October 2018.

Dr. Pingfan Rao, China: Professor and Founding Director CAS.SIBS - School of Food Science and Biototechnology, Zhejiang Gongshang University; Past President of IUFoST; Honorary Vice President of the Chinese Institute of Food Science and Technology (CIFST); Chair of IUFoST World Congress in Shanghai 2008; Editor-in-Chief of Nature Journal *The Science of Food*; Past Director, Institute of Biotechnology, Fuzhou University; Past Vice President, Fuzhou University; Vice President of China ICSU Committee (now called International Science Council); Chair, Food and Energy Supply group of China Future Earth Committee;



Dr. Pingfan Rao continued - Global Alumni of Osaka University of Japan; Visiting Professor, Ulster University, UK; Fellow of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology; appointed to the Board in June 2019.

Dr. Mary Schmidl, USA: FIFT, FIFST, FIAFoST; Adjunct Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Minnesota. Past Chair of IUFOST Scientific Council; Past President of IFT; author and co-author of numerous publications; former Vice President of Science and Technology for the Humanetics Corporation; Former Director of Research, Clinical Division for Novartis (Nestle Inc.), which manufactures special dietary foods, weight management products, medical food products and medical devices; Fellow of the International Union of Food Science and Technology; elected to the Board by the General Assembly in October 2018.

Dr. Fereidoon Shahidi, Canada: FACS, FAGFD-ACS, FAOCS, FCIC, FCIFFST, FIAFoST, FIFT, FISNFF, FRSC; University Research Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Founder and Director of the International Society of Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods (ISNFF), Disciplinary Group of IUFOST; Founder and Editor-in-Chief of related publications (*Journal of Food Bioactives*, etc), one of the most cited authors in Food Science and Technology; seconded to the Board as IUFOST Scientific Council Chair in June 2019; Fellow of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology.

Shuo Wang, Distinguished Professor, Nankai University; Past President, Tianjin Science and Technology University; author and co-author of a number of articles and papers in his area of expertise; received his Ph.D. from Sydney University; in 2012 was awarded the National Award of Technology Improvement for his contribution to food science and technology; Distinguished Professor of Nankai University Medical School, heading Tianjin Key Laboratory of Food Science and Health; renowned expert in food chemistry/safety; Fellow of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology; appointed to the Board November 2018.

IUFOST World Congress 2020 – Auckland, New Zealand / 17-20 August 2020

Find information about the programme at IUFOST2020.com. Registration is now open [here](#). The competition for the IUFOST Rose Spiess Award for a Sustainable Food Supply is open until 1 April 2020. All member Adhering Bodies are urged to alert their members to the Congress and direct them to IUFOST2020.com for details. Promotional materials for the Congress are available from the IUFOST Secretariat.



In Memorium

Professor Bengt Hallström, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Engineering (LTH), Lund University, Sweden passed away recently at the age of 95. He is remembered by his colleagues and students at LTH and internationally for his accomplishments as a food scientist and for his warmth and humane style as mentor. An obituary will be posted on the IUFOST website in the coming weeks.

This newsletter, *News in Brief*, for November 2019, has been produced by Executive Director Judith Meech, FIAFoST and the IUFOST Secretariat for the IUFOST and IAFoST membership and colleagues. Comments/questions and future submissions are welcome and should be directed to the Executive Director at jmeech@iufost.org