

AAFSIS Newsletter, May, 2013

Message from the President

I take this opportunity to welcome all our members as we look forward to yet another year of celebrating the success via meetings, discussions, networking and banquet to go from excellence to eminence. AAFSIS includes members of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) from the Indian Subcontinent: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and others. I am delighted to serve as president of the AAFSIS executive committee, and extend my sincere thanks to all our past members for their support. I, herewith, want to thank the past AAFSIS executive committee and all the members whose efforts have helped us come to this level. I also want to thank all the attendees of 11th Annual Business Meeting and Banquet for making it a grand success. I like to congratulate all the students who had presented posters with their innovative research. I take this opportunity to extend support and motivate more students, and members to join and contribute to our association and to the society. As you may be aware we have been conducting conference calls on a regular basis for updates on future events that give much more exposure to our organization. We, as members of AAFSIS, will have to make exemplary efforts to promote and expand the scope by approaching food technologists from both industry and academia with a global approach.

On behalf of the committee I invite you all to our twelfth annual meeting and banquet during the IFT annual meeting and expo (July 13-16, 2013) in Chicago IL. The banquet is on July 14th and will feature two keynote speakers, Dr. Ajit Kumar (Vice chancellor, NIFTEM, India) and Dr. Shirish Mehta (Vice President, Land O' Lakes Inc.). An invitation to the annual meeting has been posted on the AAFSIS website. Sponsors and student poster competition winners will be recognized and acknowledged for their contribution to AAFSIS. AAFSIS is also conducting a panel discussion organized by Drs. Jha and Rao on 'Development of Food Science Curriculum in the Indian Subcontinent: Harmonization with IFT- Approved Program' in collaboration with IFT on July 15th between 10:30 and 11:00 AM in Room # S103cd - T&L SPA, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. I look forward to working with you all in making this a successful event.

I take pleasure in serving towards continued growth and development of the AAFSIS as a team and as an organization.

New Initiatives

- To encourage active participation of members, to improve visibility, to communicate effectively with sponsors and to attract enthusiastic members to be part of the organization.
- To focus on actively on fund-raising activities by contacting potential sponsors and through a book, "hot" and "cold" food for health with strong science.
- To improve cooperation with IFT and to update membership database through the IFT membership directory by identifying researchers and scientists from Indian subcontinent.
- To update the website periodically with relevant information by having a dedicated (student) webmaster.
- To present outstanding volunteer award to a member who had contributed to the success of the organization over the years.
- To provide innovative ideas encompassing latest technologies as topics for the forum/symposium/discussion.
- Give visibility to eminence in scientific work.

AAFSIS – Achievements in 2012

Symposium during IFT Annual Meeting and Food Expo 2012

Title: Challenges in Microbiological Safety of Food Products and Food Security in the Indian Subcontinent” (room # N116; Wednesday June 27; 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM).

Session moderators:

Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

Dr. Ram Rao, National Institute of Food and Agriculture-USDA, Washington, DC.

Presenters who contributed: Dr. Damanna Ramkishan "Ram" Rao (USDA), Dr. Alok Jha (Banaras Hindu University, India), Dr. Arun K. Bhunia (Purdue University), Dr. Anuradha Prakash (Chapman University), Dr. Rama Nannapaneni (Mississippi State University), and Dr. Harshavardhan Thippareddi (University of Nebraska).

11th Annual Business Meeting and Banquet on June 26, 2012 at Namaste Indian Cuisine Student poster competition

Keynote address: STATUS AND SCOPE OF FOOD PROCESSING IN INDIA

Speakers: Dr. Arvind Kumar Bakhshi, Vice-Chancellor, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology & Dr. Suresh Damodaran, Sathguru Management Consultants.

2012 AAFSIS student poster competition winners!

Place	Author/Presenter	University
1	Yi Zhou	University of California, Davis
2	Luis Alfaro	Louisiana State University
3*	Megan Clements	University of California, Davis
3*	Mathuram Ravichandran	University of Arkansas
5	Kevin Mis	Louisiana State University
6	Juan Li	Louisiana State University

*Two third place winners were selected for their outstanding presentations.

AAFSIS Program in India, "Food Processing and Development of Uttar Pradesh: Preparing a Roadmap; with special reference to Eastern U.P." Drs. Syed Rizvi, Ram Rao and Swamy Anantheswaran representing AAFSIS participated in this memorable event.

Dr. Gyanendra Rai, Professor, University of Allahabad and Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy, University Professor, University of Arkansas (Current President of AAFSIS) organized a 2 day symposium on 27-28 December, 2012 at Allahabad. The issue discussed includes ‘Food Safety and Quality and also development of Eastern UP as a food processing hub’.

Presentations from AAFSIS:

1. Inaugural speech, ‘The Role of American Association of Food Scientists from Indian Subcontinent (AAFSIS)’ – Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy.
2. Key Note: “Food Processing: A powerful tool for economic empowerment and nutrition adequacy” – Dr. Syed Rizvi.
3. Key Note: Emerging “Hot Trends” in Food Processing and Product Development: Thought for Food – Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy.
4. Key note, Food Safety and Quality, “Assimilation of food safety culture: Keeping pace with a rapidly developing food processing industry” – Dr. Ramkishan Rao.

5. Technical session, New Technologies for development, “Films not on screen but on food”: Innovative Technologies to Keep Produce Fresh” – Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy.
6. Technical session, New Technologies for development, ‘High pressure processing of foods’ – Dr. Swamy Anantheswaran.

Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy, on invitation, visited University of Benares and made a presentation. This is leading to research collaboration between University of Benares and University of Arkansas.

This conference received wide publicity and visibility through the Indian press media stating it as a stepping stone for potential collaborations between food scientists in India and the US. The AAFSIS executive committee recognizes the efforts of Drs. Jha (coordinator) and Rai (symposium host) that made this a success and a great opportunity for AAFSIS to reach out to food scientists in India.

Honors and awards received by AAFSIS members in 2012-2013

Navam Hettiarachchy - President

- Dr. Ashim Datta, Professor at Cornell University, was honored as an IFT fellow for the year 2013 for his outstanding research contributions to food engineering, integrating physics-based modeling with chemistry and microbiology.
- Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Navam Hettiarachchy in recognition for serving as chairperson of the AOCS Protein and Co-products Division 2010-2013. April 30, 2013, Motreal, Quebec, Canada.

Sponsorship Opportunity

The American Association of Food Scientists for the Indian Sub-continent will hold its 12th Annual Meeting in conjunction with IFT Annual Meeting in 2013. We request you to consider sponsoring the event. Sponsorship levels:

- Silver** (\$1,000) – Recognition at the Annual Meeting, Display name and logo during the meeting, 2 complimentary tickets to the Re-union
- Gold** (\$2,000) – Recognition at the Annual Meeting, Display name and logo during the meeting, 3 complimentary tickets to the Re-union, and a complimentary Table for Display
- Platinum** (\$3,000) – Recognition at the Annual Meeting, a plaque, display name and logo during the meeting, 3 complimentary tickets to the re-union, and a complimentary table for display
- *Certificate** – Less than \$1,000

For more details, please contact Navam, (nhettiar@uark.edu), Chithra (chithra.p@gmail.com) or Kathir (kathiravan.rps@gmail.com). This is a great opportunity to support the Annual Meeting and promote your company to all the participants. Your assistance is sincerely appreciated. Please feel free to forward the sponsorship details to anyone who might be interested in participating. Watch for more details as we approach IFT 2013!

Request for contributions

We invite contributions in the interest of AAFSIS members for our future newsletters. Please feel free to share any newsworthy information by sending them to the editor: aafsis@gmail.com.

Visit us online!

Please visit us online at www.aafsis.org to get up to date information about our activities.

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