

EMERGING ISSUES IN FOOD SAFETY

'We are what we eat' is an old maxim. Our nutritional status, health, physical and mental faculties depend on the food we eat. Access to good quality food has been man's main endeavor since the beginning. The safety of food is a basic requirement and is a concern of everyone. Food safety simply means that what we eat or drink is safe for human health. It implies the absence or safe level of contaminants, adulterants, naturally occurring toxins or any other substance that may make food injurious to health on an acute or chronic basis. Food quality incorporates the complex characteristics of a food that indicate its compliance with certain technical specifications that consumers expect the food to possess. Unfortunately food systems in developing countries are under a lot of pressure and are not always well organized. Moreover problems of growing population, urbanization, lack of resources to deal with pre- and post-harvest losses, lack of food hygiene and environmental factors adversely affect the quality and safety of food supplies. In 2020, the world population will most likely reach 7.6 billion, and approximately 98% of the projected population growth will take place in developing countries. This overall increase in population and in the urban population in particular poses great challenges to food systems and the water system that supports it. Advance in agriculture including intensive cultivation, more efficient food handling, new processing and distribution systems and introduction of newer technologies including appropriate application of biotechnology will all have to be exploited to increase food availability to meet the needs of a growing populations. Some of these practices and technologies may also pose potential food safety problems or affect nutritional quality and call for special attention to ensure consumer protection. A multidimensional approach is needed that takes into consideration the entire value chain from cultivation to consumer sale. Food producers play the most critical role in ensuring food safety, but government and citizens are two major players in achieving food safety as well. Development, implementation and enforcement of appropriate statutes and regulations that promote both food safety and food trade are needed. Specifically for Pakistan, the country is facing problems meeting international sanitary and phytosanitary standards and has lost markets by not being able to meet animal and plant health regulations in key markets. The main purpose of this international conference is to create awareness among stakeholders about emerging issues in food safety.

FAISALABAD

Faisalabad, formerly known as Lyallpur, is an important industrial city situated 145 Km to the west of Lahore (Punjab). It is the 3rd largest city in Pakistan with an estimated population of 5.4 million. Faisalabad is known as "Manchester of Pakistan" for its textile industry. The city centre was designed by Captain Poham Young, to imitate the UK Union Jack Flag with eight roads radiating from a large clocktower. After independence in 1947, the city marched rapidly on the path of progress. In 1977, it was renamed "Faisalabad" in honor of the late King of Saudi Arabia, Shah Faisal-bin-Abdul Aziz. In 1983, the city was upgraded to a division comprising three districts.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, FAISALABAD

The University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) emerged as a result of up-gradation of the famous Punjab Agricultural College and Research Institute (PACRI) in 1962. Since its inception the scope of studies in the University has broadened manifold to include diverse curricula. PACRI was a premier institution in its own right for agriculture education. It had catered to the teaching and research needs of the entire Indo-Pak

subcontinent till its partition in 1947. The magnificent building of PACRI speaks volumes of its grandeur. The University campus is spread over an area of 1950 hectares. The lush green campus is a conglomeration of monolithic blocks built in modern style. The old building, a reminiscent of the traditional Muslim architecture, reminds of the Punjab Agricultural College and Research Institute, which now houses the Faculty of Sciences.



The Clocktower, Faisalabad



University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The National Institute of Food Science & Technology (NIFSAT) was established as Food Technology Section in the then Punjab Agricultural College and Research Institute, Lyallpur in 1959-60. It was given the status of Department in 1962. Realizing the importance of the discipline in Pakistan, the Department was upgraded to Institute of Food Science and Technology in 2003 which has further been elevated to the National Institute of Food Science & Technology in 2007. Following the example of NIFSAT, few other universities of the country also offer food science and technology curriculum in their scheme of studies. NIFSAT at UAF is a pioneer institution in the country and has strong interactions with public and private sector institutions/organizations at national and international levels. Ever since its establishment in 1959-60, this Institute has trained people for newer institutions in this field and growing sector of food processing and preservation industries.

THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE

Two and a half days will be dedicated to the oral presentations and poster communications in the following sessions:

- Emerging food safety risks and issues
- Product adulteration

- Risks associate with emerging food production and processing technologies
- Safety concerns following processing
- Biological risks, supply chain and contamination
- Regulations and enforcement systems to ensure food safety
- Food frauds and international perspective on contaminants in foods
- Testing methods for the detection of pathogens and chemical
- Identification of emerging hazards and contaminants
- Risk assessment and risk management for food safety
- Functional and nutraceutical foods
- Open session

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

To submit a paper, please send an abstract (maximum 400 words) as Microsoft Word document indicating title of the paper, first and last names, organization, address, country and email at eifs2011@yahoo.com or eifs2011@hotmail.com. An email confirming the receipt of the abstract will be sent to the presenting author. Abstracts will NOT be accepted by fax. Please note that acceptance of abstracts will be conditional on registration paid in full prior to the Conference. All papers presented at the Conference will be published in the form of proceedings (book and CD-ROM).

DEADLINES

Abstract Submission 30th September, 2011
Selection/ Confirmation 05th October, 2011
Full Paper Submission 15th October, 2011
Online Registration 31st October, 2011

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE AND FEE

For registration please complete and return the attached registration form along with registration fee through bank draft payable to "Pakistan Society of Food Scientists and Technologists" C/O National Institute of Food Science & Technology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad-Pakistan.

Category	Amount
Foreign participant	US \$ 100.00
Foreign student	US \$ 50.00
Local participant	Pak Rs. 1000.00
Local student	Pak Rs. 500.00

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Participants are required to make their own travel arrangements. Faisalabad is very well connected with other cities in the country by air, rail and road. Flights operate daily between Faisalabad and Karachi. Alternately, one may take international flight for Lahore or Islamabad that are at 2½ and 4½ hours drive, respectively. Many trains shuttle between Faisalabad and Lahore.

VISA

Foreign participants should make their own arrangements for obtaining Pakistani Visa by contacting the Pakistani Embassy/Consulate in their home countries. If needed, the organizers will send official letter confirming their participation at the conference.

WEATHER

During November, pleasant weather average temperature between 20-27°C is expected.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation for delegates attending the Conference will be available in 2-4 star hotels. The rates per night vary from US \$ 50-300; the exact details for various hotels shall be made available upon request. Kindly intimate about your accommodation requirements till 15th October, 2011. Local hospitality will be provided by the organizers.

EXCURSION

One-day excursion trip will be arranged by the organizers to visit historical places in Lahore, the capital of the Punjab. It is the 2nd largest city in Pakistan, after Karachi and 5th in South Asia. It is also known as the *Heart of Pakistan*. Lahore has rich history with the Mughal and Colonial architecture still preserved in all its splendour. Mughal architecture such as the Badshahi Mosque, Lahore Fort, Lahore Museum and the Mausoleums of Jehangir and Nur Jehan are very popular tourist spots in the city.

OTHER EVENTS

22nd ALL PAKISTAN FOOD SCIENCE CONFERENCE

The Conference will also feature the 20th All Pakistan Food Science Conference. This is a regular annual event. It is a unique juncture of the Society which is attended by eminent scholars, researchers, scientists, industrialists and students.

2nd Food & Nutrition Expo 2011

Food expo will be organized in collaboration with national and international food and allied industries. Those wishing to participate should contact the conference secretariat.

2nd Food Product Development Competition

Professional/students from the domains of food technology, nutrition and home economics will be profoundly welcomed. The theme of the competition is functional/ nutraceutical foods belonging to different food groups.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Patron-in-Chief

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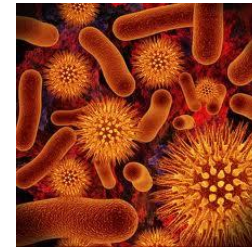
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Golden Jubilee Celebrations of UAF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on

EMERGING ISSUES IN FOOD SAFETY

November 14-16, 2011
Faisalabad-Pakistan



In collaboration with



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