

IAFP 2024 AWARDS BANQUET



WEDNESDAY, JULY 17



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foodprotection.org



IAFP 2024

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California**

July 14-17

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OUR MISSION

“To provide food safety professionals worldwide with a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply.”





WELCOME

Tim Jackson, IAFP President

INVOCATION

Manan Sharma, IAFP Secretary

MENU

Baby Field Greens Salad

Mixed Baby Greens, Tomatoes, Candied Walnuts,
Goat Cheese, Champagne Vinaigrette

Grilled Caprese Chicken

Creamy Risotto, Heirloom Tomatoes, Fresh Mozzarella,
Opal Basil & Balsamic Reduction

Vanilla Cream Cheesecake Tower

Liqueur Scented Berries & Chocolate Sauce

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

OPENING COMMENTS

Tim Jackson

C.B. SHOGREN MEMORIAL

African Continental Association for Food Protection

SAMUEL J. CRUMBINE

Richmond County Health Department
Richmond, North Carolina

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT COMPETITION

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TBD

J. MAC GOEPFERT DEVELOPING SCIENTISTS

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TBD

JOHN H. SILLIKER LECTURE

Robert E. Brackett

HAROLD BARNUM INDUSTRY

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SANITARIAN

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PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

EWEN C.D. TODD CONTROL OF FOODBORNE ILLNESS

Sponsored by Marler Clark Attorneys at Law
Ernest Julian

JAMES M. JAY DIVERSITY IN FOOD SAFETY

Sponsored by Neogen
Byron D. Chaves

LARRY BEUCHAT YOUNG RESEARCHER

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Daniel L. Weller

MAURICE WEBER LABORATORIAN

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Jeffrey Kornacki

FROZEN FOOD FOUNDATION FREEZING RESEARCH

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Marcel Zwietering

FOOD SAFETY

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Caroline Smith DeWaal

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

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FOOD SAFETY INNOVATION

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Alliance to Stop Foodborne Illness

HARRY HAVERLAND CITATION

Sponsored by Eurofins
Kathleen A. Glass

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Gary R. Acuff
John N. Butts
Jame S. Dickson
Gang (Cindy) Jiang
Loralyn H. Ledenbach

PRESIDENT'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Don L. Zink

BLACK PEARL

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GAVEL PRESENTATION TO THE INCOMING PRESIDENT

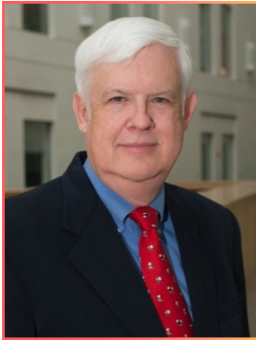
*Awarded to: Mark Carter
Presented by: Tim Jackson*

PAST PRESIDENT'S

*Awarded to: Tim Jackson
Presented by: Mark Carter*



PRESIDENT'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



DON L. ZINK

Taylors, South Carolina

Dr. Don L. Zink is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP President's Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is given at the discretion of the Association's President to recognize an individual who has made a lasting impact on "Advancing Food Safety Worldwide" through a lifetime of professional achievements in food protection.

Dr. Zink is President of the Division of Foods & Regulatory Compliance of IEH Laboratories & Consulting Group. Prior to this position, he was with the FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), joining in 2002 and serving as the Senior Science Advisor until his retirement in 2015. In 1983, Dr. Zink went to work in the food industry where throughout the years, he held many positions in R&D, quality, and food safety including as Manager, Food Science & Technology at Campbell Soup Company; Director, Food Safety at Nestlé; and Vice President, Food Safety and Research and Development at Future Beef Operations. He has also held faculty positions at Texas A&M University and the University of Arizona.

Dr. Zink has been actively involved in IAFP since joining in 1996. He served as IAFP President in 2015 and was the Ivan Parkin Lecturer at IAFP 2003. He has served on numerous committees and PDGs, and was a long-time member of IAFP's Affiliate, the Capital Area Food Protection Association. Dr. Zink received an M.S. in Microbiology and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Biophysics from Texas A&M University.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD



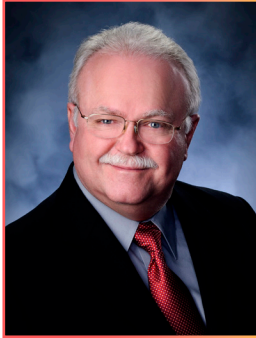
GARY R. ACUFF
College Station, Texas

Dr. Gary R. Acuff is a recipient of the 2024 IAFP Honorary Life Membership Award. Dr. Acuff is the managing member of Acuff Consulting, LLC, founded in 2018 to provide food microbiology expertise in commercial food production systems. He also holds the title of Professor Emeritus at Texas A&M University, having served on the faculty for 39 years.

Dr. Acuff received a B.S. in Biology from Abilene Christian University before pursuing graduate studies in food microbiology to obtain his M.S. and Ph.D. at Texas A&M University. While employed at Texas A&M, he served as Chair of the Intercollegiate Faculty of Food Science, Head of the Department of Animal Science, and was Director of the Texas A&M Center for Food Safety. His research focused on improving the microbiological quality and safety of beef in all areas of production and utilization. Additional research interests included characterizing the presence of *Campylobacter jejuni* in turkey processing and evaluating surrogate bacteria for use in validation of critical control points in beef processing.

Dr. Acuff is a Fellow in the American Academy of Microbiology and has been a member of IAFP since 1982. He served as IAFP President in 2008 and has chaired the IAFP Foundation since 2019. He received the President's Recognition Award in 2023, the Harry Haverland Citation Award in 2020, the President's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019, and the IAFP Fellow Award in 2013. Dr. Acuff was the Ivan Parkin Lecturer at IAFP 2018.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD



JOHN N. BUTTS
St. John, Indiana

Dr. John N. Butts is a recipient of the 2024 IAFP Honorary Life Membership Award. Now retired, Dr. Butts held the primary technical role at Land O' Frost, the third largest sliced lunchmeat brand in the U.S., for more than 40 years. He served as an officer on the Leadership Team for more than 35 years. His team at LOF developed the Seek & Destroy Process for *L. monocytogenes* control in the early 1990s.

In 2010, Food Safety by Design, LLC was founded to help producers of high-risk products learn how to prevent and manage food safety risks. Root Cause identification and Preventive and Predictive practices are key components of the Food Safety by Design Seek & Destroy Process, which has been taught in all NAMI *Lm* Workshops for more than 24 years. Dr. Butts has held and presented Seek & Destroy Process workshops in the United States, Canada, Wales, Ireland, Italy, Germany, Australia, Philippines, Thailand, and Indonesia.

Dr. Butts has served as a member of the American Meat Institute Board of Directors. He received the NSF Food Safety Leadership Award (2005); the *Food Safety Magazine* Distinguished Service Award (2006); the Meat Processing Award from the American Meat Science Association (2008); the Scientific Achievement Award from the American Meat Institute Foundation (2009); and the NSF Lifetime Achievement Award (2016). He was inducted into the Meat Industry Hall of Fame in 2020.

Dr. Butts joined IAFP in 1986.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD



JAMES S. DICKSON

Ames, Iowa

Dr. James (Jim) S. Dickson is a recipient of the 2024 IAFP Honorary Life Membership Award. Dr. Dickson has been a faculty member at Iowa State University in Ames since 1993 and became the Morrison Endowed Chair in Meat Science in January of 2024. He serves on two ISO committees and is part of the delegation for the Institute of Food Technologists to the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Food Hygiene.

Dr. Dickson received his Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln in 1984. He was employed in the food industry for three years before moving to the USDA–ARS in 1987 as a Research Food Technologist and Lead Scientist of the Meat Safety Assurance Program, located at the Roman L. Hruska U.S. Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Nebraska. Dr. Dickson was chair of the Department of Microbiology between 1998–2002, when a college-wide reorganization resulted in the elimination and merger of several departments and programs. He then joined the Department of Animal Science, where he continues to serve today. He became involved with the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene approximately 15 years ago and continues to remain active on it.

Dr. Dickson joined IAFP in 1987. He served as IAFP President in 2002 and received the IAFP Fellow Award in 2022 and the Maurice Weber Laboratorian Award in 2013. He has served on the *Journal of Food Protection* Editorial Board, the *JFP* Management Committee, and numerous other IAFP committees.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD



GANG (CINDY) JIANG
Woodridge, Illinois

Dr. Gang (Cindy) Jiang is a recipient of the 2024 IAFP Honorary Life Membership Award. Now retired, Dr. Jiang is celebrated for her global leading role in advancing food safety practices, bridging the gap between standards and implementation. During her tenure at McDonald's Corporation (1990–2023), she championed the development and implementation of a comprehensive global food safety management system. Her visionary leadership elevated food safety culture by creating initiatives such as Annual Food Safety Week, using culture assessment data to inform strategy and make improvements.

Dr. Jiang's impact extended beyond McDonald's system, as she actively collaborated with industry, academia, and government organizations in the areas of food safety. Her involvement with the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Board from 2008 to March 2021 demonstrates her commitment to driving change, setting high standards, and sharing best practices across the industry globally.

As a Global Food Safety Ambassador after her retirement, Dr. Jiang continues to be a beacon of expertise, influencing positive change, and fostering a culture of excellence in food safety and quality practices worldwide.

Dr. Jiang joined IAFP in 2002. She has been a long-time member of IAFP's Affiliate, the Associated Illinois Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians.

Dr. Jiang holds an M.S. in Food Science and Nutrition and is a member of IFT (Institute of Food Technologists) and a lifetime member of ASQ (American Society for Quality).

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD



LORALYN H. LEDENBACH
Skokie, Illinois

Ms. Loralyn H. Ledenbach is a recipient of the 2024 IAFP Honorary Life Membership Award. Ms. Ledenbach recently retired as an Associate Director of Food Safety at the Kraft Heinz Company, where she was responsible for HACCP and food safety programs, as well as FSMA and food safety regulatory compliance efforts. She currently operates Ledenbach Food Safety, LLC, where she provides consulting services that specialize in food safety assessments, HACCP/food safety plan development, food safety training, strategic planning for food safety regulatory compliance, and microbial food safety issue investigations.

Early in her more than 43 years at Kraft Heinz, Ms. Ledenbach worked on new method development and evaluation, authoring several papers on *L. monocytogenes* and *E. coli* identification/enumeration methods, as well as a chapter on the spoilage of dairy products in *Compendium of the Microbiological Spoilage of Foods and Beverages*, and the chapter on methods for acid-producing microorganisms for the *Compendium of Methods for the Microbiological Examination of Foods*. She was one of the internal process authorities for Kraft Heinz process cheese products, and helped create the training curriculum for Better Process Control School for LACF Process Cheese, where she continues to participate as an instructor. She is a Lead Instructor for FSPCA Preventive Controls for Human Foods, a Lead Instructor for FSPCA Foreign Supplier Verification Program, and a Lead Instructor for FSPCA Intentional Adulteration Vulnerability Assessment courses.

An active member of IAFP since 1988, Ms. Ledenbach has organized, convened, and/or presented at 21 IAFP Annual Meetings. She served on the *Journal for Food Protection* Management Committee, the Program Committee, and as Chair of both the Dairy Quality and Safety PDG and the HACCP Utilization and Food Safety Systems PDG. She received the IAFP President's Recognition Award in 2023, the IAFP Fellow Award in 2018, and the Harold Barnum Industry Award in 2013.

Ms. Ledenbach holds a B.S. in Biological Sciences from Northern Illinois University and an M.S. in Food Science from the University of Illinois in Urbana – Champaign.

HARRY HAVERLAND CITATION AWARD



KATHLEEN A. GLASS
Madison, Wisconsin

Dr. Kathleen A. Glass is a recipient of the 2024 Harry Haverland Citation Award. This award recognizes an active IAFP Member for many years of dedication and devotion to the Association and its ideals and objectives. Dr. Glass is Associate Director and Distinguished Scientist for the Food Research Institute (FRI) at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. In this capacity, she works with the food industry and regulatory agencies to evaluate microbial food safety risks, and design and conduct microbial food challenge studies to identify critical control limits for production.

After completing her undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, Dr. Glass taught middle school and high school biology for four years before returning to earn her M.S. from Northern Illinois University in 1985. She joined FRI in September 1985 as a researcher in the laboratory of Dr. Mike Doyle, where she developed skills in the principles of practical food safety through interactions with icons of food safety at FRI and in the food industry. She went on to complete her Ph.D. in Food Science at UW – Madison in 2002 while continuing to work at FRI, and received the prestigious Permanent Principal Investigator status from UW – Madison in 2010.

Dr. Glass has extensive experience in the field of microbial food safety and is regarded as an international expert on microbial challenge studies, formulating process cheese and process meats for safety, with particular focus on *Clostridium botulinum* and *Listeria monocytogenes*. She was instrumental in updating FRI's training and outreach program and co-developed the curriculum for the Better Process Cheese School in collaboration with Kraft Foods.

Continued on the next page

HARRY HAVERLAND CITATION AWARD

Dr. Glass joined IAFP in 1990, served as President of the Wisconsin Association for Food Protection, an IAFP Affiliate, in 2002, and as IAFP President in 2005. She received the IAFP Honorary Life Membership Award in 2023, and both the IAFP Fellow Award and the President's Recognition Award in 2011. Dr. Glass has also organized multiple Annual Meeting symposia and is an active member of numerous committees and PDGs. In addition to her scientific expertise, she has demonstrated leadership by serving four terms on the National Advisory Committee for Microbiological Criteria of Foods, including Co-Chair for two terms.

Dr. Glass is an academic advisor for the Institute for the Advancement of Food and Nutrition Sciences (IAFNS) and is a member of other advisory committees and professional associations. She is the recipient of the *Food Safety Magazine* Distinguished Service Award (2024), the Wisconsin Meat Hall of Fame (2019), and the National Cheese Institute Laureate Award (2017). She has published more than 63 research papers, three book chapters, and 100 technical abstracts. She is a frequent invited speaker at scientific meetings, webinars, and workshops. Dr. Glass also serves as a scientific reviewer for multiple journals and granting agencies, and as a mentor to the students and researchers who train in the FRI laboratories.

HARRY HAVERLAND

Harry Haverland joined IAFP in 1962 while a Commissioned Officer in the United States Public Health Services and served in many countries including Egypt, Malaysia, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia. During his 35-year Membership, he served as IAFP President in 1982, received the Sanitarian Award and the Honorary Life Membership Award, and was inducted as a Fellow.

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FOOD SAFETY INNOVATION AWARD



**ALLIANCE TO STOP
FOODBORNE ILLNESS**
Chicago, Illinois

The Alliance to Stop Foodborne Illness, a program of the nonprofit organization Stop Foodborne Illness, is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP Food Safety Innovation Award for the development of its Food Safety Culture Toolkit.

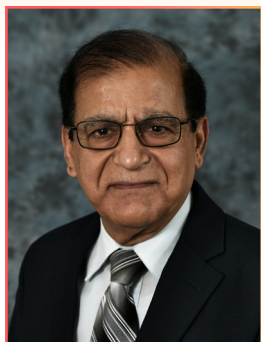
Unlike what one might imagine when hearing the word “innovation,” the Food Safety Culture Toolkit is not revolutionary technology, costly, or complicated. In fact, that’s the whole point! This highly accessible, no-cost set of resources gives companies interested in improving their operations customizable options to advance their internal food safety culture. There is nothing else like it out there.

Over the past four years, a dedicated team of food safety leaders spanning the industry has worked to develop and operationalize this free, downloadable iterative toolkit. When the process was started, there was an enormous gap in actionable, science-based food safety culture resources. To meet that need, a much-needed driver of change was developed that is being accessed around the world by some of the largest companies and, more importantly, their supply chains. Resource-limited small- and medium-sized companies make up a large share of suppliers but often are strapped due to time, resources, and expertise to ensure they are keeping pace with the larger players. Since launching in June 2022, 782 people have registered for the Toolkit from 81 countries. They represent 665 unique companies, including 153 very small (23%), 102 small (15%), and 306 medium-sized (46%) enterprises.

Those engaging with the Alliance’s carefully created resources draw on its working group’s deep industry knowledge as well as food safety culture successes and failures to enact efficient, positive change across the supply chain, and protect consumers from deadly foodborne illnesses.

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INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD



VIJAY K. JUNEJA

Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania

The 2024 IAFP International Leadership Award goes to Dr. Vijay K. Juneja for his dedication to the high ideals and objectives of IAFP and his promotion of the mission of the Association in countries outside of the U.S. and Canada. Dr. Juneja is a Lead Scientist of a project on predictive microbiology at the Eastern Regional Research Center, USDA-ARS. His research interests include microbiological safety of minimally processed foods and predictive microbiology.

Dr. Juneja has authored more than 300 publications, including more than 220 peer-reviewed journal articles; more than 75 book chapters, including 15 in the *Encyclopedia of Meat and Food Microbiology/Safety*; co-edited eight books and one *Food Microbiology* special issue entitled, *Predictive Modeling in Foods*. Dr. Juneja currently serves as an editor of *LWT-Food Science and Technology*. He also served as editor of the *International Journal of Food Microbiology* until 2011 and remains a member of the editorial boards of five food safety related peer-reviewed journals, including IAFP's *Journal of Food Protection*. Dr. Juneja also organized and co-chaired the 6th International Conference of Predictive Modeling in Foods in 2009. He manages and coordinates the expansion of ComBase and Pathogen Modeling Program (PMP).

Dr. Juneja is a long-time IAFP Member and currently serves on the *JFP* Editorial Board (2000–2026). He previously served on the *JFP* Management Committee (2014–2016); the *FPT* Management Committee (2016–2018); and the IAFP Program Committee (2009–2011).

Dr. Juneja received the IAFP Fellow Award (2017); IAFP's Harry Haverland Citation Award (2015); the GMA Food Safety Award (2013); and IAFP's Maurice Weber Laboratorian Award (2005).

Dr. Juneja's academic journey began with a degree in Veterinary Medicine from G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology in Pantnagar, India. He further pursued his academic interests, obtaining an M.S. in Animal Science and a Ph.D. in Food Technology and Science from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Continuously sharing his expertise, Dr. Juneja frequently organizes educational workshops and webinars on microbial modeling, with a specific focus on facilitating the utilization of ComBase and PMP within the food industry.

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FOOD SAFETY AWARD



CAROLINE SMITH DEWAAL
Silver Spring, Maryland

Ms. Caroline Smith DeWaal is the recipient of the 2024 Food Safety Award, presented this year to an individual for highly significant food safety development or in recognition of a long history of outstanding contributions to food safety. Ms. Smith DeWaal is being recognized for her innovative approach to advocating for food safety improvements over a 33-year career focused on consumer protection.

In the late 1990s, Ms. Smith DeWaal recognized the importance of food/pathogen data for both the food industry and government officials in developing effective food safety control programs. The Center for Science in the Public Interest's "Outbreak Alert" database, which she spearheaded, was shared broadly with the food safety community. An important source of information for all sectors of the food system, CSPI maintained the database for nearly 20 years, with a searchable website, annual updates, and regular innovative publications and reports.

Ms. Smith DeWaal was actively involved in developing the framework for the Food Safety Modernization Act, engaging both industry and consumer organizations to support its passage and advising members of Congress through her Congressional testimony. On the international front, her research on food safety standards applicable to traditional food markets, published in the *Journal of Food Protection*, identified the need for global food safety and hygiene standards for traditional markets. She initiated an effort by the Global Alliance for Food Protection, as a Codex observer organization, to develop standards for traditional markets at the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene. The new Codex Guidelines for Food Hygiene Controls for Traditional Markets for Food, championed by Ms. Smith DeWaal, were recently approved in the Food Hygiene Committee and will be considered for final adoption by the Codex Commission before the end of 2024.

Ms. Smith DeWaal recently retired from the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), where she provided strategic integration for a food safety program within an international nonprofit focused on addressing malnutrition. Shortly after, she accepted a two-year appointment with the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

An active IAFP Member since 1999, Ms. Smith DeWaal served as the Ivan Parkin Lecturer at IAFP 2020 and is a member of several PDGs.

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FROZEN FOOD FOUNDATION FREEZING RESEARCH AWARD



MARCEL ZWIETERING
Wageningen, The Netherlands

Dr. Marcel Zwietering is the recipient of the 2024 Frozen Food Foundation Freezing Research Award. This award honors an individual, group, or organization for preeminence and outstanding contributions to research that impacts food safety attributes of freezing.

Dr. Zwietering is a professor of Food Microbiology at Wageningen University, The Netherlands, with focuses on research and education in the domain of food safety management; risk analysis; fermentation; detection and hygiene; eco-physiology; and functional genomics.

After completing his Ph.D. thesis on “Modeling of the Microbial Quality of Food” in 1993, Dr. Zwietering continued in the Food Process Engineering group as assistant and associate professor. His research focused on quantitative microbiology and risk assessment. In 1995, he joined the Unilever research lab in Colworth House, UK, during his sabbatical. From 1998–2002, he worked in the research lab of Danone in France, where he studied starter cultures, symbiosis, metabolic flux analysis, and quantitative risk assessment.

Dr. Zwietering joined IAFP in 2009 and is a member of the *Journal of Food Protection* Editorial Board. In 2019, he received both the Elmer Marth Educator Award and the International Leadership Award.

As Co-Chair of the ILSI – Europe Microbiological Food Safety Task Force, Dr. Zwietering is regularly invited to participate in international expert consultations with FAO/WHO and other expert groups. He serves as Chair of the International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods. As a member, he contributed to various sampling plan workshops worldwide and to a series of YouTube knowledge clips. Dr. Zwietering is also Editor of the *International Journal of Food Microbiology*.

Sponsored by



MAURICE WEBER LABORATORIAN AWARD



JEFFREY KORNAKCI
Madison, Wisconsin

Dr. Jeffrey Kornacki is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP Maurice Weber Laboratorian Award. This award recognizes an IAFP Member for dedicated and exceptional contributions in the laboratory, and commitment to the development and/or application of innovative and practical analytical approaches in support of food safety.

Dr. Kornacki has been solving food microbiology problems since obtaining his B.S. in Bacteriology in 1977. Both his M.S. and Ph.D. research addressed contamination concerns with dairy product manufacturing. He co-authored a patent on ultra-filtered milk cheese production during the four years he worked for Schreiber Foods as a Research Scientist. Twelve subsequent years were spent microbiological troubleshooting, technical writing/editing, and laboratory management for Silliker Laboratories (now Mérieux NutriSciences).

In 2001, Dr. Kornacki joined the faculty at University of Georgia's Department of Food Science before founding Kornacki Microbiology Solutions. He has assisted many companies during FDA and USDA product recalls and made approximately 1,000 troubleshooting-related plant visits across a vast array of food processing industries. He is an adjunct faculty member with Michigan State's On-Line Master's program.

An IAFP Member since 1979, Dr. Kornacki served on the *JFP* Editorial Board from 2002–2004 and as Chair of IAFP's Food Hygiene and Sanitation PDG from 2011–2013. He received IAFP's Sanitarian Award in 2010 and the Fellow Award in 2017.

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MAURICE WEBER LABORATORIAN AWARD

Dr. Kornacki has published on many food microbiology topics. He is editor and co-author of several books including, *Principles of Microbiological Troubleshooting in the Industrial Food Processing Environment* (2010); *The Microbiological Safety of Low-Water Activity Foods and Spices* (2014); *Foodborne Pathogens: Virulence Factors and Host Susceptibility* (2017); and *Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products – 18th Edition* (2024). From 2013–2015, he served as NACMCF Co-Chair of the subcommittee on “Microbiological Criteria as Indicators of Process Control or Insanitary Conditions.”

MAURICE WEBER

As the owner of a busy commercial laboratory, Maurice Weber continued to perform much of the lab work himself, believing that a good laboratorian would turn out accurate results and, without failure, see that the people working under him would do the same.

Sponsored by **The Fred and Elizabeth Weber Trust**

LARRY BEUCHAT YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD



DANIEL L. WELLER
Decatur, Georgia

Dr. Daniel L. Weller is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP Larry Beuchat Young Researcher Award, which recognizes young researchers who have shown outstanding ability and professional promise in their careers.

Dr. Weller is a Senior Epidemiologist with the Analytics and Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network (FoodNet) teams at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). His CDC research focuses on developing new or adapting existing analytical approaches to improve our understanding of foodborne and enteric illness epidemiology, track trends in disease incidence, improve source attribution, and characterize disparities in burden. In addition to his research roles, Dr. Weller also serves as a subject matter expert at the CDC for multiple topics, including non-typhoidal *Salmonella* infection; climate change and foodborne illness; and health equity.

Dr. Weller is also an Adjunct Research Professor in the Department of Food Science and Technology at Virginia Tech, and in the Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). The goal of his academic research, which focuses on the ecology and control of human pathogens in food and freshwater systems, is the development of novel approaches for managing food safety hazards in these systems. Dr. Weller believes in putting stakeholder-defined needs at the center of his research and works closely with collaborators across industry, state, and federal governments, and extension.

Continued on the next page

LARRY BEUCHAT YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD

Dr. Weller joined IAFP in 2014 as a graduate student. He received the Student Travel Scholarship in 2016 and was a Developing Scientist recipient in 2018. He is actively involved in multiple PDGs and IAFP committees, including the *Journal for Food Protection* Management Committee, and currently serves as Chair of the Water Safety and Quality Professional Development Group (PDG) and Vice Chair of the Data Management and Analytics PDG.

Dr. Weller earned his B.A. in Anthropology from Ithaca College and his Ph.D. in Food Microbiology and Epidemiology from Cornell University. After earning his doctorate, he conducted postdocs in Food Safety and Agroecology at Cornell University and in Environmental Health Biostatistics at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

LARRY BEUCHAT

Dr. Larry Beuchat is a Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia, where he has been for 48 years. During his 53-year IAFP Membership, he has received the IAFP Fellow Award, the Elmer Marth Educator Award, the President's Recognition Award, the Harry Haverland Citation Award, the GMA Food Safety Award, and the Honorary Life Membership Award.



JAMES M. JAY DIVERSITY IN FOOD SAFETY AWARD



BYRON D. CHAVES
Lincoln, Nebraska

Dr. Byron D. Chaves is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP James M. Jay Diversity in Food Safety Award. This award recognizes an individual who has made exceptional contributions to enhancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in the field of food safety.

Dr. Chaves is an assistant professor and food safety extension specialist at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UNL) in Lincoln. His research focuses on validating product and process parameters to determine the efficacy of antimicrobial interventions for meat and poultry products; and quantifying bacterial growth and inactivation parameters as well as viral persistence in foods and food contact surfaces. His Extension Programs aim to provide relevant technical assistance and training to the food manufacturing industry on food safety, sanitation, and regulatory compliance.

Dr. Chaves joined IAFP in 2009 as a Student Member. He is the current chair of the Physical Hazards and Foreign Material PDG and the immediate past chair of the *Food Protection Trends* Management Committee. Additionally, he has served on the editorial boards for both the *Journal of Food Protection* and *Food Protection Trends*. Dr. Chaves received the IAFP President's Recognition Award in 2023 and the IAFP Student Travel Scholarship in 2015. He is a member of the USDA FSIS National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection, and serves as the USDA FSIS Nebraska HACCP Coordinator; Chair of the Poultry Science Association (PSA) Committee on Food Safety; and Chair of the PSA *Salmonella* Task Force.

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JAMES M. JAY DIVERSITY IN FOOD SAFETY AWARD

Dr. Chaves earned a B.S. from the University of Costa Rica, an M.S. from Clemson University, and a Ph.D. from Texas Tech University, where he also served as a postdoctoral associate before joining UNL. He is the recipient of the 2022 Holling Family Inclusive Excellence in Teaching and Learning Award, recognizing the embodiment of diversity and inclusive excellence in teaching in UNL's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; and the 2023 Dinsdale Family Faculty Award, recognizing outstanding teaching, research, and outreach in UNL's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Dr. Chaves is passionate about student mentorship and creating inclusive learning and working environments.

JAMES M. JAY

Dr. James Monroe Jay was a food microbiologist for 33 years at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, conducting research and publishing through an adjunct professor appointment at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas. Dr. Jay presented the Ivan Parkin Lecture in 1995 and received the Fellow Award in 1999. He joined IAFP in 1982 and passed away in 2008.

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EWEN C.D. TODD CONTROL OF FOODBORNE ILLNESS AWARD



ERNEST JULIAN
Rehoboth, Massachusetts

Dr. Ernest Julian is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP Ewen C.D. Todd Control of Foodborne Illness Award. This award recognizes an individual for dedicated and exceptional contributions to the reduction of risks of foodborne illness. Dr. Julian retired in 2021 as Rhode Island Assistant Director of Health, after more than 30 years as Chief of the Center for Food Protection. Prior to this position, he was FDA standardized to train and certify food safety inspectors in Connecticut. He served as President of the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO), NEFDOA, and the Connecticut Environmental Health Association, and as Chair of the NSF Council of Public Health Consultants.

As AFDO President, Dr. Julian created national Healthy People 2030 Foodborne Illness Reduction Workgroups to achieve illness reduction objectives. He co-authored the *Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR) Guidelines*. Dr. Julian served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Brown University, and as a Lead Instructor for LSU's A Coordinated Response and Managing Food Emergencies courses. He served for 20 years as the RI Principal Investigator for the CDC Environmental Health Specialists Network. He is a recipient of the AFDO Wiley Award, the FDA Commissioner's Special Citation, and the CDC & ATSDR Honor Award.

Continued on the next page

EWEN C.D. TODD CONTROL OF FOODBORNE ILLNESS AWARD

Dr. Julian pushed to include food manager certification in the Food Code; stop reoccurring *Salmonella* outbreaks from Delmarva tomatoes; and change slicer standards to stop outbreaks. He continues to volunteer on 14 national workgroups and serves as an expert witness for foodborne illness victims. Dr. Julian is currently working to establish teams to stop reoccurring, emerging, and persisting (REP) foodborne outbreaks.

EWEN C.D. TODD

Dr. Ewen C.D. Todd is a consultant for Ewen Todd Consulting in Okemos, Michigan, with more than 50 years' experience in food microbiology. Throughout his 36-year IAFP Membership, he has received the IAFP Fellow Award, the Honorary Life Membership Award, and the Harry Haverland Citation Award.

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SANITARIAN AWARD



NEIL BOGART
Alabaster, Alabama

The 2024 IAFP Sanitarian Award goes to Mr. Neil Bogart. The Sanitarian Award honors an IAFP Member for dedicated and exceptional service to the profession of the sanitarian serving the public and the food industry.

Mr. Bogart is the founder and president of Bogart Food Safety & Sanitation Associates, Inc., a technical consulting firm focusing on food safety and microbiological technical support; cleaning and sanitizing solutions; CIP; Food Safety Culture; and hygienic engineering design for the dairy, food, beverage, and bottled water markets. Mr. Bogart previously served as an Executive Area Technical Support Coordinator of NA Food & Beverage for Ecolab Inc. In this role, he provided troubleshooting; microbiological technical support; and cleaning and sanitizing solutions to the dairy, food, beverage, and bottled water markets. He has worked in food manufacturing in Corporate Quality, Regulatory, and R&D, and served as a Food Safety Consultant, specializing in food safety program development and sanitation systems. He is also a Certified Chef.

Mr. Bogart joined IAFP in 2007 and is a member and current Delegate of the Alabama Association for Food Protection (AAFP). He has served on the board of IAFP as Affiliate Council Chair, and as Vice Chair and Chair of the Food Fraud PDG. He is an AAFP Past President; the current AAFP interim Director; and Secretary of the IAFP Dairy Quality and Safety PDG. He also co-founded the IAFP Food Fraud PDG.

Mr. Bogart is a member of InfraGard, a partnership between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and private sector members to protect U.S. Critical Infrastructure. He serves as the chapter's Food and Agricultural Sector Chief.

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ELMER MARTH EDUCATOR AWARD



CAROL WALLACE

Preston, UK

Dr. Carol Wallace is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP Elmer Marth Educator Award, which recognizes an IAFP Member for dedicated and exceptional contributions to the profession of education.

Dr. Wallace is Emeritus Professor of Food Safety Management at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan), United Kingdom. Prior to her retirement in late 2023, she was a full Professor of Food Safety Management Systems and Co-Director of UCLan's Nutritional Sciences and Applied Food Safety Studies Group. As an Emeritus Professor, she continues to support Ph.D. candidates in the UK, Türkiye, and Mauritius.

Dr. Wallace began her food safety career in the UK dairy industry in 1985 following completion of her B.Sc. in Microbiology from the University of Glasgow. She quickly became involved in the development of product safety assurance through hazard analysis and risk assessment, a move that took her into the world of HACCP at a time before the Codex/ NACMCF HACCP principles. Dr. Wallace became involved in HACCP education and training and, with IAFP Members Sara Mortimore and Bill Sperber, shaped and introduced novel HACCP training approaches across the GrandMet-Pillsbury Group. Further industry roles in Retail and Consultancy extended her training and education work internationally, and she embarked on a Ph.D. in HACCP Effectiveness, making the move to work in academia in 2004.

At UCLan, Dr. Wallace led the development of an online M.Sc. in Food Safety Management, training many senior industry professionals. Her research interests are primarily focused on food safety management and culture, and she has supervised 10 Ph.D. candidates and has been an external examiner for nine Ph.D. candidates in five countries.

ELMER MARTH EDUCATOR AWARD

Dr. Wallace has written many successful food safety textbooks, several with co-author Sara Mortimore, and has books published in seven languages selling more than 30,000 copies. She has authored numerous research articles and book chapters and publishes with students, researchers, and industry professionals.

Dr. Wallace joined IAFP in 2011, served as Vice Chair/Chair of the Food Safety Education PDG (2013–2017), and currently serves on the Organizing Committee for the IAFP European Symposium and on the board of IAFP's Affiliate, the United Kingdom Association for Food Protection.

ELMER MARTH

Dr. Elmer Marth was a professor at the University of Wisconsin – Madison for 34 years. Throughout his 52-year IAFP Membership, Dr. Marth received the Harold Barnum Industry Award, the Fellow Award, the Harry Haverland Citation Award, the Honorary Life Membership Award, and the GMA Food Safety Award.

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HAROLD BARNUM INDUSTRY AWARD



JEFFREY KORNACKI
Madison, Wisconsin

Dr. Jeffrey Kornacki is the recipient of the 2024 IAFP Harold Barnum Industry Award which honors his dedication and exceptional service to IAFP, the public, and the food industry.

Dr. Kornacki has been solving food microbiology problems since obtaining his B.S. in Bacteriology in 1977. Both his M.S. and Ph.D. research addressed contamination concerns with dairy product manufacturing. He co-authored a patent on ultra-filtered milk cheese production during the four years he worked for Schreiber Foods as a Research Scientist. Twelve subsequent years were spent microbiological troubleshooting, technical writing/editing, and laboratory management for Silliker Laboratories (now Mérieux NutriSciences).

In 2001, Dr. Kornacki joined the faculty at University of Georgia's Department of Food Science before founding Kornacki Microbiology Solutions. He has assisted many companies during FDA and USDA product recalls and made approximately 1,000 troubleshooting-related plant visits across a vast array of food processing industries. He is an adjunct faculty member with Michigan State's On-Line Master's program.

An IAFP Member since 1979, Dr. Kornacki served on the *JFP* Editorial Board from 2002–2004 and as Chair of IAFP's Food Hygiene and Sanitation PDG from 2011–2013. He received IAFP's Sanitarian Award in 2010 and the Fellow Award in 2017.

Dr. Kornacki has published on many food microbiology topics. He is editor and co-author of several books including, *Principles of Microbiological Troubleshooting in the Industrial Food Processing Environment* (2010); *The Microbiological Safety of Low-Water Activity Foods and Spices* (2014); *Foodborne Pathogens: Virulence Factors and Host Susceptibility* (2017); and *Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products – 18th Edition* (2024). From 2013–2015, he served as NACMCF Co-Chair of the subcommittee on "Microbiological Criteria as Indicators of Process Control or Insanitary Conditions."

HAROLD BARNUM INDUSTRY AWARD

HAROLD BARNUM

Harold Barnum was a Chief Milk Sanitarian for the city and county of Denver, Colorado for more than 20 years before his retirement, at which time he became involved with the development of the Whirl-Pak Bag for NASCO International. Mr. Barnum served as IAFP President in 1953 and received the Honorary Life Membership Award and the Sanitarian Award throughout his long-time Membership.

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JOHN H. SILLIKER LECTURE



ROBERT E. BRACKETT

IEH Academy
Herndon, Virginia

Dr. Robert E. Brackett has more than 35 years of experience in food safety research, training, and policy. Dr. Brackett currently serves as Senior Vice President and Dean of the Institute for Environmental Health (IEH) Academy, based in Herndon, Virginia. In this capacity, he leads a group of subject matter experts responsible for training and course development in food safety and food processing. In addition, he contributes to the IEH Laboratory and Consulting Group as a subject matter expert in food safety and policy.

Prior to joining IEH, Dr. Brackett served at IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) in simultaneous roles as Vice President at the university level and as Executive Director of the Institute for Food Safety and Health (a research institute within IIT). He also served as Senior Vice President and Chief Science and Regulatory Officer for the Washington, D.C.- based Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA – now known as Consumer Brands Association). Before joining GMA, Dr. Brackett was with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (FDA CFSAN), joining in 2000 as a senior microbiologist in the Office of Plant and Dairy Foods and Beverages. After several promotions, he was appointed CFSAN Director, where from 2004–2007 he provided executive leadership to CFSAN's development and implementation of programs and policies relative to the composition, quality, safety, and labeling of foods, food and color additives, dietary supplements, and cosmetics. Earlier in his career, he held professor positions with North Carolina State University in Raleigh and the University of Georgia in Athens.

JOHN H. SILLIKER LECTURE

An active Member of IAFP since 1979, Dr. Brackett has been a member of several Professional Development Groups (PDGs) and has served on numerous award selection committees. He also served on the *Journal of Food Protection's* Editorial Board from 2000–2017. Dr. Brackett served as IAFP President in 1998 and received the Fellow Award in 2005 and the President's Recognition Award in 2012.

Dr. Brackett earned a doctorate in food microbiology from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

JOHN H. SILLIKER

Dr. John H. Silliker founded Silliker Laboratories in 1967, now known as Mérieux NutriSciences with more than 75 locations in 18 countries. Throughout his 50-year IAFP Membership, Dr. Silliker received the Harold Barnum Industry Award and the IAFP Honorary Life Membership Award. He passed away in 2015.

C. B. SHOGREN MEMORIAL AWARD



The African Continental Association for Food Protection (ACA FP) is the recipient of the C. B. Shogren Memorial Award, which is presented to the Affiliate demonstrating exceptional overall achievement in promoting the mission of IAFP. ACA FP was established in 2013 as the African Association for Food Protection. In 2017, the Affiliate re-established as a non-profit in the U.S. under its current name. Its Members include food safety professionals, government inspectors, regulatory staff, and professors and students from across the continent of Africa, crossing borders and expanding educational resources to the growing number of food safety professionals in Africa. In addition, there are a number of Members involved with ACA FP who have ties to African nations and live outside of Africa.



CALL FOR AWARDS DEADLINES

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Award Nominations



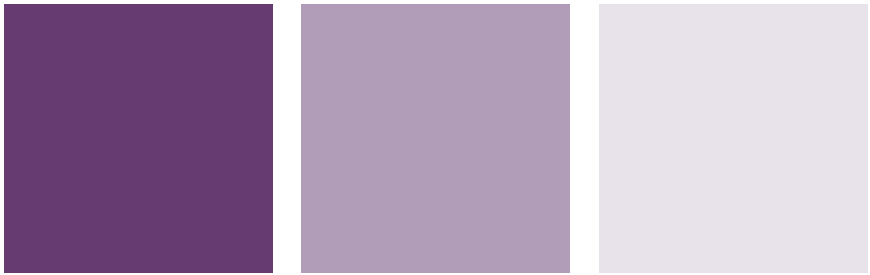
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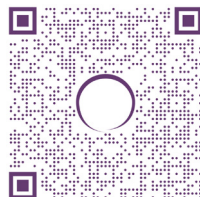


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