

2025–2026 IAFP SECRETARY ELECTION

This information is provided to help you make your selection of the next IAFP Secretary. IAFP Members have until Tuesday, March 4 to cast their vote. The link and passcode will be emailed to non-student Members on February 3.



PANAGIOTIS "PANOS" N. SKANDAMIS
Athens, Greece

Dr. Panagiotis "Panos" N. Skandamis is Professor of Food Microbiology and Food Quality Control and Food Hygiene at the Agricultural University of Athens. In addition, he serves as Vice Chair of the BIOHAZ panel of European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

Dr. Skandamis worked as a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Animal Science of Colorado State University in the U.S. He has authored/co-authored 274 original research papers in journals of SCI, 32 book chapters, edited one book, has delivered more than 200 oral or poster presentations for conferences, and his published work has attracted 12,450 citations. His research has been funded by competitive European and National Grants, as well as direct contracts with the Greek Food Industry in the control of pathogenic microorganisms in foods

and promoting the application of predictive microbiology and quantitative microbial risk assessment (QMRA) principles, promoting systems- and risk-based thinking. He is a tutor in the EUFORA program of the EFSA in predictive microbiology and QMRA.

An active IAFP Member since 2003, Dr. Skandamis has served as IAFP's *Journal of Food Protection* Scientific co-Editor since 2017 and as Editor-in-Chief since 2022, also having served on the Editorial Board from 2009–2016. Throughout his Membership, he co-organized IAFP's European Symposium on

Food Safety in 2016 (and FoodMicro in 2020) with Professor George Nychas, and served on the scientific committees for the European Symposium from 2015–2020. He was a member of the Selection Committee for the European Student Travel Scholarship from 2018–2020 and has judged the European Student Poster Competition.

Dr. Skandamis received the IAFP Maurice Weber Laboratorian Award in 2021, and both the IAFP International Leadership Award and the President's Recognition Award in 2023. He is in his second year serving on the IAFP International Leadership Award Selection Committee. He previously served as Chair and Vice Chair of IAFP's Microbial Modelling and Risk Assessment PDG.

Dr. Skandamis served as a judge at FoodMicro 2018 and ICPMS conferences in 2013 and 2019. He is a current member on the Editorial Boards of *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* and the *International Journal of Food Microbiology*. He has been a member of the scientific committee of the International Conference in Predictive Microbiology in Foods (ICPMF) since 2008. Dr. Skandamis is the developer of *Growth Predictor*, a predictive modelling and QMRA software in R, which has been demonstrated in different Software Fair sessions. He is a current member of the WG for the preparation of ISO standard 23691 "*Microbiology of the food chain – Determination and use of cardinal values*," offering his expertise on the application of gamma models to predict microbial growth.

At the national level, Dr. Skandamis chaired the newly established *Department of Dietetics and Quality of Life of the AUA*, and has coordinated the WG "*Food Safety*" of the *National Technological Platform "Food for Life"*. Since 2022, he has been a member of the scientific committee for the Hellenic Food Safety Authority.



WENDY WHITE
Atlanta, Georgia

Ms. Wendy White is the Industry Manager for Food and Beverage at the Georgia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (GaMEP) at Georgia Tech's Enterprise Innovation Institute in Atlanta. As extension faculty, Ms. White serves as GaMEP's food safety expert to Georgia food and beverage manufacturing companies. She engages in educational outreach, leads industry workshops, and shares her expertise via consulting services. These activities primarily involve improving food safety/HACCP plans and prerequisite programs as well as supporting regulatory compliance, supply chain management, and third-party audit preparation.

Ms. White earned both her B.S. in Biology and

M.S. in Food Science and Technology at the University of Georgia. Prior to joining academia in 2019, Ms. White spent 17 years in industry, most recently as the Corporate Director of Food Safety for the global manufacturing company, Golden State Foods. During this time, she served on BRC's North American Advisory Board and currently serves as a member of the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) America/Canada Working Group. She recently served on the Food Safety Preventive Controls Association (FSPCA) Preventive Controls for Human Food Curriculum Update Work Group and is a current member of the FSPCA Technical Assistance Network.

Ms. White is a Lead Instructor for PCQI PCHF, FSVP, and the International HACCP Alliance, as well as an American Society for Quality Certified Quality Auditor. She has published articles in scientific publications such as both IAFP's *Journal of Food Protection* and *Food Protection Trends*, and is an Editorial Board member of *Food Safety Magazine*. She has presented on a wide range of topics including food safety systems, auditing, sanitation, traceability,

and food technology at conferences such as the GFSI Annual Conference, BRCGS Americas, IAFP Annual Meetings, and IAFP Affiliate meetings in Georgia, Arkansas, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

Ms. White joined IAFP as a Student Member in 2002, becoming one of the inaugural Student PDG members at that year's Annual Meeting in San Diego, where she gave her first presentation. Since that time, she's organized and/or convened 15 sessions, presented at seven, and has been asked twice to present the Student PDG Luncheon Lecture. She believes in giving back to the Association by supporting the next generation of food safety practitioners. Ms. White was instrumental in creating the Developing Food Safety Practitioners PDG and served as its Vice Chair and Chair from 2012–2016. She has been actively involved in the IAFP Student Mentor Program for the past eight years and informally mentors Georgia Tech students who show an interest in the food industry.

In 2014, Ms. White was invited to join the IAFP Foundation Committee and has served as Vice Chair for the past five years. In this role, she has helped with fundraising; judged student awards; led efforts to reduce IAFP Annual Meeting registration fees for newly-graduated professionals; and aided in the creation of the new Dependent Care Grant to reduce member challenges when attending IAFP's Annual Meeting. She also served as Vice Chair and Chair of the Meat and Poultry PDG from 2016–2020. Ms. White was honored to receive the IAFP President's Recognition Award in 2011 from Dr. Lee-Ann Jaykus for her work on IAFP's Centennial Celebration at that year's Annual Meeting. In 2020, she was elected as IAFP's Affiliate Council Secretary and served on the IAFP Executive Board from 2021–2022 as Affiliate Council Chairperson.

On the local level, Ms. White is a Past President of the Georgia Association of Food Protection (GAFF), serving on the GAFF Executive Board from 2012–2016 and from 2018–present as GAFF's Affiliate Delegate. In 2012, she reinstated the Affiliate's Jim Ayres Young Investigator Award. She continues to manage the program, and over the past 13 years has proudly presented 36 awards to deserving students to support their travel to IAFP's Annual Meeting.