General Information

Registration
The 2nd Food Integrity and Traceability Conference will be held at Queen’s University Belfast from Tuesday 8 April to Thursday 10 April 2014. For the most current information regarding the conference, please visit our web site www.qub.ac.uk/sites/ASSET2014

Alternatively, if you have any queries, you can contact the Conference Secretariat by e-mail asset2014@qub.ac.uk

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Belfast is fast becoming a major tourist destination, a fact recognised by travel publications such as Frommer’s, Lonely Planet and TripAdvisor. Within a few miles of Belfast, one can take advantage of breath-taking coastlines and mountains, archaeological monuments, a buzzing arts scene and much more.

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In keeping with the University’s continued excellence in research, the Institute for Global Food Security is recognised as a major centre of excellence and acknowledged globally for high quality research. Within this Institute, The Centre for Assured, Safe and Traceable Food (ASSET) was launched in January 2009 and continues as a base for world-class academic and scientific research.

Commitees
Organising Committee
Chair: Chris Elliott
Members: Ling Bai, Katrina Campbell, Andrew Castles, Simon Haughey, Michael Hills, Owen Kavanagh, Gary Kearney, Terry McGrath, James McIntosh, Mark Mooney, Joyce Watterson

International Scientific Committee
Paul Breton, United Kingdom
Drew Cannavan, Austria
Martin Danaher, Ireland
Stacey Degrase, United States
Chris Elliott, United Kingdom
Gary Kearney, Ireland
Luja Han, China
Jana Hasilova, Czech Republic
James Lindsay, United States
Michel Nielen, Netherlands
Chair of the Organising Committee
Professor Chris Elliott

to welcome you all to our conference in Belfast. Our local hospitality and friendliness is renowned and it would be a great pleasure into the programme.

The City of Belfast is an emerging economic, cultural, historic and tourism centre. The ever growing list of food product recalls due to contamination with, for example, Salmonella, E.coli and Listeria, and scandals such as melamine and, and the Organising Committee, I cordially invite you to take part in the 2nd Food Integrity and Traceability Conference, to be held at Queen’s University Belfast, from Tuesday 8 April to Thursday 10 April 2014.

The ability to protect the integrity of the food supply chain is a massive challenge but one which is of the utmost importance to protect the consumer. This encompasses the threats posed by microbiological and chemical contamination of the supply chain, along with guaranteeing the authenticity of food products to combat fraudulent practices and control adulteration for economic, food safety and cultural reasons.

Significant efforts worldwide have been devoted to tackling the multiple threats to the integrity of the food supply chain. These range from the introduction of control measures based on HACCP principles by agri-food industries to the introduction of national and international legislation. The drive to introduce improved traceability systems for agri-food products has been another important step in delivering a higher degree of integrity to the supply chain. All these measures have been supported by substantial research efforts.

Major gaps still exist in ensuring that the food we consume is safe and authentic. The ever growing list of food product recalls due to contamination with, for example, Salmonella, E.coli and Listeria, and scandals such as melamine and horsemeat adulteration of many food products have highlighted the need for improved measures to verify the integrity of the food supply chain. Continued research and improved techniques will facilitate targeted and efficient recall of contaminated products, and allow trace-back to contamination sources for mitigation and on-going improvement of farm-to-fork food safety systems.

This conference will consist of plenary lectures, presented by high calibre invited speakers, contributed papers (10 or 20 minute communications or posters) and a technical exhibition of scientific instruments and related products. A debate on the introduction of GM feeds and foods into Europe has also been introduced into the programme.

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Professor Chris Elliott
Chair of the Organising Committee

Invited Lecturers

Dr Theresa Elong
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom

Dr Mari Eskola
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Italy

Dr Carsten Faulß-Hassak
Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), Germany

Professor Séamus Fanning
University College Dublin Centre for Food, Ireland

Professor Rudi Krška
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria

Professor Bruno Le Bizec
LABERCA, École Nationale Vétérinaire, France

Professor Robert Newman
School of Technology (University of Wolverhampton), United Kingdom

Professor Peter Shears
Plymouth Law School (University of Plymouth), United Kingdom

Professor John Spink
Food Fraud Initiative (Michigan State University), USA

QSAFFE International Session at Food Integrity and Traceability Conference 2014

The University is delighted to announce that the programme will include a session dedicated to QSAFFE, www.qsaffe.eu EU FP7 Funded, this project brings together partners from across Europe and Asia developing strategies to safeguard the food supply chain. Work package leaders will update the audience on progress. Associated sessions will showcase the range of methods developed through the project.

Your Opportunity to Participate

Contributed Papers and Topics

Contributed papers, as to 10 minute (student) and 20 minute oral presentations, or posters, are particularly welcome across the main broad themes of the conference.

- Reviewing recent progress in delivering safe and authentic food to the consumer;
- Identifying the greatest current and emerging threats to the integrity of the agri-food supply;
- Delivering new analytical means of verifying the integrity of the agri-food supply chain.

Contributions on the following specific subjects are also encouraged:

- Untargeted analytical procedures in food safety and quality
- The influence (positive and negative) of nanotechnology in food safety and quality
- Emerging global issues in food security
- Determining the safety and risks of GM food products
- Biomarker-based approaches to food safety and quality monitoring
- The European horse meat crisis
- Advances in meat speciation tests
- Industry perspectives
- Food Fraud

Abstracts

Scientists wishing to present a paper are invited to submit an abstract before Friday 6 December 2013. The authors should visit the conference website at www.qub.ac.uk/sites/ASSET2014/ and follow the online instructions for submission. Authors should be advised that all successful abstracts will be published in the conference programme.

The authors should indicate their preferences as to the presentation mode (poster or oral) and length (for oral presentations: 10 or 20 minutes). Applicants will be notified as to the success of their submissions no later than the 31st January 2014. All papers must be presented in English.

Presentation

The time allocated for oral presentations is either 10 or 20 minutes, discussion included. Facilities for PowerPoint multimedia presentations will be available. No simultaneous translation will be provided.

The surface available for poster presentation is 1200mm x 1200mm. This is suitable for both A1 and A0 posters.

Exhibition

The conference will include a technical exhibition of scientific instruments, materials and books.

Rates for the rental of space are available on request. Interested companies are asked to contact the secretariat by emailing asset2014@qub.ac.uk

NEW Student Session

We are proud to announce a new dedicated student session to the conference which will be of major benefit to students as they embark on their careers.

The sessions will include feedback on oral presentations, a workshop hosted by Elsevier on how to get published, together with poster and oral presentation competitions.
On behalf of the Institute for Global Food Security, safefood, and the Organising Committee, I cordially invite you to take part in the 2nd Food Integrity and Traceability Conference, to be held at Queen’s University Belfast, from Tuesday 8 April to Thursday 10 April 2014.

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**QSAFFE**

The QSAFFE project, funded through the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) of the European Union, provides independent food safety advice and information to the farming and food industry, traders, consumers, and regulators. The project is coordinated by the Institute for Global Food Security, Queen’s University Belfast.

**Risk and threat assessment**

QSAFFE partners include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Food Information Council (IFIC), the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI), the International Public Health Organization (IPPO), and the World Health Organization (WHO).

**QSAFFE’s remit**

QSAFFE is a European multi-disciplinary project which aims to build a comprehensive resource for food safety and fraud, including a library of vetted reference materials, a training programme, an expert and stakeholder forum, and a one-stop portal on food fraud.

**Significance**

Significant efforts worldwide have been devoted to tackling the multiple threats to the integrity of the food supply chain. These range from the introduction of control measures based on HACCP principles by agri-food industries to the introduction of national and international legislation. A significant step in delivering a higher degree of integrity to the supply chain is the drive to introduce improved traceability systems for agri-food products.

QSAFFE’s project objectives include:

- Developing robust techniques to safeguard the food supply
- Identifying the greatest current and emerging threats to the food supply chain
- Delivering new analytical means of verifying the integrity of the agri-food supply chain

All these measures have been supported by substantial research efforts.

**About Us**

The Institute for Global Food Security based at Queen’s University Belfast conducts cutting edge research, developing robust techniques to safeguard the food supply. Working with colleagues across the globe, the Institute aims to play an important role in delivering food security, not only locally but on a global scale, to provide the world’s growing population with a sustainable, safe and secure supply of high quality food. www.qub.ac.uk/safefood

**safefood** is the North-South consumer body established in 1999 to promote best practice in food safety and healthy eating across the food chain on the island of Ireland.

safefood provides independent research, delivers consumer campaigns and collaborates with partners to contribute towards public health and well-being.

www.safefood.eu
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