

Association of African Universities (AAU) and International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFOST) Roundtable

**Leadership and Capacity Building in Food Science and Technology in Africa**

15 February 2024, from 09.00 – 10.30 ET (GMT-5)

**Distinguished Speakers**



**Professor Olusola Oyewole is the Secretary-General of the Association of African Universities (AAU),** with Headquarters in Accra, Ghana. He is a Professor of Food Science and Technology (Food Microbiology and Biotechnology). He was the Vice Chancellor of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria, from May 2012 to May 2017. Professor Olusola Oyewole has over 36 six years' experience working in the African higher education space and has over 100 scholarly publications to his credit. He previously served as a Senior Expert (Quality Assurance, Mobility and Scholarships) at the Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology of the African Union Commission in Ethiopia, Addis- Ababa,

from 2009 to 2010.

Prior to joining the African Union Commission, Prof. Oyewole was the Coordinator of the British Government's sponsored project on the "Mobilization of Regional Initiatives for the revitalization of higher education in Africa", at the Association of African Universities (AAU), Accra, Ghana, from 2007 to 2009. His assignment involved the promotion and management of African continental research networking and research programs for development. He once served as the Project Officer of a World Bank project on "Quality Assurance for African Higher Education systems" at the Association of African Universities (2006 – 2009).

Prof. Olusola Oyewole has worked in national, regional and continental organizations and has experience in coordinating multinational research and development programmes. He has track records and experience in International and Inter-Governmental Relations, Advocacy and Lobbying for Research and Research Funding.

Over the course of his career, Prof. Oyewole developed strong interest and substantial expertise in various aspects of higher education including Leadership, Quality Assurance, Internationalization, Harmonisation, Accreditation and the African Credit Systems. He is currently the sub-cluster coordinator of the African Union Commission's Continental Education Strategy for Education in Africa (CESA) on Research and Graduate Studies.

At the African Union, Prof. Olusola Oyewole was charged with the Coordination of the Mwalimu Nyerere Scheme, which featured various programmes including the African Quality Rating Mechanisms (AQRM) scheme, the Mwalimu Nyerere Scholarship program, and the African – EU-ACP Mobility scheme. He is currently a member of the Advisory Group of the OECD Programme on Innovation, Higher Education and Research for Development, and the Tuning Africa Quality Assurance programme.



**Prof. Dr. Ir. Aman Wirakartakusumah is IUFOST President,**

Rector, IPMI International Business School, Professor Emeritus of Food Science and Technology, IPB University and IPMI IBS, Indonesia. Academician of Indonesian Academy of Sciences. President Academy of Food and Nutrition Sciences, Indonesian Academy of Sciences.

Professor Aman Wirakartakusumah is a Senior Scientist at the SEAFast Center, IPB University. He was Rector of IPB University, the premier Food and Agriculture University in Indonesia, from 1998-2002. He has also served as Vice Rector, Dean;

Head of Department of Food Science and Technology and as Director of Inter-University Center for Food and Nutrition at the University.

In 2004, Professor Aman was appointed the prestigious position as the Ambassador of Indonesia to UNESCO, an UN Agency based in Paris France (2004-2008). Prior to this, he represented Indonesia as delegate to FAO-WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission in the period of 1990-1998.

Over his professional career period, he was inducted as a Fellow of International Academy of Food Science & Technology (IAFoST), Chairman of IUFOST Education Committee, and has been serving as Scientific Director of ILSI SEAR and as Senior Advisor to the ILSI SEAR-Indonesia Country Committee. He is a Senior Advisor to the Indonesian Association of Food Technologists.

Currently, He is the Immediate Past President of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology IAFoST (2020-2022), President of IUFOST (2022-2024) and member of Board of Trustee ILSI while In 2020 he has been appointed as a member of UN Scientific Group for UN Food Systems Summit 2021. He is now the member of FAO Director General Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).

Professor Aman obtained his degree from IPB in 1972, his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Food Science/minor in Chemical Engineering from the UW-Madison, USA in 1977 and 1981, respectively.



**Dr. Ogugua Charles Aworh**, President, International Academy of Food Science and Technology and Fellow, African Academy of Sciences (FAAS), is Lifetime Achievement Award recipient and past Academy Chair of Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology (NIFST). He obtained B.Sc. (Hons) from the University of Ibadan (UI), Nigeria; MS and PhD in Food Science and Technology from Cornell University, USA. He is a retired Distinguished Professor and served three-terms as Head, Department of Food Technology, UI. He has been visiting Research Fellow/Professor at University of Leeds, UK; University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada; and Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow, Hamburg University of Technology, Germany. He is pioneer Chairman of UI's Multidisciplinary Central Research Laboratory. His areas of research include post-harvest technology, food processing, food safety and biotechnology. He has published extensively, supervised over 120 MSc and 17 PhDs and is mentor for African Women in Agricultural Research and Development and IUFOST young scientists.



**Dr. Ruth Oniang'o** is a professor (Emeritus), researcher, Africa Food Prize Laureate (2017), IAFoST past president and Founder and Editor-in-Chief, AJFAND.

In 2022 she received IUFOST Lifetime Award at the IUFOST 21<sup>st</sup> World Congress of Food Science and Technology in Singapore. Dr Oniang'o has been honored by her own government for her work to eradicate poverty and hunger in Kenya, by working with smallholder farmers (mostly women) for the past 3 decades and helping to formulate food and nutrition security policies. She received Kenya's Silver Star and Distinguished Service Medals.

Ruth founded Rural Outreach Africa (ROA) in the early 1990s and continues to be a clear and profound voice in research for development as an international consultant and speaker. She has served in the Parliament of Kenya and as Shadow Minister for Education, Science and Technology. As the founder and editor-in-chief of the African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development (AJFAND), Ruth seeks to improve policy and decision-making through the dissemination of significant scientific findings and emerging technologies in the field, and thus serving as an influencer on the continent and globally. The journal marked 20 years in 2021 since inception. Through the journal, she mentors and helps in capacity building of upcoming scientists in the field. Highlighting Africa's unique challenges and strengths on the world stage has been a real success of the journal and has enhanced connectivity. Through ROA programs, Ruth Oniang'o has transformed the lives of many rural poor families

in the districts of western Kenya and the environs. Lessons learnt from here are shared globally, regionally and nationally.

She serves on a number of boards as advisor on African issues related to hunger, nutrition and poverty.



**Dr. R. Paul Singh** is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Food Engineering at the University of California at Davis. He received his degrees in agricultural engineering from Punjab Agricultural University; the University of Wisconsin; and Michigan State University. Dr. Singh's research involves computational modeling of food processes and sustainability of industrial food manufacturing. He is an author or co-author of 17 books, 3 patents, and 290 refereed papers. His co-authored textbook, *Introduction to Food Engineering*, is translated into 7 languages and used worldwide in food engineering education. Dr. Singh is a Fellow of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, and the International Academy of Food Science and Technology. In 2008, he was elected to the US National Academy of Engineering. In 2010, IFT awarded him the Nicolas Appert Award. In 2015, he received the *World Agriculture Prize* from GCHERA.

### Distinguished Panelists and Facilitators



**Professor Samuel Godefroy**, President Elect of IUFOST, is the former Director General of Health Canada's Food Directorate, Canada's Food Standard Setting body and a former Vice Chair of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission. Professor Godefroy assumed senior food regulatory positions at the executive level with Health Canada for over 15 years. Prof. Godefroy is the founder and the current president of the Global Food Regulatory Science Society, (GFoRSS) a non-for-profit organization, aiming to promote food regulatory science disciplines at the international level. Samuel is currently Full Professor of Food Risk Analysis and Regulatory Policies in the Department of Food Science, Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences, Université Laval, Québec, QC, Canada and is leading the development of a Food Risk Analysis and Regulatory Excellence Platform (PARERA), hosted by the Institute of Nutrition and Functional Foods (INAF) of Université Laval. Prof. Godefroy currently serves as a senior food science and regulatory expert on a number of advisory bodies and committees domestically and internationally, including on the International Advisory Committee of the China Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA). Prof. Godefroy also serves as a strategic and operational advisor to international food safety capacity building initiatives focused on regulatory enhancement, implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He is a Fellow of IAFoST and co-chair of the IUFOST Codex Committee.



**Dr. Mukund V. Karwe**, IAFoST Fellow is Professor and Chair, Department of Food Science, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, USA. Over the last 22 years, Dr. Karwe's research has covered areas such as food extrusion, microwave and hybrid aking, fortification of foods with Omega-3 fatty acids, high pressure food processing, and effect of processing on nutraceuticals in foods. He has published over 100 research articles and book chapters, including one co-edited book on food extrusion science and technology. He has given research seminars in India, UK, France, Turkey, Italy, Australia, Kuwait, Brazil, China, Greece and S. Korea. Dr. Karwe has guided research of eight doctoral students, twenty-four master's students and five post-doctoral researchers. Dr. Karwe teaches graduate and undergraduate food engineering courses. In 2008, he received Warren Susman Teaching Excellence award from Rutgers University and in 2009 he

was the recipient of William Cruess Award, the national Teaching Excellence Award in Food Science & Technology, from the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), USA.



**Professor Sved Rizvi**, IAFoST Fellow, is International Professor of Food Process Engineering in the Department of Food Science, Cornell University, New York, USA. Dr Rizvi was selected as a Jefferson Science Fellow by the National Academy of Sciences and served as a Senior Science Adviser at the US Department of State in Washington, DC. Dr. Rizvi teaches courses devoted to engineering and processing aspects of food and related biomaterials. He has published over 250 scientific papers, co-authored/edited six books and holds nine patents. Dr. Rizvi is the recipient of many awards including SUNY Chancellor Medal for Excellence in Teaching. He has been a Visiting Professor at universities such as Bogor Agricultural University (Indonesia), Institute of Food Technology (Brazil), and University of Toronto, Canada.

#### Rapporteurs



**Adewale Olusegun Obadina** is a Professor of Food Safety and Biotechnology at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria; Visiting Professor, Department of Biotechnology and Food Technology, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. He served as the Director of Biotechnology Centre and Head of Department, Food Science and Technology at Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria. He was a member of the Board of Directors, International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST) between 2020 – 2022; African Continental Association of Food Protection (ACAFFP) – 2019 till date. He is Chair, Global Harmonization Initiative (GHI) Food Safety Education and Training Working Group (2022 – till date). Member of African Union Expert on Food Safety (2021 – till date), AU Expert Panel Technical Working Group on AMR and member of WHO Guideline Development Group (GDG) – Reducing public health risks associated with the sale of live wild animals of mammalian species in traditional food markets (2023-2025).



**Mrs. Felicia Nkrumah Kuagbedzi is Senior Communications and Publications Officer, Association of African Universities.**

Felicia has worked in the Strategic Communications field for over 10 years. Being a dynamic individual, Felicia's work and interest areas transcends communications, to cover aspects related to the promotion of gender equity in African Higher Education systems, strengthening of the research ecosystem – thus focusing on capacity building in research communication, IPR, partnerships and collaboration, commercialisation among others. She has been supporting the Science Granting Council's Research Management Project in terms of communications and gaining visibility for the project. Currently, she is a PhD candidate at the Africa Centre of Excellence for Innovative and Transformative STEM Education (ACEITSE), Lagos State University, Nigeria. She has also worked effectively with communications teams of other institutions, including the World Bank, Education Sub Saharan Africa (ESSA), and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS), to implement communications plans for international events and projects. She holds a Master of Arts Degree in Communications and first degree in information studies and linguistics. She also has a professional certificate in marketing (CIM UK) and a certificate in Management Essentials (Harvard Business School, online).