



9th GCHERA World Conference
Global Food Security and Food Safety: The Role of Universities
October 28-30, 2017
Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing, China

The focus of the Conference is to explore the role and contribution of agricultural and life science universities in research, education, outreach and engagement in policymaking to address the global challenge of food security and safety. In particular, we would like to explore how universities are contributing to addressing the issues of food security and food safety by engaging in strategic education, research, effective outreach in multi-stakeholder programs and policy determination at the local, regional and global levels. Such contributions will provide significant outcomes defining the way forward for others to follow. The outcome of the conference will be an action plan that provides guidance for university and faculty senior managers.

Session 1: The Challenge for Global Food Security and Food Safety

Keynote speakers: **Zhu Jing**, Nanjing Agricultural University, China
Gebisa Ejeta, Purdue University, USA

Dr. Zhu is a specialist in food security policy. She serves on advisory groups to the World Bank and FAO, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Livestock Research Institute.

Dr. Ejeta is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a Fellow of the Crop Science Society of America, and a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy. Among his many awards, Dr. Ejeta was the recipient of the 2009 World Food Prize.

Session 2: Education

Keynote speakers: **Rob Dyball**, Australian National University, Australia
Jose Zaglul, EARTH University, Costa Rica

Dr. Dyball is President of the International Society for Human Ecology and editor of Human Ecology Review.

Dr. Zaglul was president of EARTH university, an international, private, nonprofit institution in Costa Rica, dedicated to preparing leaders with ethical values to contribute to the sustainable development of the tropics and to construct a prosperous and just society.

Followed by a panel discussing case studies of universities providing graduates with the knowledge, skills and multi-disciplinary competences to be successful future leaders, addressing the challenges of global food security and food safety.

Session 3: Research

Keynote speakers: **John Ingram**, Oxford University, UK

Aldo Stroebe, National Research Foundation, South Africa

Dr. Ingram has designed and led regional food system research projects in Europe, south Asia, southern Africa and the Caribbean and leads the multi-university Innovative Food Systems Teaching and Learning programme (IFSTAL).

Dr. Stroebe is Executive Director Strategic Partnerships at the National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa, and Visiting Fellow at the Institute for African Development (IAD) at Cornell University, USA. He directs South Africa's participation in the Global Research Council, and is a member of the International Advisory and the Programme Committees of the Third International Conference on Global Food Security (South Africa, December 2017).

Followed by a panel discussing the critical success factors for universities engaging with stakeholders to address the challenges of global food security and food safety in multi-disciplinary research programmes.

Session 4: Value Creation

Keynote speakers: **Virginia Cardenas**, APIRAS, Philippines

Xiangping Jia, Northwest Agriculture & Forestry University, China

Dr. Cardenas was Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs of the University of the Philippines, and is a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services where as well as the Regional Network Coordinator of the Asia-Pacific Islands Rural Advisory Services Network.

Dr. Jia is a professor of agricultural economics, with a focus on applying new institutional economics to issues of agrofood market coordination, development of inclusive financial markets, the organization and performance of smallholder farms, and participatory agricultural extension system. Dr. Jia previously worked at the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

Followed by a panel presenting case studies of universities successfully engaging with stakeholders to use innovation and outreach to address the challenges of global food security and food safety.

Expected Conference Outcomes

Guidelines of good practices for agricultural and life science universities distilled from the keynotes, panel members' discussion and the general discussion of the role of universities in addressing food security and food safety.

Target Audience

Rectors, Deans, Directors of university research and innovation services, Directors of university educational services, Directors of research teams, Degree program coordinators and Professors from Universities of Agriculture and Life Sciences worldwide.

Programme Structure

Four half day sessions with two keynote speakers, a panel from four regions of the world, followed by a general discussion.

Presented by the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA) and Nanjing Agricultural University

