

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and Subscribers,

After a busy summer we've got lots of interesting events and talks lined up for the coming year. Cambridge PhD students and post-docs are invited to register for our first interdisciplinary Speed Networking event on 27th October, and a new series of research seminars in *Policy-Making for Food and Agriculture* is being launched this month in collaboration with the Centre of Development Studies and the Centre for Rising Powers.

This year's Cambridge-Africa day will include a presentation by African Fellow Dr Naalamle Amissah and her research collaborator at NIAB Dr Huw Jones - if you'd like to attend, remember to register by 18 October to secure a place.

And finally, Cambridge staff and students, don't miss your chance to take part in the Science Festival 2017 - a great opportunity for public engagement. The theme for 2017 is 'Getting Personal' and the deadline to submit events is 7th Nov; please contact me or the Festival team to discuss your ideas.

Best wishes, Jacqueline Garget

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CAMBRIDGE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY EVENTS

19 Oct 2016: 'Why Germany Chooses Organic Agriculture', Prof Sandra Schwindenhammer (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and Dr Ksenia Gerasimova (University of Cambridge), 4-6pm, Little Hall, Sedgwick Site Cambridge. Part of the new *Research Seminars in Policy-Making for Food and Agriculture* series.

27 Oct 2016: Global Food Security Initiative Speed Networking Event for Cambridge PhD students and post-docs, 1:00-2:30pm, Dept. of Engineering, main site lecture room 4. [Register](#) for the opportunity to meet others across the University interested in global food systems.

25 Nov 2016: Italian Policy of Food Safety: Modern Challenges Dr Giuseppe Ruocco, Vice-Minister, Health Ministry of Italy, 4-6pm, Little Hall, Sedgwick Site Cambridge. Part of the new *Research Seminars in Policy-Making for Food and Agriculture* series.

7 March 2017: Interdisciplinary Food Systems Training to Address Global Food Challenges Talk by Professor John Ingram, IFSTAL and the University of Oxford. 6-8pm, Sainsbury Laboratory, Cambridge. This Ralph Melville Memorial Lecture 2017 will be followed by a drinks reception. Book your free place [here](#).

16 May 2017: Transfer of Crop Research Knowledge to Small Farmers 1-6pm, Sophi Taylor Building, NIAB, Histon, with talks by Dr Tinashe Chiurugwi (NIAB International) and Dr Peter Emrich (John Innes Research Centre). Tropical Agriculture Association East Anglia seminar in collaboration with NIAB, CambPlants Hub, and Cambridge Global Food Security Initiative. [Register here](#) for seminar and short tour of the greenhouses at NIAB's Innovation Farm, Histon.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

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18-20 Oct 2016: The European Forum for Industrial Biotechnology and the Bioeconomy. Glasgow. Where business, policy and science truly come together to push forward the success of the European bioeconomy. Includes pre-conference workshop on **'Biowaste to value: how can policy-makers help?'**

20 Oct 2016: Next Steps for UK Food Waste Policy: innovation, partnerships and energy recovery. London. Westminster Food and Nutrition Forum with keynote address from Dr Richard Swannell, Director of Sustainable Food Systems, WRAP.

24-27 Oct 2016: Engineering and Technology Innovation for Global Food Security. Cape Town, South Africa.

25 Oct 2016: Cambridge-Africa Day 2016 A range of high profile presentations about collaborations between Cambridge and African researchers and students. Emmanuel College, Cambridge. **Register by 18 Oct.**

27 Oct 2016: Innovation in Livestock Buildings. A KTN-hosted workshop to join up thinking in the initiation of livestock housing (re)design, incorporating as appropriate new advances in sensors, environmental control, biosecurity, lighting, hygiene, water, health, nutrition (including feeding systems), robotics, water supply and usage, retail planning, and waste. **Edinburgh. Register online.**

7-11 Nov 2016: Agri-Tech Week 2016. Showcasing the best of innovation from the thriving Agri-Tech Cluster, with a range of events certain to stimulate debate and create new market opportunities including: **Talking Shop – using and reducing waste from fresh produce; Visit to Aspull: Innovation In Practice;** and **REAP Conference 2016**, 'Innovation for an Agricultural Revolution'. Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton (to which *the University of Cambridge's Bioscience Impact Team is funding 5 places for Cambridge researchers to attend on a first-come, first-served basis: more info here*).

12 Nov 2016: Providing for the Planet Without Costing the Earth. OUNCS and Oxford Martin School symposium focusing on ecosystem services including food security, sustainable fisheries, and green forestry.

16 Nov 2016: Next steps for tackling obesity: prevention, sugar consumption and policy priorities. Scotland Policy Conferences, Edinburgh.

22-24 Nov 2016: Food Matters Live, ExCeL, London. Addressing the political, social and economic issues surrounding the complex and challenging relationship between food, health and nutrition. 70 leading figures from across government, industry, science and health join renowned commentators and chefs to explore the drivers for increasing the availability and consumption of nutritious food and drink, while also making the important connections between diet, population health and a sustainable, resilient food system.

23 Nov 2016: Annual Public Health Conference & Lecture organised by the Cambridge Institute of Public Health, examining the interface between infectious diseases and non-communicable diseases. It will be followed by the annual lecture, delivered by Professor Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England. **Reserve your free place.**

29-30 Nov 2016: Sensors in Food and Agriculture, Moller Centre, Cambridge.

1 Dec 2016: Policy Priorities for the UK Food, Drink and Farming Industry, London. Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum with keynote address from Sarah Church, Director, Food & Farming, DEFRA.

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12-13 Dec 2016: Natural variation as a tool for gene discovery and crop improvement. Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. **International** workshop with a world leading programme of speakers across eight plenary sessions.

12-14 Dec 2016: Cambridge Conference on Catastrophic Risk 2016: Managing Emerging Risks – Where Next? Call for papers: Deadline 18 Oct.

24 Feb 2017: Meeting of Minds for Infectious Diseases: Cambridge Infectious Diseases SRI annual event. Contact Coordinator [Dr Allyson Walsh](#) if you have an idea for a talk you would like to give; topics could include, but are not limited to, advances in vector born disease research, microbial populations and anti-microbial resistance, vaccines and immunization, global ecohealth.

7 March 2017: Food & Health Forum: Technology & Innovations in Food and Health, Royal Society of Medicine, London. [Email](#) to register your interest.

28-30 March 2017 Student Conference on Conservation Science, Cambridge. Aims to bring together conservation scientists in the early stages of their research careers; internships are available for conference delegates from developing and eastern European countries to spend up to one month after the conference with a UK-based NGO or university department carrying out a conservation science-related project. **Deadline for Internship applications: 14 October 2016. Deadline for conference applications 21 October 2016.**

16-20 July 2017: 11th European Conference on Precision Agriculture. Edinburgh. Abstract deadline 12 Oct 2016.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Contact me if you are an Initiative Member and would like support in promoting your new publication.

Decision support tools for agriculture: towards effective design and delivery Rose, D.C; et al. *Agricultural Systems*.

Modelling water use efficiency in a dynamic environment: An example using Arabidopsis thaliana. Violet-Chabrand, S. et al. *Plant Sci*.

Essential genes for in vitro growth of the endophyte Herbaspirillum seropedicae SmR1 revealed by transposon insertion sequencing. Rosconi F., et al. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol*.

Comparison of sodium content of meals served by independent takeaways using standard versus reduced holed salt shakers: cross-sectional study. Goffe, L. et al. *Int. J. Behav.Nutr.Phys.Act*.

Reducing the Salt Added to Takeaway Food: Within-Subjects Comparison of Salt Delivered by Five and 17 Holed Salt Shakers in Controlled Conditions. Goffe, L. et al. *PLoS One*.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

If you are a Cambridge researcher interested in putting together an application and would like assistance in finding suitable collaborators/coordinating a group meeting, please [contact me](#).

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UK Royal Society International Exchanges 2016

The Royal Society's International Exchanges Scheme makes grants to UK scientists who seek new international collaborations. The scheme covers all areas of the life and physical sciences, except clinical medicine. **Deadline 18 Oct 16.**

Agri-Tech Catalyst, Innovate UK Funding Competition. UK businesses and universities can apply for a share of £4 million to work with developing country partners on agri-tech innovations – a good opportunity to explore technology transfer to a new market. **Deadline for expressions of interest 26 Oct 2016 and 25 Jan 2017.**

Agri-Tech in China: Newton Network+ (ATCNN) will support a range of activities to develop innovative solutions for some of the critical challenges impacting China's agri-tech and agri-food sectors. They particularly seek to enable translation of UK excellence in satellite imaging, remote sensing, smart sensors, robotics and data-intensive science into new solutions for productivity and sustainability in rural China. **Deadline: noon, 31 Oct 2016.**

World Bank Big Data Innovation Challenge This calls for big data solutions and prototypes that address climate change-related issues pertaining to food security, nutrition, landscapes, forestry and watersheds. Two prizes of USD 10,000 each are available. **Deadline 9 Nov 2016.**

BBSRC Call 2 GFS: Resilience of the UK Food System in a Global Context. Will support interdisciplinary projects from 1-5 years' duration, costing up to £2.8m. Must address one or more of the programme's thematic priorities including optimising resilience of food supply chains, and influencing food choice for health, resilience and sustainability. **Outline application deadline 10 Nov 2016.**

Agri-Food Innovation in Turkey Innovate UK will invest up to £1.5M for UK participants developing innovative solutions to challenges within the agri-food sector in Turkey including:

- using waste by-products and residues from the Turkish agri-food industry
- improving agricultural productivity of SME farmers through upgrading agricultural technology
- improving animal and plant breeding within Turkey

You can contact potential partners via the **online partnering platform** and watch the **recording of the briefing webinar**. **Registration deadline: noon 16 Nov 2016. Application deadline: noon 23 Nov 2016**

WORKSHOPS and COMPETITIONS

Oct 2016 onwards: Early Career Programme: Interdisciplinary Conservation Research University of Cambridge Conservation Research Institute's new programme for graduates and postdocs, created to encourage collaboration across a wide range of disciplines through shared skills workshops, seminars and talks. Registration is required; events are open to Cambridge postdocs and graduates from any discipline whose research is conservation-related, or who would like to meet researchers working in conservation.

15 Oct 2016: Food+City is offering a total of \$50,000 in cash rewards to start-ups tackling problems within the food supply chain. They are looking for innovation in warehousing, packaging, cold storage, distribution, trucking, food-tech, etc. Deadline for submissions **October 15, 2016**. Please share this opportunity one last time with your network. More information.

18 Oct-22 Nov 2016: Development i-Teams Projects. Getting involved in an i-Teams project is a great way to gain experience of how technology is brought to the market or into real-world projects, with a focus on issues in international development. **Institute for Manufacturing**.

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21 Oct 2016: British Science Association Masterclass: Science Communication Primer. Will give those new to science communication and engagement an overview of this varied sector. Suitable for researchers with an interest in science communications and those in the early stages of a science communications career.

Rising Stars: Public Engagement Training. Would you like to share your research more widely? This course offers training in public engagement and educational outreach for postgraduates, post-docs and early career academics at the University of Cambridge. **Deadline for applications 24 Oct 2016.**

Thought for Food Challenge calls on the world's best and brightest university students to form teams and develop breakthrough projects that address the global challenge of feeding 9 billion people by 2050. In return, you receive cutting-edge learning tools and resources, world-class mentorship from experts, innovators and entrepreneurs, the chance to win a trip to the inspirational TFF Global Summit as well as up to \$10,000 for your project. **Sign up by 1 Dec 2016.**

13-24 Feb 2017 Mathematical Models for Infectious Disease Dynamics. Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge. This intensive, two-week course combines lectures, discussions and hands-on computational practicals and is aimed at any life scientist, public health officer, or medical or veterinary professional with an interest in quantitative approaches to infectious disease dynamics and control in humans or animals. **Application deadline 28 Oct 2016.**

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Pitch your idea or business to some of the world's largest food and FMCG companies - Deadline 31 Oct

Are you interested in bioinformatic approaches in agri-food - creating opportunities & solving problems in human diet & health?

PhD Studentships: CEDAR and the MRC Epidemiology Unit are inviting expressions of interest from prospective candidates for PhD studies for 2017 entry. The MRC Epidemiology Unit investigates the causes and prevention of diabetes and obesity; **CEDAR** is a UKCRC Centre of Excellence in Public Health Research that aims to understand the population-level determinants of dietary and physical activity behaviour, evaluate the effectiveness of interventions and estimate the long term costs and benefits of behaviour change. Funding deadline: **7 Dec 2016.**

Cambridge Food Collective. A new initiative launched in Cambridge, providing even greater opportunity to buy local food. This is a small but ambitious company that aims to create an online community of people who appreciate and buy local produce. Read their blog post [here](#).

An **internal peer review process** is now open to University of Cambridge academics writing large and complex AHRC and ESRC research grant applications. The aim is improve the chances of success of applications and pre-empt possible criticisms.