This is a supplement to the December 1999 issue of ADSA Today. It includes information updates on ADSA matters, as well as recent news and grant postings. The next complete issue of ADSA Today is due to be published in March.

ADSA CD-Rom Update

The first release of a CD containing back issues of the Journal of Dairy Science, complete with a search engine, is on-track for a late March release. Unfortunately, it will not include all of the issues initially scheduled to be published in this format. Artwork from the late 1995 and 1996 issues is not retrievable electronically, so the initial JDS CD will include only issues and supplements published between January 1997 and December 1999 (a comprehensive three year collection).

You can still purchase the CD directly by going to http://135.145.194.52/adsamemapp.htm or by printing a form off of our website at http://www.adsa.org/jds/adsapubi.html, and mailing it to the headquarters office with your payment ($25 for members, $90 for non-members). If you have already ordered the CD and no longer want it because the late 1995 and 1996 issues are not included, you are entitled to a full refund. Simply click here (adsa@assochq.org) to email your refund request.

Officer Nominations Due January 4

Every ADSA member is eligible to help select officers for our organization. Please e-mail your nominations (adsa@assochq.org) or mail them to ADSA Headquarters before January 4 for the following offices:

VICE PRESIDENT FROM THE DAIRY FOODS DIVISION OF ADSA. This person will become President in 2001-2002.

Name ____________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________
City ____________________________ State/Country ______________
Zip/postal code ____________________________
ONE DIRECTOR FROM THE PRODUCTION DIVISION OF ADSA to serve a three year term on the ADSA Board of Directors.

Name ____________________________________________________
Address ______________________________ State/Country _____________
City ____________________________ State/Country ______________
Zip/postal code _____________________________________________

ONE DIRECTOR FROM THE DAIRY FOODS DIVISION OF ADSA to serve a three year term on the ADSA Board of Directors.

Name ____________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________
City ____________________________ State/Country ______________
Zip/postal code _____________________________________________

Nominations must be returned by January 4, 2000. You may email a response by clicking here (adsa@adsa.org).

News/Professional Opportunities/Grants/Meeting Schedule

News and Notes

These news articles have been forwarded from Jack Cooper's Food Industry Environmental Network (FIEN) electronic newsletter. For subscription information, contact:

Jack L. Cooper  
Food Industry Environmental Network (FIEN)  
33 Falling Creek Court; Silver Spring, Maryland 20904  
Phone: 301/384-8287 --- Fax: 301/384-8340  
E-Mail: JLC@fien.com

Statement on Responsible Conduct of Research

from Bruce Alberts, President, National Academy of Sciences Wm. A. Wulf, President, National Academy of Engineering Kenneth I. Shine, President, Institute of Medicine

Dec. 10, 1999

The research enterprise, like many other human activities, is built on a foundation of trust. Scientists trust that the results reported by others are valid. Society trusts that the results of research reflect an honest attempt by scientists to describe the world accurately and without bias. The level of trust that has characterized research and its relationship with society has contributed to a period of unparalleled scientific productivity. But this trust will endure only if
the research community devotes itself to exemplifying and transmitting the values associated with ethical conduct of research.

On October 14, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) published in the Federal Register a proposed new definition of research misconduct, along with suggested procedures for federal research agencies when dealing with the issue. This government-wide policy:

- defines research misconduct as "fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results";
- deems unnecessary the "other serious deviations" clause contained in some agencies' definition; says a finding of research misconduct requires that there be a significant departure from accepted practices of the scientific community for maintaining the integrity of the research record; the misconduct be committed intentionally, or knowingly, or in reckless disregard of accepted practices; and the allegation be proven by a preponderance of evidence";
- relies on the researcher's home institution to respond to allegations of research misconduct, while keeping in mind the fact that federal agencies have ultimate oversight authority for federally funded research; and
- provides safeguards for the subjects of allegations as well as for informants.

In its 1989 and 1995 (2nd edition) student guide On Being a Scientist: Responsible Conduct in Research, the National Academies -- through their Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (COSEPUP) -- describe the ethical foundations of research practices and some of the personal and professional issues that researchers encounter in their work.

This guide provides an introduction to the topic that supplements the informal lessons provided by research supervisors and mentors. Hundreds of thousands of copies have been distributed since its publication.

In 1992 the committee issued a report titled Responsible Science: Ensuring the Integrity of the Research Process. In that report, a COSEPUP panel chaired by Edward E. David presented 12 recommendations that defined scientific misconduct and proposed uniform mechanisms by which research institutions and federal funding agencies could deal with specific instances. The panel recommended that such uniform guidelines be adopted by all federal agencies.

After reviewing the proposed policy, we believe that in general, the OSTP proposal as outlined in the Federal Register adopts the approach outlined in the Responsible Science report. In particular, we strongly support the new definition of misconduct and the decision wherein the "other serious deviations clause" contained in some agencies' definition was deemed unnecessary.

Establishing a uniform definition of research misconduct across the federal agencies will encourage the development of consistent policies for responding to allegations of misconduct.
In addition, we strongly support the decision that agencies and research institutions are partners who share responsibility for the integrity of the research process. We also support the view that research institutions bear primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of research misconduct, and for the inquiry, investigation, and adjudication of allegations of research misconduct -- keeping in mind the fact that federal agencies have the ultimate oversight authority for federally funded research.

Although we have suggested a number of minor modifications in our letter to OSTP dated November 29, 1999, we believe that the proposed common definition of misconduct and the procedures outlined for handling such allegations are a major step forward. We greatly appreciate the years of effort that have gone into development of this sound policy.

**IFST Offers Policy Statement on GM Issue**

On November 20, Ralph Blanchfield, a Food Science, Food Technology and Food Law Consultant who also serves as the Chair of the External Affairs Committee and Web Editor of the United Kingdom's Institute of Food Science and Technology, offered the following comments at the OECD Consultation with NGOs in Paris.

The complete 10 minute text of his remarks are posted at the following OECD WWW Site:

http://www.oecd.org/subject/biotech/ngoconsultation ht

**GM Foods -- A Constructive Proposal**

*by IFST's Ralph Blanchfield*

IFST is neither root-and-branch pro-GM or anti-GM -- indeed as an independent objective scientific professional body it cannot be "root-and-branch" about anything. In keeping with its principal and overriding purpose "to serve the public interest by furthering the application of science and technology to all aspects of the supply of safe, wholesome, nutritious and attractive food, nationally and internationally"

IFST's perspective is that: "Food scientists and technologists can support the responsible introduction of GM techniques provided that issues of product safety, environmental concerns, information and ethics are satisfactorily addressed. IFST considers that they are being addressed, and need even more intensively to continue to be so addressed. Only in this way may the benefits that this technology can confer become available, not least to help feed the world's escalating population in the coming decades."

Please note that "provided that..." means support only on the stated conditions.

Instead of this Consultation consisting only of further repetition of the often-repeated arguments for and against the safety of GM foods, we would propose a constructive approach which we would hope all stakeholders genuinely concerned with food safety could support and
encourage. It is an approach that is applied to all other kinds of food safety, but so far has not been explicitly stated in relation to GM foods.

As food scientists we do not use the imprecise, and often emotively-used, term "dangers".

We use, and distinguish, "hazard" and "risk". Both have been defined by various international and national authorities, but in brief a "hazard" is an intrinsic property of a system, operation, material or situation that could in certain circumstances lead to an adverse consequence. "Risk" is the probability that a particular adverse consequence might result from a hazard within a stated time under stated conditions. "Risk assessment" should take account of both the probability of occurrence and its seriousness if it occurs.

Everything in life has inherent hazards which can give rise to real risks. Food of any kind is no exception, but if we were thereby to conclude that food should no longer be eaten by people, that would be self-evidently the worst possible outcome. Likewise GM food is no exception.

We do not consider it fruitful to exaggerate real hazards, and to publicise speculative ones as though they were real, and then to present them all as actual risks, as harm that will occur.

In GM food, as in all food, the constructive approach is that hazards should be prevented from giving rise to risks. The methodology to prevent hazards giving rise to risks, used by those responsible for safety in food production and distribution, is a systematic one called Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP). In principle it had been used by some of us long before it became formalised, named and operated in the early 1960s in USA for ensuring that special foods provided for astronauts did not cause them to become ill during a space mission. It has subsequently become standard in food manufacture and distribution and is the food safety standard methodology adopted by WHO/FAO, Codex and many national legislations.

I am sure that many here are familiar with HACCP, but for those who are not, there is a lot more to it than I need describe here, but in brief, you study the specific system concerned and identify the hazards and the nature and potential seriousness of risks to which they could give rise. You then establish "critical control points" where you operate controls (measures and limits to prevent a hazard giving rise to an actual risk, and monitoring to ensure that the control is working effectively).

If you think about it, HACCP is the formalised methodology of what we all apply without even thinking about it, in our everyday activities -- crossing a busy road, driving a car, practising good hygiene in our kitchens and domestic circumstances.

Of course, if you are a food technologist or food engineer designing a new system or re-designing an existing one (say, a new processing method of manufacture of a particular food product) you use the HACCP approach to design it so as to avoid as far as possible "built-in" hazards, and then apply HACCP to the resulting system.
So, distinguishing hazards and risks, instead of identifying possible hazards in order to cry misleadingly "look at these scary dangers" (the passive "victim" approach), we (that is, society) should require the application of the food safety HACCP approach to GM, on an case-by-case basis.

The development of GM technology holds out such valuable, indeed indispensable, prospects for the future of humanity that any other approach would be indefensible.

"As for the future, your task is not to foresee, but to enable it" (Saint-Exupery, The Wisdom of the Sands, 1948)

**USDA ANNOUNCES AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FORUM 2000**


For updates on the meeting program go to: http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/oc2000/program.htm

To get periodic e-mail updates, send postal and e-mail addresses to agforum@oce.usda.gov. To receive information by mail, call 202-720-3050, or write to Outlook Forum 2000, Room 5143 South Building, USDA, Washington, DC 20250-3812.

Introducing the Forum.

The Forum will provide a comprehensive view of agricultural prospects and issues in a compact two-day format. Government officials, industry analysts, and farmers assess farm prospects for the year ahead. Focus sessions will highlight the impact of biotechnology and other developments changing the business of agriculture, ranging from concentration to e-commerce.

Attendees will receive new long-term commodity projections to the year 2009 prepared by USDA economists.

Who Comes? Forum attendees are an important part of this popular event, which attracted more than 1,100 people last February. They come from production agriculture, commodity groups, the food and fiber industry, finance, universities, and government. You'll have ample time to network. A networking luncheon, reception and dinner are opening-day highlights. On the second day, a NEW LUNCHEON for the horticulture industry has been added to popular luncheons for grains, livestock, cotton and sweeteners.

Location. The Forum will again be held at the Marriott Crystal Gateway hotel, convenient to Washington, D.C. and Regan National Airport. For hotel reservations, print the registration form
or call the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel at (703) 920-3230. The preferred rate of $147 (single or double, including current tax) will be offered, based on room availability, until February 7; you must mention the USDA Outlook Forum to receive this rate.

Media. A staffed press room for news media will be available. Call Martha Evans at 202-694-5118 for media registration.

Background on Agricultural Outlook Forum 1999

Presentations from USDA's seventy-fifth annual agricultural outlook Forum are available on the Internet, on audiotape and in print. To purchase audiotapes call 1-800-969-TAPE. To purchase a copy of Long Term Baseline Projections to 2008 (item WAOB-99-1) or the Proceedings (item WAOB-YCON-99) call 1-800-999-6779.

The Forum, held on February 22 and 23, 1999, provided a comprehensive view of agricultural prospects and issues in a compact two-day format. The meeting was at the Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. Leading government and industry analysts assessed farm prospects for the year ahead. Focus sessions throughout the meeting addressed major issues affecting agriculture's future prospects. Attendees received new long-term commodity projections to the year 2008 prepared by USDA economists. USDA agencies presented exhibits of useful information and demonstrations of resources on the World Wide Web.

The meeting attracted a diverse international group of nearly 1,200 attendees representing farm and commodity groups, production agriculture, the food and fiber industry, finance, universities, and government. Last revised: November 9, 1999 URL: http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/agforum.htm

Dairy Foods Conference in Australia Announced

ADSA member David W. Everett wrote recently to inform us of a summer conference in Australia. The Dairy Ingredient Science 2000 conference will be held from June 28-30, 2000 at the Exhibition and Convention Centre, Melbourne, Australia. For more information, tel: +61 7 3854 1611, fax: +61 7 3854 1507, email: ozaccom@ozaccom.com.au or register online at http://www.diaa.asn.au/seminar/index.html.

Grants and Programs

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service Higher Education Challenge Grants Program for Fiscal Year 2000; Request for Proposals and Request for Input

AGENCY: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of request for proposals and request for input.

SUMMARY: The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) is announcing the Higher Education Challenge Grants Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2000. Proposals are hereby requested from eligible institutions as identified herein for competitive consideration of Challenge Grant awards. CSREES also is soliciting comments regarding this request for proposals from any interested party. These comments will be considered in the development of the next request for proposals for this program.

DATES: Proposals must be received on or before February 14, 2000. Proposals received after the closing date will not be considered for funding. Forms indicating intent to submit a proposal are due on January 17, 2000. User comments are requested within six months from the issuance of the request for proposals. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Hand-delivered proposals (brought in person by the applicant or through a courier service) must be received on or before March 6, 2000, at the following address: Challenge Grants Program; c/o Proposal Services Unit; Office of Extramural Programs; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 303, Aerospace Center, 901 D Street, SW; Washington, DC 20202. The telephone number is (202) 401-5048. Proposals transmitted via a facsimile (fax) machine will not be accepted. Proposals submitted through the U.S. mail must be received on or before February 14, 2000. Proposals submitted through the U.S. mail should be sent to the following address: Challenge Grants Program; c/o Proposal Services Unit, Office of Extramural Programs, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 2245, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2245. Form CSREES-711, "Intent to Submit a Proposal," is requested for the Higher Education Challenge Grants Program and is due February 7, 2000. Applicants may either mail Form CSREES-711 to Higher Education Programs, Mail Stop 2251; CSREES-USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-2251, or fax Form CSREES-711 to the Higher Education Programs office at (202) 720-2030.

Written user comments should be submitted by first-class mail to: Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Office of Extramural Programs, USDA-CSREES, STOP 2299; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250- 2299; or via e-mail to: RFP-OEP@reesusa.gov. In your comments, please include the name of the program and the fiscal year of the request for proposals to which you are responding.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeffrey L. Gilmore, Ph.D., Higher Education Programs, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 2251, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2251; telephone: (202) 720-2211; e-mail: jgilmore@reesusa.gov.

AAAS Fellowship Deadline Approaching
The AAAS Science and Engineering Fellowship Programs place postdoctoral to midcareer scientists and engineers in Washington, DC, to work in areas of public policy as they relate to science and technology. Fellows spend one year, either in Congress, or the National Science Foundation, the Department of State, the Department of Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, the Agency for International Development, or the RAND Science and Technology Policy Institute.

For further information and application materials, please call 202/326-6700, e-mail science_policy@aaas.org, or visit the AAAS web site at fellowships.aaas.org. Application deadline: January 15, 2000.