

CAFPNA

# Newsletter



**January 2023**

ISSUE 3

Published by CAFPNA



## ABOUT US

Chinese Association for Food Protection in North America (CAFPNA), founded in 2010, is an affiliate of the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP).

**CONTACT US**

FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



---

# Welcome Message

---



## Ren Yang (Current President)

Hello! I am honored to take the baton from our Former Present, Dr. Haiping Li, and continue my service in CAFPNA. In this term, I will work with our new board members to keep up the good efforts and try to go one step further. I am glad to have Yige Bima (from Nestle) joining us as our new President-Elect. Mingxia Zang and Scott (Zengxin Li) will continue their services as Staff and Treasurer & Past President. Marti Hua will take over the lead of the Student Committee from our diligent Student Chair, Ivy.

We are heading into another year of more uncertainty: the war, the lingering pandemic, the political divisions, and the worsening global conflicts. Challenges seem to be more significant for a Chinese community in North America. We hope that CAFPNA will always be there for our members. The community could stay strong and united, not only with professional advice but also with care for each other, inclusion, and love.

Reflecting upon the challenges we overcame and the opportunities we created, we should all be proud of our achievements in 2021. To highlight, our first on-site annual meeting since the pandemic was successfully held in Pittsburg on August 1st, 2021, with more than fifty attendees. Student presenters from universities competed for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, and all the members who participated got to know each other. Our group picture has finally been updated since the year of 2019. Our Mentor-Mentee Program is going into its 10th year now. This year, we plan to evolve the MM program from the traditional 1v1 (1vN) style into an NvN style led by a few panellists focusing on different areas. Please look forward, and I hope to see your participation.

Also in this newsletter are our Food Safety Heroes. These two magnificent individuals in the field are Dr. Zuoxing Zheng of Fermentation at Nucleis and Dr. Ruiqing Pamboukian of the US Food and Drug Administration. We will continue our webinar series this year. The first webinar will come up soon. Please stay tuned and watch for our email announcement.

Finally, I really want to take this opportunity to thank our Former President, Dr. Yifan Zhang, for her service and help over the past two years. Thanks to Haiping for her inspirational lead in the past year and willingness to continue serving as a Former President. Thanks to those who contributed so much and always be there when help is needed.

Thank you for your continuous support of CAFPNA. I wish all of you a safe and productive new year!

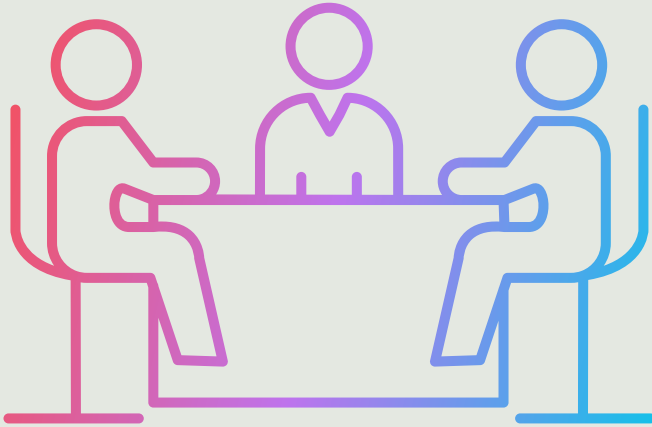
Ren Yang

---

# CAFPNA 2022 Annual Meeting

---

## Meeting Summary



The 2022 annual meeting of the Chinese Association for Food Protection in North America (CAFPNA) was held in Pittsburgh on Aug 1st. We had around 60 members participating in the meeting this year. It was the first time we got to meet all members in person since COVID-19.

IAFP executive board President-Elect Dr. Ruth Petran again joined our meeting and delivered a charging remark at the end of the meeting and encouraged the members to continue their active participation in CAFPNA in future.

Our then-president, Dr. Haiping Li, opened the meeting with a presentation of annual activity briefs from 2020 to 2021. She communicated the three goals of this affiliate: 1) Build a community to inspire and support each other to pursue excellence in Food Safety; 2) Help students and young professionals grow to be the front runners; 3) Be a Chinese cultural ambassador to serve the global food safety initiative.

After that, a summary of the student's program was then presented by Biyu Wu (University of Hawaii) on behalf of Ivy Li (McGill University). Student activities have been boosted by a strong lead from Ivy and the active involvement of the student committee members Biyu and Marti. They helped with the continued success of the mentor and mentee program, CAFPNA newsletter, website update and detailed preparation of our annual meeting, especially for the student competition. More students are welcome to join our student committee and activities.

Finally, we announced the Student Research Presentation Awards. The competition was judged by the CAFPNA board members. The First Place Winner is Yaqi Zhao, a Ph.D. student from the Food Science Department of Florida State University, her title is Application of Novel Non-thermal Processing Technologies in Seafood Protein Analysis; the Second Place is Kaidi Wang, a Ph.D. candidate from the Food Science Department at McGill University, and her title is Rapid Identification of Foodborne Bacteria Using Single-cell Raman Spectroscopic Analysis Combined with Generative Adversarial Network; the third place is Dr. Xingyi Jiang, a postdoctoral scholar from the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at Florida State University, with a title as Immunodetection of Finfish in a non-fish Food Products. One of our board members, Bima, presented the prizes to the winners.

---

# Student Presentation Competition Award Winners

---



**1 st place: Yaqi Zhao**  
**Ph.D. student**  
**Food Science**  
**Florida State University**  
**Title: Immunodetection of Finfish in Non-finish Food Products**

**2 nd place: Kaidi Wang**  
**Ph.D. candidate**  
**Food Science**  
**McGill University**

**Title: Rapid Identification of Foodborne Bacteria Using Single-Cell Raman Spectroscopic Analysis Combined with a Conditional Generative Adversarial Network**



**3 rd place: Xingyi Jiang**  
**Ph.D.**  
**Nutrition and Food Science**  
**Florida State University**  
**Title: Application of Novel Non-thermal Processing Technologies in Seafood Protein Analysis**



---

# Food Safety Heroes

---



**Dr. Ruiqing Pamboukian**  
**Food Safety Regulatory Scientist and Program Lead, US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

Dr. Pamboukian is a Food Safety Regulatory Scientist and Program Lead at the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Office of Regulatory Affairs, Office of Regulatory Science.

Her leadership includes developing and leading the FDA/State laboratory accreditation program to promote laboratory ISO 17025 accreditation for state regulatory food/feed testing laboratories and leading the FDA-funded Laboratory Flexible Funding (LFFM) Program to enhance the analytical capability/capacity of national food/feed testing laboratories. Her work contributed to building an Integrated Food Safety System (IFSS) throughout the nation in response to public health emergency/outbreaks involving with food supply.

Dr. Pamboukian is a US Public Health Service, Commissioned Corps officer in active duty, serving in the front lines of public health in the country. Beside her FDA work, she played several leadership roles in multiple committees within the corps and the AAPI community. She is the Chair of Chapter Committee of Federal Asian Pacific Council (FAPAC) and serves as Vice president of FDA FAPAC Chapter.

In 2010 she joined FDA and prior to her work in FDA, she was a research scientist at NIH and she received her PhD degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from University of Maryland in 2006.



**Dr. Zuoxing (Zachary) Zheng,  
Senior Director, Fermentation, Nucelis,  
San Diego, CA**

Dr. Zachary Zheng is currently Senior Director, Fermentation at Nucelis, a subsidiary of Cibus in San Diego, California. His primary responsibility is leading a fermentation function at Nucelis to provide technical and strategic guidance in supporting business development, microbial strain improvement, fermentation optimization, scaling up and production of various microbial metabolites for food, cosmetics, pharmaceutical and agricultural applications.

Before joining Nucelis in September 2022, Dr. Zheng briefly worked at Nature's Fynd in Chicago as the Head of Pilot Operations leading fermentation pilot plant building and operations. Prior to working at Nature's Fynd, Dr. Zheng was Manager of Microbiology and Fermentation Research at Valent BioSciences in Libertyville, IL during 2014-2022 where he led a research team to develop fermentation based microbial metabolites for agricultural and public health applications. Prior to that, he had worked at Kraft Foods in 1999-2014 as a scientist where he developed numerous natural preservation technologies to improve food safety, quality and shelf life. Before coming to the U.S., he was Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology at Tsinghua University in Beijing from 1988 to 1995. He was also a visiting scholar at Osaka University in Japan in 1992-1993.

Dr. Zheng received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Fermentation Engineering and Microbiology in China and Japan, and Ph.D. degree in Food Science from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. In his three decades of professional life in both academia and industry, Dr. Zheng has published dozens of papers, patents, and book chapters. He has served on the editorial board of Food Biotechnology and reviewer for several scientific journals. He has received numerous awards from industry, academia, and professional organizations.

Dr. Zheng has been an active member of IFT (Institute of Food Technologists), CAFPN (Chinese Association for Food Protection in North America) and CAFS (Chinese American Food Society) where he has played several leadership roles at both regional and national levels. He had served as the Chair of Chicago Section IFT Tanner Lecture Committee in 2007-2014, Chair of IFT Foodservice Division in 2014-2015, President of CAFPN in 2015-2016, President of CAFS in 2021-2022.

---

# Students at CAFPNA

---

## Meet Our Student Committee (2022-2023)



The CAFPNA student committee is an important part of CAFPNA. The goal is to unite current students and recent graduates within the supportive CAFPNA community to share information and organize student-centred activities and programs. Our senior members serve as mentors to support students in pursuit of academic excellence, developing leadership skills, and working toward their career goals.

### **Student chair:**

Shenmiao (Ivy) Li, McGill University

### **Student vice chairs:**

Marti Hua, McGill University

### **Student members:**

Yaxi Dai, University of Georgia

FNU Chegger, University of Missouri

## Student Activities

---

**Mentor-mentee program 2.0** is our revamped MM program from the traditional program aiming to help our student to develop professional and transferable skills through skill-building activities such as roundtable discussions and workshops. We also want to foster a sense of belonging in both our mentees and mentors, by providing opportunities to network and develop lasting friendships. Our MM 1.0 had been very fruitful and developed great connections among our members over the past few years. Now with MM 2.0, we want to create a more vivid and versatile platform for our community. **Please stay tuned for our event advertisement!**

**Annual student presentation award competition** is to encourage students and recent graduates to conduct a short presentation on their original research at the CAFPNA Annual Meeting and foster their professionalism through contact with peers and professional members of CAFPNA. Winners will receive a monetary award funded by our generous financial contributions from our members.

**Student committee meetings** are held quarterly to discuss the current needs of student members, plan student activities, and gather information for our annual student social event.

**Annual social event:** student committee invites all student members at the CAFPNA annual meeting to join the after meeting gathering and get to know more about our peers.

---

# 2023 Annual Meeting

---

July 16-19, 2023 Toronto, Ontario, Canada



Visitor visa: How to apply & General documents to submit with your visa application and bring when you travel

[Click to check](#)



## **Automatic Visa Revalidation**

Re-entering the United States with a Valid I-94 Form and Expired Visa.

Under the automatic revalidation provision of immigration law, certain temporary visitors holding expired nonimmigrant visas who seek to return to the U.S. may be admitted at a U.S. port-of-entry by CBP, if they meet certain requirements.

[Click to check](#)



**Check processing times!** Make sure you have enough time to get your Visa!

[Click to check](#)

## **Destination Toronto: Visit Toronto**

Check out the Must-See Attractions and things to do in Toronto!

[Click to check](#)

