

**2024 FSPCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*A Global Community Navigating a Changing Landscape*

**Chicago Marriott Southwest at Burr Ridge**

1200 Burr Ridge Parkway, Burr Ridge, IL 60527

**Tuesday, November 19 – Wednesday, November 20, 2024**

Day 1: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM U.S. Central; Networking Reception 5:00 – 6:30 PM U.S. Central

Day 2: 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM U.S. Central

**ABOUT FSPCA**

The Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA) is a broad-based public-private alliance of key industry, academia and government stakeholders. It was established in late 2011 by a grant from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to Illinois Tech's Institute for Food Safety and Health (IIT IFSH).

**Vision:** Be the internationally recognized trusted source for training programs and outreach for the prevention-oriented standards of the US Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

**Mission:** Assist the human and animal food industry and related entities in building food safety capacity through education, training and outreach with an emphasis on small-, and medium-sized businesses.

**WHY PARTICIPATE?**

This is a must-attend event. Food safety impacts all of us every day, and this must-attend event will help you navigate the evolving landscape of food safety and its impact on FSMA prevention-oriented standards. Come interact with your peers from industry, academia, and government.

This conference will provide an in-depth understanding of the latest information on FSMA implementation and the current activities of the FSPCA and its stakeholders.

**RECEIVE AN OFFICIAL FSPCA CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE**

After the Conference, look for an email from FSPCA with a link to the attendee survey. Complete the survey to receive your personalized Certificate of Attendance. The printable certificate will include the conference year and title, your name exactly how it was submitted when you registered, and the FSPCA and IFSH logos. This official certificate of attendance will be signed by the Executive Director of IFSH and Director of FSPCA.

**REGISTRATION:** [https://2024\\_FSPCA\\_Annual\\_Conference.eventbrite.com](https://2024_FSPCA_Annual_Conference.eventbrite.com)

TICKET TYPE	FEE	REGISTRATION CLOSES
<b>Early Bird</b>	\$599.00 USD, plus fees	October 1, 2024 at 9:00 AM U.S. Central
<b>General Admission</b>	\$699.00 USD, plus fees	November 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM U.S. Central
<b>Government/Academia<sup>1</sup></b>	\$399.00 USD, plus fees	November 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM U.S. Central
<b>Full Time Student<sup>2</sup></b>	\$249.00 USD, plus fees	November 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM U.S. Central

<sup>1</sup> **Government Rate:** We recognize a government email address as: "...@gov" and an academia email as ...@edu

<sup>2</sup> **Full Time Student Rate:** Students attending university full-time are eligible

**Cancellation Policy:** No refunds will be given after registration payment has been completed. However, if FSPCA cancels the event, all attendees will receive a full refund. Transferring registration to another person is allowable. However, if applicable, ticket fee differences will apply.

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## MEALS AND BEVERAGES

### Day 1:

- Registration opens at 8:00 AM, one hour prior to the Conference start time. Use this time to network with your peers and visit our sponsor tables.
- A light breakfast will be served between 8:00 – 9:00 AM CT.
- A buffet lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 AM CT
- Beverage service and snacks will be available throughout the Conference
- During the 5:00 – 6:30 PM Networking Reception appetizers and beverages will be served. One alcoholic drink ticket provided per registered Conference attendee.

### Day 2:

- Registration opens at 7:00 AM, one hour prior to the Conference start time. Use this time to network with your peers or visit our sponsor tables.
- A light breakfast will be available between 7:00 – 8:00 AM CT
- Beverage service and snacks will be available throughout the Conference
- A buffet lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 AM CT

**NOTE!** The menu should accommodate most dietary restrictions. However, please indicate any dietary restrictions when prompted during registration. If you have a SEVERE food allergy, we recommend you make other meal arrangements.

## LODGING

You may choose any hotel you prefer. Each individual guest must make their own reservation. The FSPCA has secured a room block at the Chicago Marriott Southwest at Burr Ridge for a rate of \$194.00 USD + applicable taxes/per night. A limited number of rooms are available in the block. Once the block is filled no additional rooms will be available at the discounted group rate. Each individual guest must make their own reservation **no later than 10/28/2024**.

- Call: (630) 986-4100. Guests calling to make reservations must identify themselves as attending the FSPCA Annual Conference to receive the reduced rate.
- Book online: <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1706814004074&key=GRP>

## PARKING

Hotel parking is complimentary

## AIRPORT INFORMATION

### Chicago Midway International Airport (MDW)

5700 S Cicero Ave, Chicago, IL 60638  
13.1 miles from the Conference venue

### Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD)

10000 W O'Hare Ave, Chicago, IL 60666  
21.0 miles from the Conference venue

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?** Contact the FSPCA at [fspca@iit.edu](mailto:fspca@iit.edu)

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**DAY 1 CONFERENCE AGENDA\***

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024			
MAIN CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS 8:00 AM			
LIGHT BREAKFAST/NETWORKING 8:00 – 9:00 AM			
START	END	SESSION	PRESENTERS/MODERATORS
9:00 AM	9:05 AM	Welcome	<b>Presenter:</b> Jason Wan
9:05 AM	9:15 AM	Opening Remarks	<b>Presenter:</b> Brian Schaneberg
9:15 AM	10:00 AM	Keynote Speaker	<b>Presenter:</b> Erik P. Mettler
10:00 AM	10:15 AM	FSPCA Operational Highlights	<b>Presenters:</b> Jason Wan, Kathy Gombas
10:15 AM	11:45 AM	Food Traceability Rule	<b>Presenters:</b> Melinda Hayman, Lisa Weddig, Hilary Thesmar, Michael Roberson <b>Moderator:</b> Juan Silva
LUNCH 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM			
BREAKOUT SESSIONS			
START	END	SESSION	EXPERTS/MODERATORS/SCRIBES
12:45 PM	1:45 PM	<b>Ask an Expert:</b> FDA Perspectives on Human Food	<b>Expert:</b> Glenn Bass <b>Moderator/Scribe:</b> Lillian Hsu
12:45 PM	1:45 PM	<b>Ask an Expert:</b> FDA Perspectives on Animal Food	<b>Experts:</b> Jennifer Abrahamzon, David Fairfield <b>Moderator/Scribe:</b> Chris Lincecum
BREAK 1:45 – 2:15 PM			
MAIN CONFERENCE			
START	END	SESSION	PRESENTERS/MODERATORS
2:15 PM	3:15 PM	PCHF Version 2.0 - A New Approach to Hazard Analysis	<b>Presenters:</b> Kathy Gombas, Lillian Hsu <b>Moderator:</b> Claudia Coles
3:15 PM	4:00 PM	Evolving Food Safety Plans: An Adaptive, Responsive Plant Culture	<b>Presenters:</b> Scott A. Rankin <b>Moderator:</b> Matt Botos
4:00 PM	4:55 PM	Awards and Recognition Presentations	<b>Presenters:</b> Jason Wan, Brian Schaneberg, Kathy Gombas
4:55 PM	5:00 PM	Closing Remarks	<b>Presenter:</b> Jason Wan
NETWORKING RECEPTION 5:00 – 6:30 PM			
ADJOURN			

\*Agenda is subject to change.

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### DAY 1 CONFERENCE SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

#### Opening Remarks

**Brian Schaneberg**, Executive Director, Institute for Food Safety and Health (IFSH)

#### Keynote Speaker

**Erik P. Mettler**, Assistant Commissioner for Integration, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships (OIFSSP), Human Foods Program (HFP), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

#### FSPCA Operational Highlights

**Jason Wan**, Associate Director, Institute for Food Safety and Health (IFSH), Director, FSPCA

**Kathy Gombas**, Food Safety Consultant, FSMA Solutions

Discover the FSPCA's mission, key achievements, and ongoing efforts advance FSMA implementation. Gain insights into the people behind the organization, their impactful work, and the ambitious goals set for the future.

#### Food Traceability Rule

**Melinda Hayman**, Consumer Safety Officer, Compliance Policy Staff, Office of Compliance, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

**Lisa Weddig**, Chief Food Safety Officer, National Fisheries Institute (NFI)

**Hilary Thesmar**, Chief Science Officer and Senior Vice President, The Food Industry Association (FMI)

**Michael Roberson**, Director of Corporate Quality Assurance, Publix Supermarkets Inc.

This expert FTR panel will provide updates on the implementation of the Food Traceability Rule, how industry is preparing, and development of the FSPCA FTR curriculum to train stakeholders. The session will be followed by a Q&A, come with questions!

#### Breakout Session: Ask an Expert - FDA Perspectives on Human Food

**Glenn Bass**, Deputy Director, Human and Animal Food Operations-West, Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Have a burning FSMA question? This is your chance to get answers to your questions, and learn from questions that others ask.

#### Breakout Session: Ask an Expert - FDA Perspectives on Animal Food

**Jennifer Abrahamson**, Regulatory Counsel, Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

**David Fairfield**, Senior Vice President, Feed Services, National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA)

Join us for a brief presentation on current hot topics and a compliance overview for the PCAF regulation. Then it's your turn to ask questions to our experts.

#### PCHF Version 2.0 - A New Approach to Hazard Analysis

**Kathy Gombas**, Food Safety Consultant, FSMA Solutions

**Lillian Hsu**, Policy Analyst, Office of Food Policy and Response (OFPR), Human Foods Program (HFP), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

You won't want to miss this session where FSPCA and FDA will discuss a more robust approach in identifying potential food safety hazards in human food. The new approach places a magnifying glass on identifying common process- and facility-related hazards that may be introduced at the ingredient supplier level or at the manufacturer's own facility. FSPCA and FDA will discuss how this approach has been integrated into the updated FSPCA V2.0 Human Food curriculum and FDA's regulator training.

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**DAY 1 CONFERENCE SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (CONTINUED)**

**Evolving Food Safety Plans: An Adaptive, Responsive Plant Culture**

**Scott A. Rankin**, Professor and Chair, Department of Food Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Food safety plans are a function of many pressures and influences. In fact, the number and type of these influences continues to evolve and shift to the degree that manufacturers need to continue to revise their food safety plans accordingly. Using case studies and audience participation, this talk endeavors to illustrate the need to be literate of and responsive to the changing food safety landscape.

**Awards and Recognition Presentations**

**Jason Wan**, Associate Director, Institute for Food Safety and Health (IFSH), Director, FSPCA

**Brian Schaneberg**, Executive Director, Institute for Food Safety and Health (IFSH)

**Kathy Gombas**, Food Safety Consultant, FSMA Solutions

Celebrate the achievements of those who have made a remarkable impact on food safety during the 2024 FSPCA Awards and Recognition Ceremony. This is a unique opportunity to be inspired by those who have gone above and beyond to enhance food safety practices and make a difference in the industry.

**Closing Remarks**

**Jason Wan**, Associate Director, Institute for Food Safety and Health (IFSH), Director, FSPCA

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**DAY 2 CONFERENCE AGENDA\***

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024			
MAIN CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS AT 7:00 AM			
LIGHT BREAKFAST/NETWORKING 7:00 – 8:00 AM			
START	END	SESSION	PRESENTERS/MODERATORS
8:00 AM	8:05 AM	Welcome Back	<b>Presenter:</b> Jason Wan
8:05 AM	8:30 AM	Update on the Implementation of the IA Rule	<b>Presenter:</b> Jon Woody <b>Moderator:</b> Hilary Thesmar
8:30 AM	9:30 AM	Winning Strategies: Industry Experiences in Enhancing Food Safety	<b>Presenters:</b> David Clifford, Joe Meyer, John Budin <b>Moderator:</b> Matt Botos
BREAK 9:30 – 10:00 AM			
10:00 AM	10:45 AM	Regional FSMA Centers	<b>Presenters:</b> Michelle Danyluk, Annie Fitzgerald, Dr. Joy Waite-Cusic, Jodi Williams <b>Moderator:</b> Jerry Wojtala
10:45 AM	11:30 AM	Navigating FDA & FSPCA Technical Assistance Networks	<b>Presenters:</b> Kathy Gombas, Lillian Hsu, Dawn Johnson, Martin Bucknavage <b>Moderator:</b> Kathy Gombas
LUNCH 11:30 – 12:30 PM			
BREAKOUT SESSIONS			
START	END	BREAKOUT SESSION	EXPERTS/MODERATORS/SCRIBES
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	<b>Case Study: Animal Food</b> Mitigating Hazards Under a Flexible Regulation	<b>Experts:</b> Jennifer Abrahamzon, David Fairfield <b>Moderator/Scribe:</b> Chris Lincecum
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	<b>Evaluating Recent Recalls to Identify Relevant Food Safety Issues</b>	<b>Experts:</b> Martin Bucknavage <b>Moderator/Scribe:</b> Amy Philpott
BREAK 1:30 – 1:45 PM			
MAIN CONFERENCE			
START	END	SESSION	PRESENTERS/MODERATORS
1:45 PM	2:45 PM	Supply Chain Disruptions: Solutions for the Food Industry	<b>Presenter:</b> John Spink <b>Moderator:</b> Jerry Wojtala
2:45 PM	3:25 PM	Breakout Sessions Report Out	<b>Presenter:</b> Claudia Coles <b>Moderator:</b> Ron Tanner
3:25 PM	3:30 PM	Closing Remarks	<b>Presenter:</b> Jason Wan
ADJOURN			

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### **DAY 2 CONFERENCE SESSION DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **Update on the Implementation of the IA Rule**

**Jon Woody**, Director, Office of Coordinated Outbreak Response, Evaluation & Emergency Preparedness, Human Foods Program (HFP), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

An update on the implementation of the FSMA final rule, "Mitigation Strategies to Protect Food Against Intentional Adulteration" (IA rule), with a focus on the current state of industry and regulatory training, as well as a discussion about the inspectional approach.

#### **Winning Strategies: Industry Experiences in Enhancing Food Safety**

**David, Clifford**, Director of Food Safety, Nestlé USA

**Joe, Meyer**, Global Microbiology Lead, Kerry

**John, Budin**, Director of Specialty Flavors, McCormick & Company

Session description to come.

#### **Regional FSMA Centers**

**Michelle Danyluk**, Professor, University of Florida

**Annie Fitzgerald**, Research Specialist, Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety (NECAFS)

**Dr. Joy Waite-Cusic**, Associate Professor of Food Safety Systems, Oregon State University

**Jodi Williams**, National Program Leader in Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture

This session will explore the pivotal role Regional FSMA Training Centers play in supporting small food processors through targeted training and outreach. Regional representatives and USDA's program director will share insights into the unique challenges faced by small and mid-sized processors in complying with FSMA regulations. They will also highlight strategies, resources, and best practices for delivering effective food safety training, including how tailored programs address specific industry needs, language barriers, and financial constraints. This session will also offer opportunities to discuss how partnerships and community engagement are key to ensuring food safety across the supply chain, especially for smaller operators.

#### **Navigating FDA & FSPCA Technical Assistance Networks**

**Kathy Gombas**, Food Safety Consultant, FSMA Solutions

**Lillian Hsu**, Policy Analyst, Office of Food Policy and Response (OFPR), Human Foods Program (HFP), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

**Martin Bucknavage**, Senior Food Safety Extension Associate, Penn State Department of Food Science

**Dawn Johnson**, Program Manager, Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA)

Do you need help understanding FDA FSMA regulations or have technical questions about your food safety plan? Lillian will share best practices for submitting inquiries to ensure you get effective responses from FDA experts, and provide updates on new support measures to reduce response times. Also, join Martin, Kathy, and Dawn to learn about the latest improvements to the FSPCA TAN, designed to better assist the food industry with scientific questions and support Lead Instructors on the Preventive Controls for Human Food V2.0 curriculum.



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**DAY 2 CONFERENCE SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (CONTINUED)**

**Breakout Session: Case Study: Animal Food - Mitigating Hazards Under a Flexible Regulation**

**Jennifer Abrahamzon**, Regulatory Counsel, Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

**David Fairfield**, Senior Vice President, Feed Services, National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA)

Have you ever wondered how different firms approach building an animal food safety system? Join us as we walk through some case studies to illustrate different approaches to mitigating hazards under a flexible regulation.

**Breakout Session: Evaluating Recent Recalls to Identify Relevant Food Safety Issues**

**Martin Bucknavage**, Senior Food Safety Extension Associate, Penn State Department of Food Science

While published studies on recalls and outbreak are useful for providing information on related causes, these are often based on data several years old. In this presentation, recalls and outbreaks from the past six months will be discussed with a focus on determining common underlying causes. Using such analysis provides instructors with more relevant evidence for informing participants on the importance of properly developing and implementing preventive controls.

**Supply Chain Disruptions: Solutions for the Food Industry**

**John Spink**, Director of Food Fraud Prevention Academy and Assistant Professor, Michigan State University

The nature of the world marketplace is a shift to constant supply chain disruptions and emerging risks which leads to a need to build systems to not only 'fix' current problems but to become resilient to 'everything' and 'anything.'

**Breakout Sessions Report Out**

**Claudia Coles**, President, Seafood Products Association (SPA)

How did the breakout sessions for the conference go? Find out what you missed if you were not able to attend all the sessions in this brief recap of the questions and conversations held during these discussions.

**Closing Remarks**

**Jason Wan**, Associate Director, Institute for Food Safety and Health (IFSH), Director, FSPCA