

FRESH

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FRESH NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE

Announcements



Melanie Ruffell

Melanie has recently joined the Riddet Institute management team as our first Stakeholder Relationship Manager. In this capacity she will work collaboratively with internal stakeholders (Riddet Institute partner organisations and scientists) and external stakeholders (industry partners, government agencies, Māori stakeholders and other entities like Food HQ, National Science Challenges etc.) to help ensure that Riddet outcomes will add value to New Zealand's agri-food sector and that project delivery meets the Institute's mission and contractual responsibilities. Melanie has extensive experience working in the high-value nutrition sector, having worked closely with relevant stakeholders from academia, government and industry for 15 years.

Gail Bornhorst gets promoted

Congratulations to AI Gail Bornhorst for being promoted to the role of Associate Professor at UC Davis.

Riddet Institute Conference

This year's Riddet Institute Conference, incorporating the Riddet Institute Student Colloquium, was held in Wellington from 10th-12th July. The Conference saw international and domestic speakers, Principal and Associate Investigators and Affiliated Researchers providing Platform and Project overviews, and selected PhD students giving 10-minute presentations as part of the Best Student Presenter Award.

Special thanks go to our keynote speakers, Mr Mark Piper (head of Fonterra Research and Development Centre) who gave an amusing and thoughtful speech on leadership, and Dist Prof R Paul Singh (UC Davis) who discussed Grand Challenges in Food Engineering and the opportunities they afforded research and education. Our guest speakers, Dist Prof Nigel French (NZ Food Safety Science & Research Centre) and Prof Fariba Dehghani (University of Sydney) also gave interesting talks on food safety and security and sustainability in the food supply chain.

The student presentations competed for the Riddet Institute Student Colloquium Best Student Presentation Award. Honourable mentions went to Sarah Priour (Massey University), Caleb Robinson (University of Otago) and Siqi Li (Massey University). The runner-up to the prize was Olivia Ogilvie (The University of Auckland & Plant and Food Research) and the winner was the last speaker Hoang Du Le (Massey University) with his presentation on "Carbohydrate systems for delivery bioactives to the colon". For the Best Student Poster Award, both judges and conference attendees had their say with Isuri Jayawardana (Massey University) winning the People's Choice Award. The Best Student Poster prize runner-up was awarded to Akashdeep Beniwal (Massey University) and the winner was Utpal Prodhon (The University of Auckland) for his poster on lactose intolerance, milk protein digestion and postprandial amino acid concentrations.

After the conference, the Riddet Institute Student Society held their first open student meeting and elected their committee. Congratulations to Evie Mete (University of Otago) for being elected President. We wish your executive, committee and student members all the best. For more information, see the article on our website here: <http://www.riddet.ac.nz/news/riddet-institute-student-society>



Visitors to Riddet Institute HQ

Angela Hannah, TEC (3rd May)
Dean Stockwell, International Life Sciences Institute (4th May)
Alpha Group Holdings Ltd. (17th May)
MBIE (24th May)
His Excellency Rob Zaagman, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to New Zealand (30th May)
Goodman Fielder (8th Jun)
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences Delegation (15th Jun)
Prof David Everett, Riddet Institute Fellow (18th Jun)
Prof Marc Hendrickx, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium (6th Jul)
Hon Iain Lees-Galloway, MP for Palmerston North (20th Jul)



NZIFST Conference 2018

On 5th July, the Riddet Institute hosted a morning session at the 2018 NZIFST Conference which was held in Hamilton over three days. Three of our PhD students presented their research: Nick Smith, Sarah Priour and Debashree Roy. Nick Smith comments, "The conference was a blend of science and industry, with particular focus on effective communication to give confidence to the consumer. The fact that I faced questions from both scientists and industry shows what a good platform this is for demonstrating our science to a wider audience." We look forward to attending again next year.



Saying goodbye

Our Projects Administrator, Hannah Hutchinson, will have her last day with the Riddet Institute on 31st Aug 2018. Hannah has provided administrative support for staff and students alike as well as producing the Riddet Institute's publications and media presence for the past year. Hannah will be moving back to the UK to study a Masters degree in Translation (French & Spanish).

Enterprise & Innovation: South Island

This year, the Riddet Institute ran the Enterprise and Innovation workshop led by Dr Chris Kirk for our South Island students, of which nine students from three different universities participated. The workshop applies innovation commercially to R&D and includes advice on how to pitch a research or business opportunity to funding committees. The hands-on experience uses 'lean' methodology and sees student teams work on real examples and conduct potential customer interviews. As with last year, the student teams created their own examples: a low GI gluten-free cookie and a gut-friendly cracker.

These workshops are a fantastic student opportunity, as showcased by the Nutrisprinky team from the inaugural workshop – Sarah Priour, Feng Ming Chian, Nicole Chen & Sewuese Okubanjo. Nutrisprinky is an all-in-one nutritious and convenient vegetable and salad sprinkle with a key ingredient being food industry by-product. In May, the team entered eCentre and Massey University's Go Innovate! competition and won the People's Choice Award: a \$500 prize and eCentre mentoring.



Prestigious Awards

Dist Prof R Paul Singh

Riddet Institute Principal Investigator Dist Prof R Paul Singh received a Doctor of Science *honoris causa* from Guelph University, Canada, on 13th June. He then gave a convocation address to the graduating class about "Transitioning from Classroom to Workspace".

Both speech and awards ceremony are available to view online. The convocation address in full:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHeVaJ_4a_k&feature=youtu.be

Conferral of the honorary degree:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upKatwppsg&feature=youtu.be>



Dist Prof Harjinder Singh

Prof Harjinder Singh has become the first New Zealander to receive the American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) Distinguished Service Award. The award was presented by ADSA Past President Karen Schmidt on 25th June during the Awards ceremony at the ADSA Annual Meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee, USA. The award recognises unusually outstanding and consistent contributions to the welfare of the dairy industry either directly or indirectly.



Awards

Dist Prof Harjinder Singh

Distinguished Service award from
American Dairy Science Association

Dist Prof R Paul Singh

Honorary doctorate from Guelph
University, Canada

Nutri-Sprinky Team: Sarah Priour, Feng Ming Chian, Nicole Chen & Sewuse Okubanjo

People's Choice Award for Go Innovate!
eCentre & Massey University competition

Anika Hoogeveen

Massey University Conference Presentation
Grant

Meg Wedlock

Graduate Women Manawatu Postgraduate
Scholarship (Massey University)

Riddet Institute Conference 2018

Winner Student Presentation: Hoang Du Le

Runner-Up Student Presentation: Olivia Ogilvie

Winner Student Poster: Utpal Prodhon

Runner-Up Student Poster: Akashdeep Beniwal

People's Choice Student Poster: Isuri
Jayawardana

Riddet Institute Student Travel Awards

JieHong Chiang to attend 64th International
Congress of Meat Science and Technology in
Melbourne, Australia

Feng Ming Chian to attend 64th International
Congress of Meat Science and Technology in
Melbourne, Australia

Muhammed How to attend Food Oral
Processing Conference in Nottingham, UK

Anika Hoogeveen to attend the Dietary Fibre
conference in Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Geeshani Somaratne to attend 19th IUFoST
World Food Science and Technology
Congress in Mumbai, India

Upcoming Events

Organic Mechanic: Microbiome Mega Degustation (Wellington)

7th August

AgResearch's Dr Matt Barnett (Riddet Institute AI) and Dr Karl Fraser (Affiliated
Researcher) are working with Shepherd Restaurant and North End Brewing to
present a microbiome-friendly meal with beer pairings. Matt and Karl are the
science behind the gastronomy explaining how each course benefits your gut.

See: <https://beervana.co.nz/event/event-registration-rtb/705-organic-mechanic-microbiome-mega-degustation>

Eat Like A Champion! Free Public Talk (Palmerston North)

28th August

Prof Teresa Davis, Riddet Institute SAP member and Professor of Pediatrics at
Baylor College of Medicine, USA, is coming to Palmerston North to deliver a free
public lecture on the importance of animal-derived protein in a healthy diet. The
lecture will be at the Palmerston North Boys High Speirs Centre at 6pm.

See: <http://www.riddet.ac.nz/event/teresa-davis-nutritional-and-social-importance-of-animal-sourced-proteins>

AgResearch/Riddet Institute Dairy Industry Workshop (Palmerston North)

29th – 30th August

This inaugural collaborative workshop brings the post-farm gate dairy industry and
science communities together to share information on what pre-competitive
research is being done, and to discuss science and industry wide issues.

See: dairy-industry-workshop.lilregie.com

Enterprise & Innovation Workshop: North Island 2018 (Palmerston North)

18th & 25th September

The next installment of this highly successful workshop takes place in Palmerston
North for North Island students in September, led by specialist Dr Chris Kirk.

19th IUFoST World Food Science and Technology Congress (Mumbai, India)

23rd – 27th October

This conference brings together researchers, academicians, professionals, policy
makers, food scientists and industries to cover the latest advances in our
understanding of food. The Riddet Institute is chairing a session called Catalyzing
Innovations in Foods for Health Research through Centre of Excellence.

See: <https://www.iufost2018.com/>

The Riddet Institute Partners

