



2ND NUTRITION RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

MARCH 6, 2026

JUDY BONNER CHILD
DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTER
651 PETER BRYCE BLVD,
TUSCALOOSA, AL 35401

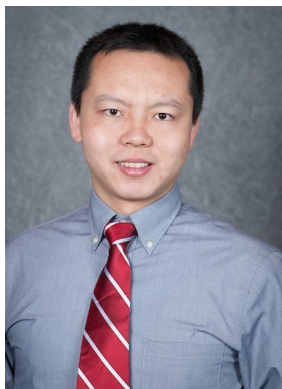
THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA

College of
Human Environmental
Sciences

AGENDA

- 7:30 – 8:30 Registration, Snack and Coffee
- 8:30 – 8:50 Introduction: Dr. Lingyan Kong
Welcome Remarks:
Dr. Bryan Boudouris, VP of Research
Dr. Stuart Usdan, Dean of CHES
Dr. Robert Laird, Associate Dean
Dr. Angelos Sikalidis, Dept Chair
- 8:50 – 9:50 Keynote Speaker
Dr. Xingen Lei, Cornell University
- 9:50 – 10:00 Coffee Break
- 10:00 – 11:00 Distinguished Speaker
Dr. Mary Gregoire, Rush University
- 11:00 – 12:00 Distinguished Speaker
Dr. Alice Lichtenstein, Tufts University
- 12:00 – 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 – 2:00 Panel Discussion: “The Past, Present
and Future of Nutrition Science”
- 2:00 – 4:00 Poster Session and Networking
- 4:00 – 4:20 Closing Remarks and Awards

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



DR. LINGYAN KONG
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



DR. ANGELOS SIKALIDIS
PROFESSOR & CHAIR



DR. LINDA KNOL
PROFESSOR



DR. LIBO TAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Selenium: Bridging Molecular Mechanisms, One Health, and Sustainability

Dr. Xingen Lei
Professor & Associate Dean
Cornell University



Dr. Xingen Lei is Professor of Molecular Nutrition, Animal Science, and Nutritional Sciences, and Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. He is internationally recognized for his contributions to advancing sustainable animal agriculture and strengthening the connections among food security, human nutrition and health, and environmental protection. Dr. Lei has secured significant research funding from federal agencies and private sponsors, and he has authored >270 scientific publications (h-index: 77; citations: >20,000). He serves as Editor-in-Chief of The Journal of Nutrition, is a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, and is the President and Parent Committee Chair of the International Trace Elements and Mineral Association.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

**Systems Thinking, Executive
Presence and Self-Reflection:
Imperative Skills for Career
Success**

**Dr. Mary Gregoire
Professor Emerita
Rush University**

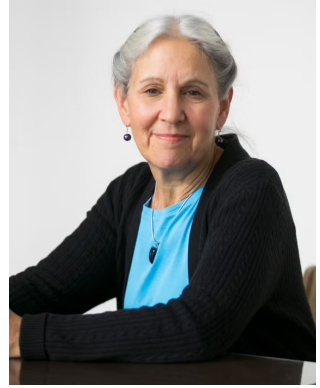


Dr. Mary B. Gregoire is Professor Emerita of Clinical Nutrition at Rush University and former Executive Director of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics. She has also held senior academic and administrative roles at Rush University, Iowa State University, Kansas State University, and the University of Southern Mississippi. Dr. Gregoire is widely recognized for her leadership in dietetics education, foodservice management, and clinical nutrition operations, and for her national influence on accreditation standards, professional practice guidelines, and workforce development in dietetics. Dr. Gregoire is a Fellow and Medallion Award recipient of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and has received distinguished alumni honors from KSU and NDSU.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

Nutrition Information/Misinformation: Untangling the Mess

**Dr. Alice H. Lichtenstein
Stanley N. Gershoff Professor
Distinguished Professor
Tufts University**



Dr. Alice H. Lichtenstein is Senior Scientist and leader of the Diet & Chronic Disease Prevention for Healthy Aging directive, the Stanley N. Gershoff Professor at the Friedman School of Nutrition at Tufts University. She also holds the title of Distinguished University Professor, and appointments as Professor at Tufts Medical Center and Tufts University School of Medicine. An internationally recognized expert in dietary fats, cardiometabolic health, and evidence-based nutrition policy, Dr. Lichtenstein has authored hundreds of scientific publications (h-index: 122; citations: >76,000) and has served on numerous national and international advisory committees. She is a Fellow of both the American Heart Association and the American Society for Nutrition.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to the committee members and assistants for their time and effort.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

DR. LINGYAN KONG
DR. ANGELOS SIKALIDIS
DR. JOY DOUGLAS
DR. LINDA KNOL
DR. LIBO TAN

EVENT ASSISTANTS:

COORDINATION: CHRYS LARSEN, PAULA PRICE
PHOTOGRAPHY: CRAIG GRAVES
REGISTRATION: CHES AMBASSADORS, ZHI ZHENG,
MASUDA AKTER, MOLLY SULLIVAN
SNACK & COFFEE: ZHI ZHENG, MASUDA AKTER
LUNCH: HARRY ZHANG, SAMANTHA LIN
POSTER SESSION: SAYMA ALAM, RAJU AHMMED,
CHIOMA ARUM

Thank you for attending!
Please remember to return the
evaluation survey before you leave.

THIS SYMPOSIUM IS
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United States Department of Agriculture
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