

Food for The Future

A Food and Environment Conference 3 September 2015

Introduction

The Faculty of Agriculture and Environment is the home of the science of food production at the University of Sydney (USYD). The University of Padova is one of the oldest universities in Europe and one of the most important in Italy.

Over the last year, the FAE has forged a partnership with the University of Padova to further our mutual research interests, and to open up international opportunities for students and local industry.

Academic staff from Sydney and Padova have agreed to hold an annual workshop/conference, alternating between USYD and Padova. These workshops are intended to be a forum for research discussions and for informing industry and the general public of the science behind food production.

The first meeting is to be held in Sydney in September 2015.

Conference Theme

The theme of the first Sydney-Padova conference is “Food for the Future”. The conference is arranged specifically to provide both (a) a window into research at Sydney and at Padova for industry and the general public and (b) high level forum for scientific discussions on key topics.

The first part of the conference is devoted to explaining the science of food production to an educated, non-academic, industry-focussed audience. Particular topics of importance include issues such as the sustainability (e.g. carbon and energy costs, food miles) of agriculture in general, water use efficiency in agriculture and horticulture, plant and animal nutrition, enhancing livestock production in water and nutrient constrained environments, enhancing flavour and quality of fresh foods. This part of the conference is an opportunity to showcase the breadth of research being conducted by the two universities to industry groups. The pitch to industry would be access and opportunity to hear the latest research in food and food science

The second part of the program is devoted to providing a forum for researchers to talk to their colleagues about the latest trends in research and how to develop research collaborations across the two universities, and that help industry.

Thursday 3 September Academic Workshop

Research discussions, forging academic links, teaching, actions, next steps

Venue: Room 422, ATP

Time	Theme/Speaker	Venue
From 8.45am	Arrival tea and coffee	Foyer
9.00am	MC Prof. Mark Adams	Room 422, ATP
9.10-9.30am	USYD: Prof. Richard Trethowan Director IA Watson Centre, Plant Breeding Institute. Breeding crops for hostile environments	Room 422, ATP
9.30-9.50am	Padova: A/Prof. Serena Varotto: Maize Breeding for drought and salinity resilience	Room 422, ATP
9.50am-10.10am	Padova: A/Prof. Paolo Sambo: Vegetable production between heritage and innovation	Room 422, ATP
10.10-10.30am	USYD: Prof. Les Copeland. Genotype and environmental effects on wheat grain quality	Room 422, ATP
10.30-11am	Morning Tea	Foyer
11-11.20am	USYD: Dr Feike Dijkstra Centre for Carbon Water and Food. Plant Nutrition and Climate Change	Room 422, ATP
11.40-12.00noon	USYD: Dr Kim Phan-Tien Topic: Concept of food waste and what to do with it	Room 422, ATP
12noon-12.20pm	Padova: Dr Alessandro Botton: Regulation of fruit load and consequences on fruit quality	Room 422, ATP
12.20-12.40pm	Padova: A/Prof. Mario Malagoli: Plant biofortification to enhance food quality	Room 422, ATP
12.40-1.40pm	Lunch and student poster session	Foyer and Common Room
1.40-2.00pm	USYD: Dr Luciano Gonzalez. New technologies to improve productivity and sustainability of livestock production.	Room 422, ATP
2.00-2.20pm	USYD: Dr Marshall McDaniel Can we have our cake and eat it too? Feeding 9 billion people while reducing soil greenhouse gas emissions	Room 422, ATP
2.20pm-2.40pm	Padova: A/Prof. Andrea Pitacco: Climate change and sustainable viticulture	Room 422, ATP
2.40pm-3.10pm	Afternoon Tea	Foyer
3.10-3.30pm	Padova: Prof. Raffaele Cavalli: Environmental issues of wood supply chains	Room 422, ATP
3.30-3.50pm	Padova: Prof. Tommaso Anfodillo: Assessing Water Requirements of a Hazelnut Plantation in Australia	Room 422, ATP
3.50pm-4.15pm	Wrap Up and Closing Remarks	Room 422, ATP
4.15pm	Conclusion	Room 422, ATP
7.00pm	Dinner	ARIA Restaurant, 1 Macquarie St, Sydney