



SNI Meeting at a Glance

March 22-23, 2018 • Phoenix, AZ

Braun Elected SNI President

An election was held to replace Ratna Mukherjea as SNI president. Michelle Braun, global protein scientific affairs lead at DuPont Nutrition & Health, was elected unanimously.

High Oleic Soybean Oil: Functionality and Interesterification

Qualisoy consultant Frank Flider gave an overview of high oleic soybean oil (HOSO) functionality. Flider discussed how finding a transfat-free replacement for partially hydrogenated oils has been a challenge and how interesterification of high oleic soybean oil has the potential to fill that gap.

Peter Jones continued the discussion on interesterified fats with an overview of three recent reviews. Overall, the studies showed that data on the health of interesterified fats is conflicting. Therefore, health effects of these fats need further study.

Research Updates

Messina gave an overview of recent soy-related research. Two positive trends are the popularity of fermented foods and sustainable products. One potential issue for soy he sees on the horizon is “clean meat,” which is meat grown in a lab.

Messina showed that processed forms of soy are getting more negative attention, and that pea proteins are becoming more popular. He also discussed studies and articles

that indicated soy milk is the best alternative for replacing cow’s milk in the human diet. Messina also discussed a soon-to-be published meta-analysis that includes nine studies showing soy protein promotes gains in lean body mass and strength to the same extent as whey in response to resistance exercise training.

Response to Military and School Efforts to Remove Soy Components

MBraun discussed the Department of Defense’s 2017 proposal to ban soy protein products. A coalition was formed to push back against the proposal, and ultimately it was rescinded. A law expected to be voted on in Congress would require the director of the Defense Logistics Agency to publish scientific justification and seek input from stakeholders before any future bans. Messina co-authored a paper that has not yet been published that highlights the reasons the proposed ban of soy products by the military and some school systems are not justified.

Soy Protein Health Claim Issue

Mark Messina reviewed SNI’s comments just submitted to the FDA regarding its proposal to revoke the soy protein health claim. The comments included results of a new SNI commissioned meta-analysis by Dr. David Jenkins supporting the health claim. Chris Salisbury noted it was hard to predict when the FDA would act. The SNI put together a working group to respond to the pending decision.

In Attendance

Members:

- **Michelle Braun**, DuPont, president
- **Jessica Kiel**, Medifast, vice president
- **Gary Berg**, USB
- **Ralph Lott**, USB
- **Gene Stoel**, USB
- **Linda Funk**, The Soyfoods Council
- **Sam Sun**, ADM
- **Harold Stanislawski**, AURI
- **Craig Gundersen**, University of Illinois
- **Jim Hershey**, WISHH

Scientific Advisors:

- **John Erdman**, University of Illinois at Urbana
- **Peter Jones**, University of Manitoba
- **Mindy Kurzer**, University of Minnesota

Staff:

- **Mark Messina**, Executive Director
- **Mike Greenwood**, USB/SmithBucklin
- **Andreas Altemueller**, USB/SmithBucklin
- **Steve Veile**, facilitator, Communiqué, Inc.
- **Chris Salisbury**, attorney, McLeod, Watkinson & Miller
- **Adam Veile**, acting secretary, Communiqué, Inc.

Guests and Speakers:

- **Onur Bermede**, USB/SmithBucklin
- **Frank Flider**, Qualisoy
- **Stem Kent**, SunRhize Foods
- **Michele Simon**, Plant Based Foods Association