The International Food Safety Training Laboratory (IFSTL) is holding a one week training session entitled "Rapid Methods in Food Microbiology" April 28 – May 2, 2014. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) experts will review the concepts and guide participants through the practice of fit-for-purpose methods in the laboratory.

Location: International Food Safety Training Laboratory, JIFSAN, University of Maryland, College Park, MD http://ifstl.jifsan.umd.edu

Course Objectives: The overall objective of the Rapid Methods in Food Microbiology training is to review various molecular detection techniques used in the rapid identification of food borne pathogens.

Instructors: This course will be taught by a team of instructors from the FDA, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), DC Public Health Laboratories, and the University of Maryland. Experts from 3M, bioMerieux, Bio-Rad, Dupont Qualicon and Life Technologies will guide participants through the application of their respective instruments.

Summary: The course will combine lectures and various hands-on laboratory exercises in molecular microbiology that are used to detect and identify foodborne pathogens such as Salmonella, Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC), Campylobacter, and Listeria monocytogenes. The laboratory will focus on conventional PCR, real-time PCR methods using 3M Molecular Detection System, Applied Biosystems 7500 (ABI 7500) Real-Time PCR System, Dupont BAX Q7 System, and bioMérieux Vidas® immunoassay.

Who should attend?
This course is designed for Individuals involved in food testing (food technologists, public health professionals, and food service professionals with a technical background), and individuals interested in rapid methods of detection of foodborne pathogens.

Course Information:
Course tuition: $2,500 USD*
*Includes all course materials, safety equipment, and lunch.
Registration deadline: February 21, 2014
Language: English
Travel: Participants are responsible for their travel arrangements and costs.
**Registration Procedure:**

1. Register at http://ifstl.jifsan.umd.edu/upcomingClasses/.

2. A formal letter of invitation will be sent to all pre-registered participants. This letter of invitation can be used for international travelers to support the visa application. Information about airports, hotels and local transportation will also be provided.

3. Payment is due by **April 11, 2014**. Seats are only reserved upon receipt of payment.

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