



INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY
TRAINING LABORATORY NETWORK

NEWS FROM THE LAB



The Network Grows

Training sessions in the US, Haiti, India, China, Singapore and Senegal



The IFSTL family keeps growing and this year was particularly fruitful for reproductions of training.

We started the year in Haiti, went to Vietnam, India, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Singapore and China.

Read about the new trainers and the wonderful work they are doing around the world, as well the IFSTL team's whereabouts in this issue of News from the Lab.

News from US



New workshops and tons of new participants from all around the world have kept us grounded despite the countless hours we spend on planes!

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IFSTL received new instrumentation from partner Waters Corporation.

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News from You

News from Asia:



- Bhaskar speeding in India
- Wei Liu a proud daddy
- Panna leading in Bangladesh

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News from Africa:

- Babacar and Ousman join forces with PACA
- Fiona on a roll!
- New equipment in Uganda

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News from the Americas

- Veronica hosts LAPRW
- Monica is on the run!
- Mexico pilots *Cyclospora* class

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*Together in the food safety labs
around the world!*

New Chemist at IFSTL

Dr. Zhengfang Wang joined the JIFSAN IFSTL at the end of 2016 to teach our training sessions on chemical methods for chemical contaminants. Dr. Wang comes to us from the US FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition in Chicago, Illinois.

Fluent in Mandarin and English, Dr. Wang has been growing our presence in China, while also teaching methods on pesticides, veterinary drugs and mycotoxins analysis in our home lab in the US. She also created a new course on the determination of filth as required by the US FDA.



Welcome Zhengfang!

News from us...

From hosting new friends from Malawi in snowy January to Christmas in July in Maryland and a Christmas tree in Senegal!

It felt like Christmas morning in our lab this summer when a big truck pulled up at the back door loaded with three brand new systems from Waters Corporation, our long-time sponsor. Photo on the right, enough said- let's just play with our new toys!

IFSTL is working on a formal agreement with Ousman Jarju (IFSTL, Winter 2015) and his University in The Gambia to strengthen the... capacity to control aflatoxins in the country.



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New Workshops at the IFSTL

Every year, analysts from around the world come into the IFSTL at the University of Maryland to learn new techniques, share experiences and strengthen their networks. Since its start in 2011, the Lab has been witness to great new friendships that have helped us all better understand the great big world of food safety testing.

This year, the demand for training in our lab changed in

focus, but we still hosted analysts from all around the world. Following about 5 years where pesticide, antibiotics residues and mycotoxins measurement methods were in greatest demand, the chemistry workshops held in our home-lab, at UMD, included filth in spices, fundamentals of QC for dietary supplements and vitamins in addition to "the usuals". The vitamins were a new field for us as our training

focused in the past on contaminants; But when the World Food Program needed assistance to train analysts to test fortified foods, the IFSTL was there to answer the call! You'll see in the *News from You* section that it was a beautiful surprise to find out that one of our alumni is now heading this important task in East Asia!

In microbiology, whole genome sequencing (WGS) was our biggest hit, especially as FDA is phasing out PFGE and replacing it with WGS for outbreak investigation. The FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition sponsored 10 analysts from US public health laboratories since its inception in 2015.

We also piloted a new workshop on Molecular Detection of *Cyclospora cayentanensis*, a method recently released by the US FDA. We were excited to start this new workshop with participants from SENASICA and COFEPRIS in Mexico and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency with financial assistance from the Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine at the FDA.

A big year!



News from you...

News from You: Accreditation, training, babies and new hobbies; we love to stay in touch!

IFSTL Alumni in Asia

Dr. Bhaskar Narayan (IFSTL winter 2017) was caught speeding in India! Indeed, he's put Dr. Archana Tiwari (IFSTL fall 2016) and Kanika Aggarwal (IFTSL winter 2017) in charge of reproducing hands-on training in India and the team already has done it 10 times! Below is a photo of a reproduction of mycotoxins training in Bangalore 2017 and top right was in Cochin.



Many of the IFSTL trainees from fall 2016 and winter 2017 were instructors for the reproductions of training. Dr. Saxena (IFSTL Fall 2016) of the India Import Export Control hosted us for a meeting in their fantastic lab in Cochin.

Dr. Panna Wahed of Bangladesh (IFSTL fall 2014) - photo top left- was back at JIFSAN in December 2017. She lead a team sponsored by the World Food Program learning to test vitamin fortification.

Dr. Janie Dubois visited Dr. Cao Son Tran (IFSTL winter 2015) in Hanoi in May on the margins of the APEC meeting. It was great to see the team who had been such wonderful hosts for a reproduction of training on mycotoxins in the fall 2015 sponsored by IAEA/FAO, UNIDO and the GFSP.

IFSTL Alumni in Africa

A recent PACA/USDA workshop on sampling for aflatoxins was an opportunity for a small IFSTL reunion. Ousman Jarju of The Gambia (IFSTL winter 2016) (photo above right) and Babacar Beye of Senegal (IFSTL fall 2013) (photo above center) met in Dakar. Ousman is very active at NARI, where they host the national testing program for aflatoxins.

Babacar proudly announced the recent accreditation of their lab at ITA to ISO 17025 in part thanks to his class at IFSTL and the PT program offered by APTECA (Aflatoxins Proficiency Testing and Control in Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe, from the Office of the Texas State Chemist).

Fiona Babukiika (IFSTL fall 2013) has also been active developing a private lab and expanding the scope of testing in her lab to include allergens and even proteins from bee venom!

Dr. Dean Tashobya (IFSTL winter 2015) was an invited speaker at a Gordon conference on mycotoxins and now his lab is accredited for standard ISO 17025 and equipped with LC/MS/MS. Congratulations!

IFSTL Alumni in the Americas



Those who follow IFSTL on Facebook have seen runner Monica Mendez Arriola. She is always in some sunny location, but we are glad to also see her in her lab!



The class of summer 2011 will remember quiet Veronica Picado Pomar. She recently made some noise as Costa Rica's speaker at LAPRW 2015 and then host in 2017.

Speaking of Costa Rica, Jessie Matarrita Rodriguez was also at LAPRW, where her lab hosted an IAEA/FAO workshop on pesticides. It is a small world because Jessie has been helping out the national lab of Haiti also supported by IFSTL in 2016-2017 through a USDA grant!



The US team of the Food Safety Cooperation Forum in APEC -Renée Hancher (US Dept. of Commerce), Camille Brewer (US FDA) Megan Crowe (US Dept. of Commerce), Kelly McCormick (US FDA) and Janie Dubois (JIFSAN IFSTL)- were at the Senior Officials Meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam, in May to highlight the benefits and current needs

for laboratory capacity building to validate the strength of prevention-based national food safety systems.



Dr. Javiera Cornejo Kelly (IFSTL Summer 2015) was also present with the team from Chile and Dr. Cao Son Tran (IFTSL winter 2015) represented Vietnam.



Wei Liu (IFSTL, summer 2016) welcomed baby Yanze-Emile in June 2017.



Dean Tashobya's lab accredited and equipped with LC/MS/MS!



Run Monica, run!

Monica Mendez Arriola (IFSTL summer 2011 and fall 2014) is running around all over the place, but still a proud and dedicated food safety analyst.

News from Us: Continued from page 2

IFSTL was selected by the USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service to conduct an assessment of training needs in food safety labs in Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire in March 2017. Follow up training was delivered in December on the margins of the PACA-USDA training on sampling for aflatoxins.



Janie spent a part of April in Mexico City for discussions on *Cyclospora*, but also on the need for training in whole genome sequencing as national labs are increasingly moving to this technology for outbreak investigation. We have yet to identify a source of funding to support this work, which is very important for the US as FDA is adopting WGS for outbreak investigation in 2018.

In June, IFSTL's Dr. Angela Winslow presented at the IFT conference in Las Vegas, NV, her research with student Abigail Myers and Dr. Cathy Liu on the



bacteriological quality of Maryland vs imported crab meat. The same month, Dr. Zhengfang Wang went to Florida with FDA colleague Dr. Jon Wong for the North American Pesticide Residue Workshop.

In July, Zhengfang presented some of the details of the metrics of learning, satisfaction and impact collected as a part of all IFTSL training workshops at the IAFP conference.

Janie traveled to Vietnam again in August for the GFSF conference held in Ho Chi Minh City.

Haiti was very hot in September, but nothing could stop the excitement of opening the crate of the GC-FID donated to the national control lab of Tamarinier!



Angela traveled to China in October to deliver training on the measurement of Salmonella in food at the Mars Global Food Safety Center in Huairou, China.

Janie was the Keynote Speaker at the Scix 2017 conference held in Reno, Nevada,



where she explained the dilution and complex matrix difficulties of food safety to one of the largest gatherings of spectroscopic instrument developers in the hope to bring attention to food safety as a growth industry for them. Her main message was to spur interest to develop rapid tools for screening that could free up time on our lab-based confirmation instruments.



Janie was an international advisor, session chair (for 23 speakers!), speaker and judge for the poster competition at the Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum hosted by Dr. Ravishankar and his team at ICAR CIFT in November.

Janie's last suitcase for the year was a big one. She taught methods of determination for mycotoxins in Singapore for 14 analysts from the Greater Mekong Region (Cambodia, China, DR of Lao, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam). The training was sponsored by Food Industry Asia, the Waters Corporation and JIFSAN IFSTL.

She then went on to Dakar, Senegal, to continue work on a USDA project funded under USAID's Trade Africa program. After making her way out despite a strike of air traffic controllers, she attended the 50-year anniversary symposium of the Infrared and Raman Discussion Group at University College London. Dr. William George was honored for his pioneering role at the Christmas luncheon.

2018 Schedule

Microbiology Courses

COURSE TITLE	SESSION DATE
Methods for the Identification of <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> in Foods	FEB 26 - MAR 2, 2018
Methods for the Identification of <i>Salmonella</i> and <i>Campylobacter</i> in Foods	MAR 12-16, 2018
Methods of Identification for Shiga-toxin Producing <i>E. coli</i>	APR 9-13, 2018
Whole Genome Sequencing	APR 30 - MAY 4, 2018
Analysis of Microbial Contaminants in Seafood	JUN 11-15, 2018
Whole Genome Sequencing	SEP 24-28, 2018

Chemistry Courses

COURSE TITLE	SESSION DATE
Methods of Determination for Drug Residues in Fish, Meat, and Poultry	JAN 29 - FEB 7, 2018
Methods of Determination for Mycotoxins	FEB 12-21, 2018
LC-MS/MS for the Identification of Chemical Contaminants in Foods	MAR 26 - APR 4, 2018
Methods of Determination for Mycotoxins	MAY 7-16, 2018
Methods of Determination for Pesticide Residues	MAY 21-25, 2018
Methods of Determination for Drug Residues in Fish, Meat, and Poultry	MAY 29 - JUN 7, 2018
Determination of Filth	JUN 18-22, 2018
LC-MS/MS for the Identification of Chemical Contaminants in Foods	JUL 16-25, 2018
Methods of Determination for Pesticide Residues	SEP 3-12, 2018
Methods of Determination for Mycotoxins	OCT 1-10, 2018
Methods of Determination for Drug Residues in Fish, Meat, and Poultry	NOV 5-14, 2018
Methods of Determination for Pesticide Residues	DEC 4-13, 2018

The International Food Safety Training Laboratory is a not-for-profit program of the University of Maryland's Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. Please contact us if you would like to sponsor an event.



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