

Informing Possibilities for the Future of Food and Agriculture

2009 Joint Annual Meeting of the
Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society (AFHVS)
and the Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS)

May 28-31, 2009

Penn Stater Conference Center, Penn State University, State College, PA

Program chair: Clare Hinrichs, chinrichs@psu.edu

Local arrangements chair: Carolyn Sachs, csachs@psu.edu

<http://www.afhvs.org/2009mtg.html>

Conference theme:

Our food and agriculture system now seems to manifest two opposing tendencies: one tendency is toward high technology, global sourcing, and disconnecting from “nature,” with profit being a key motivation. The other tendency is toward emphasizing natural processes and local sourcing, with building “community” and serving human needs being key motivations. The social constructions by those arrayed around or aligned with either tendency merit attention. These social constructions encode cultural meanings and shape social action, that may ultimately help to create social and biophysical infrastructures consistent with and potentially reinforcing of preferred food system tendencies. Each tendency involves a complex mix of social, ethical, ecological and other issues that need to be closely examined from many different perspectives and discussed publicly. Understanding the divergences and convergences between these tendencies can inform the individual and collective choices that will shape our future food and agriculture system. Together AFHVS and ASFS are well-suited to examine the wide range of analytic and practice issues involved and to imagine the possibilities that can inform and invigorate public discussion.

We welcome abstracts for papers, posters, and panels on *all aspects of food, nutrition, and agriculture*, including those related to:

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| * Art, media, and literary analyses | * Inequality, access, security, & social justice |
| * Change & development | * Knowledge |
| * Culture & cultural geography | * Local food systems |
| * Environmental or ecological considerations | * Pedagogy |
| * Ethics & philosophy | * Politics, policies, & governance in national & global contexts |
| * Food safety & risk | * Research methods, practices & issues |
| * Gender and ethnicity | * Social action & social movements |
| * Globalization of agri-food | * Sustainability |
| * History | * Science and technologies |

How to submit an abstract:

Abstract Due Date: February 2, 2009

Abstract Format

All proposals must include, in this order:

- (1) **type of submission** (e.g., a paper, an organized paper session with separate abstracts for included papers, an organized panel of multiple presentations, a poster, or an event);
- (2) **title** of paper, panel, or event;
- (3) submitter's **name**, organizational **affiliation**, and full postal mailing **address**;
- (4) submitter's **e-mail** address;
- (5) submitter's **telephone** number,
- (6) **names and organizational affiliations of co-authors or co-organizers**;
- (7) **abstract of 250 or fewer words** that describes the proposed paper, panel, or event;
- (8) (for panels and events only) the name and affiliation of the presider (moderator) and a tentative roster of the panel members or other participants; and
- (9) a list of up to six **descriptive keywords/phrases** for the program committee to use in organizing sessions and events, e.g., agriculture of the middle, globalization, teaching, food culture, or mass media..

Submission Procedure

Submit proposals by e-mail to Clare Hinrichs agfoodconf09@psu.edu . Submission as an attachment in MSWord format is preferred; however, submissions can also be sent in the body of an e-mail message. Please place "AFHVS/ASFS Abstract" in the subject line of the email. Please name the Word document files with the lead author's last name, followed by a period, followed by the first significant word in the title (example: Warner.Agroecology).

The conference organizers regret that we are unable to provide travel support for meeting participation. We reserve the right to limit acceptance of multiple submissions by any one author.

Send program correspondence to **Clare Hinrichs**, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, 112F Armsby Bldg., Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802, USA, or agfoodconf09@psu.edu.

Conference location and facilities:

Home to Penn State University, State College is a bustling town of some 80,000 nestled in the mountains of central Pennsylvania. The region has seen a recent renaissance of small scale, local and specialty agriculture, in the midst of a strong dairy tradition and in-migration by Amish farmers. The town is approximately 225 miles from New York City, 200 miles from both Philadelphia and Washington, and 125 miles from Pittsburgh. It is about 12 miles south of Interstate 80 which crosses the northern part of the state. University Park Airport, just outside of town, is currently served by daily flights from Philadelphia, Detroit, and Dulles. One hundred

miles southeast, Harrisburg International Airport offers additional flight options.

The conference will be held at the Penn Stater Conference Hotel <<http://www.pshs.psu.edu/pennstater/pshome.asp>>, located at Penn State Innovation Park in a pleasant wooded setting, about five minutes from campus and downtown by public bus or taxi. The Penn Stater is a state of the art conference facility that offers comfort and convenience, while being conducive to the formal and informal exchanges that are central to truly valuable conference experiences.

Some additional highlights so far of the 2009 conference....

- **Three pre-conference tours on Thursday, May 28.** One tour will explore ‘dairy diversity’ in central Pennsylvania, including raw milk, organic, cheesemaking and local retailing farms and enterprises. Another tour will visit a local foods café and brewpub, a local winery and finally a multi-faceted operation that combines an organic CSA, specialty foods processing, and a very successful shop selling local foods and artisans’ goods. The final “green tour of Penn State University” visits a wide range of innovative environmental outreach, agriculture and footprint-reducing programs, from Penn State’s renown composting facility to Morningstar House, designed and constructed by Penn State students and awarded 4th place in the 2008 National Solar Decathlon competition. Details and fees for the pre-conference tours will be posted in January on the conference website.
- **Field trip to enjoy a family-style meal at a nearby Amish farm on Friday evening, May 29.** Limited to 45 guests, the meal will include a diverse array of traditional Amish main dishes, side dishes, relishes and desserts prepared by an Amish family. Details and fee will be posted in January on the conference website.
- **Local foods picnic and music by the MacGillicuddies on Saturday evening, May 30.** This event will take place 17 miles outside of State College at the rustic Civil Engineering Lodge in the beautiful Stone Valley Recreation Area. The meal will be catered by Harrison’s, an award-winning catering and restaurant company in State College that has made fresh, local foods the center of its business. A favorite regional band, the MacGillicuddies, will provide their signature music-- new and old zydeco stylings along with electric old-time and roots-rock originals. Details and fee will be posted in January on the conference website.

Registration information:

1. **Conference registration fees and directions for registering will be posted on the conference website in mid-January.**
2. **Information about booking lodging at the Penn Stater Conference Center will be posted on the conference website in mid-January. Room rates will be \$118/single/night, \$128/double/night, \$138/triple/night, and \$148/quad/night (taxes not included).**

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