

THE
AFRICAN FOOD SYSTEM AND
ITS INTERACTION
WITH
HUMAN HEALTH AND NUTRITION

edited by PER PINSTRUP-ANDERSEN

Distinctive Features

- Spans both domestic and international research.
- Multidisciplinary approaches that span life sciences and social/behavioral sciences.
- Doctoral internships with the Institute of Medicine and NIH Office of Dietary Supplements.
- NSF funded IGERT doctoral training grant.
- Administer EFNEP program for New York State.
- Embedded with the nation's leading College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
- Integration of food systems research in graduate and undergraduate curriculum.

Overview

The Food for Health emphasis in the Division of Nutritional Sciences addresses research questions relevant to the health-promoting properties of nutrients, diets and agricultural systems in individuals, communities and populations both domestically and internationally. This multidisciplinary theme integrates approaches from the life sciences and social behavioral sciences to examine the role of nutrients and bioactive food components, dietary diversity, food processing and enrichment, food choice, food assistance programs, agriculture production and agricultural subsidies in promoting human health.

Food Systems for Health and Nutrition



The faculty expertise ranges from biomarker development using state-of-the-art genomic and metabolomic approaches to human clinical studies investigating the nutrient bioavailability in biofortified crops to economic analyses of food and nutrition policy, globalization and poverty, and agricultural development. The distinguished faculty include a World Food Prize Laureate, as well as members of the Institute of Medicine's Food and Nutrition Board and other national and international policy-advisory committees.

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Food Systems for Health research area engages the Cornell undergraduate students through EnHANCE (Engaging Food, Agriculture and Nutrition through the Cornell Experience), a student cohort study that explores the dietary practice of Cornell students and its affect on their health.

The goal of EnHANCE is to understand how the transition to the college environment affects health-related outcomes in young adults. Through this study students will learn more about the links between diet, physical activity and health outcomes including obesity, diabetes and hypertension.



- Nutrient fortification and biofortification
- Biomarkers of food and nutrient status and exposure
- Nutrient bioavailability
- Gene-nutrient/diet interactions in health and disease
- Evolutionary origin of human genetic variation and implication on metabolic diseases
- Bioactive compounds, health and well-being

- The effect of Poverty and the social and physical environments
- Community interventions to reduce disease risk
- Electronic communication and food choices

- Food Policy and Globalization
- Food Price volatility and nutrition
- Sustainability of food systems to health and well-being
- Agricultural production and policies on human health and nutrition

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