



ILSI Workshop: Are South African Consumers Moving Towards Healthy Eating?

07 September 2017

Marriott Crystal Towers, Cape Town, South Africa

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Title of presentation:

The Role of Food Science in the South African Food Supply

Author/s: (underline presenting author if more than one is listed)

Sunley, N. C.

Abstract:

Food science, along with many other scientific disciplines faces global challenges due to factors such as general distrust and scepticism of science as a whole by the public, idealistic and impractical 'back to nature' movements with anti-scientific overtones and the increasing incidence of 'junk science' due to its ease of propagation via the internet and by social media in particular. The emotional appeal of food and the acknowledged impact of food on our health and wellbeing has made the task of conveying the benefits of food science and technology to the public particularly difficult. However there can be no doubt that science and technology are of critical importance to ensuring a consistent, sustainable and safe food supply. This presentation will highlight a number of areas in which food science and technology have either openly or by means of 'under the radar' initiatives contributed in a critical fashion to the stability of our food supply. It will also highlight a number of the major challenges facing food science and technology with special reference to the IUFOST 'Vision 2030' initiative and potential ways in which we can respond to these in the somewhat unique South

