



International Association for
Food Protection®

2021–2022 IAFP Secretary Candidates

IAFP Members have until Tuesday, March 2 to cast their vote.

The link and passcode will be mailed to non-student Members on February 1.

[Click here to access the voting center or for assistance in obtaining your passcode](#)



Mark Carter
Chattanooga, Tennessee



Leon Gorris
Nijmegen, The Netherlands



Mark Carter

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Mr. Mark Carter is the CEO of MC Squared Enterprises Inc. (MC²), an independent consulting firm with in-depth expertise in life science business, food safety, and technology development and deployment. MC² works with organizations that are focused on improving public health.

Mr. Carter has extensive international business and technical experience. He most recently served as Chief Operating Officer of Matrix Sciences as well as the Executive Vice President of Corporate Development, where he was responsible for Matrix Sciences Mergers & Acquisitions activity. He previously held positions as CEO of QCL and Corporate Vice President of Research & Development with the Silliker Group Corporation (now Mérieux NutriSciences). He has served within the food industry as Section Manager for Microbiology and Food Safety at Kraft Foods and Corporate Laboratory Group Leader at McKee Foods Corporation.

An active member of IAFP since 1993, Mr. Carter has served on the Maurice Weber Laboratorian Selection Committee, the *Food Protection Trends* Editorial Board, the Nominating Committee, the *Journal of Food Protection* Management Committee, and the Tellers Committee. He was a co-founder of the Sample Prep working group and actively participates in both the Applied Laboratory Methods and the Food Sanitation and Hygiene PDGs. His commitment to the Association also includes participation and organization of numerous technical symposia and poster presentations. He currently serves on IAFP's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council.

Mr. Carter has an extensive history of service to the industry. Throughout his career, he has served on the advisory boards of the food science and nutrition departments at both Cornell University and Tuskegee University. He also spent time on the board of Stop Foodborne Illness, an organization committed to food safety. Mr. Carter has authored or co-authored numerous articles and book chapters as well as serving on the Editorial Board for the most recent edition of *Compendium of Methods for the Microbiological Examination of Foods*. He currently participates on the AOAC expert review panel of Food and Environmental Methods and is a past chair of the food microbiology division for the American Society of Microbiology (ASM).

Mr. Carter is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a B.S. in Microbiology and holds an M.S.A. from Columbus State University. He is a registered clinical and public health microbiologist with the American Academy of Microbiology.



Leon Gorris

Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Dr. Leon Gorris is a food safety professional from The Netherlands, serving more than 35 years in food research and food safety management for industry, government, and academia. Dr. Gorris worked for 21 years with Unilever, stationed in The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and China. Previously, he was with the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture in Wageningen for eight years and the Radboud University in Nijmegen for six years. Currently, he is a food safety consultant working on numerous projects for public and private customers, from food safety education and capability building to operational risk management and food safety control.

Dr. Gorris is recognized internationally for his expertise in several food safety domains including general food microbiology, microbial physiology and ecology, food technology, food safety management, food safety legislation, and food safety standards such as microbiological criteria. Throughout his various positions, he actively collaborated and shared his food safety expertise through a number of international organizations and associations, including the International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF); the FAO-WHO Joint Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA); the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI); the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST); the China Institute for Food Science and Technology (CIFST); and the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP). He has also held a part-time professorship in food safety microbiology at Wageningen University for 10 years and is currently a registered visiting professor at three universities in China.

Dr. Gorris has been an active member of IAFP since 1999. He received the International Leadership Award in 2007, the IAFP Fellow Award in 2017, and presented the John H. Silliker Lecture at IAFP 2014. Dr. Gorris has served on the *Journal of Food Protection (JFP)* Editorial Board throughout the majority of his IAFP Membership. He also has been a member of the Management Committees of both *JFP* and *Food Protection Trends (FPT)*. He is a current member of 12 Professional Development Groups (PDGs) and Committees and serves as Vice Chair of the Water Safety and Quality PDG and the Membership Committee. He has served as Vice Chair and Chair of the Microbial Modelling and Risk Analysis PDG and the International Food Protection Issues PDG. In addition, he has been a member of several Awards Selection Committees.

Dr. Gorris has supported many IAFP conferences around the globe, reaching out to food safety professionals in and outside of North America. As Chair of the ILSI Europe Risk Analysis Taskforce, he joined with IAFP leadership in 2005 to establish the first IAFP European Food Safety Symposium in Prague as a joint IAFP–ILSI activity. He chaired the Organizing Committee for this first meeting and for several years after then served as a committee member until 2011. Dr. Gorris has contributed workshops and presentations at IAFP-supported conferences around the world, including China (nine times), Australia, Dubai (twice), Turkey, and Brazil.

A 20-year member of ICMSF, Dr. Gorris serves as its Secretary and United Nations (i.e., FAO, WHO, and Codex Alimentarius) contact, while contributing innovative ways for ICMSF to reach out to global food safety experts through layman language guides and video clips. As a member of ICMSF, Dr. Gorris initiated several ICMSF sessions and workshops at IAFP Annual Meetings, including workshops on “Microbial Risk Assessment Modeling and Interpretation” and “Microbiological Sampling and Testing in Food Safety Management.” He has been a presenter for IAFP webinars organized by the Microbial Modelling and Risk Analysis PDG and the Food Safety and Quality PDG.

During his current membership on the JEMRA expert panel and previous FAO-WHO consultations, Dr. Gorris contributed to a wide variety of food safety guidelines and capability building including Risk Analysis, Microbiological Risk Assessment, Microbiological Risk Management, Antimicrobial Resistance in Food Chains, and Safe Water Reuse.