



## Ivan Parkin Lecture Where Do You Put Your Chopsticks?

**Gary R. Acuff**

Professor

Texas A&M University



SUNDAY, JULY 8, 2018  
OPENING SESSION  
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Gary R. Acuff, Ph.D., is a Professor of Food Microbiology in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, where he has been a faculty member for 37 years. In 2001, Dr. Acuff was designated a Texas AgriLife Research Faculty Fellow for research leadership. He served as Head of the Department of Animal Science at the university from 2004–2010 and as the Director of the Texas A&M Center for Food Safety from 2010–2016.

Dr. Acuff joined IAFP in 1982 and served as its President in 2008. He was inducted as an IAFP Fellow in 2013. Throughout his membership, he has served on numerous Committees and Professional Development Groups (PDGs), as well as on the Editorial Board for IAFP's *Journal of Food Protection (JFP)* and on the Management Committees for both *JFP* and *Food Protection Trends (FPT)*.

Dr. Acuff holds a B.S. in Biology from Abilene Christian University and both an M.S. and Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology, specializing in food microbiology, from Texas A&M University. His research has focused on improving the microbiological quality and safety of food, and recent activities have centered on pathogen survival in low-moisture foods and the effective use of surrogate bacteria for validation of process control in HACCP and Preventive Control systems.

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## John H. Silliker Lecture Heroes Past and Future

**Ann Marie McNamara**

Vice President, Food and Essentials Safety and Quality Assurance  
Target Corporation



WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018  
CLOSING SESSION  
4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Ann Marie McNamara, Ph.D., is Vice President of Food and Essentials Safety and Quality Assurance at Target, Inc. in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. McNamara joined Target in 2017 and leads the food and essentials safety and quality policy and program development, regulatory compliance, supplier approval, and compliance/quality testing for approximately 1,800 retail stores, five food distribution centers, and a robust supply chain of national and international scope.

Dr. McNamara played a central role in the nation's *E. coli* O157:H7 outbreak linked to contaminated beef patties 25 years ago. In 1992, she served as Director of Microbiology at the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). She moved to Sara Lee Corporation in 1999 as Corporate Vice President of Food Safety and Technology out of Memphis, Tennessee and Cincinnati, Ohio, before joining Silliker (now Merieux NutriSciences, Inc.) in 2003 as Vice President of Food Safety and Scientific Affairs in Chicago, Illinois. In 2008, Dr. McNamara joined Jack in the Box, Inc. in San Diego, California as Vice President of Food Safety and Regulatory Compliance, helping maintain the tradition of leadership in food safety.

An IAFP Member since 1996, Dr. McNamara received the IAFP Fellow Award in 2012. She has served on numerous IAFP Selection Committees and is a member of several Professional Development Groups (PDGs). She also serves as an editorial advisory board member for *Food Safety Magazine* and received its Distinguished Service Award in 2014.

Dr. McNamara earned her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh and conducted a post-doctoral fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She has authored more than 100 publications, given more than 100 scientific presentations, developed corporate food safety programs widely recognized for their excellence, and provided expert food safety advice to more than 100 businesses as a consultant.