

## Agenda

---

- 10:00 a.m. -10:45 a.m.    **Introduction and information sharing**
- 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.    **Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing Institute, AIC, Home Based Vendors**  
Dr. Dharmendra Mishra, Associate Professor of Food Science  
Dr. Amanda Deering, Associate Professor of Food Science  
Allison Kingery, Research Administrator Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing I
- 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.    **Lunch Break**
- 12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.    **Tour of Food Science Pilot Plant and Skidmore Lab**  
Allison Kingery – FEMI Managing Director  
Madison Mehringer – FEMI Extension Coordinator  
Matthew Kittaka – FEMI Graduate Student
- 1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.    **Climate Change Impacts on Crops & Cropping Systems in North Central US Region** Diverse Corn Belt project and IMPACT<sup>2</sup> Project  
Hans Schmitz, Lead Conservation Crossing Systems Agronomist  
Dr. Ian Kaplan, Professor of Entomology  
Emily Usher, Senior Project Manager, Horticulture & Landscape Architecture
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:00 pm    **Wrap up, explore topics and dates for future meetings**

## Speaker Bios

**Dr. Amanda Deering** is Associate Professor in the Department of Food Science at Purdue. She obtained her B.S. in Biology and M.S. in Plant Biology from Central Michigan University. She completed her Ph.D. at Purdue University in Food Microbiology and Food Safety specializing in plants and fresh produce. Dr. Deering's research focuses on examining internalization of human pathogenic bacteria in plants and various routes of contamination that can contribute to plants harboring pathogenic bacteria. She also works in the development of novel post-harvest sanitizers for the reduction of bacteria on fresh produce. Dr. Deering works directly with the fresh produce industry and has vast experience with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs), Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), and post-harvest processing operations. She is a lead team member of the Safe Produce Indiana program.

**Dr. Dharmendra Mishra** is Associate Professor in the Department of Food Science at Purdue and Director of the Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing Institute. He is a Processing Authority for acid/acidified and low-acid foods in both still and continuous flow systems. His expertise includes manufacturing multi-phase particulate modeling and validation, commercializing technologies, retort, aseptic, and novel thermal processing; mathematical modeling; inverse problems and statistical analysis. Prior to joining the faculty at Purdue, Dr. Mishra worked in the food industry for Campbell's Soup, Nestle Nutrition, and Mead Johnson Nutrition. Dr. Mishra conducts Extension Workshops to train industry professionals in Aseptic Processing and Packaging, Aseptic Processing and Filling, and Better Process Control.

**Allie Kingery** serves as the Managing Director of the Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing Institute (FEMI) in the Department of Food Science at Purdue. She functions as a conduit for projects between external users and internal resources including access to departmental facilities, faculty expertise, and student talent as entrepreneurs and businesses scale to commercialization. Allie also oversees the Skidmore Product Development Laboratory, the certified commercial kitchen located within Nelson Hall of Food Science.

**Hans Schmitz** is Lead Conservation Cropping System Agronomist for the Purdue Extension Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative. He previously served as County Extension Director and Ag and Natural Resources Extension Educator in Posey County. Hans is a Certified Crop Advisor and holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees from Purdue in Applied Meteorology.

**Dr. Ian Kaplan** is a Professor in the Department of Entomology at Purdue. His research falls under the broad umbrella of beneficial insect conservation and management. This includes predators and parasitoids involved in biocontrol. In recent years he has been involved in studies assessing augmentation biocontrol in high tunnels, the impacts of crop domestication on tri-trophic interactions, non-consumptive predator effects (i.e., the ecology of fear), and using induced plant volatiles to attract natural enemies to agricultural fields.

**Emily Usher** is Project Manager for the Diverse Corn Belt Project at Purdue University. Emily holds a Bachelors Degree in Botany and Plant Pathology from Ohio University and a Masters Degree in Natural Resource Management and Policy from the University of Wisconsin – Stephens Point. She previously worked as a Senior Research Associate at Purdue and a Community Development Specialist with the Center for Land Use Planning in Stephens Point, WI.

The **Diverse Corn Belt (DCB)** is an USDA-NIFA funded project focused on developing evidence-based frameworks and visions of a more diverse agricultural landscape across the Corn Belt (Illinois, Iowa, and Indiana). This interdisciplinary research explores and promotes diversity at the farm, landscape, and market levels through three broad objectives; Research, Extension, and education. With input from stakeholders across the value chain, the research component explores opportunities and barriers of a more diverse agricultural ecosystem by developing model-informed visions of a more diverse agricultural landscape. Extension components include developing policy recommendations and stakeholder engagement to support farm diversification and market development. The education component will develop and disseminate educational materials that prepare secondary and undergraduate students to respond to emerging challenges and support a diversified landscape. Overall, DCB produces baseline information to inform a coproduced vision for a more economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable agricultural ecosystem across the US Corn Belt.