

Session One

A Focus on Food

Session one will discuss the important role nutrition, health, and wellbeing will play in our food future.

Natasha Telles D'Costa



Natasha has over nine years of experience in the global food and beverage industry spanning the UK, India, Middle East and Asia Pacific. While working in these very different parts of the world she has further had the opportunity to work with countries across the world from New Caledonia to Chile. In her current role she is responsible for the Frost & Sullivan Asia Pacific Food & Beverage programme and works closely with major industry participants and governments across the East Asian and wider APAC markets. She has also worked closely with the team at NZTE as part of the East Asia Food Programme. A self-confessed “food nerd” she is intrigued constantly by the changing demands of the food industry, and her travels to the APAC markets never fail to instill in her an awe for how innovative food can get. Today her pet project and passion is trying to get consumers and partner companies alike to understand that taste and health can actually work together to create better foods for a better future. She realises that this is a huge task and she is a very small fish in a rather large pond but hey dreams are free!

Bill Kaye-Blake



Dr Bill Kaye-Blake is a Director in Finance and Economics at PwC. He has conducted economic research for the private sector, universities and the government for over 20 years. His research covers the primary sector, consumer behaviour, infrastructure, health and several types of modelling. Bill is currently involved in work linking on-farm decisions to wider resilience concerns, and making the connection between consumer choices and their social and environmental consequences. He is contributing to the High-Value Nutrition National Science Challenge through analysis of the export value of functional foods and research into consumer trends overseas. Bill is also an Honorary Associate Professor at Lincoln University and Past President of the New Zealand Association of Economists.

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Martin Kussman



Professor Martin Kussmann joined the High-Value Nutrition, National Science Challenge as Chief Scientist in October this year. He spends half of his time as Professor of Systems Biology in Nutrition and Health at the Liggins Institute within the University of Auckland.

Martin comes from the Nestlé Institute of Health Sciences (NIHS) in Switzerland where he was Head of the Molecular Biomarkers Core. Martin built this programme from scratch, covering the five research areas of proteomics, metabonomics, lipidomics, micronutrient analysis and diagnostics. He managed a Systems Nutrition Group, which develops and conducts biology-oriented nutrition and health research in the context of healthy ageing with a focus on cognitive, metabolic and intestinal health.

He is Honorary Professor for Nutritional Science at Aarhus University, Denmark, and lectured at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale Lausanne (EPFL). He led the Functional Genomics Group at the Nestlé Research Centre, Lausanne, and was responsible for nutrigenomics and nutri(epi)genetics.

Steve Maharey



Steve Maharey is Vice-Chancellor of Massey University. Massey University is the leading New Zealand agrifood University and Steve was the Founding Chair of FoodHQ. He is an enthusiastic advocate of New Zealand becoming the leading producer of quality food products in the world.

He was the Member of Parliament for Palmerston North from 1990-2008 and a Senior Cabinet Minister from 1999-2008. Earlier in his career he was a Senior Lecturer in Sociology and a Junior Lecturer in Business Administration. His main areas of academic interest include social policy (particularly social development), education, media and cultural studies, social change and politics.

He has been an elected City Councillor, Chair of CUAP, Deputy Chair UNZ and the Asia NZ Foundation Board. Member of a wide range of Boards.

Appointed a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) in 2008. He has contributed to eleven books and is a very frequent contributor to all forms of media.

Session Two

A Global Perspective

Session two will discuss global trends, issues and challenges that are likely to shape our future.

Joe Mariani (USA)



As series editor for Deloitte's research campaign on the Internet of Things (IoT), Joe is responsible for examining the impact of IoT on a diverse set of issues from business strategy to technical trends.

Joe's broader research focuses on how new technologies are put to use by society and the organisations within it.

With previous experience as a consultant, high school science teacher, and Marine Corps intelligence officer, Joe is able to clearly communicate insights about even complex emerging technologies to a wide audience.

**Joe is joining us from Chicago.
He has a background in
defense and intelligence...**

Ian Proudfoot



Ian Proudfoot leads our Consumer/Industrial Markets and Agribusiness lines of business. He provides audit and transaction services to clients in a wide range of sectors, including agribusiness, retail and distribution. Ian joined KPMG in London and transferred to KPMG Auckland in 1996. Since that time he has undertaken a diverse range of client assignments including a 12-month secondment managing financial reporting and consolidation for a major New Zealand company.



Session Three

A New Zealand Perspective

Session three will move the focus from global trends to actions taking place in New Zealand right now.

Miriana Stephens



Miriana (Ngāti Rārua, Ngāiterangi and Ngāti Ranginui) was born and raised in Motueka and recently won the 2016 Aotearoa NZ Māori Woman Business Leader award in recognition of outstanding success and excellence in business.

Miriana is a director for Wakatū Incorporation (Wakatū), which is guided by Te Pae Tāwhiti (the 500 year intergenerational plan of Wakatū) that will create a strong identity for our owners now and in the future as being at the forefront of Māori business, and known as the leaders in innovation.

A lawyer, businesswoman and mother of four, she also runs Aotahi Limited (Aotahi) which specialises in developing and managing educational programmes in the areas of small business and money management to communities around the motu. Aotahi has also published three books that support small business and indigenous business development.

She also is serving on the New Zealand Psychotherapists Board and trustee on Te Āwhina marae, and Te Runanga o Ngati Rarua.

Tim Mackle



Tim has been DairyNZ's chief executive since 2007 and chief executive of its predecessor Dexcel since 2005. Before that, Tim was general manager of Anchor Ethanol. He has a PhD in animal, food and nutritional sciences from Cornell University, New York, and was a nutrition and milk characteristics scientist at the Dairying Research Corporation in Hamilton. He also worked in strategy for the New Zealand Dairy Board before taking a corporate role at Fonterra supporting the first CEO.

Tim will talk about the dairy industry - so crucial to the New Zealand of today - and what the industry is doing to influence it's long-term horizons.

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Facilitator for the day



Scott Champion

Dr Scott Champion is an experienced leader, strategist and executive manager. He has worked across tertiary education, innovative organisations in the private sector and industry service delivery and advocacy for over 20 years. In April 2016 he completed a decade working for the national sheep and beef industry body, Beef + Lamb New Zealand, the last 7.5 years as Chief Executive Officer. He was also concurrently Chief Executive Officer of the New Zealand Meat Board for this period.

Scott is passionate about identifying, creating and connecting strongly with 'communities of interest'...

Scott has significant experience across strategy development, facilitation, the securing of investment, and governance, across diverse areas such as sector development, international trade, and research and development. This work has often been within complex, multi-party projects.

Scott is passionate about identifying, creating and connecting strongly with 'communities of interest' and customers/clients to build effective products and services that make a difference.

