

Dr. Purnendu C. Vasavada
Professor Emeritus- University of Wisconsin-River Falls
Fellow, AAM, IFT, IAFP



Dr. Purnendu Vasavada is a Professor Emeritus of Food Science, University of Wisconsin-River Falls and Principal and managing member of the PCV & Associates, LLC. Since his retirement from the University of Wisconsin- River Falls in 2011, Dr. Vasavada accepted a 2 year assignment as the FDA-ORISE Fellow and served on the Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA) – a broad-based public-private alliance consisting of key industry, academia and government stakeholders designed to help food industry comply with the Preventive Controls regulations for implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). He is currently serving as the FSPCA Outreach Program manager.

At the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Dr. Vasavada taught several food science courses in the Food Science program, including Food Microbiology, Food processing, Industrial Microbiology, Food quality assurance, Quality milk production and processing, Dairy manufacturing, Cereal Technology, Introduction to food science, and Food and Consumerism. As a Food Safety and Microbiology Extension Specialist, Dr. Vasavada developed and presented seminars and workshops for the food industry on a variety of topics including food safety and microbiology, HACCP, sanitation, milk pasteurization and control, food quality assurance, milk quality and cheese manufacturing, and consumer aspects of foods

For 30 years, Dr. Vasavada organized the annual UWRF Food Microbiology Symposium: Current Concepts in Foodborne Pathogens and Rapid and Automated Methods in Food Microbiology and developed the UWRF Rapid Method Workshop.

Dr. Vasavada is recognized internationally for his teaching, applied research, innovative training programs and active consultations in Food Science and Technology, especially, Food Safety and Microbiology and Rapid methods and Automation in Food Microbiology. He has been an invited speaker and convener at international conferences, workshops and symposia dealing with food safety and microbiology, rapid methods and automation in microbiology, food quality assurance, HACCP and TQM and food science education in U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Egypt, Singapore, Malaysia, Mexico, Hungary, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Germany, England, Ireland, Slovenia, Turkey, China, India, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore, and most recently in Budapest, Hungary.

Dr. Vasavada is active in several scientific and professional organizations, including the International Association of Food Protection (IAFP), the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), the American Frozen Food Association (AFFI), the Wisconsin Laboratory Association (WLA), the North Central Cheese Industry Association (NCCIA), and the Midwest Food Processors Association (MWFPA). He is the author or co-author of over 100 publications including peer reviewed papers technical abstracts and book chapters and is the co-editor of the book, **Beverage Technology** (2003).

Dr. Vasavada is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology (1990), the IFT (2009) and the IAFP (2010) and has received the Joseph Mityas Laboratorian of the Year Award (WLA, 1987), the Educator award (IAMFES 1997), the Sanitarian of the Year award (WAMFS, 1998), the Chairman's award (Minnesota IFT, 1999), the UW Extension's Program Innovation Award (2010), the Harry Haverland Citation Award (IAFP 2011), the GMA Food Safety award (IAFP, 2012), and Honorary Achievement award (FDA-CFSAN, 2012).