

Dr. Jianmei Yu

Dr. Jianmei Yu is a well-known food scientist. She received her BS in Chemical Engineering from Yunnan Institute of Technology (1986), MS in Food Engineering from South China University of Technology (1991), and Ph.D. in Food Science from Louisiana State University (1998).

Dr. Yu worked as a postdoctoral fellow at University of Guelph, Canada from 1998 to 2000 as a food technologist in the Food Research Centre, and at Agricultural and Agri-Food Canada from 2001 to 2003. Since April 2003, she has worked at North Carolina A&T State University as a Research Associate, Interim Assistant Professor and Research Scientist in Food Science and Nutrition.

Dr. Yu is a well-known research scientist. She has authored and co-authored 14 grant proposals and 12 of them were funded, published 21 peer reviewed articles in diverse journals, and four book chapters since 2003. She has been granted one United States patent. Her research results have been reported and covered nationally and locally.

She has taught three food science courses (Food Chemistry, Food Analysis and Sensory Evaluation of Foods) in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at North Carolina A&T State University, supervised two postdoctoral scholars, several graduate students and many undergraduate students to conduct research. Her students have presented their research results in many professional conferences.

Dr. Yu is a member of four professional organizations, is an editor for the International Journal of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, and is also a member of a grant proposal review panel for USDA-NIFA.

Dr. Yu's research interests include value added utilization of agricultural products, functional food development, food allergen reduction by post-harvest technologies, bioactive compounds and functional foods on human health and well-being, particularly in obesity prevention.

Dr. Yu has strong skills in extraction, purification and separation technology. She is also good at many analytical techniques including chromatography, spectrometry, electrophoresis, immunoassay, PCR and wet chemistry analysis.

Wayne Szafranski

A native of Western New York, Wayne graduated from Clarkson University and holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Chemistry and a certificate in Photographic Engineering. Over the past forty years he has held technical development, engineering and market management positions in companies such as Eastman Kodak, CIBA-Geigy, and Konica Manufacturing, USA. He has also developed markets and import-export businesses for smaller firms in the Southeast including his own wastewater treatment company which he founded in 1997. Prior to joining the staff at NC A&T, he directed a community-based technology transfer program: Technology Outreach at Nussbaum.

As the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Outreach and Economic Development at North Carolina A&T State University, Wayne is responsible for overseeing the University's intellectual property portfolio and technology transfer operations as well as facilitating the University's relationships with businesses in North Carolina. Since his arrival at NC A&T in 2007, he has worked to develop several spin-off businesses based on University technologies and expanded the University's license and patent portfolio. In addition to his duties in commercializing the University's intellectual property, Wayne is responsible for forming and negotiating research relationships and contracts with both commercial and federal agency partners.