



DEPARTMENT NEWS

*Updates from the Department of Food Science and Technology
and The Food Processing Center*



From the Desk of Dr. Martini

Hi!

It seems to me that Summer is going by too fast and I can't believe that it is time to write another newsletter!

We all keep busy here in the office...

The halls of the department have been filled with students engaged in the workshops, camps, and other activities. We enjoy having them here! We also participated in the East Campus Discovery Day in June, and the next one is this Saturday. We have a table there and it is a lot of fun to see kids (and adults) stop by and learn about Food Science.

During June I spent a lot of time trying to reconnect with Alumni of the Department. I made a few connections via LinkedIn (thanks to those that shared my post!) and we sent an e-mail to Alumni through the Alumni Association. I am collecting information about their experience with FST which I will share during our retreat in August. I also asked them if they are going to IFT and if they would like to connect there. As a result, a few students and I will have dinner with a handful of them in Chicago this Sunday! This is fun! In order to continue with our engagement with Alumni, Ashley and Susie are working hard on a new newsletter for them. We are hoping to send that out by the end of the month.

Josh has been working hard at 2 events that are coming up soon: the Salute to Graduates and the Ice cream social. You should have received an e-mail from him. Please mark your calendars and participate in these wonderful events!

Last but not least, remember that we are planning a retreat that is coming up in August! Please send us any ideas of what you would like to have included in the retreat or if you would like to help us organize it.

As usual, below are a couple of papers that have been published this month (only one paper...):

Jiang, S., Cai, C., Deehan, E.C., Chen, J., Feng, C., Yang, M., Weng, Z., Long, J., Xie, J., Lin, S., Li, G., Li, J., Liu, J., Zhang, Z. 2025. The physiological effects of intrinsic and isolated arabinoxylans on human immunometabolic response: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Food Research International*. 116866.

Congrats Ed for having another publication under your belt!

I hope you are enjoying your Summer!

Silvana

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dept. Head	1
Dept. Head.....	2
411 Info.....	3
HR Update.....	4
Business Center	5
Faculty Forum.....	6
Recruitment Roundup.....	7
Recruitment Roundup.....	8
FPC Update.....	9





Room Reservations

As a courtesy, If you have reserved a conference room or classroom and no longer need to use it, please let the scheduler know so that we can free up the room for someone else.



Student Spotlight

Last month, IANR hosted a special gathering to recognize the inaugural cohort of the IANR Writing Fellows program. During this event, the Deans expressed their appreciation for the Fellows' commitment to learning and service, marking a meaningful milestone for the program.

We are especially proud to acknowledge **Jaber Ghorbani**, who completed his participation in the program this May. Jaber has been an outstanding member of the Writing Fellows, consistently delivering work of exceptional quality. .

The first phase of the program focused on learning best practices in scientific writing through training sessions and educational materials. In the second phase, applied those skills by peer reviewing scientific manuscripts and working closely with students as they developed their project manuscripts step by step across various disciplines. I provided individualized feedback on drafts, which enhanced his peer-reviewing abilities and improved his communication with fellow students. He also co-led a workshop to help train the next cohort of Writing Fellows, further strengthening his ability to explain research clearly and support others in their writing.

Congratulations, Jaber.



CLASS OF 2025 SALUTE TO GRADUATES



The Department of Food Science and Technology invites you to celebrate the achievements and successes of our Summer 2025 graduating students! All are welcome to attend, and light refreshments and barbecue will be served.

Friday, August 15th, 2025
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Food Innovation Center
Second Floor Deck

(FIC 111 IF WEATHER DOES NOT PERMIT)

Contact Joshua Russo at jrusso3@unl.edu if you have any questions.



FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Welcome

Ice Cream Social

**Free UNL
Dairy Store
Ice Cream!**

Here's the Scoop

Date: Wednesday, August 27th, 2025

Time: 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

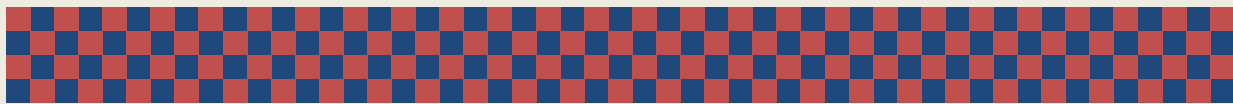
Location: Food Innovation Center (FIC)
Second Floor Lobby

A Taste of What You'll Learn About

- Food Science Club
- Phi Tau Sigma
- Study Abroad at NWAUFU in China
- Food Processing Center Jobs
- Nebraska Gnotobiotic Mouse Program (NGMP) Jobs
- Food Allergy Research & Resource Program (FARRP)
- Nebraska Food for Health Center (NFHC)
- Participating in Clinical Studies
- Minor in Fermentation Sciences
- Minor in Food Technology for Companion Animals
- Major & Minor in Food Science & Technology

**All
undergraduates,
graduates,
faculty, & staff
are welcome!**

Contact Joshua Russo at jrusso3@unl.edu If you have any questions.



BUILDING BETTER TEAMS: HR INSIGHTS

Farewell Food Science and Technology/Ag Greenhouses Faculty and Staff -

I have decided to resign my position effective 7/9/2025. I want to sincerely thank you for your support and collaboration over the past four years. I wish you well in your future endeavors.

Going forward, you may send HR/Payroll or FMLA questions/concerns/requests to Mindy Lang (mindy.lang@unl.edu). She will forward your email to someone who will assist you.
Terri



Annual Salary Notifications:

Annual salary notifications will be available in Firefly by July 1, 2025. At that time, the previous year's salary notification will *no longer be available*. To retain a copy, print or download the PDF before June 29. [Read more>>](#)

July HR/Payroll Updates:

Beginning July 1, 2025, eligible employees may receive up to eight weeks of paid parental leave for qualifying events, in accordance with the University of Nebraska Board of Regents' [Parental Leave Policy \(BOR 3.3.13\)](#).

Qualifying events: Care of a newborn, Period of incapacity, prenatal care, or serious health condition related to childbearing, Care for a birth parent, Adoption of a child (under certain conditions) *Note: The qualifying event must occur on or after July 1, 2025 for the new policy to apply.*

Who is eligible: Regular full-time or part-time employees in the following categories are eligible: Faculty (including postdoctoral associates), Administrative, Managerial/Professional, Office/Service. *Temporary employees are not eligible for this benefit.*

How the benefit works: Employees are expected to use available sick leave during their parental leave. If an employee does not have enough sick leave to cover the full eight weeks, the university will continue regular pay through the end of the leave period — up to a maximum of eight workweeks. Parental leave will run concurrently with family medical leave when applicable.

Request process: Employees with eight weeks of accrued sick leave: Submit sick leave using standard departmental processes or via Employee Self Service in Firefly.

Employees with less than eight weeks of accrued sick leave: Submit available sick leave using standard departmental processes or via Employee Self Service in Firefly. Then complete and submit the Supplemental Paid Parental Leave Request Form to receive the remaining paid time (not to exceed eight weeks total).

Faculty-specific procedures: All faculty must complete the Faculty Application for Leave of Absence. This is in addition to the steps above, if they are applicable. As much faculty work is tied to the cadence of the academic calendar, faculty members utilizing parental leave should be excused from certain activities, such as classroom teaching, for the entire semester in which the leave, or the majority of it, occurs. Duties appropriate to the faculty member's position should be assigned for the remainder of the semester beyond the parental leave period.

More information; Visit the [Human Resources website](#) for full policy details, FAQs and the Supplemental Paid Parental Leave Request Form. Access the [Faculty Application for Leave of Absence](#) form here. If you have questions, please send an email to hroffice@unl.edu.