

2026

Dairy Products, Process & Packaging Innovation Conference

Bringing fresh ideas to dairy innovation



REGISTRATION

Conference

Registration: \$595

Limited On-Site Registration: \$695

<https://dairy.calpoly.edu/short-course-symposia>

40th Anniversary Dinner

Registration: \$120

[See link above](#)

Exhibit space and sponsorships are available! Contact S. Bass
slbass@calpoly.edu

SPONSORS



Cliff's Resort, Shell Beach, California

Program subject to change, Feb. 2

Tuesday February 24, 2026

5:00-7:00 **Registration & Networking Reception**

Wednesday February 25, 2026

Session I: DAIRY INDUSTRY TRENDS, CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Chairs: Dr. Phil Tong, Veronique Lagrange, CDIC

7:30 am	Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30 am	Global Dairy Trends <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tom Vierhile, Innova
9:00 am	US and California Dairy Industry – Executives Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ludovic Meilhac and Emmy Moore, McKinsey Group
9:30 am	Dairy Leaders Panel Moderator: Bob Carroll, California Milk Advisory Board <ul style="list-style-type: none">John Coletta, Clover SonomaKelly Torres Chad, Dairy Farmers of AmericaKatie Davey, Dairy Institute of California
10:15 am	Networking Break and Product Showcase I

Session II: MARKETPLACE HEALTH & WELLNESS UPDATE

Chairs: Emil Nashed, Dr. Rohit Kapoor, Dairy Management Inc.

10:45 am	Overview - International Innovation <ul style="list-style-type: none">Prof Seamus O'Mahony, Univ. College Cork, Ireland
11:15 am	Brain Health and Dairy Products: Latest Discoveries <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dr. Daniela Barile and Dr. Ameer Taha, UC Davis
11:45 am	Capitalizing on Gut Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dr. Maria Marco, UC Davis
12:15 pm	Lunch

Session III: PROTEIN INNOVATION

Chair : Dr. Younas Dadmohammadi, OSU and Nilesh Desai, California Dairies

1:30 pm	Protein Intake: Is 25g per serving still adequate? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Giancarlo Barbano, Leprino/ Ascent Protein
2:00 pm	Overview of US Dairy's Life Cycle Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tim Kurt, Dairy Management Inc.
2:30 pm	Formulating for High Protein <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dr. Carmen Licon, CalPoly DPTC and Dr. Ty Wagoner, CDIC
3:00 pm	Marketing Dairy Proteins and Claims <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ben Yee, California Milk Advisory Board
3:30 pm	Music & Margaritas – Networking Reception

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Chair:
Dr. Phil Tong, CalPoly Prof. Emeritus

Dr. Kevin Comerford , CDRF
Nilesh Desai, California Dairies Inc.
Steve Galbraith , Saputo
Gary Germaine, Lepriño
Dr. Jeremy McLeod , Hilmar.
Emil Nashed, Dairy Management Inc.
Jeremy Travis, Hilmar
Dr. Younas Dadmohammadi, OSU
Dr. Ty Wagoner, CDIC

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr. Carmen Licon , CalPoly DPTC
Sam Bass , CalPoly DPTC
Veronique Lagrange, CDIC
Nancy Van Buskirk, CDIC

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are available here:
SHELLBEACH2026

Questions or suggestions?
Contact us!
vlagrange@cmab.net
carmenl@calpoly.edu

Thursday February 26, 2025

Session IV: OPPORTUNITES FOR DAIRY EXPORTS EXPANSION

Chair: Steve Galbraith, Saputo

7:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 am	Growth Markets for Fluid Dairy Products and Butter <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lucas Fuess, Rabobank
9:00 am	World Demand for Cheese and Dairy Powders <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Mylene Potier, GIRA
9:30 am	Panel: Global Customers & Trends Moderators: Glen Millar, California Milk Advisory Board <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marco Albarrán Arozarena, Imalinx, Mexico• Rey Santella, Market Merge• Invited industry guest
10:10 am	Networking Break & Product Showcase II

Session V: NEW DAIRY RESEARCH INNOVATORS - California Highlights

Chair: Jeremy Travis, Hilmar and Ty Wagoner, CDIC

10:30 am	Adding Value to Milk with Soluble Fibers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Carmen Licon and Dr. Bahieejah Zaitoun, CalPoly DPTC
10:50 am	Creamers & RTD Coffee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Anuradha Prakash and Dr. Uyen Phan, Chapman University
11:10 am	High Value Butter and AMF Co-Products <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Daniela Barile, UC Davis
11:30 am	All Natural Extruded Cheese Snacks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Belal Hasan, CalPoly Pomona
11:50 am	Stabilizing Colors with Dairy Proteins <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Gabriel Davidov-Pardo, CalPoly Pomona
12:10 pm	Lunch

Session VI: HOT TOPICS FOR DAIRY PROCESSING

Chair: Jeremy McLeod, Hilmar

1:00 pm	Innovation in Process Technologies Moderator: Gary Germaine, Lepriño <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crystal Cristescu, Tetra Pak• Andre Giguere, QualTech• Daniela Soto Castro, Hiperbaric
1:45 pm	Non-Thermal Treatment of Milk Products <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bob Comstock, Tamarack Biotics
2:15 pm	Panel: What is the Next Frontier? Moderator: Dr. Phil Tong <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Eric Bastian, Dairy West• Dr. Dave Barbano, Cornell University• Dr. Shakeel Ur-Rehman, Fairlife
3:00 pm	Closing Remarks Dr. Carmen Licon, CalPoly DPTC & Veronique Lagrange, CDIC

Stay for the Celebration!

40th Anniversary Dinner CALPOLY Dairy Products Technology Center

Open House, Reception & Dinner. Separate registration required: [HERE](#)