

2026

Dairy Products, Process & Packaging Innovation Conference

Bringing fresh ideas to dairy innovation



REGISTRATION

Conference

Early Bird (until Jan.17): \$495
 Registration (as of Jan. 18): \$595
 Limited On-Site Registration: \$695
<https://dairy.calpoly.edu/short-course-symposia>

40th Anniversary Dinner
 Registration: \$100

<https://calpoly.irisregistration.com/Register?code=DPTC40>

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

SPONSORS



Cliff's Resort, Shell Beach, California

Program subject to change, Jan. 16

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**
 - Tom Vierhile, Innova
- 9:00 am **US and California Dairy Industry – Executives Survey**
 - Ludovic Meilhac and Emmy Moore, McKinsey Group
- 9:30 am **Dairy Leaders Panel**

Moderator: Bob Carroll, California Milk Advisory Board

 - John Coletta, Clover Sonoma
 - Kelly Torres Chad, Dairy Farmers of America
 - Company executive (invited)
- 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**
 - Prof Seamus O'Mahony, Univ. College Cork, Ireland
- 11:15 am **Brain Health and Dairy Products: Latest Discoveries**
 - Dr. Daniela Barile and Dr. Ameer Taha, UC Davis
- 11:45 am **Capitalizing on Gut Health**
 - 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?**
 - Giancarlo Barbano, Leprino/ Ascent Protein
- 2:00 pm **Overview of US Dairy's Life Cycle Assessments**
 - Tim Kurt, Dairy Management Inc.
- 2:30 pm **Formulating for High Protein**
 - Dr. Carmen Licon, CalPoly DPTC and Dr. Ty Wagoner, CDIC
- 3:00 pm **Marketing Dairy Proteins and Claims**
 - 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, Leprino
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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SHELLBEACH2026

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

Thursday February 26, 2025

Session IV: OPPORTUNITIES 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, Janet Arrellano, California Milk Advisory Board <ul style="list-style-type: none">Marco Albarrán Arozarena, Imalinx, MexicoMarie Carmen Mondragon, LALA Mexico (invited)Rey Santella, Market Merge
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. Baheer Zeitoun, 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 am	Lunch

Session VI: HOT TOPICS FOR DAIRY PROCESSING

Chair: Jeremy McLeod, Hilmar

1:00 pm	Innovation in Process Technologies Moderator: Gary Germaine, Leprino <ul style="list-style-type: none">Crystal Cristescu, Tetra PakAndre Giguere, QualTechDaniela 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 WestDr. Dave Barbano, Cornell UniversityDr. 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](#)