

Simunovic honored with Tung Award

Date posted: March 13, 2012



Dr. Josip Simunovic, research associate professor in the Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences, has been honored with the Marvin A. Tung Achievement Award given by the Institute for Thermal Processing Specialists.

The award is the highest given by the Institute. It is presented when deserving nominees are identified for career contributions toward the achievement of the institute's mission to provide leadership and education to thermal processing specialists.

Dr. Simunovic was born in Osijek, Croatia and received his B.S. degree in Food Technology from "Josip Juraj Strossmayer University in Osijek, Faculty of Food Technology Osijek, Croatia (1978), M.S. in Food Science and Human Nutrition from the University of Florida in Gainesville, USA (1983), and Ph.D. in Food Science from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, USA (1998). He is a member of Alumni "TehnOS", association of former students and friends of the Faculty of Food Technology Osijek.

Simunovic is a member of a team of Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences faculty members that designed, developed and commercialized continuous flow microwave food processing. This method of food processing, which is being used at several North Carolina locations, is recognized as one of the leading advanced thermal processing technologies in the world.

The technology differs from other processing technologies in that it heats the material being processed more quickly and uniformly. Foods processed using continuous flow microwave technology may be stored for long periods without refrigeration.

The team's work has resulted in nine U.S. and more than 30 international patents, while six U.S. patent applications are pending.

Written by: Dave Caldwell



Simunovic, himself, and his program, received numerous other recognitions: US Department of Agriculture: 2010 USDA / ARS Award for Superior Efforts in Technology Transfer; Institute of Food Technologists: 2009. Food Technology Industrial Achievement Award for Continuous Flow Microwave Sterilization of Low Acid Foods; American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineering: 2008. FPSA Foundation – FPEI Food Engineering Award National Science Foundation: 2007, 2009 and 2012 Compendium of Industry-Nominated Industry/University Collaborative Research Centers Technology, North Carolina State University Inventors Award, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008.

He is the founding partner of three businesses dedicated to commercialization of patented technologies his teams developed at North Carolina State University.

2012 Recipient: Dr. Josip Simunović (right)
receiving the award from the Institute Chairman Rick Kimball

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