

Proposed by: Irene Burke
Seconded by: Tricia Fitchet



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: JFR LUES

Ryk Lues is Professor of Food Safety and Director of the Centre for Applied Food Sustainability and -Biotechnology (CAFSaB) at the Central University of Technology, Free State, South Africa. He holds an MSc (Microbiology) and a PhD (Food Science) from the University of the Free State and has completed several short learning programmes and additional formal learning in amongst others Higher Education Studies (UFS) and Food Safety (Michigan State University). His main field of specialization comprises social-behavioural aspects impacting on food safety and security with further interest in WASH with relevance to feeding schemes. He has a passion for capacity building in the broader food discipline and has been pivotal in establishing and developing CAFSaB to becoming one of the prominent research entities at the institution. The Centre boasts noteworthy capacity and expertise in the areas of food effluent characterization, food safety culture and behaviours, food ethnobotany, vulnerable food environments and geophagia, functional fermentations and bioactive oils. Members of the Centre have received wide recognition for their work and participate in scientific programmes nationally and internationally. The novel fermentations cluster of the Centre has been awarded a number of awards at the annual national SAB-Inbev Craft Beer Intervarsity competition in amongst others the categories best brand and people's choice product.

As member of CUT faculty, Lues previously held the positions of Program Head of Environmental Health, Director of the School for Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Faculty Research Manager and Acting Dean for the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences. Currently he serves on CUT Council for a second term in the portfolio of Senate Representative. He participates in several enterprise development projects in the food- and wider waste streams as well as renewable technologies and has secured notable funding from amongst others DST, merSETA and CSIR (TLIU) to develop enterprises in the formal and informal sectors. His interest in innovation and enterprise development has seen him previously appointed in the position of Coordinator of the Regional Innovation Forum for the Free State and currently as Manager of the DST-CUT-CSIR Lejweleputswa Innovation Platform.

As a result of his research into food safety behaviours, he has been being invited to several industries and institutions, both within and outside the food sector to speak on issues related to risk, organizational culture and motivation – these include amongst others TEDx, SACNASP, GFSI, Clute, SAAFoST, IUFoST, EFFoST, IFT and IAFP. He has to date authored more than 80 articles in ISI accredited journals, 3 book chapters and 1 book in the mentioned fields. He has supervised several, masters, doctoral and post-doctoral students and often acts as independent examiner, referee, auditor and guest speaker. His involvement in postgraduate supervision includes having supervised the first black male and female, and Indian female to graduate with doctoral degrees at the CUT. He has served on national committees, professional working groups and referee panels of several journals (including JFP), scientific boards and associations including the International Association of Food Protection, the Global Food Safety Initiative, the International Committee of Food Microbiology and Hygiene, the National Research Foundation, and the Technology and Innovation Agency. He has served on several ministerial workgroups and task teams looking into revision of national food standards and participates as expert consultant to amongst others food safety litigation cases. In terms of international engagement, he has completed an Erasmus Plus Exchange Fellowship with Uppsala University in Sweden and is lecturer for a number of online spring and fall semester modules on graduate and masters level at Michigan State University in the US. He was recently appointed to chair the external peer review to the faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the University of Mauritius. He is a professional natural scientist in the category microbiological sciences at SACNASP, he held the office of Vice-President of the South African Association of Food Science and –Technology (SAAFoST) during the 2013/14 term and has been an uninterrupted NRF-rated researcher since 2001.