



## V.M. “Bala” Balasubramaniam, Ph.D.

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### Biography

*V.M. (Bala) Balasubramaniam*, is a Professor of Food Engineering with The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA. Dr. Bala’s food safety engineering laboratory conducts research and organize industrial outreach activities on application of engineering principles in the development and evaluation of different nonthermal and thermal based advanced food manufacturing concepts including high pressure applications in the food industry. Dr. Bala authored 2 books, 20 book chapters, 88 peer-reviewed journal articles, 4 invention disclosures, 22 bulletins and food processor fact sheets and over 150 presentations. Dr. Bala previously helped to host 2014 International Nonthermal Processing Workshop at The Ohio State University. Dr. Bala is an elected fellow of IFT (2012) and IUFoST (2016).

### Abstract

#### FOOD ENGINEERING RESEARCH – CHALLENGES AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**Panel moderator:** V.M. “Bala” Balasubramaniam, Professor of Food Engineering, The Ohio State University

**Panel members:** Kirk D. Dolan, Chris Koh, Juming Tang, Hongda Chen

The purpose of this panel discussion is to brainstorm and re-imagine role of food engineering in solving various problems and challenges facing the society in 21<sup>st</sup> century. Invited panelists from Academia, Industry and Government agencies will provide 5 min presentation about the current status and future food engineering research opportunities. We will summarize results of a SWOT analysis survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5W8D59N>). Survey data was collected from a broad spectrum of US based food engineering researchers regarding their perceived strength, weakness, opportunity and threats faced by the food engineering community. Third part of the panel discussion will provide audience an opportunity to interact with panelists in the form of questions and answers. Anticipated outcomes of this panel include brainstorming critical role food engineering society in strengthening government and industrial funding for food engineering research and attract highly qualified next generation of students to pursue food engineering research. Approaches for communicating with the consumers, policy makers and administrators on the importance of food engineering research will be discussed.