Food Engineering Club is a Registered Student Organization, initiated by a group of graduate food engineering students of Washington State University in 2010.
Of course, as members of the Food Engineering Club, you understand better than most how to use science to improve lives. Your dedication to this endeavor is truly commendable. You exemplify exactly what it means to be a CAHNRS Coug, searching out opportunities to apply your knowledge in service to the greater good, tackling the tough challenges we face.

As Dean, I am inspired by your commitment to excellence, and by your eagerness to foster the skills that will prepare you to be great leaders in the field of Food Engineering and beyond. On behalf of the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences, I thank you for your hard work, leadership, and for being who you are.

From the club Advisor

DR. SHYAM SABLANI, PROFESSOR

It has been an absolute pleasure watching WSU Food Engineering Graduate Student Club grow since its inception in 2010. The Club continued to provide a stage for engaging its members in social, cultural and outreach activities as well as assist students in their professional growth. The Club graduates have gained faculty positions at top academic institutions (Virginia Polytechnic and State University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Alberta, University of Maine, Indian Institute of Technology, Sichuan Agriculture University, Shanghai Ocean University, Shanghai Jiatong University and Najing Agriculture University) and as R&D scientists at global food companies and innovative start-ups (Nestle, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, McCormick, Campbell Soup, Impossible Foods, Perfect Day, Rich Foods). Now the former graduates are mentoring our current members in making suitable choices in their professional career.

The Club members are actively engaged with professional societies, winning paper competitions, travel grants, scholastic achievements and acquiring prestigious industrial internships. I look forward to Club engaging in many more exciting activities and making a difference in the scientific community and the future of food.

From the club President

CHANDRASHEKHAR SONAR

I started my journey with Food Engineering Club as a CAHNRS senate representative during my first semester at WSU, and it continued until I graduated in Spring 2020. It was an exciting and very satisfying responsibility to contribute towards FEC during four years of my academic program to various extent from professional development committee chair to club President. The well-defined structure and strong foundation laid by our founders and predecessors provide a flourishing opportunity to club members to hone their professional, academic, social, and leadership skills. The club activities serve as a platform for graduate students to create networking with professionals, develop bonding with fellow students and colleagues, taking time off the busy schedule, leave a social footprint, and share beautiful memories. FEC is a multicultural group having members from all parts of the world. Being a part of an active graduate club like FEC will help in gaining organizational and leadership skills which are much essential for a successful life outside WSU. I encourage everyone in the club to have active participation in the club activities to prosper yourself and keep the club flourishing. With this newsletter, we are sharing the glimpses of our club.
Professional Development

- Visit to food industries in Twin Falls, ID area
- Guest lecture by Dr. Joe Harding (Integrative Physiology and Neuroscience Department, WSU)
- Guest lecture by Dr. Hamed Faridi (Chief Science Officer, McCormick)
- Panel discussion with recent graduate students, Dr. Ravi Tadapaneni and Dr. Jie Xu
- Guest speaker/panel discussion with WSU alumni Dr. Sumeet Dhawan (Nestle)
- Interaction with the faculty position candidate

Social and Outreach

- FEC annual photo shoot
- Secret Santa – Gift exchange
- Annual dinner at South Fork restaurant
- Welcome back potluck
- Bowling night
- Protective masks for club members and others

College and University

- CAHNRS Fall Festival
- CAHNRS food drive
- Apple picking in Garfield, WA
- Beef and Brews
- Scarf selling
FEC team experienced a boisterous year with professional development activities. The club members travelled to visit industry to gain practical exposure. Also, the advice of the wise and experienced was shared through guest lectures from eminent professionals. During spring break of 2019, FEC organized an industrial visit to Cheese Innovation Center and Manufacturing Facility under the umbrella of Glanbia Nutritional in Twin Falls, Idaho. The Innovation Center composed of pilot plants and laboratories that prepared customized cheese for their customers. The research team in Cheese Innovation Center catered to the requirements of the customers that were tailored for specific application. The new varieties of cheese developed by experts in laboratory were scaled up for optimal production in pilot plant before full-scale industrial manufacture. Glanbia manufacturing facility used sophisticated equipment for preparing cheese in large units—40 lb blocks and 540 lb barrels—that were intended for customers such as Kraft, Great Value and McDonalds’. This industry proudly boasts the position of being the first in American-style cheddar production. During our visit to the manufacturing facility, large-scale cheddar cheese production was demonstrated.

Our team gained insight about ‘what lies ahead’ from guest lectures from industrialists and alumni. Dr. Joe Harding, Professor at Integrative Physiology and Neuroscience Department, WSU spoke about the strides to take innovation from research to reality. Industrial scenario in integrating artificial intelligence and food flavor for developing new products was presented by Dr. Hamed Faridi, Chief Science Officer, McCormick & Co., Inc. An interactive session with Dr. Sumeet Dhawan working for Nestle R&D created an ambience that answered even the trivial questions budding graduate students could have. The session was preceded by a talk about the activities undertaken by an employee after recruitment and the expectations that need to be met. A panel discussion with recent WSU graduates, Dr. Ravi Tadapaneni and Dr. Jie Xu explored the ways to approach industry or academia for job opportunities. We also had chat with food engineering faculty candidates to learn their experience in academic position search and to present FEC highlights.
This year the social committee organized a number of activities for the FEC members. We started the fall 2019 activities with our annual photoshoot in continuation of our long-standing tradition. Our club advisor Dr. Shyam Sablani and BSE department chair Prof. Juming Tang joined the students for this fun-filled activity under an overcast sky near the cougar statue at the campus. The next event organized in the fall was the bowling night at Zeppoz, Pullman. The club members spent a fun-filled evening bowing in the warmth. This was a successful event allowing the students to take some time away from the end-of-semester stress. We concluded the year by participating in secret Santa and annual dinner at South Fork Public House, Pullman. Dr. Sablani joined us for the dinner as well. The members exchanged gifts and enjoyed a stupendous dinner away from the cold December winds. Dr. Sablani also felicitated two of our members at the event who graduated just weeks previously, Dr. Marco Perez Reyes and Dr. Pavitra Kumar. We welcomed the year 2020 with a welcome-back potluck in January. FEC members brought varieties of delicious cuisines and shared with each other as part of this exciting event. Despite the Covid-19 outbreak, we had a fairly exciting year with all these events.

CAHNRS
SMIT PATEL
FEC assisted in organizing Beef and Brew event at Ensminger Pavilion by contributing in setting up the venue, administering the event, and cleanup activities. FEC demonstrated about plastics recyclability from food packaging during Fall Festival to increase public awareness. FEC was tendered in scarf sale during football games to generate travel fund for CAHNRS students. Our club also donated non-perishable items worth $83 in Food Drive. Considering the donations from FEC, our club was second among nine CAHNRS club’s participated.

Protective Masks during COVID-19
YOONKI HONG
Novel coronavirus, COVID-19, is affecting our lives. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends wearing a mask to protect ourselves from the COVID-19, which is highly contagious. CDC recommends wearing homemade masks in public places where are hard to maintain social distancing measures (e.g., grocery stores, and pharmacies). According to the CDC guideline, your mask should fit tightly but comfortably against the side of the face, include multiple layers of fabric, and allow for breathing without restrictions. Practically, it is hard to fabricate a cloth face-covering ourselves at home. Due to the shortage of masks in the local market and online shopping mall, FEC has ordered two boxes (440 pieces) of surgical masks from China. We distributed these masks to the FEC students, Agricultural Automation and Engineering club, and faculties and staffs in the Biological Systems Engineering Department. Thank you Dr. Tang for donating 60 masks for club use. We are expecting it will be helpful to keep us safe from COVID-19 during everyday life. Please stay safe and healthy!
CONGRATULATIONS!!!

BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

• Outstanding Graduate Student - Juhi Patel
• ASABE Travel Award - Yoonki Hong, Chandrashekhar Sonar
• BSYSE512 Poster Competition - Sivapragha Sivabalan (1st), Sumeyye Inanoglu (2nd)
• BSYSE598 Best Presentation - Chandrashekhar Sonar (2nd)

INSTITUTE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGISTS (PSIFT AND DIVISION) AWARDS

• Food Packaging Division Poster Competition – Ashutos Parhi (1st)
• Food Packaging Division Outstanding Volunteer – Chandrashekhar Sonar
• Division Leader Travel Award – Chandrashekhar Sonar
• PSIFT Scholastic Achievement – Ga Young Shin, Yuqiao Jin, Pavitra Kumar
• PSIFT Outstanding Student – Yoonki Hong, Chandrashekhar Sonar, Juhi Patel
• PSIFT Travel Award – Sumeyye Inanoglu, Ashutos Parhi, Yonas Gezahegn, Ren Yang

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION AWARDS

• Research Expo Poster Presentation – Yonas Gezahegn (3rd)
• Travel Award – Ashutos Parhi, Chandrashekhar Sonar

INSTITUTE FOR THERMAL PROCESSING SPECIALISTS AWARD

• Charles R. Stumbo Student Paper Competition – Saleh Al-Ghamdi (1st)

Recent Graduates

• Ga Young Shin
• Chandrashekhar Sonar
• Saleh Al-Ghamdi

• Jaza Alshammari
• Marco Perez Reyes
• Li-Huei Chen (Emily)

• Pavitra Krishna Kumar
• Yuqiao Jin (Judy)

Students receiving awards at PSIFT event in Seattle

FEC NEWSLETTER 2019 - 2020
2019 - 2020 FEC Officers

Executive Board
President
Chandrashekhar Sonar
Vice-President
Juhi Patel
Secretary
Sivapprathana Sivabalan
Treasurer
Sumeyye Inanoglu

Committee Chairs
Professional Development
Yonas Gezahegn
Social and Outreach
Ashutos Parhi
Public Relations
Saleh Al-Ghamdi
CAHNRS Senate Rep.
Smit Patel

Find Us At:
Email: ssablani@wsu.edu
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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/149073285169928/
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZ8_8PKpIXJEQ1_J_Ba_7-Q

ORDER FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
FRONT ROW: Sivapratha, Dr. Tang, Dr. Sablani, Pavitra, Zhi, Coco, Marco
SECOND ROW: Juhi, Yoon-Ki, Smit, Chandrashekhar, Saleh, Atisheel, Ashutos, Leo, Ren

Compiled and edited by Public Relations Committee - Saleh Al-Ghamdi and Chandrashekhar Sonar