

Modernising Food Studies to Foster Food Chain Innovation": the ISEKI_Food network and projects approach and activities

Paola Pittia^{1}, Cristina L.M. Silva², Paulo J.A. Sobral³, Rosemary A. Carvalho^{3**}*

¹ University of Teramo, Department of Food Science, Mosciano S. Angelo, Via C.R. Lerici 1, Italy;

² Catholic University of Portugal, College of Biotechnology (ESB), Regional Center of Porto, Rua Dr. António Bernadino de Almeida 4200-072, Porto, Portugal;

³ Food Engineering Department – FZEA-USP. Av. Duque de Caxias Norte, 222. 13635-900 Pirassununga (SP) Brazil.

Contact persons: * ppittia@unite.it, ** rosecarvalho@usp.br.

Actual conceptions of Lifelong Learning are focused on employability, flexible career and qualifications paths. ISEKI-Food was designed as a network of University and Research Institutions, Professional and Students Associations, Industrial partners to foster collaboration. Currently the Erasmus Thematic network ISEKI_Food-4 project (2011-2014, www.iseki-food4.eu) is ongoing. To ensure the sustainability of the network outcomes the ISEKI-Food Association (www.iseki-food.net) was founded in 2005.

Main objectives of the network are to contribute to the Higher Education Area by internationalization, enhancement of food studies quality and fostering of innovative developments of the entire food sector.

Important outcomes of this network (www.iseki-food.eu) are the EQAS_Food award for Food Study Programmes accreditation, innovative teaching materials and methods (including the ISEKI-Food-Springer book series), a training platform including tailor made e-learning courses, web seminars and workshops facilitating Lifelong Learning, a platform to support international cooperation and mobility (PICAM_Food), several web databases for curricula, teaching materials and stakeholders aimed to promote synergies between research, education/teaching and industry with the involvement of all stakeholders in the food supply chain. Moreover, the International Journal of Food Studies (<http://www.iseki-food-ejournal.com/ojs/>) is a peer-reviewed open-access journal featuring scientific articles for education, research and industry. From the recently finished Track_Fast project (www.track-fast.eu) a virtual tool for Continual Professional development (www.foodcareers.eu) of food professionals and a website (www.foodgalaxy.org) to attract student to undertake a career in the food sector have been developed.

Today the ISEKI-Food Network is a successful network that is managing to achieve a great impact through its internationalization and communication to a large audience of stakeholders from all over the world.

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