International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST) Congress held in Dublin Ireland, 20-25 August 2016

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This year’s IUFoST Congress was held in Dublin, Ireland from 21st to 25th of August 2016. Dublin is the capital and great Ireland city with important historical landmarks. The congress was preceded by a number of pre-conference workshops in different thematic areas under different working groups. These workshops included aflatoxin workshop, fresh produce workshop and global food safety curriculum among others. The workshops provided opportunities for specific discussions as well as platforms for networking and business engagements. The conference had interesting plenary and parallel sessions cutting across food safety, food security, food loss, innovation in food science, global harmonization of food standards, and food sensory science among others. Exhibitions were varied and poster sessions quite informative.

During this congress, true mentorship in food science profession was witnessed. A new crop of fellows in waiting were selected, Early Career Scientists and the new Young Scientists were given chances to make oral presentations in a number of plenaries, and competitions held encouraged many upcoming food scientists. At this event, young scientists had an opportunity to mix freely with the fellows during a fellow’s dinner, an event that saw change of guard in the IUFoST academy, Prof. Ruth. Oniang’o taking over from Prof. Dalia. Amaya. Mentorship did not end with the dinner but extended to the last meeting where new IUFoST Governing Council was inaugurated. On the other hand, African participants were given a session to highlight food safety issues as well as prospects of progress and improvement towards food security. The congress was rich in scientific content and one can only look forward to another highly rated congress to be held in India in August 2018.
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