

maintain our integrity as professionals studying and acting on the food system, with “truth and goodness guiding our actions.” Amen.

Following Ikerd’s column are four commentaries. In a reflection entitled *Using food systems to foster Indigenous youth leadership in global health*, **Yazmeen Wardman** encourages us to draw on Indigenous youth knowledge and leadership to help us navigate growing concerns about health and well-being, now and into the future. Next, **Amanullah** focuses on the growing problem of paving farmland in *Sustaining life: Protecting Pakistan’s fertile soil and advocating against soil sealing*. **Yu-Jie Zhao, Kuan-Ting Wu, and Jiun-Hao Wang** then make the case that building a place-based brand identity cannot be done from the top down in *Rethinking sustainable food supply chains: The role of stakeholders’ place identity*. And in *Women: The first farmers*, **Harpinder Sandhu** argues that if early humans were left to the devices and desires of men, we may still be largely eating bush meat!

Next, we offer two viewpoints. In *The impact of India’s onion policy on local growers and communities*, **Ashutosh Sharma** describes the extraordinary influence that onion prices can have on local politics. And in *From fencerow to product: The potential of feral apple jelly and other products for farm gate sales*, **Desiree Archer, Eric Sager, Matt Porter, and David Beresford** share their experience in creating a novel product from an unusual resource—and retaining the important biodiversity services offered by “old-fashioned” hedgerows.



The last essay before our peer-reviewed content is a seminal Voices from the Grassroots piece by **Yesenia Cuello, Melissa Castillo, and Amy Elkins** of NC FIELD, Inc., entitled *Research systems exploitation: The true cost to community-based organizations*. I encourage all readers share this piece with colleagues both in and out of academia. It is a lesson for everyone in food systems research and practice to ensure equity in the relationships between scholars and community collaborators.

As usual, our open call papers cover all three food system domains as well as circularity. In the production domain we accepted eight papers that discuss both urban food production and more mainstream farming and labor. The first three papers deal with farmers overcoming barriers through collective action. In *Roots of resilience: A case study on the strength and survival of small-scale Black farmers in the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta region*, **Destiny Crockett, Shrinidhi Ambinakudige, and Brian Williams** offer a fresh take on Black agrarianism in the U.S., being rewritten by intrepid farmers finding resilience through group and personal acts of resistance. Similarly, **Emma Brinkmeyer, Gabrielle Roesch-McNally, Hannah Dankbar, Maritza Pierre, Erin Upton, Nicole Gwishiri, Ebonie Alexander, Carrie Martin, and Grace Summers** see cross-cultural stakeholder engagement as an effective community development strategy in *Seeding resilience: Building knowledge and capacity through relationships among Black and Indigenous women farmers*. Next, in “From struggle to strategy”: *The role of Indonesia’s farming community in fostering agricultural sustainability*, **Agus Wahyu Triatmo, Joko Suryono, Ade Yuliar, and Usfandi Haryaka** identify how organic production and product differentiation can make a difference in resilience at the community level.

Turning to urban farming, **Jan Szturc, Tomáš Mašiček, Adéla Navrátilová, and Jana Kozlovsky-Dufková** share their approach to exhaustively inventorying urban and peri-urban growing space in the Czech city of Olomouc, including brownfields, rooftops, and open space, as well as the conversion of concrete and paved surfaces, in *Urban farming as a form of the future food security in the Czech Republic*. And in *Socio-cultural benefits of an urban agriculture initiative designed for vulnerable populations in Tucson, Arizona*, **Nataliya Apanovich, Gene Olga King, Ashley Limbaugh, Garrett Smith, and Sandra Bernal** engaged groups of food-insecure immigrants and students in a unique garden program building solidarity through their shared challenges and interests.

Next are two papers on food system labor. In “The ones who are on their best behavior keep coming”: *H-2A farmworkers in Idaho*, **Lisa Meierotto, Rebecca Som Castellano, and Carly Hyland** illuminate the shortcomings of the U.S.’s key immigrant farm labor program. This is followed by **India Luxton**, who documents the detailed lived experiences of food-processing workers during the pandemic in *Meatpacking in the COVID-19 context: Barriers to disease mitigation, worker justice, and the need for sector reform*.

Finally, we wrap our papers on the production domain with **Jenny Melo-Velasco, Kelly Wilson, Mary Hendrickson, and Corinne Valdivia**, who proffer their “socio-ethical awareness framework” to better understand the potential impacts of a given technology in *Understanding the social implications of digital agricultural technologies*.

In the value chains domain, we offer four accepted papers, beginning with *Connecting New England farmers to large retailers via values-based supply chains* by **Alexa Wilhelm, Isaac Sohn Leslie, and Analena Bruce**, who identify three key ingredients for stakeholders to overcome challenges in midscale value chains. This is followed by *Evaluating the sustainability of restaurant supply chains: A case study of organic restaurants in urban Thailand* by **Natapol Thongplew, Kanang Kantamaturapoj, Sittidaj Pongkijvorasin, Parcharapat Tawinnorppanan, and Pia Laborgne**, who find that organic restaurants are weakened by a lack of shared interests and concerns of stakeholders across the supply chain. Next, **Mosen Farhangi, Harald Rohracher, Nevin Cohen, Rositsa Ilieva, Meike Brückner, Suse Brettin, and Esther Veen** examine the literature to identify the promise and challenges of virtual food marketplaces in *Digitalization of food provisioning: A scoping review of social implications and pathways to equitable futures*. And in *Presenting a programmatic case of online provisioning*, **Ivonne Quiroz, Katherine Tomaino Fraser, Sara Evans Miller, Kevin Coogan, and Nevin Cohen** explore how isolated and under-resourced communities may improve food access and efficiency in *Closing the food access gap in rural Mississippi: Evaluation of the Grocery Online Ordering Distribution Service (GOODS) program using an assets-based framework*.

In the consumption domain (including food security, health, and well-being) we accepted 16 papers. We start out with several papers on self-provisioning. **Mahbubur Meenar and Leslie Spencer** lead off with an exploration of the perceived impacts of a program to encourage food self-provisioning in *Community perceptions of small-town food environments, food equity, and home-based food cultivation: Insights from a community-engaged research study*. In *Food insecurity and barriers to supplemental food provision in the Mississippi Delta: A qualitative analysis*, **Sophie Hathaway** takes a deep dive into the challenges that even successful food distribution programs experience. Next, **Brianna Routh, Yoshie Sano, Leah Pylate, Dawn Contreras, Sarah Feeney, Kimberly Greder, Doris Cancel-Tirado, and Bradford Wiles** explore the value of interagency collaboration in *Supporting resilient food systems: Navigating challenges in U.S. rural communities*.

These papers are followed by two community garden studies. In *Establishing a community garden in Miawpukek First Nation, Newfoundland, Canada: Research brief on soil contamination challenges and solutions*, **Robert Moriarity, Meaghan Wilton, Eric Liberda, Tim Drew, Ada John, Howard Jeddore, Atanu Sarkar, Jim Karagatzides, and Leonard Tsuji** explore good growing practices for minimizing elevated arsenic levels. Then **Tinashe Kanosvamaha** discovers a disconnect between the stated objectives of a garden program and the real motivations of its participants in *Cultivating communities: Understanding motivations in urban gardening among low-income residents in Cape Town, South Africa*.

Next, we offer three papers on “Food Rx” and related programs. In *Growing community, food sovereignty, and health: A case study of a farm-based produce prescription program*, **Sara Shostak, Anna Kehoe, Jolie Black, and Rachel Bindman** explore the outcomes for both patients and participating farmers, documenting benefits as well as areas for improvement. This is followed by *Using implementation science to understand the implementation factors in a rural Produce Prescription program* by **Sonja Mydels, Liana Schreiber, Hannah Colby, Taylour Blakeman, Hilary Gebauer, and Sadie Gannett**, who identify critical success factors—including strong cross-sector communication and ensuring adequate funding and staffing. And in *Understanding consumer values of participants in a cost-offset community supported agriculture (CSA) program*, **Jairus Rossi, Thomas Pierce, Shuoli Zhao, and Timothy Woods** explore the perceived benefits and barriers of participants, concluding that making health-based CSAs more affordable and understandable are keys to their success.

Next, **Amanda Hege, Morgan Cooper, K. Alexander Soltany, Diane Beth, Maria Ramirez Perez, Alice Ammerman, and Angel Cruz** explore member engagement challenges and the need for standardized guidelines to integrate local food into health initiatives in *Promoting health through transdisciplinary local food system partnerships: Insights from the North Carolina Local Food Council*. This is followed by **Moses Timbiti Wanyakha**


and **Nancy Grudens Schuck**, who identify an interesting twist in the literature indicating that emergency food assistance programs have a positive influence on fruit consumption—but not on vegetable consumption—in their study *Nutritional education on fruit and vegetable consumption among food pantry clients: A systematic review and a meta-analysis*. Next up, **John Jones, Lauren Linkous, Lisa Mathews-Ailsworth, Reyna Vazquez-Miller, Elizabeth Chance, Jackie Carter, Isaac Saneda, Youngmi Kim, and Leland Waters** reflect on the challenges they faced in *Lessons learned from piloting decentralized, smart miniature food pantries to mitigate college student food insecurity*.

We turn finally to critical research on SNAP benefits and programming. **Alexandrea E. Manuel, Jon Graham, Ian Finch, Andrea Buckingham, Maja Pedersen, and Blakely Brown** provide solid evidence of the positive impacts of SNAP benefits on recipients in *Nutrition incentives in action: Exploring nutrition security and community connection in a longitudinal study*. **Kate Killion, Brenda Lituma-Solis, Lisbeth Lucas-Moran, Daniela Avelino, Caitlin Smith, Caitlin Caspi, Molly Waring, Michael Puglisi, Ock Chun, and Valerie Duffy** then offer the results of an insightful participant needs assessment that can inform resilience in the face of future crises in *Stakeholder perceptions of healthy food access and SNAP online grocery ordering during and after COVID-19*. And in *Readiness, outcomes, and capacity for future sustainability of food policy councils created through SNAP-Ed: A case study*, **Carrie Draper, Zachary Herrstadt, and Ashley Page Bookhart** provide evidence to justify the continuation of funding for food policy councils through SNAP-Ed to advance policy, system, and environmental change strategies.

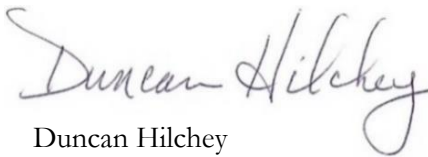
Our two community-based food system circularity papers focus on food waste. In *Navigating a citizen science food waste project: Challenges and lessons learned*, **Cody Gusto, Catherine Campbell, Kay Kelsey, and Ziyet Boz** identify the difficulties and promise of engaging the public in consumer waste data collection. This is followed by **Anne Clausen, Niels Heine Kristensen, and Stine Rosenlund Hansen**, who engage stakeholders in the creation of best practices in *Living Lab exploring routinized kitchen practices to reduce cross-sectoral waste*.

We wrap the issue with three book reviews: **Tammara Soma and Maggie Cross** review *Earth to Tables Legacies: Multimedia Food Conversations across Generations and Cultures*, by Deborah Barndt, Lauren E. Baker, and Alexandra Gelis; **Marion Dixon** reviews *Harvests of Liberation: Cotton, Capitalism, and the End of Empire in Egypt*, by Ahmad Shokr; and **Christine Caruso** reviews *The Painful Truth about Hunger: Why We Must Unlearn Everything We Think We Know—and Start Again*, by Mariana Chilton.

All told, this summer issue encompasses 40 articles, including one column, four commentaries, two viewpoints, a Voices from the Grassroots essay, three book reviews, and 28 open call papers—and this editorial. My hat is off to all of the reviewers and editors who worked on this valuable tome of applied research and viewpoints. It is an incredible accomplishment by all involved in bringing these articles to publication!

I particularly want to acknowledge the work of **Evelyn Reilly**, our English as a Second Language associate editor, and **Bryan Sobel**, our Author Mentor Program manager, for their dedication. They have become indispensable to our mission to lower the barriers to publishing and increase the distribution of work by emerging scholars. These new and/or younger authors are grateful for the nurturing manner in which Evelyn and Brian provide these services. It is a privilege to collaborate with such dedicated individuals! 

Yours for a more equitable and resilient food system,



Duncan Hilchey

Publisher and editor-in-chief