

Expert Insights: Achieving Food Security: Case Studies

Thursday, November 15th, 2018

Time: 10:45-12:15

Location: Lower Floor D

Chair

Andrew Nixon, University of Guelph

Speakers



Andrew Nixon

Andrew Nixon is pursuing a Master's of Arts in Management with the College of Business and Economics at the University of Guelph, in Ontario, Canada. The University of Guelph is Canada's Food University and Andrew's research is focused on the governance of change in agricultural innovations systems.

His work centers on understanding how managers can more efficiently and effectively create systems-level changes through introducing new technologies and products. He has also led efforts on campus to support indigenous food sovereignty.

Andrew was a member of the inaugural Food From Thought Graduate Research Assistant program and his Master's research is funded through a SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship, the highest award a graduate student can receive in Canada. Andrew is heavily involved in the university community, having founded a new interdisciplinary club on campus for students, staff, and faculty passionate about agri-food. Andrew maintains connections to the agri-food industry through management consulting work with Ferrero.



Silvana Signori

Silvana Signori is Associate Professor at the University of Bergamo – Department of Management, Economics and Quantitative Methods. She holds a PhD in Business Administration and Strategies with a dissertation on 'Ethical Investors'.

Her main areas of research are ethical investments, business ethics and corporate social responsibility, nonprofit organizations accounting and accountability, ethical consumers and new forms of activism (shareholder and consumer activism). She is one of the founder members of the Italian chapter of EBEN (European Business Ethics Network), member of the Board of Directors of CESC (Centro sulle dinamiche economiche, sociali e della cooperazione) at University of Bergamo and independent member of the Board of Directors of Etica sgr.



Carlos Vargas

CARLOS VARGAS is a business and finance professional, academic and current Ph.D. candidate in Sustainable Finance at the Zurich University. He has experience in financial analysis, business planning, renewable energy, and project finance, and fifteen years' experience with multinational companies. Vargas' experience includes being CFO of New Evolution Ventures Mexico, a subsidiary of a global investment fund that manages over 1,000 health and fitness facilities worldwide. He was also the COO for The Vertex Companies, U.S.A., where he helped manage and consolidate the energy services portfolio to gain increased revenue of over one million USD the first year and RE Investment Manager at BBVA Asset Management, Mexico, where he led development joint ventures to build over 10,000 houses. Vargas holds a B.A. in Finance from ITESM Mexico, an M.B.A. from IPADE Business School, Mexico, and an M.L.A. in Sustainability and Environmental Management from Harvard University Extension School. Vargas is also an instructor in Sustainable Finance and Investments and Environmental Economics at Harvard University Extension School.