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## DPTC NEWS



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### **Tong Appointed to International Dairy Federation Standing Committee on Dairy Science and Technology**



The International Dairy Federation (IDF), founded in 1903 as an organization created by the dairy sector worldwide to amplify interchange of experience and ideas among dairy experts in all disciplines in the world has accepted the nomination of Cal Poly Professor Phil Tong by the IDF U.S. National Committee to its Standing Committee on Dairy Science and Technology. IDF is a 41 member country organization composed of leaders from industry, government, and academia who are involved in all facets of milk and dairy foods.

This standing committee monitors the latest developments in technology on behalf of the world's dairy sector. Through IDF, this committee provides key input into the establishment of international testing and product standard of Codex Alimentarius that govern international trade of dairy foods and ingredients and initiates action teams which organize and prepare documents summarizing latest activities in the education, science, technology, trade and marketing of milk and dairy foods.

"Because of the growing globalization of the dairy sector it's important to be actively involved in IDF" says Tong. Participation provides key linkages to help insure that U.S. dairy products stay competitive around the world. In addition, key contacts are developed which provide avenues of opportunity in education, technology, marketing, policy and other areas which can directly or indirectly impact trade of dairy foods and ingredients. "The U.S. is the largest producer of cow's milk in the world and if California were a country it would be the world's sixth largest producer of milk in the world.. Because of the size and scope of the US dairy industry, marketing policies and business decisions can have ramifications on global dairy markets.

In addition, through export activities the U.S. has become a global supplier of dairy ingredients and is increasing its cheese exports also. The U.S. is the largest supplier of whey ingredients to the world and increasingly it is adding global market share in milk powder and cheese products" says Matt McKnight, Director, Ingredients Marketing, United States Dairy Export Council, Arlington, VA. "In 2003 alone the U.S. exported 1.1 billion pounds of dairy solids valued at approximately \$1 billion dollars to Africa, Asia, Middle East and Latin America." says McKnight,

"I'm looking forward to serving on this committee to gain a broader international perspective and establish stronger working relationships that can facilitate scientific and technological exchange to benefit the United States and the dairy sector worldwide" says Tong.

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The Dairy Products Technology Center (DPTC), established in 1986, is a program within the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly State University that conducts education, research, and outreach activities to provide solutions to help manage risk, facilitate innovation, and defend equity in the dairy foods industry and related business sectors. For further information visit our website at [www.calpoly.edu/~dptc](http://www.calpoly.edu/~dptc) .*