



Hongda Chen, national program leader, bioprocess engineering and nanotechnology, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture *NIFA*, is being honored for his outstanding leadership in advancing nanoscale science and food manufacturing technology for agriculture and food systems in research, education, and outreach.

Chen has made significant contributions as a national program leader of the USDA NIFA. Particularly notable, is his effective leadership and achievement in bringing nanoscale science, engineering and nanotechnology to the forefront of agriculture and food research, education, and outreach. Chen was one of the two co-chairs that organized a national workshop to develop a comprehensive vision of research and development in nanotechnology for agriculture and food systems. This has significantly impacted policy changes and led to new research investment by government, academia, and industry in the United States and many other countries. Chen has been instrumental in growing the food engineering and technology portfolio in the USDA NIFA. As a NIFA liaison, he has provided important leadership to multistate research committees including engineering for food safety and quality, and nanotechnology and biosensors. Additionally, he was instrumental in establishing a joint agricultural products processing center involving premier United States and Chinese research institutes.

A 30-year member of ASABE, Chen has served in several ASABE Food and Process Engineering committees as a member and leader. Chen served as associate editor for *Transactions of the ASABE* and was a leader in the Heat and Mass Transfer and Paper awards and Special Publications committees. He is currently the chair of the nominations and elections committee of the Institute of Food Technologists. He is also a past member and leader of the food engineering division and dairy food division of the Institute of Food Technologists. Chen is a founding leader and international advisor of the International Society of Food Applications of Nanoscale Science of the International Union of Food Science and Technology. Chen serves as a member of Scientific Council of the International Union of Food Science and Technology.

Chen has actively contributed to numerous policy documents of the United States National Nanotechnology Initiative including its strategic plans, the supplements to the US President's annual budgets, and the reports of workshops since 2001. Chen co-chaired the 2010 National Nanotechnology Initiative Strategic Plan task force and provided critical leadership to developing this important document.