

# Welcome to the first issue of *Food & Function*

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We are delighted to introduce the inaugural issue of *Food & Function*. This new timely journal from RSC Publishing will provide a much needed platform devoted to bringing together research which links the chemistry and physics of food with health and nutrition. Monthly issues of *Food and Function* will publish communications and full papers reporting primary research as well as in-depth reviews focusing on the interaction of food components with the human body, including the influence of the physical properties and structure of food, the chemistry of food components, the biochemical and physiological actions and the nutrition and health aspects of food.

*"The journal will be a fantastic vehicle to make basic research from the laboratory more readily accessible to everyone who is interested in reading about the health benefits of food."*

**Cesar Fraga**  
Associate editor

Submissions to *Food & Function* are handled fairly, quickly and efficiently by our Associate editors, Steven Feng Chen from the University of Hong Kong, and Cesar Fraga from the University of Buenos Aires and UC Davis. The journal is supported by international Editorial and Advisory Boards, and we would like to thank these board members for their support of *Food & Function*. The members of the Editorial Board are Aedin Cassidy, Kevin Croft, Eric Decker, Alejandro Marangoni, Reinhard Miller, Paul Moughan, Johan Ubbink and Fons

*"In ancient times, Huang Di Nei Jing, the earliest Chinese medicine book, suggested that medicine and food could have shared sources. However, the science behind the real effect of food on human health has not been well explored especially by using scientific approaches. Nowadays, as we pursue not just improvements in our lifespan but more importantly our healthspan, it is extremely important to understand the functions of food, food components and molecules, and how they are linked to human nutrition and health. Food & Function is a timely publication devoted to bridging such knowledge gaps."*

**Steven Feng Chen**, Associate editor

Voragen, and more details about our Editorial Board members can be found in the 'Meet the *Food & Function* Editorial Board' article in this first issue.

The journal is backed by a dedicated team of RSC Publishing editors. RSC Publishing has a strong heritage and reputation for publishing science of the very best quality and has a great track record for new journal launches. We are confident that *Food & Function* will be a high quality publication.

You will see that this inaugural issue of *Food & Function* contains papers that represent the full scope of the journal. Especial thanks must be given to the authors and referees for their support of *Food & Function* at this early stage.

Finally, it is important to note that papers published in issues this year and in 2011 will be free to access, and will therefore have maximum visibility and be widely promoted. We encourage you to sign up to the *Food & Function* newsletter – Food for Thought. This quarterly newsletter will keep you up to date with all the latest news about the journal. For details



**Gary Williamson**, Editor-in-chief



**Sarah Ruthven**, Managing editor

of how to sign up to the newsletter, and register for free access to *Food & Function*, please visit the journal platform at: [www.rsc.org/foodfunction](http://www.rsc.org/foodfunction).

We hope you enjoy reading the papers in this first issue of *Food & Function* and will consider submitting some of your research to the journal. Details of how to submit an article to *Food & Function* are available on our platform. We welcome any comments you have about the journal and invite you to contact us at [food-rsc@rsc.org](mailto:food-rsc@rsc.org).

**Gary Williamson**, Editor-in-chief  
**Sarah Ruthven**, Managing editor

*"There is a real need for a new journal focusing on the novel aspects of food and nutrition and not just the conventional nutrition research that has been around for decades. Food & Function covers some of the newer ideas of how food affects the health and how we can modify structure to improve its health aspects. The challenge for the editorial team is to ensure the journal is successful with a high impact factor."*

**Gary Williamson**, Editor-in-chief