

AACC International Announces 2009–2010 Board Election Results

The following winners of the AACC Intl. 2009–2010 board election will begin serving their terms on the board at the conclusion of the 2009 Annual Meeting, September 13–16, in Baltimore, MD, U.S.A. Thank you to all who participated in the election process.



Barry McCleary



Lydia Tooker
Midness

Barry McCleary has been elected to the office of president-elect.

McCleary is founder, CEO, and owner of Megazyme International, Ireland Limited. Megazyme was founded in 1988 with the specific aim of developing improved methodology and reagents for the measurement of carbohydrates and enzymes of interest in defining the quality and processing requirements of cereal grains, legume seeds, and other plant products. Seven of the methods developed are now recommended procedures of AACC Intl. For his analytical contributions, McCleary and Megazyme have received various awards, including the 2009 Innovator of the Year Award for Small Business in Ireland.

"It is a great honor to have been selected by my colleagues, the members of AACC International, as president-elect of our association. Thank you for your confidence in my ability to look after our association. I have been a member of AACC International for 18 years, and I am delighted to say that in each of these years my link with AACC has been positive and rewarding. The growth of my business has been largely due to this great association. My personal interest is, and has always been, development and validation of methodol-

ogy of use in the cereals, food, beverage, and related industries. In these developments, I have worked very closely with you, the members of AACC Intl. I see that my major contributions to the association will be at the scientific level by an extension of these efforts and the provision of improved technical support through scientific/technical workshops, and the development of improved aids for our methodology, including training videos and calculators," McCleary said.

Throughout his professional career, McCleary's research has ranged from the enzymic modification of plant polysaccharides, to the development of specific and reliable methods for measurement of enzymes that dictate cereal grain quality, such as α -amylase, β -amylase, limit-dextrinase, and β -xylanase. More recent work has focused on improved analytical methodology for the food, wine, and dairy industries, utilizing enzymes produced in-house via molecular biology techniques. McCleary firmly believes that science and technology progress hand-in-hand.

He noted that, "Over the next three years, I will focus on supporting the excellent initiatives already begun; a focus on good science and improved methodology. We have exceptional people within AACC headquarters and heading our various working groups. I will support them in every way possible."

Lydia Tooker Midness, vice president of Cereal Partners Worldwide (CPW), a joint venture between Nestlé and General Mills, headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland, has been elected director of AACC Intl.

Since 2003 she has managed the re-

search and development and the nutrition and regulatory affairs organizations for CPW. Prior to assuming her current position, she held various positions of increasing responsibility in product development, quality and regulatory management, and marketing at General Mills. Midness is also a registered dietitian and previously held positions in nutritional patient care and food service at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA, U.S.A., and the St. Paul Ramsey Medical Center in St. Paul, MN, U.S.A. Midness received her M.S. degree in food science from the University of Minnesota.

She has been active in AACC Intl. since joining the organization in 1981. Some of those activities include previously serving as chair of the Corporate Development Committee and as editor of the *Northwest Section Newsletter* and the *Nutrition Division Newsletter*. She directed an allergens short course and chaired the food irradiation and food safety and the crisis management symposia at the 1999 annual meeting. She served as a member on an Advisory Committee to the Board on the AACC International name change, has chaired various annual meeting technical sessions, and strongly supports the Student Product Development Competition and silent auction events. Midness has also been active in a number of professional and community-based organizations, including the European Cereal Breakfast Association (CEEREAL); Associacao Portuguesa de Produtores de Flocos de Cereais; Espérance Sportive Pully Basketball Association, Switzerland; the American Swedish Institute; and the Svenska Skolan Advisory Committee.

IWQC-IV Wheat Science: Challenges & Opportunities

The fourth annual International Wheat Quality Conference (IWQC), endorsed by AACC International, will take place June 2–9, 2009, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. The conference is organized by the University of Saskatchewan and the Grain Research Laboratory, Canadian Grain Commission. The theme of the IWQC-IV—Wheat Science Dynamics: Challenges and Opportunities—reflects rapid scientific advances being made in understanding wheat grain development, technological advancements in ways to study wheat grain, and engineering innovations to utilize grain for food, feed, and industrial applications. The scientific sessions will include, but are not limited to, marketing and international trade; food safety and security; advances in wheat processing and utilization; wheat—health and wellness; and wheat improvement strategies, including biotechnology and genomics. For more information on this upcoming conference, visit their website at www.usask.ca/iwqc4.