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CONTACT: Julie Larson Bricher
Communications Director
503.472.1448
jbricher@iit.edu



ILLINOIS INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

AIV MICROBIOLOGY'S PAUL HALL RECEIVES 2009 NCFST AWARD FOR FOOD SAFETY

"Food safety legend" honored at consortium's March meeting

(SUMMIT-ARGO, IL) March 27, 2009 – The National Center for Food Safety and Technology (NCFST), Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), presented its prestigious 2009 NCFST Food Safety Award to **Paul A. Hall, PhD**, president and COO of AIV Microbiology & Food Safety Consultants LLC, at the consortium's semi-annual meeting in March.

The annual **NCFST Food Safety Award** recognizes the achievements of an individual in the field of food science and technology who has made outstanding contributions to food safety across government, academia and industry. Nominations are evaluated by a selection panel consisting of representatives from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), IIT, and the food industry.

In announcing the recipient, NCFST founder and executive advisory board member **Darsh Wasan, PhD**, said, "it is an honor to recognize one of the legends in the field of food safety with this year's NCFST Food Safety Award. As an industry member of the center for 20 years, Dr. Paul Hall is an individual who has really bridged the gap between all of NCFST's stakeholder groups—government, industry and academia—and in doing so, has made immense contributions to our collaborative work in food safety science and technology."

NCFST executive board member **Jonathan DeVries, PhD**, agreed, adding, "It has been great working with Paul through the years on NCFST projects. His practical, 'from-the-front-lines' advice has always been appreciated and has helped NCFST go a long way in terms of building a collaboration with industry, academia and the FDA."

The NCFST award also recognizes Hall's more than 30 years' experience as a globally recognized food safety leader. During his career, he has held a variety of top management positions with companies including Kraft Foods, Matrix MicroScience, Anheuser Busch

Companies and Ralston Purina. Following positions as a Microbiology Manager in Corporate Research and Development for Anheuser Busch Companies, Inc. and in Central Research for Ralston Purina Co., Hall joined Kraft Foods Technology Center in 1989 as Section Manager, Chilled Foods Stability and Methods Development in the Microbiology and Food Safety Department. In 1994, he assumed the position of Director of Microbiology and Food Safety for Kraft Foods North America, and in 2003, was named Kraft's Senior Director of Microbiology and Food Safety. Hall also served as V.P. Global Business Development for Matrix MicroScience Inc. and established food safety improvements at ConAgra Foods in 2007 as the company's vice president of global food safety.

Hall launched his own consulting firm in 2008, AIV Microbiology & Food Safety Consultants LLC, which provides food safety, quality, regulatory compliance and crisis management consulting services to the global food industry and to clients including NCFST, Wal-Mart, General Mills, Herbalife, Silliker Inc., Cadbury-Schweppes, and others.

"It has always been an honor and a pleasure for me to be associated with so many talented scientists and colleagues here at NCFST over the past 20 years," Hall said. "Under Martin Cole's leadership, this center has grown and expanded in many exciting ways that are truly advancing the field of food safety science. I am very honored to accept this award."

Hall joins the NCFST Food Safety Award Hall of Fame, which includes Jon DeVries, PhD, General Mills (2005), Michael Cirigliano, PhD, Unilever (2006), Richard Whiting, PhD, U.S. FDA CFSAN (2007), and Katherine M.J. Swanson, PhD, Ecolab.

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Photo Caption: *(Left to right): FDA Deputy Director Michael Landa, NCFST founder and executive advisory board member Dr. Darsh Wasan, Dr. Paul Hall, AIV Microbiology & Food Safety Consultants LLC and NCFST executive advisory board member Dr. Jonathan DeVries, General Mills, pose following the 2009 NCFST Food Safety Award to Hall in March.*

The National Center for Food Safety and Technology (NCFST) is a unique research consortium located at the Illinois Institute of Technology's Moffett Campus (near Chicago) in Summit-Argo, IL, composed of scientists from the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and the food industry. NCFST's research addresses the food safety implications of emerging technologies in food processing and packaging and supports the development of safe food with health-promoting properties from farm to fork. **For more, visit www.ncfst.iit.edu**