



International Association for  
**Food Protection**®

# Larry Beuchat Young Researcher Award

## **WHO IS LARRY BEUCHAT?**

*The Larry Beuchat Young Researcher Award is named in honor of Dr. Larry Beuchat, a distinguished Research Professor Emeritus of the Center for Food Safety at the University of Georgia in Griffin, where he has been for more than 42 years. A 52-year Member of IAFP, Dr. Beuchat's research contributions were recognized in 2008 with the establishment of this award.*

The Young Researcher Award recognizes an active IAFP Member who has shown outstanding ability and professional promise as a researcher in food microbiology/food safety. The award consists of a plaque and a \$2,000 honorarium sponsored by **bioMérieux, Inc.**

## **Qualifications for nominees**

- Be a non-student Member in good standing at the time of the nomination and during the IAFP Annual Meeting (when receiving the award).
- Be employed in academia, industry, government service, or the private sector with a primary role as a researcher in the area of food microbiology/food safety.
- The nominee, by January 1 of the year of presentation, must have received his/her highest graduate degree (M.S. or Ph.D.) in a related field within the previous seven years. Include the date and year of receipt of highest degree (post-doc positions are exempted).
- Previous recipients of the Young Researcher Award, IAFP Executive Board Members, and IAFP Awards Committee Members are not eligible for this award.

## Criteria for nominations

Please provide *specific information* on the following:

- **Research highlights and contributions**  
Provide a written summary of the nominee's primary research focus and contributions to food microbiology/food safety research. Provide a resume or summary of the nominee's publications, research grants and contracts, patents, research awards, and any other documentation of the nominee's promise and excellence in food microbiology/food safety research. CVs must be no longer than 20 pages maximum.
- **Peer assessment of the nominee**  
Provide no less than two and no more than three letters of support\* from professional colleagues **in addition to the nomination cover letter**.\*

## Additional points to consider under the criteria for evaluating nominee

Other activities or characteristics of the nominee that are not specifically covered under the above criteria may be provided to emphasize the nominee's dedication to food safety research.

## Submitting nominations

**Nominations must be submitted as one PDF to [awards@foodprotection.org](mailto:awards@foodprotection.org) by Tuesday, February 13, 2024.** Please follow directions carefully to avoid errors. **Nominations received by email directly to the IAFP office or by mail will not be accepted.** If you have any questions about this award or the required documents, please contact Susan Smith at [ssmith@foodprotection.org](mailto:ssmith@foodprotection.org).

Once you have submitted your **complete** nomination, you will receive an acknowledgment of receipt from Susan within 48 hours. (If you do not, please contact Susan.)

*\*Nomination letter and letters of support cannot be from a current IAFP Board Member*

# IAFP Larry Beuchat Young Researcher Award Judging Procedure

## Procedure for evaluation of each candidate

This procedure was designed with the intention of providing a matrix to help the award jury select a winner with a relatively equitable, semi-quantitative method. Nominators have been instructed to provide specific information on the candidate that reflects the expectations and specific intent of the Larry Beuchat Young Researcher Award: *recognition of someone who has shown outstanding ability and professional promise as a researcher in food microbiology/food safety.* Each criterion listed in the next section has a weight factor that is considered to reflect its importance relative to the specific intent of the Larry Beuchat Young Researcher Award.

The jury's task is to evaluate the nominee by measuring his or her performance against the criteria listed above and applying the 1-10 Rating Scale given below. To obtain each criterion's \*weighted score, multiply the criterion's % weight (in decimal format) times the score that was assigned from the 1-10 Rating Scale. Nominees should be ranked for each criterion on their own merit and should also be ranked in relation to other nominees. The table provided on the next page should be used to organize the evaluation data. Add the weighted scores in order to obtain the overall ranking of the candidate.

## Rating Scale

---

9.0 – 10.0	<b>Outstanding:</b> performance exceeds <i>judge's</i> expectations for criterion
8.0 – 8.9	<b>Above average:</b> performance is above average expectation level for criterion
7.0 – 7.9	<b>Average:</b> performance meets average criterion expectations
6.0 – 6.9	<b>Below average:</b> performance below expectations
5.9 or less	<b>Unsatisfactory or not applicable:</b> performance does not meet criterion expectations or the criterion does not apply to the candidate

The following is an example showing a nominee receiving a perfect score (10 in each criterion).

Award Criteria	Criterion % Weight (x Factor)	Judge's Score	Weighted Score
Quality of research	25 % (0.25)	10.0	2.5
Contributions to food protection	35 % (0.35)	10.0	3.5
Potential as a leader in food safety research	25 % (0.25)	10.0	2.5
Peer Assessment	<u>15 % (0.15)</u>	10.0	<u>1.5</u>
	100 %		10.0

\*Weighted score = criteria score given based on rating guideline times criteria weight factor: (e.g., If contributions to Leadership score is 8, then  $8 \times 0.30 = 2.4$  weighted score)