



華美食品學會

Chinese American Food Society (<http://www.cafsnets.org>) July. 2025

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

-By Qinchun Rao

Dear CAFS Members and Friends,

I'm thrilled to extend my warmest greetings in this 2025-26 spring edition of the CAFS newsletter. It is a true honor to serve as President of CAFS, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to build upon the strong foundation established by our past leaders. My sincere thanks to all former and current CAFS officers and volunteers for their dedication and efforts in making CAFS the dynamic and inclusive community it is today. I would especially like to thank Dr. Qing Jin, our Newsletter Editor, and everyone who contributed to this issue. Your commitment and hard work make this publication possible.



Highlights from the Past Year

The 2024-25 year was filled with meaningful accomplishments. One of our primary goals was to expand CAFS's reach and welcome new members into our growing network. Below are some highlights from the past year:

Member Engagement and Recognition: We introduced a new Member Spotlight section in the newsletter to celebrate the achievements of our members, including both Lifetime Members and student leaders. Our last issue featured four student committee members and one Lifetime Member. We will continue to highlight the contributions of more members in future issues. Special thanks to Qing Jin, Xiaolei (Shelly) Shi and Harry Wang for compiling the membership information.

Professional Development Initiatives: In November 2024, the Student Affairs Committee hosted a 4-day webinar titled "Empowering International Students: Strategies for Success in North America." This virtual event addressed key topics such as visa and green card

applications, and career pathways in industry, government, and academia. The webinar attracted over 200 attendees. We sincerely thank Juan Gao, Chenxin (Valerie) Wang, Chieh-Yi (Jerry) Lin, and Fujunzhu Zhao for organizing this impactful event, and we are grateful to all speakers (Xiaojie Meng from Meng Law Group, Dr. Jun Yang from Pepsico, Dr. Fuyuan Wang from USFDA, Dr. Min Du from Washington State University, and Dr. Yao Olive Li from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona) for their generous contributions.

Additionally, the Committee organized a Graduate Student Research Competition in Spring 2025 to encourage research excellence and presentation skills among students across North American institutions. The winners will be announced at our upcoming Executive Committee meeting. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all student participants and volunteer judges.

Scientific Webinars and Knowledge Sharing:

Two webinars were organized by the Conference and Workshop Committee to keep members informed about emerging research in food science. The first, held on March 28, 2025, and co-organized by Drs. Yi Zhang and Hualu Zhou, featured presentations from Dr. Jiajia Rao (North Dakota State University), Dr. Jing Zhao (San Diego State University), and Dr. Lei (Shelly) Xu (Nestlé Health Science) on protein innovation for sustainable food systems.

The second, organized by Drs. Hongbing Fan and Quancai Sun took place on May 30, 2025, and featured esteemed speakers including Dr. Chunbao Li (Nanjing Agricultural University), Dr. Dejian Huang (National University of Singapore), Dr. Kaustav Majumder (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and Dr. Manuel Kleiner (North Carolina State University). The session focused on nutrition and the health benefits of proteins. The events attracted over 100

participants and provided valuable insights for our members.

50th Anniversary Special Issue: To commemorate CAFS's 50th anniversary, we are preparing a Special Issue highlighting the legacy and achievements of our society. The issue will feature articles on CAFS's history, impactful research, and stories of growth and collaboration within our community. Special thanks to Zachary Zheng for leading this effort and to all contributors involved. Stay tuned – this exciting publication will be released soon.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Annual Business Meeting: Our 2025 CAFS Annual Business Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on July 9, 2025, from 8:00-10:00 PM (EST) (Meeting ID: 850 888 3333). This is a great opportunity to reflect on the year's progress and help shape our future directions. During the meeting, we will announce the winners of the 2025 CAFS Distinguished Service Award and Professional Achievement Award, as well as introduce the 2025-26 CAFS Executive Committee and Committee Members. Please mark your calendars – we hope to see you there!

Annual Banquet in Chicago: As a cherished tradition, the 2025 CAFS Annual Banquet will be held in person on July 14, 2025, at MingHin Cuisine in Chicago's Chinatown (2168 S Archer Ave, Chicago, IL 60616), starting at 5:30 PM (EST), in conjunction with the IFT Annual Meeting. We look forward to an evening of delicious food, celebration, and networking.

Thank you again for your continued support and engagement. I look forward to connecting with you at our upcoming events – virtually and in person.

With warm regards,

Qinchun Rao

2024-25 CAFS President



MEETING WITH CAFS OFFICERS



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qrhao@fsu.edu



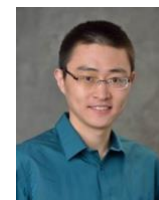
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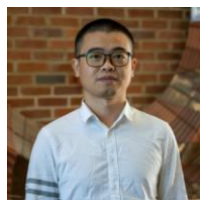
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MESSAGE FROM THE PAST-PRESIDENT

-By Chengchu (Cathy) Liu

Dear CAFS Members,

Happy Summer!

On behalf of the CAFS Nomination Committee, I would like to thank you for your active participation in the nomination and election for **the 2024-2025**

CAFS Executive Officers: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and members of the Board of Directors. Your contributions have helped us ensure strong and representative CAFS leadership.

The election process has now concluded, and we are pleased to announce the newly elected Executive Officers. Full results can be found in the Nomination Committee Report: 2025-2026 CAFS Executive Officers Election Results.



I also extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who submitted nominations for our **CAFS Annual Awards, including the 2025 CAFS Professional Achievement Award and the 2025 CAFS Distinguished Service Award.** A special thank you is owed to the Awards Committee for their careful evaluation of the nomination packages and their commitment to recognizing this year's exceptional awardees. The recipients are announced in the Awards Committee Report: Announcement of 2025 CAFS Annual Award Recipients.

Thank you once again for your great support. We look forward to your continued contributions.

Sincerely,

Chengchu "Cathy" Liu
2023-2024 CAFS President



2025-2026 OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

-By Chengchu (Cathy) Liu

In accordance with CAFS bylaws and traditions, the Nomination Committee initiated the election process by soliciting nominations for the following leadership positions: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members of the Board of Directors.

After the nomination period was concluded, the Nomination Committee formally announced the slate of nominated candidates and facilitated a secure and transparent voting process. The election was conducted in a fair and orderly manner, ensuring that all eligible members had the opportunity to participate and have their voices heard.

We are pleased to announce the successful candidates elected as CAFS new Executive Officers:

- **President-Elect: Dr. Haiqiang (Harry) Wang**
- **Secretary: Dr. Chieh-Yi (Jerry) Lin**
- **Treasurer: Dr. Hongbin Fan**

In addition to the newly elected officers, we are pleased to recognize and thank the following members who will continue their service on the CAFS Board of Directors:

- **Dr. Juming Tang**
- **Dr. Shelly Xu**
- **Dr. Li Zuo**
- **Dr. Ying Wu**

Please join us in congratulating the newly elected and continuing officers. Their service and dedication will guide CAFS toward a stronger and brighter future.

Finally, we would like to thank all members who engaged in the nomination and voting process. Your active involvement is vital to the democratic governance and continued success of CAFS.

A special thank you goes to Dr. Xingyi Jiang, whose assistance in transitioning the traditional election ballot to a new format using Google Docs greatly supported this year's election process.

2025 CAFS Nomination Committee
Chengchu (Cathy) Liu, Chair
Qinchun Rao
Jun Yang

2025 CAFS ANNUAL AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

-By Chengchu (Cathy) Liu

The CAFS Award Committee issued a formal call for nominations for the 2025 CAFS Annual Awards in May. The announcement was distributed to CAFS members via email using the CAFS membership list. It encouraged nominations of active professional members who have shown exceptional achievements in their professional careers or provided outstanding service to the CAFS community. Nominees were considered for two major honors: the CAFS Professional Achievement Award and the CAFS Distinguished Service Award.

Thanks to the active participation of our members, the committee received multiple nominations. Based on each nominee's qualifications, impact, and alignment with the criteria of the respective award categories, the committee convened via Zoom and conducted a comprehensive review of the nomination packages. After thoughtful evaluation, the committee reached a unanimous decision on the following award recipients:

- **Dr. Jianping Wu**, Professor at the University of Alberta in Canada, an IFT Fellow, and active member of CAFS, as the **Recipient of the 2025 CAFS Professional Achievement Award**. Honored for his outstanding accomplishments and sustained

contributions to the field of food science and engineering.

- **Dr. Lihan Huang**, Research Leader at Eastern Regional Center of USDA ARS, past president of CAFS, as the **Recipient of the 2025 CAFS Distinguished Service Award**. Recognized for his exemplary and dedicated service to CAFS, significantly advancing the mission and activities of the organization.

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Jianping Wu and Dr. Lihan Huang on their well-deserved honors. Their achievements and service are a source of inspiration for all members, and we are proud to recognize their exemplary contributions.

We also wish to thank all members who participated in the nomination process, as well as the committee members who dedicated their time to reviewing and evaluating the candidates.

Stay tuned for the CAFS's traditional in-person recognition and celebration of our awardees during the upcoming CAFS Annual Banquet!

CAFS Award Committee
Chengchu (Cathy) Liu, Chair
Juming Tang
Ying Wu

2024-2025 CAFS FINANCIAL REPORT

-By Haiqiang Wang

Balance (as of 10/11/2024)	\$29,366.91
Income	
Lifetime membership	\$300.00
Student/professional membership	\$180.00
Subtotal Income	\$480.00
Expenses	
Adobe Dreamwave software purchase for website maintenance	\$280.37
CAFS PO Box annual rental fee	\$182.00
CAFS annual banquet restaurant reservation - \$500 deposit	\$500.00
Pay to Siteflip for CAFS website maintenance + extra bandwidth	\$120.00
Subtotal Expenses	\$1082.37
Balance (as of 6/19/2025)	\$28,764.54

2024-2025 CAFS STUDENT EVENTS

-By Juan Gao & Fujunzhu Zhao

During the Fall semester, the CAFS Student Affairs Committee organized a four-day student webinar titled “**Empowering International Students: Strategies for Success in North America**,” held from November 18 to 22 at 8:00 PM (EST). This event was designed to support students—particularly international students—who are pursuing studies or careers in North America. It covered a wide range of topics aimed at helping participants succeed in academia, industry, and government sectors.

We invited four distinguished speakers:

- **Ms. Xiaojie (Marta) Meng**, Immigration Specialist, discussed pathways to stay or work in the U.S. (NIW, EB1, EB2, H1B) and provided legal tips for international students.
- **Dr. Jun Yang**, Senior Manager at PepsiCo, shared advice on job interviews, resume building, adapting to U.S. workplace culture, and career growth.
- **Dr. Fuyuan Wang**, FDA, presented on essential skills for government roles, application strategies, and navigating workplace dynamics in federal agencies.
- **Dr. Min Du** (Washington State University) and **Dr. Yao Olive Li** (Cal Poly Pomona) offered insights on effective communication with academic advisors, networking at conferences, and building a career in academia.

The webinar was a great success, with **222 participants** and a **100% satisfaction rate** based on post-event surveys.

CHINESE AMERICAN FOOD SOCIETY	CHINESE AMERICAN FOOD SOCIETY	CHINESE AMERICAN FOOD SOCIETY	CHINESE AMERICAN FOOD SOCIETY
Empowering International Students Strategies for Success in North America 贏在北美：國際學生成功指南 Series 1: Demystifying the Green Card Application Process 綠卡申請全解析：揭曉移民之路 Date: November 18, 2024 Time: 7-8 PM (CST) Zoom ID: 850 234 5678 Join Now 	Empowering International Students Strategies for Success in North America 贏在北美：國際學生成功指南 Series 2: Guidance for Navigating the North American Workplace as an International Employee 北美職場指南：國際員工必備攻略 Date: November 20, 2024 Time: 7-8 PM (CST) Zoom ID: 850 234 5678 Join Now 	Empowering International Students Strategies for Success in North America 贏在北美：國際學生成功指南 Series 3: Opportunities in Government Agencies 北美政府機構就業指南：抓住職業新機遇 Date: November 21, 2024 Time: 7-8 PM (CST) Zoom ID: 850 234 5678 Join Now 	Empowering International Students Strategies for Success in North America 贏在北美：國際學生成功指南 Series 4: Thriving in Academia & Building Networks 學術成長，人脈機遇：國際學生的成功之道 Date: November 22, 2024 Time: 7-9 PM (CST) Zoom ID: 850 234 5678 Join Now 
 Xiaojie (Marta) Meng Founder/Managing Attorney Certified Specialist in Immigration • National authority on immigration & nationality law by the State Bar of California • Chair of the State Bar of California Immigration Law Section • Member of the American College of Immigration and Refugee Attorneys • Education: University of California, Berkeley • Member of the State Bar of California • Member of the American College of Immigration and Refugee Attorneys 	 Dr. Jun Yang Senior Manager 	 Dr. Fuyuan Wang 	 Dr. Min Du Regents Professor   Dr. Yao Olive Li Professor 

Graduate Student Research Competition

In the past spring semester, CAFS has been holding **the 2025 Student Research Competition**. It was held to acknowledge the outstanding accomplishments of student research. A total of twenty-five graduate students from universities across North America submitted abstracts that covered the spectrum of food chemistry, food safety, nutrition, and artificial intelligence in food. Nine professional judges (**Dr. Min Du, Dr. Haibo Huang, Dr. Luyao Ma, Dr. Kang Huang, Dr. Xingyi Jiang, Dr. Yi Zhang, Dr. Tianming Yao, Dr. Chieh-Yi Lin, Dr. Yu-jou Chou**) volunteered to conduct a double-blind evaluation of abstracts. Six highest scoring projects were selected for a live 13-minute oral presentation via Zoom. A fresh panel of six volunteer professional judges (**Dr. Cangliang Shen, Dr. Yonghui Li, Dr. Juzhong Tan, Dr. Lingyan Kong, Dr. Changqi Liu, and Dr. Leqi Cui**) evaluated the finalists presentation. Winners are recognized with certificates and cash awards at CAFS annual banquet this summer.

2025 CAFS Graduate Student Research Competition Winners

First Place (\$600)



Yiju Li

University of Alberta

Advisor: Dr. Jianping Wu

Quinoa peptides alleviate high-fat diet induced lipid metabolism disorders via modulating gut microbiota and bile acids synthesis

Second Place (\$500)



Yaqi Zhao

Florida State University

Advisor: Dr. Qinchun Rao

Topic: Purification and immunodetection of two shrimp allergens

Third Place (\$400)



Chenge Wang

Rutgers University

Advisor: Dr. Karen M. Shaich

Common lipid handling procedures cause loss of epoxides and compromise accurate analysis of active lipid oxidation pathways and oxidation extent

2025 CAFS CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP

-By Hualu Zhou & Hongbing Fan

On March 28th, 2025, **Dr. Hualu Zhou and Dr. Yi Zhang** organized a webinar titled “**Proteins for Sustainable Foods: From Fundamentals to Applications**”, in which valuable insights on plant-based protein ingredients, AI-driven protein functionality and allergen safety, and strategies for alternative protein formulation and consumer engagement were shared. The webinar attracted **140 attendees** and **received a 100% satisfaction rating** from participants.

The event featured three expert speakers:

- **Dr. Jiajia Rao**, North Dakota State University – Key Plant Ingredients for Alternative Proteins: Opportunities and Challenges
- **Dr. Jing Zhao**, San Diego State University – Harnessing AI for Enhanced Protein Functionality and Allergen Safety
- **Dr. Lei (Shelly) Xu**, Nestlé Health Science – Alternative Proteins Unlocked: Formulation, Processing, and Consumer Demands

CHINESE AMERICAN FOOD SOCIETY

Proteins for Sustainable Foods

From Fundamentals to Applications
可持续食品中的蛋白质：从基础到应用

Topic 1: Key Plant Ingredients for Alternative Proteins: Opportunities and Challenges
替代蛋白的关键植物原料：机遇与挑战
Associate Professor, North Dakota State University

Topic 2: Harnessing AI for Enhanced Protein Functionality and Allergen Safety
利用人工智能提升蛋白功能性与过敏安全性
Associate Professor, San Diego State University

Topic 3: Alternative Proteins Unlocked: Formulation, Processing, and Consumer Demands
替代蛋白解锁：配方、工艺与消费者需求
Principal Scientist, Nestlé Health Science

Hosts: Dr. Hualu Zhou, Assistant Professor, University of Georgia; Dr. Yi Zhang, Assistant Professor, PennState University

March 28, 2025
8:00-9:30 PM EST

Zoom ID: 850 234 5678

On May 30th, 2025, **Dr. Hongbing Fan and Dr. Quancai Sun** organized a webinar titled “From Animal to Plant Proteins: Digestion, gut health, and chronic disease prevention”, in which valuable insights on protein nutrition, digestion, food allergies, and the health benefits of conventional and emerging protein sources were shared. The webinar attracted **84 attendees** and **received a 100% satisfaction rating** from participants.

The event featured four expert speakers:

- **Dr. Chunbao Li**, Nanjing Agricultural University – Meat Protein and its Nutritional Values: A Multi-Omics Study
- **Dr. Manuel Kleiner**, North Carolina State University – Advanced Metaproteomic Approaches to Investigate Diet-Host-Microbiota Interactions
- **Dr. Dejian Huang**, National University of Singapore – Impact of Plant Proteins on the Texture and In Vitro Digestibility of Surimi Gels: Towards High Protein Foods for Consumers with Dysphagia
- **Dr. Kaustav Majumder**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Taste-Enhancing γ -Glutamyl Peptide with Dual Benefits for Gut Microbiota Modulation and Vascular Health

CHINESE AMERICAN FOOD SOCIETY

From animal to plant proteins

Digestion, gut health, and chronic disease prevention
从动物蛋白到植物蛋白：消化、肠道健康与慢性疾病预防

Topic 1: Meat protein and its nutritional values: a multi-omics study
肉类蛋白及其营养价值：一项多组学研究
Professor, Nanjing Agricultural University, China

Topic 2: Advanced metaproteomic approaches to investigate diet-host-microbiota interactions
利用先进的宏蛋白质组学方法研究饮食-宿主-菌群互作
Associate Professor, North Carolina State University, USA

Topic 3: Impact of plant proteins on the texture and in vitro digestibility of surimi gels: towards high protein foods for consumers with dysphagia
植物蛋白对鱼糜凝胶质地和体外消化率的影响：为吞咽困难人群开发高蛋白食品
Professor, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Topic 4: Taste-Enhancing γ -Glutamyl Peptide with Dual Benefits for Gut Microbiota Modulation and Vascular Health
具有双重益处的美拉德-谷氨酰胺肽：调节肠道菌群与促进血管健康
Associate Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

Zoom ID: 850 234 5678

May 30, 2025
10-12 PM EST

JOIN US!

CAFS LIFE-TIME MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

Jikai Zhao (*Kansas State University*)



Dr. Jikai Zhao is an assistant professor in the Carl and Melinda Helwig Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at Kansas State University (K-State). Dr. Zhao earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in food science and engineering from Henan University of Technology before obtaining his doctorate in biological and agricultural engineering from K-State in 2022. He subsequently completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to his appointment at K-State, Zhao served as an assistant professor at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley. Zhao's research group focuses on advancing biological and catalytic technologies for the conversion of agricultural, food, and plastic waste into valuable biofuels, platform chemicals, and biomaterials. He employs techno-economic analysis and life-cycle assessment to determine the economic viability and environmental impact of biorefinery processes. Additionally, Zhao is

committed to enhancing STEM education by offering experiential learning opportunities, hands-on research experiences and workshops in communication and career development for both undergraduate and graduate students. Since 2024, Zhao has secured more than \$8 million in funding as either principal investigator or co-principal investigator from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and National Science Foundation. He has authored or co-authored more than 45 peer-reviewed journal articles and two book chapters. His exceptional academic performance, research excellence, and leadership have been recognized through several prestigious awards, including the Graduate Student of the Year, Graduate Student of the Month, and the Robert I-Jen and Sophia Shui-Kan Jung Graduate Scholarship from the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering at K-State.

We appreciate your interest in joining our society. To become a member, you can download the [CAFS membership application/renewal/update form](#). For more information, please reach out to Xiaolei (Shelley) Shi via email xshi257@wisc.edu



UPCOMING EVENTS

-By Jun Yang

CAFS Annual Business Meeting

- Date: July 9, 2025, Wednesday
- Time: 8 pm-10:00 pm, EST
- Location: Zoom (Meeting ID: 850 888 3333)



IFT Annual Meeting

- Date: July 14-16, 2025
- Location: McCormick Place, Chicago, IL

CAFS Annual Baquet

- Date: July 14, 2025, Monday
- Time: 5:30 pm-9:00 pm
- Location: MingHin Cuisine (明軒), 2168 S Archer Ave, Chicago, IL 60616

Sponsored by 

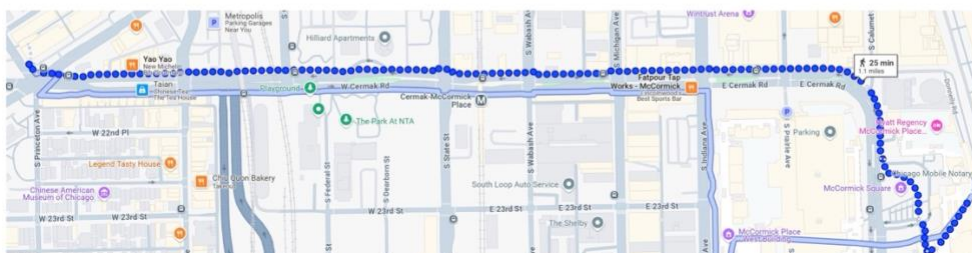
Please come to join us at the CAFS Annual Banquet
欢迎参加华美食品学会晚宴
MingHin Cuisine (明軒)
2168 S. Archer Ave, Chicago, IL 60616
5:30 – 9:00 pm, July 14, 2025 (Monday)

Menu

鸿运拼盘	鸡茸粟米羹
咸香脆皮鸡	红烧豆腐
清蒸盲曹鱼	蒜蓉菜心
芥兰炒牛肉	椒盐有头虾

Banquet Admission

\$40/CAFS member
\$50/CAFS non-member
\$25/Student member
\$35/Student non-member



2024-2025 CAFS EC AND COMMITTEE ROSTERS

EC	Members	E-mails
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	Fujunzhu Zhao	fzhao179@vt.edu

Note: based on Bylaws,

- 1 – Annual Banquet and Business Meeting committee is led by the incoming President.
- 2 – Nomination committee is led by the immediate Past President.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Lecturer of Food Science and Coordinator of Food Science Teaching & Research Facilities and Programs

The School of Food and Agriculture (SFA) at the University of Maine seeks applicants for a full-time, 12-month, non-tenure-track Lecturer of Food Science and Coordinator of Food Science Teaching & Research Facilities and Programs. For more details, please refer to the following link.

https://fa-ewca-saasfaprod1.fa.ocs.oraclecloud.com/hcmUI/CandidateExperience/en/sites/CX_1/job/1538

2. Research Scientist/Post-doc-The University of Alabama

The Department of Human Nutrition, Hospitality and Sport Management is seeking a highly motivated Research Scientist/Post-doc to join the research group of Dr. Lingyan Kong in the research areas of food and nutrition (LC-MS and mice experiment).

For more details, please contact lingyan.kong@ua.edu.

3. Post-doc-North Dakota State University

The Plant Science Department of North Dakota State University is seeking a highly motivated Post-doc to join the research group of Dr. Minwei Xu in the research area of food processing and food analysis.

For more details, please contact minwei.xu@ndsu.edu.

4. 博士后-华南理工大学

华南理工大学任娇艳课题组诚聘视频营养与健康方向博士后，包括但不限于食品，农业，计算机，生物，医学等相关专业。

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/V-GW0EKGq_ePqRuc3RrTWQ

For more details, please contact jyren@scut.edu.cn.

Please visit CAFS website's Job Posting page for more useful job links:

https://www.cafsnet.org/job_postings.htm