



EVENING WITH INNOVATORS

“Sharing Today’s and Tomorrow’s Innovations in Food Systems”

Egyptian Theater
135 N. Second St., DeKalb
Tuesday, November 13, 2018
6:30 – 9:00 pm

Join us for an evening of networking, inspiration, food and fun!

The evening includes:

Social Hour and networking opportunities

Inspirational Speakers

- **Natalie Shmulik** - CEO of The Hatchery Chicago - Food Business Incubator
- **Kimberlee Kidwell**, Dean of University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
- **Scott Shearer** – Chair of The Ohio State University Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Fireside Panel Discussion

Appetizers & Cash Bar

Silent Auction

Tickets on Sale Now at the Egyptian Theater

<https://egyptiantheatredekalb.ticketforce.com/>

Box Office Phone: (815) 758-1225

\$30 – Increases to \$35 on November 5

\$10 students with current student ID

Fundraiser for DeKalb Area Agriculture Heritage Association (DAAHA)

~ Imagine, Inspire, Invent ~



Natalie Shmulik is the go to resource for everything food business related. Along with an M.L.A. in Gastronomy from Boston University, she has a wide range of experience working with supermarkets, culinary publications, consumer packaged goods companies and food service establishments. After successfully operating her own restaurant, Natalie was hired as a specialty consultant for one of Ontario's largest supermarket chains where she enhanced consumer experiences through educational initiatives. Discovering her passion for innovation, Natalie was brought on as a brand strategist for the first cold brew tea company and later moved to Chicago, IL to run a food business incubator. With over 5 years of food incubation experience, Natalie has gained a unique perspective on the industry and what it takes to launch and grow a successful business. She was recently featured in Forbes and continues to play a valuable role in branding and marketing for food businesses around the country, with her specialty in trend forecasting. She is now the CEO of The Hatchery-Chicago's premier food business incubator.



Dean Kimberlee Kidwell, a nationally respected scholar of plant breeding and genetics, holds the inaugural Robert A. Easter Chair in the College of ACES at the University of Illinois. Not only is she an award-winning teacher and student mentor, but she is also an outstanding academic administrator with extensive experience in academic program development, financial management, and engagement. Dean Kidwell's leadership style is clearly defined by her dedication to improving student learning; driving sound, innovative research; and cultivating industry partnerships to improve the lives and livelihoods of the residents of Illinois, in support of the land-grant mission of the University of Illinois. She is an accomplished spring wheat breeder and geneticist, developing more than 20 wheat varieties for Washington State farmers. Her research has led to multiple patented discoveries, and addressed basic questions involving gene discovery, genetic characterization, and genetic mapping of important traits for wheat improvement. Dean Kidwell has been recognized with numerous honors and awards for her hard work in research, teaching, and leadership. Most recently, she was named a Crop Science Society of America Fellow. She grew up in Danville, Illinois, and is a proud alumna of ACES where she earned bachelor's degrees in both genetics and development and agriculture science. She received her master's and Ph.D. degrees in plant breeding and plant genetics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Scott A. Shearer, Ph.D received his Ph.D. in agricultural engineering from The Ohio State University (OSU) in 1986. Currently, he serves as Professor and Chair of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering at OSU. Prior to 2011 he was Chair of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering at the University of Kentucky. Highlights of his research career include development of methodologies and controls for metering and spatial applying crop production inputs (seed, fertilizer and pesticides); modeling of agricultural field machinery systems; autonomous multi-vehicle field production systems; strategies for deployment of UAS in agriculture; and analyses of production agriculture data sets. He has lead research supported by over \$12M in grants; authored more than 200 technical publications (refereed journal articles, conference proceedings, meeting papers and book chapters); and has made numerous invited presentations at international conferences, professional meetings and farmer forums. Dr. Shearer is a Fellow of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers