



## Rosen College of Hospitality Management

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health meets Food: The Culinary Medicine Conference wraps at UCF's Rosen College  
*250 attendees from around the globe explored the intersection of food, health, hospitality, and education.*

Orlando, FL (June 20, 2022) — A four-day meeting of two types of white coats, from medicine and foodservice, explored the intersection of food, health, healthcare, foodservice, and chefs and healthcare professionals. The annual Health meets Food conference was a joint presentation by the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management and the Culinary Medicine Specialist Board (CMSB).

Programming included hands-on cooking classes led by Certified Culinary Medicine Specialists and Rosen College faculty focusing on Mediterranean Diet, Geriatric Nutrition, and anti-inflammatory foods, as well as presentations about food security, Culinary Medicine in hospital foodservice, and culinary skills building sessions for attendees. Partnership with the CMSB and the Health meets Food team demonstrated the critical role that UCF's Rosen College has as a global hub for knowledge creation and dissemination in the domain of food and health.

"This year's summit is even more meaningful to researchers and industry professionals as we navigate hospitality and tourism, in the wake of a global pandemic that has changed the landscape," said conference chair and UCF Rosen College Dean, Youcheng Wang Ph.D. "The information shared in the sessions comes at a critical time for industry and researchers who are providing data for the future as food is an integral part of hospitality."

"Health meets Food was a transformational conference this year. Partnering with Rosen College on issues related to the intersection of food, health and hospitality provided attendees with practical, real-world solutions that will be implemented in Culinary Medicine programs around the world" said conference co-chair Dr. Timothy Harlan, Associate Professor of Medicine at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Among the highlights of the conference were presentations from industry leaders in both healthcare and foodservice as well as community organizers:

- Karen Washington, Rise and Root Farm spoke on the importance of urban gardens how they help address food security.
- Dr. Cindy Leung, University of Michigan, discussed the implications of stress, nutrition scarcity and caloric abundance.
- Kofi Essel, MD, Professor of Medicine, George Washington University, shared Strategies for intervention and improving food security with patients.
- Chef Cary Neff, Conscious Food Solutions, delivered strategies for foodservice professionals to advance health.
- Youcheng Wang, Ph.D, Dean of UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management, reviewed principles and applications of hospitality in healthcare.

Approximately 250 attendees from around the world attended the hybrid in-person and virtual interactive summit, co-hosted by Rosen College and the CMSB via Zoom. Attendees were engaged with panel discussions and breakout sessions focused on food security, Culinary Medicine in healthcare and practice transformation. The conference ran from June 9-12.

For more information on Culinary Medicine and Health meets Food visit [culinarymedicine.org](https://culinarymedicine.org).

For more information about the Rosen College of Hospitality Management visit [hospitality.ucf.edu](https://hospitality.ucf.edu).

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