



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS SEMINAR

Kansas State University

# “Understanding and Designing Long-Term Resilience in the U.S. Food System: The Role of Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Supporting Regional Food Networks”

**Dr. Chyi-Lyi (Kathleen) Liang**

University of Vermont  
Community Development and Applied Economics

**Monday, February 2, 2015**

**Marc A. Johnson Conference Room**

**Room 342, Waters Hall**

**3:30 p.m.**

Entrepreneurship has been the key driving force in developing and designing innovative food systems at local and regional levels. Recent literature supports entrepreneurial farmers' involvement in designing and implementing innovative strategies to strengthen the relationships between agriculture and communities. As farmers look for alternative sources of income, multifunctional operations and entrepreneurial activities such as agritourism, value-added, and direct sales have expanded to play a more important role in the future of agriculture and potential improvement of long term farm profitability, food security, and community resilience. This presentation will incorporate a series of projects funded by the USDA NIFA program focusing on Regional Food Networks, comparing to food system approaches, and to create systematic research on the Regional Food Networks with respect to their characteristics, and their linkages and interactions in the “new global economic order” between *People* (farmers, local residents in farming communities, and consumers), *Place* (communities and eco-systems), and *Prosperity* (farm income and profits, well-being of local communities, quality of life for farmers/farm families and consumers or local residents).