Miranda Mirosa

CV

Professor Miranda Mirosa, PhD

Head of Department, Food Science | University of Otago

Honorary Professor, International Business School Suzhou, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China

Department of Food Science • Dunedin, New Zealand

CREDENTIALS

MInstD – Chartered Member, Institute of Directors New Zealand

FNZIFST – Fellow, New Zealand Institute of Food Science & Technology

GOVERNANCE & BOARD EXPERIENCE

2022–Present NZ Food Waste Champions 12.3 Trust / The Kai Commitment Programme

Trustee; Inaugural Chair (2022–2025)

Fiduciary governance and strategic direction for an industry coalition working to halve food waste and emissions across New Zealand's food sector.

2016–Present NZ Food Safety Science & Research Centre (NZFSSRC) & NZ-China Food Protection Network (NZCFPN)

Strategic Team Leader & Science Leadership Team

Guides national partnership strategy between government, research institutions, and the food industry.

2024–Present Dunedin Indoor Sports Venues Trust (Edgar Centre)

Board Member

Board of one of the South Island's largest multi-use sports facilities.

RESEARCH PROFILE

NZD $3.5M+ in competitive research funding across 58+ grants (PI / Co-I)

100+ refereed journal articles; h-index 37; 4,700+ citations

Policy influence: 68+ citations across 49 policy documents

SELECTED RECOGNITION

2024 Top 50 Most Influential Women in Food & Drink, Aotearoa New Zealand (Cuisine Magazine)

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Behavioral food scientist, academic leader, and experienced governor specializing in food safety culture, agri-food marketing, consumer insights, productivity enhancement, and sustainable supply chains. As Head of Department of Food Science at the University of Otago and Founding Director of the Food Safety Culture Lab, I bridge academic research and frontline industry leadership to establish resilient human systems in the food sector. Experienced in high-level governance, fiduciary responsibilities, strategic budget management, international trade frameworks, and the delivery of multi-million-dollar research funding.

CORE EXPERTISE

Food safety • Hygienic systems • Governance • Consumer insights • Sustainable supply chains

- **Food Safety –** Founding Director, Food Safety Culture Lab; Strategic Team Leader, NZ Food Safety Science & Research Centre (NZFSSRC). Research spanning food safety maturity, regulatory compliance, risk perception, and organizational culture.
- **Hygienic Systems & Operational Culture –** Advising on the human factors, training frameworks, and organizational culture required to implement hygienic design principles, plant sanitation standards, and risk-mitigation protocols across food processing operations.
- **Governance & Leadership –** Head of Department leading strategy, finance, and curriculum redevelopment; Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors New Zealand; extensive board and trust governance experience.
- **Marketing & Consumer Insights –** Consumer behaviour, agri-food marketing, value-chain transparency, and multi-country market research.
- **Productivity & Sustainable Supply Chains –** Director of Food Waste Innovation (FWI); quantifying hotspots, designing operational efficiencies, upcycling side streams, and leading national industry agreements such as The Kai Commitment Programme.

GLOBAL ADVISORY ROLES

- South West Pacific Nominee, UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Open-ended Working Group to Develop a Global Code of Conduct on Food Loss and Waste Reduction (2020).
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Representative and Expert Speaker for multi-year food loss reduction initiatives across Vietnam, Taiwan, China, Peru, and New Zealand (2015–Present).

Motivation letter

I am writing to express my enthusiastic interest in joining the EHEDG Advisory Board.

As EHEDG advances its global impact and deepens its work in the Asia-Pacific region, I welcome the opportunity to contribute my dual expertise as an academic department head and an experienced governance leader.

Having reviewed EHEDG's strategic priorities, I see strong alignment between your goals and my background across three key pillars:

1. Academic Integration & Dissemination
EHEDG's mission to embed Hygienic Engineering & Design know-how into university curricula is vital for preparing future food scientists and engineers. As Head of Food Science at the University of Otago, I am proud that our department recently became an EHEDG Institute Member. I am committed to embedding EHEDG training materials into our programs to equip graduates for hygienically safe processing operations. Working with national entities such as the EHEDG partner, the New Zealand Food Safety Science & Research Centre (NZFSSRC), I bridge scientific research and industry education.

2. Deep Networks and Strategic Capability across Asia-Pacific
Based in New Zealand, I am well-positioned to connect EHEDG with key regional academic, regulatory, and industrial networks:

- China & North Asia: As Honorary Professor at International Business School Suzhou (XJTLU), past Strategic Team Leader in the NZ-China Food Protection Network, and lead on a new Joint Education Programme with a top Chinese Food Science institution, I maintain active pathways to champion EHEDG standards across China.
- Australia & Pacific Islands: I hold active research and industry partnerships across Australasia and the Pacific, advocating for food safety maturity, hygienic processing standards, and sustainable supply chains.

3. Governance Leadership & EHEDG Collaboration
My core competencies center on articulating the big picture, maintaining a strategic market outlook, and leveraging food industry knowledge. As a governor, I am a frank, open communicator, reliable, energetic, and steadfastly loyal to the entity's mission.
Having recently met members of the EHEDG leadership team at international conferences in China and the United States, I have been thoroughly impressed by the organization's vision. As a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors New Zealand, I welcome the opportunity to contribute advisory services and regional strategic perspective to support EHEDG.

Yours sincerely,
Professor Miranda Mirosa, PhD, CMInstD, FNZIFST
Head of Department, Food Science, University of Otago