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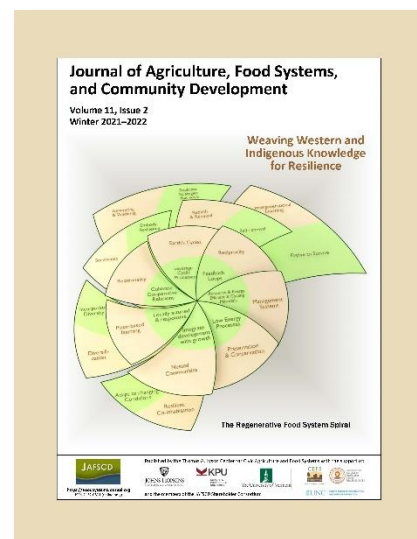
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IN THIS ISSUE
DUNCAN HILCHEYWeaving Western and Indigenous Knowledge
for resilience

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In this issue, our articles explore the often-fragile interaction of scholars, local activists, and practitioners who are blending ideas and philosophies at home and abroad to find a more just and equitable food system that can help save the planet. Or, to put their collaborative efforts more viscerally, to find ways for human beings to save themselves *from* themselves.

An example of the weaving of Western and Indigenous knowledge is on the cover of this issue: the “Regenerative Food System Spiral” represents the intersection between Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) (brown) and Life’s Principles (LPs) (green). The internal spiral is the base of seven principles; the first tier is the expansion over a shorter time frame, and the second tier is the expansion over a longer time frame—many generations. The spiral is a recurring pattern and symbol both in nature and in Indigenous communities, from observation of this optimal growth form. This image is Figure 2 from the article “Weaving disciplines to conceptualize a regenerative food system,” by Sara El-Sayed and Scott Cloutier (both at Arizona State University) who conceptualized this approach, with the graphic designed by Ahmed Barakat.

But before our focus on this issue, The Economic Pamphleteer, **John Ikerd**, launches our winter 2021–2022 issue by asking and addressing the question: *Technology: Good, bad, or neutral?* He suggests that, while the prevailing sentiment is that technology is neutral, its outcomes are often ultimately laid bare as good or bad for the planet. To me, Ikerd’s point begs yet another question: can public policies be required to include ethi-

On our cover: On our cover: The “Regenerative Food System Spiral” represents the intersection between Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) (brown) and Life’s Principles (LPs) (green). The internal spiral is the base of seven principles; the first tier is the expansion over time (one to two generations), and the second tier is the expansion over more time (across many generations). The spiral is a recurring pattern and symbol both in nature and in Indigenous communities, showing an optimal growth form. This image is Figure 2 from the article “[Weaving disciplines to conceptualize a regenerative food system](#),” by Sara El-Sayed and Scott Cloutier (both at Arizona State University).

Graphic designed by Ahmed Barakat

cal guardrails to maximize the chances that new technologies will provide holistic benefits to a broad base of citizens, such as promoting equal opportunity, fair competition, scale-appropriate regulation, and benefits for real family farmers, food industry workers, and natural systems? We encourage policy analysts and politicians to figure this one out.

Next, we offer three commentaries, two of which are from JAFSCD Shareholders, the [National Farm to School Network](#) (NFSN), and the [Inter-Institutional Network for Food and Agricultural Sustainability](#) (INFAS). In their JAFSCD Shareholder commentary, entitled *Racial equity in local food incentive programs: Examining gaps in data and evaluation*, NFSN's **Kristen Giombi** and **Lacy Stephens** lament the lack of specific equity-based purchasing policies in state legislative bills that foster local food procurement and make data collection and evaluation recommendations for better informed farm-to-school programs.

This is followed by another JAFSCD Shareholder commentary from INFAS, entitled *Debrief on the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS)* by **Molly Anderson**, **Lesli Hoey**, **Peter Hurst**, **Michelle Miller**, and **Maywa Montenegro de Wit**. While INFAS found the summit deeply flawed in terms of a structured focus on equity, it was successful in highlighting the potential of global food governance, which is sorely needed.

In our final commentary, *Reflexivity and food systems research* (very apropos to our issue theme), **David V. Fazzino** presents a critical self-reflection that lays out the challenges and contradictions of being a Western scientist studying Indigenous food sovereignty.

Next, we present 14 peer-reviewed papers. Leading off as an introduction to our theme is *Weaving disciplines to conceptualize a regenerative food system* by **Sara El-Sayed** and **Scott Cloutier**, who proffer, and to a limited extent validate, a new regenerative food system that integrates Indigenous and Western approaches.

In her reflective essay *A garden's place in critical food systems education*, **K. Michelle Glowa** shares her rich experience as a college faculty member building a symbiotic relationship with a Hispanic-serving community garden in Santa Cruz, California.

Next, **Leah Joyner**, **Blanca Yagüe**, **Adrienne Cachelin**, and **Jeffrey Rose** explore how farmers and researchers worked together in Salt Lake City to understand how, from a critical geography perspective, food apartheid shapes urban agriculture and informs practical resistance to dominant cultural and economic paradigms in *Farms and gardens everywhere but not a bite to eat? A critical geographic approach to food apartheid in Salt Lake City*.

Similarly, in *Food futuring in Timor-Leste: Recombinance, responsiveness, and relationality*, **David Szanto** provides a reflection of his experience as a “consulting academic” on a decolonized research project that utilized “two-eyed” vision through which researcher and local practitioner create opportunities for shared learning and growth.

In our next article, **Virginia Quick**, **Lauren B. Errickson**, **Gemma E. Bastian**, **Grace Chang**, **Sarah Davis**, **Anthony Capece**, and **Ethan D. Schoolman** demonstrate the increased value of a collaborative researcher/farmer/consumer applied research project in food-insecure areas in *Preserving farm freshness: Consumer preferences for local value-added products at urban farmers markets*.

Ashley Babcock and **Rachael Budowle** present the results of their systematic scan of Western U.S. Indigenous foodway projects, which provide a large reservoir of useful information for scholars and practitioners alike, in *Celebrating Indigenous food sovereignty: An inventory of initiatives within the western U.S.*

Shifting from our theme, the remainder of this issue covers a wide range of topics.

Eiji Toda and **Edward Lowe** take one of the first looks at suburban-based community gardens in *Gardens in a postsuburb: Community garden governance and ethos in Orange County*. Their research suggests the existence of a shift in suburban attitudes, from the traditional consumerist lifestyle to one more focused on quality of life through civic engagement, access to nature, and personal fulfillment.

In *Farmer perceptions of climate, adaptation, and management of farmworker risk in California*, **Gail Wadsworth**, **Heather Riden**, and **Kent Pinkerton** find that the farmers in their sample were proud of their ability to handle weather extremes; however, despite state regulations to the contrary, the farmers also feel that it is mostly farmworkers' individual responsibility to keep themselves safe in the workplace.

This is followed by *Aspects of the sustainability of the camel milk value chain and its regulatory framework in Isiolo County, Northern Kenya*, by **Steve N. Machan, Jones F. Agwata, and Nicholas O. Oguge**, in which the authors present a thorough examination of the existing problematic camel milk supply chain and the potential of a more wholly integrated camel milk value chain.

In *Governance of risk management programs: Learning from Québec's Farm Income Stabilization Insurance program*, **Frédéric Clerson** uses Arnstein's ladder of citizen participation and Glasser's choice theory to examine how and why a popular Canadian farm income program has managed to survive for over four decades.

Meanwhile, in *Appraising the administrative burden of USDA organic certification: A descriptive analysis of Notice of Noncompliance data*, **David P. Carter, Ian T. Adams, Seth Wright, and Tyler A. Scott** find that smaller organic operators (both growers and processors) are at a distinct advantage in the marketplace as they are not as capable as better-resourced operators to absorb the cost of government red tape.

In *Farm-to-hospital programs and public health: Leveraging local food for organizational and behavioral change*, **Phillip W. Warsaw and Alfonso Morales** present two case studies that take an in-depth look at some of the barriers to a more widespread adoption of these programs.

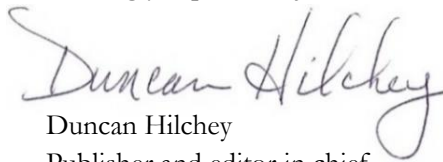
Next, **Marie Asma Ben-Othmen and Jerry H. Kavouras** provide a valuable in-depth case study of the cross-sectoral county-based food policy effort in *Developing a community-based local food system in Will County, Illinois: insights from stakeholders' viewpoints*.

Finally, *"What we raise ourselves": Growing food sovereignty in the Mississippi Delta* by **Emily A. Holmes, Mary F. Campbell, and Ryan Betz** uses the lens provided by the experience of Via Campesina to explore the efforts of a Delta EATS (Edible Agriculture Teaching Students) to build food sovereignty in a majority Black community in the U.S.

We wrap up the issue with two timely book reviews. Just ahead of a special section of articles in response to a JAFSCD call for papers on "Justice and Equity Approaches to College and University Student Food (In)Security," **Mark Lapping** reviews *Food Insecurity on Campus: Action and Intervention*, edited by Clare L. Cady and Katharine M. Broton, and *Experiences of Hunger and Food Insecurity in College*, by Lisa Henry. **Philippe Jeanneaux** reviews *Sustainable Agri-Food Systems: Case Studies in Transitions Towards Sustainability From France and Brazil*, by Claire Lamine, finding the book a strong contribution to the sociological literature on facilitating a transition to a more resilient agroecological future.

We hope the forthcoming spring in the North and fall in the South bring some moderation in not only the extreme weather of our coldest and hottest seasons, but also relief from the ravages of the pandemic and the continuing wars in Africa, the Middle East, and now, Europe. These are unprecedented times we live in, making our work that much the more difficult, but all the more important, in relieving the suffering of our most vulnerable people and the planet.

Wishing you *peace and justice*.



Duncan Hilchey
Publisher and editor in chief