

Plenary Speaker

Tuesday, August 5, 2014

8:15 am – 9:15 am

Fieldhouse

Charles Bamforth



Endowed Professor,

UC Davis

Anheuser-Busch Endowed
Professor of
Malting and Brewing
Sciences

Dr. Charlie Bamforth has been part of the brewing industry for over 35 years. He is formerly Deputy Director-General of Brewing Research International and Research Manager and Quality Assurance Manager of Bass Brewers. He is an Honorary Professor in the School of Biosciences at the University of Nottingham, England and was previously Visiting Professor of Brewing at Heriot-Watt University in Scotland. Charlie is a Fellow of the Institute of Brewing & Distilling, Fellow of the Society of Biology and Fellow of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology. He is a Chartered Scientist. Bamforth is Editor in Chief of the Journal of the American Society of Brewing Chemists, is on the editorial boards of several other journals and has published innumerable papers, articles and books on beer and brewing – and also written prolifically on soccer. His recent contributions have included *The Brewmaster's Art* (A 7-CD recording in *The Modern Scholar* series), *Beer is Proof God Loves Us: Reaching for the Soul of Beer and Brewing* (FT Press) and the second of a 6 part series on beer quality called simply *Flavor* (ASBC). He was a member of the Advisory Board and a contributor of many entries in *The Oxford Companion to Beer* (2012). In October 2010 he was on *The Honor Roll* as one of the 20 professors who are changing the classroom in the US (*Playboy* magazine). Charlie has been featured extensively in the media, including by the BBC, Discovery Channel, NPR's *Science Friday*, PBS, *New Scientist*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Popular Science* and many more. He has presented at innumerable venues including Google, the New York Academy of Sciences, the Bohemian Club, the National Press Club, Xerox Parc Forum and The Smithsonian Institution. He has hosted beer tasting and beer dinners at venues such as the Culinary Institute of America and Enotria. In 2011 Charlie was honored by the Award of Distinction from the American Society of Brewing Chemists for "exceptional contributions and long diligent service to brewing science and the brewing industry". He has been honored by the students of UC Davis as one of the top three educators in his college. In July 2012 he was elected Vice President of the Institute of Brewing and Distilling and will become President for a 2-year stint in July 2014.

Plenary Abstract:

Beer and brewing: Credible and cultured capstone chemistry

When I first arrived at UC Davis there were those who reacted to hearing that I was the beer guy by curling their top lips: "that is one step removed from basket weaving or tractor driving". The reality is that a plethora of sciences, including chemistry and biochemistry, come together in the teaching of the sublime conversion of grain to the world's favorite adult beverage. Even if critics accept that there is genuine teaching and research to be done on beer, its raw materials and its processes, there are those who cannot countenance the teaching of "booze"-related stuff on a university campus. I respond to this by using beer as a metaphor for 'middle way' tolerance. Art, science, life: they merge in the study of brewing.