

Society of Sensory Professionals

Make Your Message Heard

SSP Regional Meeting
May 8, 2019



Shilpa Samant



- Shilpa Samant is currently a Senior Project Manager of Sensory and Consumer Insights at Curion, LLC. In this role, Shilpa works closely with industry partners to develop and execute sensory research, both descriptive and consumer. She has previously worked at Kellogg Company and Mondelez India (Cadbury).
- Shilpa recently graduated with a PhD in Food Science focusing on Sensory and Consumer Science from Dr. Han-Seok Seo's lab at University of Arkansas. Her dissertation focuses on predicting consumer liking and preferences toward beverages using behavioral neuroscience techniques such as facial expressions and autonomic nervous system responses. She also holds a MS degree from the same lab and a Bachelor's degree in Food Engineering and Technology from Institute of Chemical Technology in Mumbai, India.

Lee Stapleton



- Lee is the Managed Services Program Development Director for Sensory Spectrum and leads DA & Quality panels and staff at multiple sites for her Managed Service partners.
- With over 20 years at Spectrum, Lee has built deep understanding of sensory properties for foodstuffs, personal and home care, textiles, packaging and more. She appreciates the power that this broad objective understanding has towards sharing the story of samples, translating consumer language, developing methodology and teaching others. Lee has trained panels and personnel in the US, Europe, and Asia and enjoys leading innovative, product-focused qualitative research.
- Lee has a Bachelor's of Science in Food Science from Clemson University and is a Food Science alumnus from N. C. State University. She is a member of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), ASTM Sensory Evaluation Committee E-18 and the Society of Sensory Professionals (SSP). A presenter at conferences including IFT, Pangborn and SSP, Lee has appeared on television, in print, and online on the topic of sensory evaluation.

Amanda Grzeda



- Amanda is a Director for the Sensory & Consumer Product Insights team at PepsiCo. While collaborating daily with fellow sensory professionals, product developers, and business leaders representing diverse product portfolios from around the world, she ensures that consumer empathy is top of mind for key business decisions. She has a real passion for high quality data visualization to facilitate communication of sensory data and to compel action.
- Amanda began her career with 8 years of product and process development, holding a BS in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University. Amanda is currently serving as the SSP Member-At-Large focused on Global Outreach.