Why are regional food systems important to a more sustainable future?

Dr. Michael Hamm, Michigan State University

The OSU Discovery Themes -- Energy & Environment, Food Production & Security, and Health & Wellness -- are all connected to and impacted by our food systems. Dr. Michael Hamm, C.S. Mott Professor of Sustainable Agriculture and Director of the Center for Regional Food Systems at Michigan State University, will discuss how regionally integrated food systems can support social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

Michael Hamm is the C. S. Mott Professor of Sustainable Agriculture at Michigan State University. Mike has a B.A. in Biology from Northwestern University and a Ph.D. in human nutrition from the University of Minnesota. Mike is currently affiliated with the Departments of Community Sustainability; Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences; and Food Science and Human Nutrition. Prior to moving to MSU he was Dean of Academic and Student Programs for Cook College, Rutgers University. He was co-founder and director of the New Jersey Urban Ecology Program and founding director of the Cook Student Organic Farm. At MSU he is Director of the Center for Regional Food Systems which engages the people of Michigan, the United States and the world in applied research, education and outreach to develop regionally integrated, sustainable food systems. Community food security, community and sustainable food systems are active research areas. Mike is a member of the Governor-appointed Michigan Food Policy Council.