

1

00:00:28,960 --> 00:00:29,680

There we go.

2

00:00:29,680 --> 00:00:31,000

Welcome, everybody.

3

00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:36,400

I'm Shayne Leslie Figueroa, and I'm here today with professor Penny Van Esterik.

4

00:00:36,760 --> 00:00:40,680

Today is April 28th, 2025.

5

00:00:41,080 --> 00:00:44,480

I'm in my home office in Brooklyn, New York, and Professor

6

00:00:44,480 --> 00:00:48,040

Penny is in their home office in Guelph, Ontario.

7

00:00:48,880 --> 00:00:51,880

I'm going to go ahead and read our opening as part of this project.

8

00:00:52,360 --> 00:00:55,640

The Association for the Study of Food and Society was founded

9

00:00:55,640 --> 00:00:58,640

in 1985 to promote the interdisciplinary

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00:00:58,640 --> 00:01:02,840

study of food and society. As part of its 40th anniversary,

11

00:01:03,120 --> 00:01:06,960

we wanted to chronicle the history of ASFS

as an organization

12

00:01:07,360 --> 00:01:10,360

and reflect on its role in the broader  
field of food studies.

13

00:01:10,840 --> 00:01:11,840

As part of this effort,

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00:01:11,840 --> 00:01:16,040

we are conducting a series of video  
interviews with esteemed individuals

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00:01:16,480 --> 00:01:19,840

like yourself, like Professor  
Penny here, to gather insights

16

00:01:19,840 --> 00:01:22,840

about ASFS's past, present, and future.

17

00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:27,040

So welcome, Professor Penny, and let's  
go ahead and get started.

18

00:01:27,880 --> 00:01:30,960

Can you just start us off  
telling us a little bit about yourself,

19

00:01:30,960 --> 00:01:35,920

where you're from, where you did  
your studies, and about your research?

20

00:01:37,800 --> 00:01:38,600

Oh. Thank you.

21

00:01:38,600 --> 00:01:41,600

I was born in Toronto in Canada,

22

00:01:41,800 --> 00:01:46,320

and I wanted to be an anthropologist  
from a very early age.

23

00:01:46,760 --> 00:01:51,560

So I studied, anthropology  
at University of Toronto

24

00:01:51,880 --> 00:01:55,560

and then at University of Illinois,  
where I got my

25

00:01:56,280 --> 00:01:58,720

I got my PhD.

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00:01:58,720 --> 00:02:01,320

And then I started teaching at University

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00:02:01,320 --> 00:02:05,680

of Notre Dame, and I joined Cornell,

28

00:02:05,880 --> 00:02:09,800

International Nutrition  
as a research associate.

29

00:02:10,120 --> 00:02:14,920

So, that was that was very exciting for  
for food work, I can tell you.

30

00:02:15,440 --> 00:02:19,240

And then finally,  
I got, my position at York.

31

00:02:19,240 --> 00:02:22,240

So, I returned to Canada and,

32

00:02:22,240 --> 00:02:25,280

I taught there,  
and I've just retired a few years ago.

33

00:02:26,040 --> 00:02:26,920  
Amazing.

34  
00:02:26,920 --> 00:02:29,440  
And what were the roughly  
the years of this?

35  
00:02:29,440 --> 00:02:33,160  
When were you at Cornell  
and then moved to York?

36  
00:02:36,440 --> 00:02:37,640  
Just right.

37  
00:02:37,640 --> 00:02:42,240  
I came to York in 1984.

38  
00:02:42,640 --> 00:02:44,000  
Okay, amazing.

39  
00:02:44,000 --> 00:02:47,000  
That's a pretty distinguished career you have there.  
No.

40  
00:02:47,640 --> 00:02:48,000  
Yeah.

41  
00:02:48,000 --> 00:02:52,960  
Oh, and you asked if you did ask about my  
my research area.

42  
00:02:52,960 --> 00:02:57,760  
I've done  
my field work is mainly in Southeast Asia.

43  
00:02:58,480 --> 00:03:00,880  
Thailand and Lao PDR,

44  
00:03:00,880 --> 00:03:05,400

People's Democratic Republic of Laos  
and at a few other spots.

45

00:03:05,800 --> 00:03:09,520

How did you become interested as a scholar  
in that particular part of the world?

46

00:03:09,520 --> 00:03:12,400

And I'm guessing something  
about their food culture

47

00:03:12,400 --> 00:03:14,080

through an anthropological lens

48

00:03:14,080 --> 00:03:17,080

there.

49

00:03:17,320 --> 00:03:20,680

Honestly,  
I became interested in Southeast Asia

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00:03:20,680 --> 00:03:24,560

as, sort of an anti-Vietnam  
War protester.

51

00:03:24,960 --> 00:03:29,640

So I took courses in Southeast  
Asia to know more about it.

52

00:03:30,200 --> 00:03:34,480

And, my most influential experience

53

00:03:34,480 --> 00:03:38,120

is, between graduating with a BA

54

00:03:38,320 --> 00:03:42,680

and then going on to  
Illinois for my PhD.

55

00:03:42,680 --> 00:03:46,160  
I was, a Cuso volunteer in Thailand

56  
00:03:46,160 --> 00:03:49,240  
for two years, 67 to 69.

57  
00:03:49,640 --> 00:03:52,280  
So, that's like the  
the Canadian Peace Corps,

58  
00:03:52,280 --> 00:03:55,480  
although we started a couple of years  
before your Peace Corps.

59  
00:03:55,640 --> 00:03:59,080  
So I, that experience

60  
00:03:59,080 --> 00:04:03,720  
in Thailand for the two years  
and then traveling from there around

61  
00:04:03,720 --> 00:04:07,120  
Southeast Asia is what committed me  
to that part of the world.

62  
00:04:07,600 --> 00:04:09,120  
It's really it sounds amazing.

63  
00:04:09,120 --> 00:04:12,880  
And what a, you know,  
engaging and brave way to like,

64  
00:04:12,880 --> 00:04:16,760  
you know, put yourself out there  
as a young person and a young scholar.

65  
00:04:16,760 --> 00:04:17,560  
That's amazing.

66

00:04:17,560 --> 00:04:19,600

Clearly.

On top, on top of that.

67

00:04:19,600 --> 00:04:21,880

I got married the week before we left.

68

00:04:23,160 --> 00:04:24,520

So my husband, who's also an

69

00:04:24,520 --> 00:04:28,720

anthropologist, was with me,  
so it was quite a honeymoon.

70

00:04:29,040 --> 00:04:30,800

Wow. Yeah.

71

00:04:30,800 --> 00:04:32,680

Well, it was the 60s.

72

00:04:32,680 --> 00:04:33,440

Yeah.

73

00:04:33,440 --> 00:04:37,840

So, to think a little bit more about,  
like, our

74

00:04:38,040 --> 00:04:40,960

our broader discipline here of food  
studies, what does food studies

75

00:04:40,960 --> 00:04:44,280

mean to you as an, you know,  
anthropologist and food studies

76

00:04:44,280 --> 00:04:47,280

scholar?

77

00:04:47,840 --> 00:04:50,840

As I say, I'm an anthropologist first,

78

00:04:51,280 --> 00:04:54,680

before I became involved in food studies.

79

00:04:55,280 --> 00:04:58,280

So to be perfectly honest, to me,

80

00:04:59,880 --> 00:05:02,880

food and eating and feeding

81

00:05:03,080 --> 00:05:06,080

is all about

82

00:05:06,240 --> 00:05:09,040

a way

to better understand the human condition.

83

00:05:09,040 --> 00:05:11,840

So, I've never been interested in food

84

00:05:11,840 --> 00:05:15,400

per se, but always about food and eating.

85

00:05:15,400 --> 00:05:20,720

As a way to get at, other things

86

00:05:20,720 --> 00:05:24,920

about cultures and societies

and families and households.

87

00:05:25,840 --> 00:05:29,440

Still such a, such an important

part of the bigger picture there, right?

88

00:05:30,160 --> 00:05:32,800

And connected to that

89



00:05:32,800 --> 00:05:38,080  
in, you know, along with Carole Counihan  
you edited one of the first widely

90  
00:05:38,080 --> 00:05:41,360  
used anthologies of food study  
scholarship, Food and Culture.

91  
00:05:41,960 --> 00:05:45,280  
Which was first, first published in 1997.

92  
00:05:45,280 --> 00:05:46,840  
And then you also edited

93  
00:05:46,840 --> 00:05:50,960  
the second edition,  
I believe, in 2008, about ten years later.

94  
00:05:51,160 --> 00:05:54,080  
Can you tell us a little bit  
about how that project came to be?

95  
00:05:55,320 --> 00:05:56,480  
I taught my

96  
00:05:56,480 --> 00:06:00,280  
first food and culture  
course at Notre Dame

97  
00:06:00,680 --> 00:06:03,680  
in, I think, this 1978,

98  
00:06:04,320 --> 00:06:09,720  
and I couldn't find a book  
because I wanted, you know,

99  
00:06:09,720 --> 00:06:12,720  
I didn't want a community nutrition book,

100

00:06:12,840 --> 00:06:15,840  
and I didn't want a food as symbol book.

101  
00:06:16,120 --> 00:06:19,360  
I wanted to cover the whole field.

102  
00:06:20,760 --> 00:06:22,040  
So, I had difficulty.

103  
00:06:22,040 --> 00:06:24,320  
I can't remember how I solved it.

104  
00:06:24,320 --> 00:06:31,480  
Then, but by the time  
I came to York in 1984, I was also

105  
00:06:31,480 --> 00:06:37,240  
developing, the Food and Culture,  
which I would teach every year.

106  
00:06:37,240 --> 00:06:40,800  
And, we still didn't have a book  
that was suitable.

107  
00:06:41,160 --> 00:06:45,400  
There were books that were strictly  
biological anthropology.

108  
00:06:45,400 --> 00:06:48,400  
There were books  
that were community nutrition.

109  
00:06:48,520 --> 00:06:53,840  
But, when I was preparing for this,  
I actually found, a document

110  
00:06:53,840 --> 00:06:57,400  
that I had written and, and, and I think it was,

111

00:06:58,160 --> 00:07:01,240  
1982 with a

112  
00:07:01,240 --> 00:07:05,040  
community nutritionist  
at University of Toronto.

113  
00:07:05,320 --> 00:07:09,400  
She was teaching community nutrition  
and was trying to introduce anthropology.

114  
00:07:09,760 --> 00:07:14,760  
And,  
I was trying to be a little more sensitive

115  
00:07:14,760 --> 00:07:19,040  
to, formal dietetics and nutrition.

116  
00:07:19,520 --> 00:07:25,000  
So, we actually put together a rough  
draft of a book which didn't go anywhere.

117  
00:07:25,240 --> 00:07:30,040  
But when it didn't go anywhere,  
I got together with Carole, and,

118  
00:07:30,040 --> 00:07:34,720  
we began the process of, of,  
putting our ideas together.

119  
00:07:34,920 --> 00:07:40,600  
And I think the reason  
it was so successful over many editions

120  
00:07:41,600 --> 00:07:43,800  
is that, we were

121  
00:07:43,800 --> 00:07:47,720  
both teaching food and culture  
courses, and,

122

00:07:47,800 --> 00:07:50,800

we made great

123

00:07:51,080 --> 00:07:54,680

use of our students

and our teaching experience.

124

00:07:55,080 --> 00:07:58,760

So we, we made a real point of,

125

00:07:58,760 --> 00:08:03,080

comparing, our teaching experiences.

126

00:08:03,080 --> 00:08:08,640

So, I was in an extremely diverse,  
large urban area.

127

00:08:08,960 --> 00:08:13,320

She was in a smaller university,  
a smaller town.

128

00:08:13,960 --> 00:08:17,200

So, we had different kinds of reactions.

129

00:08:17,200 --> 00:08:22,600

I had, I remember

I had a course of about 50 students

130

00:08:22,600 --> 00:08:28,160

at York, and I had, 37 first languages.

131

00:08:29,360 --> 00:08:31,520

Wow, wow.

Yeah.

132

00:08:31,520 --> 00:08:37,080

So we had, I think I think because

133

00:08:38,200 --> 00:08:40,480  
we relied

134

00:08:40,480 --> 00:08:43,480  
heavily on,

135

00:08:43,480 --> 00:08:46,480  
seeing  
how our students reacted to the material.

136

00:08:46,680 --> 00:08:49,680  
I think that probably contributed  
to its success.

137

00:08:50,080 --> 00:08:53,600  
And I would think, too, that,  
I mean, having a class of students

138

00:08:53,600 --> 00:08:57,440  
who have 37 different  
first languages, right?

139

00:08:57,440 --> 00:09:01,040  
That also contributes to,  
I think one of the great strengths of that

140

00:09:01,040 --> 00:09:04,040  
anthology is the robustness and diversity

141

00:09:04,360 --> 00:09:07,640  
of those different, you know, perspectives  
around food and culture.

142

00:09:08,920 --> 00:09:09,360  
You know,

143

00:09:09,360 --> 00:09:15,080  
the diversity was so obvious to me,  
but it was also very painful.

144

00:09:15,080 --> 00:09:17,800

And that is,

145

00:09:17,800 --> 00:09:19,920

I had students

146

00:09:19,920 --> 00:09:23,640

that 17 or 18, but also adult students

147

00:09:24,000 --> 00:09:27,000

and, they were all experts.

148

00:09:27,920 --> 00:09:30,440

You know,

you couldn't talk about Vietnamese food

149

00:09:30,440 --> 00:09:33,720

when the front row was filled  
with Vietnamese Canadians.

150

00:09:33,720 --> 00:09:38,200

You couldn't talk about kosher food  
when it happened in one class.

151

00:09:38,720 --> 00:09:41,560

The kosher regulator expert

152

00:09:41,560 --> 00:09:45,640

for the whole city of Toronto  
was sitting in my class.

153

00:09:45,680 --> 00:09:50,720

Wow.

So, I had that experience of, not knowing

154

00:09:51,880 --> 00:09:55,160

the expertise on food  
that was sitting in front of me.

155

00:09:55,360 --> 00:09:57,400

Now, you don't want to say the wrong thing in front of them.

156

00:09:57,400 --> 00:10:00,280

Yeah, exactly. Yeah.

157

00:10:00,280 --> 00:10:03,760

You know, but,  
you know, put you in the corner for that.

158

00:10:04,120 --> 00:10:05,000

Yeah.

159

00:10:05,000 --> 00:10:08,000

Wow, yeah, just it's such an incredible,

160

00:10:08,680 --> 00:10:11,080

you know,  
that you learn from your students

161

00:10:11,080 --> 00:10:14,520

as you are shaping the text that they will learn from, too. Yes.

162

00:10:15,640 --> 00:10:16,160

It's really great.

163

00:10:16,160 --> 00:10:17,240

It's kind of like that embodied

164

00:10:17,240 --> 00:10:20,240

practice that I think we all strive for at a certain point.

165

00:10:20,680 --> 00:10:24,200

Which brings us to like one of,  
you know, a follow up question here,

166

00:10:24,640 --> 00:10:27,640

thinking about food studies as a whole.

167

00:10:28,520 --> 00:10:31,160

You know, there's different components of,  
you know, many different ways

168

00:10:31,160 --> 00:10:32,320

to approach food studies.

169

00:10:32,320 --> 00:10:35,920

And you mentioned that you, primarily  
consider yourself an anthropologist.

170

00:10:36,400 --> 00:10:39,400

So, you know, what do you think  
food studies take seriously?

171

00:10:39,400 --> 00:10:43,480

What seems to be foregrounded in your  
in your community of scholars here?

172

00:10:43,880 --> 00:10:46,720

And what does it maybe not yet  
take seriously?

173

00:10:46,720 --> 00:10:47,560

Like what?

174

00:10:47,560 --> 00:10:49,800

I guess just in conversations or whatnot.

175

00:10:49,800 --> 00:10:53,640

What did you kind of see, you know,  
foregrounded maybe more than other topics?

176

00:10:55,760 --> 00:10:59,240

I think we're very strong



on the political economy of

177

00:10:59,240 --> 00:11:02,160  
food. And,

178

00:11:04,480 --> 00:11:07,960  
exotic local experiences.

179

00:11:11,200 --> 00:11:14,200  
And I think perhaps

180

00:11:14,360 --> 00:11:16,840  
we could be

181

00:11:16,840 --> 00:11:19,840  
a little deeper into,

182

00:11:20,800 --> 00:11:23,800  
some of the less pleasant aspects of food.

183

00:11:23,880 --> 00:11:27,280  
The idea of disgust and shame

184

00:11:27,920 --> 00:11:30,920  
and disordered eating and hunger,

185

00:11:31,440 --> 00:11:35,280  
things like that,  
that need to be processed

186

00:11:35,280 --> 00:11:40,440  
both from a household level  
and a societal level.

187

00:11:42,200 --> 00:11:45,200  
And for me, I'm just looking here,

188

00:11:45,920 --> 00:11:48,760

the,

189

00:11:48,760 --> 00:11:52,480

a lot of my work has centered around,

190

00:11:53,120 --> 00:11:57,280

sorry, my advocacy work has centered around  
maternal and child health.

191

00:11:57,920 --> 00:12:00,440

Because of my experience in Thailand,

192

00:12:00,440 --> 00:12:04,360

I became very aware of,

193

00:12:04,480 --> 00:12:07,960

approaches to infant feeding

194

00:12:08,560 --> 00:12:11,000

and how Bangkok was just

195

00:12:11,000 --> 00:12:14,040

buried in Nestlé ads for formula.

196

00:12:14,320 --> 00:12:16,560

And I had a baby there.

197

00:12:16,560 --> 00:12:20,160

So, I was just constantly being told to

198

00:12:20,320 --> 00:12:24,440

that I would be starving the baby  
if I breastfed and all this kind of stuff.

199

00:12:24,680 --> 00:12:29,680

I was so exposed to the, improper,

200

00:12:31,280 --> 00:12:33,080

promotional practices

201

00:12:33,080 --> 00:12:37,800

that that became,  
a side advocacy issue for me.

202

00:12:38,200 --> 00:12:42,400

And for a while,  
I didn't bring it into the food studies.

203

00:12:42,720 --> 00:12:45,720

I did after I got tenure,

204

00:12:45,920 --> 00:12:51,320

but it it's built over my career.

205

00:12:52,720 --> 00:12:55,640

The idea that,

206

00:12:55,640 --> 00:12:58,640

sometimes I feel food studies

207

00:12:59,040 --> 00:13:01,760

is, is stuck

208

00:13:01,760 --> 00:13:04,200

as if,

209

00:13:04,200 --> 00:13:07,200

it's male adults that we're talking about.

210

00:13:07,400 --> 00:13:10,520

And I think we, we could develop

211

00:13:11,840 --> 00:13:14,400

a much more,

212

00:13:14,400 --> 00:13:17,400

well, I guess we could call it  
a developmental approach.

213

00:13:17,480 --> 00:13:20,520  
Thinking about how the first foods,

214

00:13:21,680 --> 00:13:24,680  
and past meals,

215

00:13:24,760 --> 00:13:28,800  
build up to, shape,

216

00:13:29,560 --> 00:13:32,560  
present eating and perhaps future eating.

217

00:13:33,160 --> 00:13:36,880  
So, I think it would be good  
to be developing historic,

218

00:13:37,200 --> 00:13:41,720  
historical and developmental approaches  
into food studies.

219

00:13:41,840 --> 00:13:45,440  
So that we don't just take it  
from the perspective of, say,

220

00:13:45,440 --> 00:13:49,800  
an adult male or an adult female  
at this present moment in time.

221

00:13:51,000 --> 00:13:53,520  
It's a great.  
I haven't, I haven't, I haven't worked it out.

222

00:13:53,520 --> 00:13:57,360  
I haven't called that one yet,  
but it's kind of it's on my plate.

223

00:13:57,720 --> 00:14:00,040  
It kind of feels like a little bit  
of a connection

224  
00:14:00,040 --> 00:14:01,640  
or a through line to what you mentioned.

225  
00:14:01,640 --> 00:14:03,640  
Your first impulse in

226  
00:14:03,640 --> 00:14:07,480  
how do you, you know, combine  
anthropology and nutrition?

227  
00:14:07,840 --> 00:14:11,320  
You know, in a way that is acknowledging  
both sides of this very,

228  
00:14:11,680 --> 00:14:14,840  
you know, complicated  
spectrum of engagement around food.

229  
00:14:15,040 --> 00:14:18,040  
You know, in real life  
and in academia, right?

230  
00:14:18,640 --> 00:14:18,920  
Yeah.

231  
00:14:18,920 --> 00:14:23,680  
And and I guess another thing  
that is a bit weak, perhaps, is

232  
00:14:23,800 --> 00:14:26,880  
I think in the future  
we need to acknowledge more

233  
00:14:26,880 --> 00:14:30,440  
of the biocultural aspects  
of food and eating.

234

00:14:31,120 --> 00:14:34,640

So, we we swing on a pendulum back  
and forth between

235

00:14:34,960 --> 00:14:39,160

the more biological nutritional  
and the more cultural symbolic.

236

00:14:39,640 --> 00:14:43,160

And I think we're swinging,  
we're swinging away

237

00:14:43,160 --> 00:14:49,000

from the biologic  
physiological diet orientation.

238

00:14:51,200 --> 00:14:52,480

At a point when

239

00:14:52,480 --> 00:14:55,400

we really need to reintegrate that

240

00:14:55,400 --> 00:15:00,640

into our, into our thinking  
because it's it's it's

241

00:15:00,640 --> 00:15:03,640

such a biochemical, sorry,

242

00:15:03,680 --> 00:15:06,680

biocultural hybrid, you know? So,

243

00:15:07,480 --> 00:15:09,680

that might be a future direction.

244

00:15:09,680 --> 00:15:10,360

I think that'd be

245

00:15:10,360 --> 00:15:11,080  
that would be wonderful.

246

00:15:11,080 --> 00:15:16,240  
And it's always such a challenge to  
when you are thinking about food studies

247

00:15:16,240 --> 00:15:18,880  
as a, as a more broader field,  
kind of like, you know,

248

00:15:18,880 --> 00:15:22,480  
how do you cover everything  
and how do you acknowledge all,

249

00:15:22,480 --> 00:15:26,320  
all perspectives and knowing that, yeah,  
those that can focus more on the

250

00:15:26,920 --> 00:15:30,280  
I guess, like now there's a lot of debate  
and discussion around

251

00:15:30,280 --> 00:15:33,280  
and like protein and proteinism  
and all of that.

252

00:15:33,360 --> 00:15:34,480  
Yeah. Right.

253

00:15:34,480 --> 00:15:37,480  
And then that's  
also a mark of socioeconomic,

254

00:15:37,680 --> 00:15:41,240  
you know, status and different cultures  
and communities.

255

00:15:41,240 --> 00:15:44,800

And yeah,  
and that's where the students have been

256

00:15:45,400 --> 00:15:47,880  
rather kind of disturbing sometimes

257

00:15:47,880 --> 00:15:51,160  
because, they'll come to class and say,

258

00:15:51,600 --> 00:15:54,600  
I took this class  
because I want to know what to eat.

259

00:15:54,840 --> 00:15:58,040  
You know, and that's not that's

260

00:15:58,040 --> 00:16:01,880  
not our role and it's not what food  
studies is all about.

261

00:16:02,320 --> 00:16:02,560  
Yeah.

262

00:16:02,560 --> 00:16:06,560  
And that kind of speaks to maybe  
that also speaks to just as food studies

263

00:16:06,560 --> 00:16:08,440  
as you know growing in robust in

264

00:16:08,440 --> 00:16:11,440  
has so many different opportunities  
to think about food.

265

00:16:11,760 --> 00:16:16,960  
Are we also seeing academia having fewer  
opportunities in other regards,

266

00:16:16,960 --> 00:16:22,480



such as nutrition and dietetics department  
or the old home economics departments?

267

00:16:22,480 --> 00:16:22,920

No longer.

268

00:16:22,920 --> 00:16:23,840

Yeah, right.

269

00:16:23,840 --> 00:16:26,200

Yeah.

So, it's kind of as things are evolving.

270

00:16:26,200 --> 00:16:28,320

It's a really great,  
you know, thoughtful note there on

271

00:16:28,320 --> 00:16:31,320

what is the role of food studies  
going forward.

272

00:16:31,320 --> 00:16:34,600

Which kind of brings that like,  
do you think we should have a mission

273

00:16:34,600 --> 00:16:39,000

or could there be, a conclave to decide  
what is our

274

00:16:39,080 --> 00:16:42,080

our future of food studies  
at some point or

275

00:16:42,520 --> 00:16:45,160

I think we we just want to see those.

276

00:16:45,160 --> 00:16:46,840

Honestly, I don't think so.

277

00:16:46,840 --> 00:16:50,200  
Honestly,  
I think there has to be multiple visions.

278  
00:16:50,720 --> 00:16:53,480  
And, what I like about ASFS

279  
00:16:53,480 --> 00:16:56,480  
is it's always made room  
for multiple visions.

280  
00:16:56,680 --> 00:17:00,760  
So, the fact that it didn't have a narrow  
mission meant that,

281  
00:17:00,840 --> 00:17:05,160  
you could see things that at first glance

282  
00:17:05,160 --> 00:17:08,800  
appeared to be off the wall,  
but then you go to that session

283  
00:17:09,200 --> 00:17:12,400  
and you start to change the way  
you think about something.

284  
00:17:12,800 --> 00:17:15,560  
And, I,

285  
00:17:15,560 --> 00:17:20,080  
I think the idea of, the single mission

286  
00:17:20,120 --> 00:17:24,040  
or single vision would not be,

287  
00:17:24,040 --> 00:17:27,040  
would not be good for ASFS.

288  
00:17:27,160 --> 00:17:30,760

It's that welcoming all aspects,  
whether they're,

289

00:17:30,960 --> 00:17:35,560  
you know,  
performative or digitalized and visual.

290

00:17:35,560 --> 00:17:38,440  
I mean, that's  
what makes it really exciting to me.

291

00:17:38,440 --> 00:17:39,920  
It's the Big Ten, right?

292

00:17:39,920 --> 00:17:42,840  
Yeah, I, I have to admit, as somebody  
who is

293

00:17:42,840 --> 00:17:46,040  
my strengths do lie in the humanities

294

00:17:46,040 --> 00:17:47,960  
and I trained as a historian.

295

00:17:47,960 --> 00:17:53,200  
And, you know, I'm always so excited  
and impressed and engaged

296

00:17:53,200 --> 00:17:54,840  
when one of my colleagues

297

00:17:54,840 --> 00:17:58,600  
gets up there and does an amazing job  
of sharing their research on,

298

00:17:58,600 --> 00:18:04,320  
you know, the food systems or a more  
and more hard science focused approach.

299

00:18:04,320 --> 00:18:06,440  
And I'm like,  
and this is all food studies, right?

300  
00:18:06,440 --> 00:18:07,720  
This is great.

301  
00:18:07,720 --> 00:18:13,040  
And like for now,  
I'm not trained in biochemistry

302  
00:18:13,040 --> 00:18:17,200  
or anything, but I'm pretty fascinated  
about the microbiome

303  
00:18:17,680 --> 00:18:22,920  
and, and,  
I know how critical it is for the work

304  
00:18:23,200 --> 00:18:26,200  
I do on breastfeeding or infant feeding,

305  
00:18:26,200 --> 00:18:29,320  
but it's, I, I suspect

306  
00:18:29,640 --> 00:18:32,960  
it's going to have a place in,

307  
00:18:33,520 --> 00:18:37,960  
many, many approaches to food.

308  
00:18:38,360 --> 00:18:42,440  
Whether you really understand  
how it operates,

309  
00:18:42,600 --> 00:18:48,600  
you just have to know that there's a way  
that you can translate that science

310

00:18:48,600 --> 00:18:52,320  
into something that you can understand  
and make use of it.

311  
00:18:53,440 --> 00:18:54,680  
Absolutely.

312  
00:18:54,680 --> 00:18:58,000  
Going back,  
you know, to thinking about ASFS,

313  
00:18:58,000 --> 00:19:01,560  
when did you first hear about ASFS

314  
00:19:01,720 --> 00:19:04,720  
Association for the Study of  
Food and Society?

315  
00:19:05,160 --> 00:19:08,680  
I, I think it was the, it was the mid 80s.

316  
00:19:09,040 --> 00:19:12,080  
And I just come to York and,

317  
00:19:12,200 --> 00:19:15,800  
I think I heard it sort of percolating

318  
00:19:16,480 --> 00:19:19,480  
when I was at International Nutrition  
at Cornell.

319  
00:19:20,320 --> 00:19:23,840  
But my, my real contact

320  
00:19:23,840 --> 00:19:28,240  
was through the society for the Anthropology  
of Food and Nutrition.

321  
00:19:28,560 --> 00:19:32,560

So, it was the

322

00:19:32,560 --> 00:19:38,440  
the meetings in the late 70s  
when the anthropology of food

323

00:19:38,440 --> 00:19:42,200  
and nutrition  
became established as a society.

324

00:19:44,480 --> 00:19:46,760  
That's when I became aware

325

00:19:46,760 --> 00:19:49,760  
of the other association

326

00:19:50,440 --> 00:19:52,960  
and were able to,  
I imagine, you know,

327

00:19:52,960 --> 00:19:55,600  
from Notre Dame to Cornell to York.

328

00:19:55,600 --> 00:19:58,840  
You know, you always have in these,  
academic appointments,

329

00:19:58,840 --> 00:20:01,560  
you have a very,  
you know, specific department

330

00:20:01,560 --> 00:20:03,760  
you're part of  
and then a large academic community.

331

00:20:03,760 --> 00:20:09,160  
But being able to kind of go past  
just the built environment or classrooms

332

00:20:09,160 --> 00:20:12,600  
of your actual school  
to find more scholars

333  
00:20:12,600 --> 00:20:16,360  
like yourself, in SAFN or ASFS  
must have been

334  
00:20:16,360 --> 00:20:20,840  
a really kind of exciting thing  
when thinking about your research.

335  
00:20:21,040 --> 00:20:24,040  
It was the importance of it was

336  
00:20:24,200 --> 00:20:28,040  
they were always fun, you know.  
Talk to me about the fun stuff.

337  
00:20:28,040 --> 00:20:28,800  
Yeah.  
And.

338  
00:20:28,800 --> 00:20:31,800  
Well, no, I just it was the, the,

339  
00:20:31,800 --> 00:20:34,800  
the one meeting that  
I kind of looked forward to.

340  
00:20:34,920 --> 00:20:38,080  
I remember quite exciting meetings.

341  
00:20:38,320 --> 00:20:43,000  
The first ones I attended  
were the early 2000 and,

342  
00:20:44,480 --> 00:20:47,480  
the ones at the Culinary Institute,

343

00:20:47,680 --> 00:20:50,520  
were just a hoot because,

344

00:20:50,520 --> 00:20:54,760  
you know, I'm used to either  
having no interesting breaks

345

00:20:55,120 --> 00:20:59,400  
or else, water and crackers  
and these guys, you know,

346

00:21:00,280 --> 00:21:05,080  
but as soon as the people were  
sitting there waiting for the breaks

347

00:21:05,080 --> 00:21:08,320  
because we got all these wonderful things

348

00:21:08,320 --> 00:21:11,320  
to eat and, and and lovely,

349

00:21:11,920 --> 00:21:15,680  
iced teas and fruit beverages  
and things like this.

350

00:21:16,240 --> 00:21:20,200  
So that plus, we always managed to get,

351

00:21:20,560 --> 00:21:25,120  
some shared meals in there, and that was  
that was really fun.

352

00:21:25,760 --> 00:21:28,880  
And the other thing is, there were even

353

00:21:29,760 --> 00:21:33,640  
no matter where the meeting was,  
there were usually, field trips.



354

00:21:34,400 --> 00:21:36,800

That would be food focused, but

355

00:21:36,800 --> 00:21:39,400

really interesting.

356

00:21:39,400 --> 00:21:41,080

So, that's what made it fun for me.

357

00:21:42,200 --> 00:21:45,000

And also you just have-

Did you organize-

358

00:21:45,000 --> 00:21:46,080

Go ahead.

359

00:21:46,080 --> 00:21:48,400

No, I said that made it different

360

00:21:48,400 --> 00:21:53,400

from the the big anthropology meetings  
where you'd you'd poke around trying

361

00:21:53,400 --> 00:21:57,120

to find something relevant to food,  
you know.

362

00:21:57,200 --> 00:21:59,960

And then sometimes you would pick it  
There was a title of a panel.

363

00:21:59,960 --> 00:22:01,640

Oh, that probably has to do with food.

364

00:22:01,640 --> 00:22:04,640

And then you get there and it absolutely  
does not have to do with food.

365

00:22:05,080 --> 00:22:07,960  
Or else there's two panels on food.

366  
00:22:07,960 --> 00:22:10,160  
And there at the same time, same time.

367  
00:22:10,160 --> 00:22:11,720  
Yeah.

368  
00:22:11,720 --> 00:22:14,560  
Did you ever actively were like, help plan

369  
00:22:14,560 --> 00:22:17,920  
any of the ASFS conferences  
or SAFN even?

370  
00:22:18,040 --> 00:22:22,040  
No, I was quite involved  
in, some of the panel crap.

371  
00:22:22,400 --> 00:22:27,760  
Oh. But, but never  
I never took any kind of a role.

372  
00:22:29,240 --> 00:22:32,240  
I did, I did, did

373  
00:22:32,960 --> 00:22:36,680  
I think we had a focus once on refugees,

374  
00:22:36,680 --> 00:22:41,320  
you know, and I would do the Lao focus  
on, say, Lao refugees.

375  
00:22:41,640 --> 00:22:46,360  
We had sessions on methods and,

376  
00:22:47,160 --> 00:22:50,240  
you know, I would talk about,

sometimes I would talk about

377

00:22:50,640 --> 00:22:54,640

advocacy work, which is not necessarily

378

00:22:54,640 --> 00:22:59,600

a part of ASFS, but for me,

I got involved with the Nestlé boycott.

379

00:22:59,600 --> 00:23:02,800

I was one of the founders, and I'd learned

380

00:23:02,800 --> 00:23:05,800

so much about,

381

00:23:06,840 --> 00:23:10,760

being an activist in an academic setting

382

00:23:10,760 --> 00:23:16,240

and how you keep those boundaries

and how you not get

383

00:23:17,320 --> 00:23:19,360

into trouble or get it,

384

00:23:19,360 --> 00:23:22,360

or how to get into trouble.

How to get into good trouble.

385

00:23:22,400 --> 00:23:25,400

Yeah, that's about it. Good trouble.

386

00:23:25,720 --> 00:23:29,520

So, those those were interesting.

387

00:23:29,520 --> 00:23:32,520

I was, I think there was a

388

00:23:33,040 --> 00:23:35,920  
panel on, Heritage Foods

389  
00:23:36,880 --> 00:23:40,120  
at one  
time, so I was involved in that. So,

390  
00:23:41,360 --> 00:23:44,200  
I always found even though my interests

391  
00:23:44,200 --> 00:23:48,440  
were very diverse,  
I usually found a place to fit them in.

392  
00:23:48,440 --> 00:23:51,520  
And if I didn't,  
I could take a bit of a leading role, but

393  
00:23:51,520 --> 00:23:54,520  
never in the organizing  
the whole conference.

394  
00:23:55,120 --> 00:23:58,000  
Sounds like you definitely  
had a wonderful, like, contribution

395  
00:23:58,000 --> 00:24:01,000  
and impact at these different events  
over the years, too.

396  
00:24:01,920 --> 00:24:04,920  
Vis-à-vis, you know,  
bring in ideas of advocacy,

397  
00:24:05,120 --> 00:24:08,120  
and the Heritage Foods for sure.

398  
00:24:08,440 --> 00:24:10,720  
Well, of course,

399

00:24:10,720 --> 00:24:13,120  
I was with like minded people.

400

00:24:13,120 --> 00:24:15,640  
Yeah. It's not to say that  
It wasn't me.

401

00:24:15,640 --> 00:24:19,800  
It was, you know, the interaction  
with all the other people there.

402

00:24:19,800 --> 00:24:21,280  
Were there any particular,

403

00:24:21,280 --> 00:24:24,400  
this is a little bit of an odd question,  
but were there any particular,

404

00:24:24,880 --> 00:24:27,880  
going back to the idea of the the,

405

00:24:28,120 --> 00:24:31,000  
you know, the atmosphere  
of these events coming up?

406

00:24:31,000 --> 00:24:34,120  
They really are unique in the academic  
circles, right?

407

00:24:34,120 --> 00:24:36,280  
You know, you know, people are having,

408

00:24:36,280 --> 00:24:40,000  
you know, genuine connection sharing,  
you know, amazing research

409

00:24:40,280 --> 00:24:41,600  
and there's amazing food.

410

00:24:41,600 --> 00:24:45,760

Were there

any particular, dishes or breakouts

411

00:24:45,760 --> 00:24:49,800

or like meals

that you remember from any of the ASFS events?

412

00:24:51,800 --> 00:24:54,160

I mean, I'll, I'll share one, while you just  
Okay.

413

00:24:54,160 --> 00:24:55,160

Because I don't remember.

414

00:24:55,160 --> 00:24:57,720

I just remember eating.

Exactly.

415

00:24:57,720 --> 00:25:01,880

I remember, you know, I,

I also work for a large university

416

00:25:01,880 --> 00:25:07,480

for NYU, and I work for I schedule events  
as part of, our, my department.

417

00:25:07,960 --> 00:25:10,200

But I do remember that

always going to like,

418

00:25:10,200 --> 00:25:14,920

you know, in the larger university teams  
hosted, going to University of Montana

419

00:25:15,320 --> 00:25:19,160

in Missoula,

and what the beautiful location.

420

00:25:19,160 --> 00:25:21,320  
That was just breathtaking.

421  
00:25:21,320 --> 00:25:24,120  
And I still, like,  
remember some of the panels

422  
00:25:24,120 --> 00:25:28,400  
I went to, but that we went out  
and that one of the snack breaks was very

423  
00:25:28,400 --> 00:25:30,000  
they were very big on local ag

424  
00:25:30,000 --> 00:25:34,000  
and agriculture and bringing in that  
one of the snacks that was out

425  
00:25:34,000 --> 00:25:37,760  
there were fresh turnips  
and butter with salt,

426  
00:25:38,160 --> 00:25:42,320  
and half of the audience was like,  
what is this?

427  
00:25:42,320 --> 00:25:44,640  
I don't know,  
this isn't the usual snack I'm used to.

428  
00:25:44,640 --> 00:25:48,280  
And the other half were like, oh my God,  
this is amazing and I love it, right?

429  
00:25:48,280 --> 00:25:50,800  
So, that but know how,  
how could you eat it?

430  
00:25:50,800 --> 00:25:54,840  
I mean, I pick up the radish,

you put a little bit of butter on it

431

00:25:55,240 --> 00:25:57,120

and you chomp down.

432

00:25:57,120 --> 00:26:00,280

I was, I was thinking of mashed turnip.

433

00:26:00,360 --> 00:26:01,640

Turnip that was mashed.

Oh, yeah.

434

00:26:01,640 --> 00:26:02,920

No, these were fresh.

435

00:26:02,920 --> 00:26:05,560

Almost dug up

earlier that morning. Kind of

436

00:26:06,560 --> 00:26:07,840

The only,

437

00:26:07,840 --> 00:26:10,480

for some reason, the meal I remember

438

00:26:10,480 --> 00:26:13,760

was, it wasn't a meal, per se.

439

00:26:13,800 --> 00:26:17,360

I guess it was in New York, but,

440

00:26:17,360 --> 00:26:20,440

we had a line up of food trucks. Yes.

441

00:26:20,800 --> 00:26:21,720

And I just.

442

00:26:21,720 --> 00:26:23,320



I had an awful time.

443

00:26:23,320 --> 00:26:26,960

I lined up at every food truck,  
and then I'd get there and say,

444

00:26:26,960 --> 00:26:30,040

well, no, I better check the next one  
before I make a decision.

445

00:26:30,040 --> 00:26:33,960

I had an awful time there,  
but it was so interesting,

446

00:26:34,240 --> 00:26:37,320

particularly, coming from Toronto, where

447

00:26:37,760 --> 00:26:43,000

there were real,  
incredible diversity of foods,

448

00:26:43,240 --> 00:26:46,760

but they were all in little mom  
and pop stores,

449

00:26:46,960 --> 00:26:52,920

and there were, regulations  
that were restricting the food trucks.

450

00:26:52,920 --> 00:26:58,760

And the street food was sort of restricted  
to crappy hot dogs.

451

00:26:58,760 --> 00:27:01,440

So, I got such a kick out of that.

452

00:27:01,440 --> 00:27:03,960

Now, it's getting a little looser.

453

00:27:03,960 --> 00:27:06,640  
But, yeah, that was one of the meetings.

454  
00:27:06,640 --> 00:27:10,360  
That was the first time I've,  
I've really seen a whole lineup of,

455  
00:27:10,760 --> 00:27:15,080  
you know, 6 or 8 food trucks,  
all with different specialties.

456  
00:27:15,080 --> 00:27:19,640  
That was when, the New School  
and NYU co-hosted it.

457  
00:27:19,640 --> 00:27:22,160  
I was on the organizing committee  
for that.

458  
00:27:22,160 --> 00:27:22,880  
All right.

459  
00:27:22,880 --> 00:27:27,040  
I remember those discussions about,  
you know, part of it was, you know,

460  
00:27:27,040 --> 00:27:31,640  
what do we do for for food when, you know,  
this will not surprise anyone?

461  
00:27:32,080 --> 00:27:36,560  
Schools  
make you rent space from them for events,

462  
00:27:36,560 --> 00:27:37,640  
even when you're a department.

463  
00:27:37,640 --> 00:27:39,200  
So, we were trying to work within a budget,

464

00:27:39,200 --> 00:27:42,560  
and I don't remember  
who had the idea for food trucks,

465

00:27:42,560 --> 00:27:46,440  
but we were very excited about it  
one of our graduate students at that point,

466

00:27:46,960 --> 00:27:50,560  
worked with the street vendor project,  
I believe.

467

00:27:50,600 --> 00:27:51,560  
Oh, right.

468

00:27:51,560 --> 00:27:55,680  
And of course, street vending  
is extremely important in Thailand.

469

00:27:56,200 --> 00:27:58,120  
So, I was used to that.

470

00:27:58,120 --> 00:28:02,760  
And, and writing about it  
and learning what foods are,

471

00:28:03,200 --> 00:28:08,160  
you know, street vending foods  
and what foods are in restaurants.

472

00:28:08,360 --> 00:28:13,160  
But yet I couldn't  
see it in my own home community.

473

00:28:13,600 --> 00:28:18,920  
So it was that's why it was particularly  
interesting in, you know, in New York.

474

00:28:19,360 --> 00:28:19,720

Yeah.

475

00:28:19,720 --> 00:28:22,160

New York, that was a  
that was a great conference.

476

00:28:22,160 --> 00:28:26,520

So kind of thinking through,  
we have a few questions around

477

00:28:27,240 --> 00:28:30,280

ASFS as a 21st century. Now, again

478

00:28:30,280 --> 00:28:31,600

I know that you are emerita.

479

00:28:31,600 --> 00:28:34,400

I know you are  
retired now. Congratulations.

480

00:28:34,400 --> 00:28:37,840

You can focus your time on doing that  
good trouble.

481

00:28:38,280 --> 00:28:42,320

I just want to know 1 or 2 questions  
to think through.

482

00:28:42,320 --> 00:28:46,040

I mean, again, just your opinion  
or ideas about this.

483

00:28:46,480 --> 00:28:51,440

You know, food studies can be argued  
that, you know,

484

00:28:51,440 --> 00:28:55,720

we kind of have an unusual place  
in academia as a whole, unlike perhaps

485  
00:28:55,720 --> 00:29:00,080  
philosophy or mathematics or,  
you know, other traditional disciplines.

486  
00:29:00,920 --> 00:29:04,480  
There's been a corollary correlation  
between popular interest,

487  
00:29:04,760 --> 00:29:08,280  
you know, your friends and neighbors  
having a growing interest in food

488  
00:29:08,800 --> 00:29:12,840  
and going to food trucks or knowing how,  
you know, foods are made

489  
00:29:12,840 --> 00:29:16,200  
and processed in a way that maybe  
they wouldn't have 2 or 3 generations ago.

490  
00:29:16,760 --> 00:29:20,920  
Do you think that helps support like  
the growth of food studies,

491  
00:29:20,920 --> 00:29:24,520  
or is that make it a little bit  
more complicated in terms of trying

492  
00:29:24,520 --> 00:29:28,080  
to establish a sense of academic,

493  
00:29:28,080 --> 00:29:31,080  
or discipline like expertise?

494  
00:29:31,280 --> 00:29:32,720  
If everybody can be quoted

495  
00:29:32,720 --> 00:29:36,120  
in a newspaper article,

what does that do for us as academics?

496

00:29:36,920 --> 00:29:41,440

I think it's difficulty  
because everyone's an expert.

497

00:29:41,960 --> 00:29:48,640

Sometimes, if I can usually get away  
with saying I'm an anthropologist

498

00:29:48,640 --> 00:29:52,080

and the person who will say,  
what did you dig up recently?

499

00:29:52,640 --> 00:29:57,760

But, but if you say food studies,  
everybody's an expert.

500

00:29:58,080 --> 00:29:58,600

Yeah.

501

00:29:58,600 --> 00:30:03,040

And they say, well, I know about food,  
so you don't need to study it.

502

00:30:03,040 --> 00:30:03,760

It's not,

503

00:30:06,520 --> 00:30:09,320

it's as if.

504

00:30:09,320 --> 00:30:11,800

Some people think that it's not something

505

00:30:11,800 --> 00:30:14,840

with a strong theoretical base

506

00:30:14,840 --> 00:30:18,480

or that it's, it's not a serious topic.

507

00:30:19,000 --> 00:30:22,680

And I feel that's  
a bit of a bit of a constraint.

508

00:30:22,880 --> 00:30:28,600

And for me, I'm at,  
I'm adjunct at University of

509

00:30:28,600 --> 00:30:34,480

or I was adjunct at University of Guelph,  
which is an agricultural school and,

510

00:30:34,600 --> 00:30:38,000

very focused on agriculture

511

00:30:38,000 --> 00:30:41,000

and food technology and one department

512

00:30:41,040 --> 00:30:44,040

and dietetics in another department,

513

00:30:44,480 --> 00:30:48,240

very little food anthropology.

514

00:30:48,880 --> 00:30:54,080

And I went to the food institute there  
and say, well, you know, I've got time.

515

00:30:54,080 --> 00:30:55,440

Here's my expertise.

516

00:30:55,440 --> 00:30:58,440

I've got all these books  
I'd like to donate.

517

00:30:59,080 --> 00:31:04,000

And, the response was, yeah, well,  
we don't need that stuff.

518

00:31:04,400 --> 00:31:05,280

We do.

519

00:31:05,280 --> 00:31:08,880

We do, you know, food as nutrients, food

520

00:31:08,880 --> 00:31:14,640

as agricultural products

that need to be, moved,

521

00:31:15,360 --> 00:31:18,720

more effectively

or produced more effectively.

522

00:31:19,240 --> 00:31:22,800

And I was told that some of the stuff I do

523

00:31:22,800 --> 00:31:25,960

on, say, food and religion was fluff

524

00:31:26,600 --> 00:31:30,640

and also that, in projects,

525

00:31:31,440 --> 00:31:34,560

we would be, as anthropologists

526

00:31:35,120 --> 00:31:38,120

studying food, we would be naysayers

527

00:31:39,000 --> 00:31:42,000

because I tended to say things like,

528

00:31:42,360 --> 00:31:47,360

when you hear, research on dietetics

529

00:31:48,040 --> 00:31:50,400

and the person is



530  
00:31:50,400 --> 00:31:52,960  
from a perspective of nutrition education,

531  
00:31:54,000 --> 00:31:54,920  
and I

532  
00:31:54,920 --> 00:31:59,080  
sometimes couldn't help myself,  
but I'd say, you know, people don't

533  
00:31:59,440 --> 00:32:02,680  
eat on the basis of relationship

534  
00:32:02,680 --> 00:32:05,680  
between zinc and or calcium or something.

535  
00:32:05,920 --> 00:32:10,400  
They eat on the basis of what  
their grandmother fed them. And,

536  
00:32:12,000 --> 00:32:15,520  
you know,  
and even their religious beliefs.

537  
00:32:15,600 --> 00:32:18,880  
And so that would be,

538  
00:32:19,400 --> 00:32:24,680  
a way that we would be perceived  
by some to be naysayers.

539  
00:32:24,880 --> 00:32:25,360  
Yeah.

540  
00:32:25,360 --> 00:32:30,560  
The same thing if you talk about,  
the technology that improves

541  
00:32:30,560 --> 00:32:34,840  
food production, if you're not,  
if you're coming in there and saying,

542  
00:32:35,400 --> 00:32:38,920  
you know, the the issue isn't production,  
it's distribution.

543  
00:32:39,280 --> 00:32:39,640  
Yeah.

544  
00:32:39,640 --> 00:32:44,160  
Then you're putting down the guy  
that is trying to,

545  
00:32:44,840 --> 00:32:49,960  
you know, create the new fertilizer,  
the new pesticide, the new whatever.

546  
00:32:50,640 --> 00:32:55,120  
So I've, I still have  
the boxes of books in my basement.

547  
00:32:55,560 --> 00:32:58,480  
Oh, I know there's a  
I believe one of your colleagues

548  
00:32:58,480 --> 00:33:01,480  
there is doing the feeding  
8 billion project.

549  
00:33:01,640 --> 00:33:05,680  
Has a bunch of, like, digital  
videos around it that I, I would have

550  
00:33:05,680 --> 00:33:09,440  
thought would be more appreciative  
of that kind of, you know, insight

551

00:33:09,440 --> 00:33:14,160  
not think of it as naysaying,  
but perhaps I spoke out of turn.

552  
00:33:14,160 --> 00:33:18,520  
So perhaps some of that  
might be edited out because no problem.

553  
00:33:18,520 --> 00:33:22,480  
Just, it was, you know,

554  
00:33:22,720 --> 00:33:25,840  
reaction to I would like that. That is.

555  
00:33:25,880 --> 00:33:27,600  
But it's a legitimate concern.

556  
00:33:27,600 --> 00:33:31,440  
You know,  
there's a lot of people that do world,

557  
00:33:32,080 --> 00:33:35,080  
world food.

558  
00:33:35,240 --> 00:33:38,440  
And, you know, getting world  
food is always also local

559  
00:33:38,440 --> 00:33:41,440  
food that, you know, at the same time.

560  
00:33:41,520 --> 00:33:44,680  
And I love that.  
We are the experts in the local.

561  
00:33:44,920 --> 00:33:45,440  
Yeah.

562  
00:33:45,440 --> 00:33:49,760

And it's people, you know, when we get so,  
you know, focused on a specific,

563

00:33:50,360 --> 00:33:55,440  
you know, thought process or data set or,  
you know, make the add

564

00:33:55,440 --> 00:33:59,800  
the beta carotene to the rice to help  
improve its nutritional components.

565

00:33:59,800 --> 00:34:00,840  
Right.

566

00:34:00,840 --> 00:34:03,840  
It can kind of I think in this is not  
this is more of like

567

00:34:03,840 --> 00:34:06,840  
a, a friendly critique  
where I can put blinders on.

568

00:34:06,840 --> 00:34:09,960  
And I think that's on the strengths  
of food studies, is that we kind of try

569

00:34:09,960 --> 00:34:13,120  
to push back the blinders  
a little bit, right.

570

00:34:13,120 --> 00:34:16,160  
So not instilling naysayers,  
but people are uncomfortable

571

00:34:16,160 --> 00:34:18,160  
when that's brought to their attention  
sometimes.

572

00:34:18,160 --> 00:34:21,760  
I remember,

when I was I learned most of my nutrition

573

00:34:22,240 --> 00:34:27,280

at Cornell under, Michael Latham,  
who started the international nutrition

574

00:34:27,280 --> 00:34:32,200

program there, and I was his, assistant  
for an infant feeding project.

575

00:34:32,800 --> 00:34:36,240

And, I got to sit in on a lot of those

576

00:34:36,760 --> 00:34:39,760

strongly nutrition based science classes.

577

00:34:40,400 --> 00:34:44,400

But I remember, I think it was a project.

578

00:34:45,480 --> 00:34:46,480

I think it was a project

579

00:34:46,480 --> 00:34:50,280

to, address night blindness in Indonesia.

580

00:34:50,280 --> 00:34:51,880

I could be wrong.

581

00:34:51,880 --> 00:34:56,920

And, they got and they did actually  
had some anthropologists in there

582

00:34:57,200 --> 00:35:02,000

because they looked in the kitchen  
and figured out what was the product

583

00:35:02,680 --> 00:35:08,200

sitting in the kitchen,  
which was, in every household,

584  
00:35:08,200 --> 00:35:13,640  
the poorest of the poor,  
middle class, super wealthy with servants.

585  
00:35:14,240 --> 00:35:17,240  
And the product turned out to be MSG.

586  
00:35:18,320 --> 00:35:21,480  
And, some people would say, how,

587  
00:35:22,280 --> 00:35:24,880  
how dare you take a product like that?

588  
00:35:24,880 --> 00:35:29,160  
People were critiquing MSG, but it was,

589  
00:35:29,240 --> 00:35:34,800  
if you added vitamin A to it  
and if it's going to be used anyway, and

590  
00:35:34,800 --> 00:35:37,800  
nobody was believing the critiques of it,

591  
00:35:37,920 --> 00:35:40,920  
it was a part of every single recipe.

592  
00:35:41,200 --> 00:35:42,960  
Then it was a compromise.

593  
00:35:42,960 --> 00:35:47,000  
But it was, something that that got

594  
00:35:47,880 --> 00:35:51,160  
the necessary supplementation into

595  
00:35:52,120 --> 00:35:54,920  
every household very quickly.

So smart.

596

00:35:54,920 --> 00:35:57,680

And MSG is delicious. I'm going on record.

597

00:35:57,680 --> 00:35:59,920

It makes it makes things  
even more delicious.

598

00:35:59,920 --> 00:36:02,080

Come on.

Yes.

599

00:36:02,080 --> 00:36:02,880

Wow. That's good.

600

00:36:02,880 --> 00:36:06,640

So they had to kind of like yeah,  
that was a great example of like science

601

00:36:06,640 --> 00:36:11,800

and you know, and the cultural and the  
cultural cooking, fighting in the kitchens

602

00:36:12,360 --> 00:36:14,840

and the, the food technology

603

00:36:14,840 --> 00:36:17,840

people aren't  
always looking in the kitchens.

604

00:36:17,920 --> 00:36:19,920

Yeah, yeah.

605

00:36:19,920 --> 00:36:23,760

Wow. So the thing I want to think  
a little bit more about your,

606

00:36:23,760 --> 00:36:25,560

your advocacy work can kind of

607

00:36:25,560 --> 00:36:30,440

frame it within that idea of, you know,  
the three pillars, so to speak, of food,

608

00:36:30,440 --> 00:36:34,920

you know, production, distribution  
and consumption right those ten.

609

00:36:35,480 --> 00:36:35,800

Yeah.

610

00:36:35,800 --> 00:36:37,560

The production and distribution  
consumption,

611

00:36:37,560 --> 00:36:40,840

their practices  
outside of traditional academic labor.

612

00:36:41,400 --> 00:36:42,160

Yeah.

613

00:36:42,160 --> 00:36:46,360

But I feel like food studies,  
scholarship has worked to integrate

614

00:36:46,720 --> 00:36:51,160

academic research with lived experiences,  
you know, above the labor.

615

00:36:51,160 --> 00:36:54,160

So, talk to us a little  
if you have a little bit more

616

00:36:54,160 --> 00:36:58,920

to share around some of that advocacy work  
you've done, you know, you know, in the,



617

00:36:58,920 --> 00:37:03,960

child nutrition

or maternal health areas,

618

00:37:04,480 --> 00:37:08,680

if that has kind of like it sounds like

that's been, a pretty strong thread

619

00:37:08,680 --> 00:37:12,480

throughout your career

to kind of like play, as you mentioned,

620

00:37:12,480 --> 00:37:16,480

places and spaces where that kind

of advocacy can, can move forward.

621

00:37:16,960 --> 00:37:18,760

Yeah.

Tell us a little bit more about that.

622

00:37:19,880 --> 00:37:23,480

I can tell you about the infant

feeding research.

623

00:37:23,480 --> 00:37:26,800

I can't remember what you asked

about the production.

624

00:37:26,800 --> 00:37:28,040

Distribution. Yeah.

625

00:37:28,040 --> 00:37:30,880

I just find that there's different ways

to think of our relationship

626

00:37:30,880 --> 00:37:32,000

Oh the three pillars.

627

00:37:32,000 --> 00:37:33,760

Yeah.

628

00:37:33,760 --> 00:37:34,280

Okay.

629

00:37:34,280 --> 00:37:38,560

I just,

when I was anticipating that question,

630

00:37:39,000 --> 00:37:42,760

I was just going to say, the

631

00:37:45,040 --> 00:37:49,240

the, the connection to the nonacademic  
that I got from ASFS

632

00:37:49,240 --> 00:37:52,760

force was more around  
the Culinary Institute

633

00:37:53,280 --> 00:37:55,800

and the training of chefs.

634

00:37:55,800 --> 00:37:58,120

And,

635

00:37:58,120 --> 00:38:01,120

the, the potential for,

636

00:38:01,480 --> 00:38:05,560

research having policy relevance

637

00:38:05,920 --> 00:38:09,040

and the only policy relevant work

638

00:38:09,440 --> 00:38:13,840

that I think I've contributed  
is in the area of infant feeding.

639

00:38:14,240 --> 00:38:14,440

Okay.

640

00:38:14,440 --> 00:38:17,520

And,

641

00:38:18,520 --> 00:38:23,160

I don't think that all food studies  
needs to be activist,

642

00:38:23,560 --> 00:38:26,720

and I don't think all of it  
needs to be policy relevant.

643

00:38:27,400 --> 00:38:31,840

But,

if enough people are taking those dual

644

00:38:31,840 --> 00:38:35,560

roles, you know, it makes it visible

645

00:38:36,160 --> 00:38:39,760

for people to see how their research

646

00:38:39,960 --> 00:38:42,960

could actually affect policy.

647

00:38:43,360 --> 00:38:46,720

So there were,

there was also a lot of work

648

00:38:46,720 --> 00:38:49,720

on, say, breastfeeding and HIV.

649

00:38:49,800 --> 00:38:54,040

And that was immediately policy relevant.

650

00:38:54,400 --> 00:38:59,160

I've been working on, the idea of,

651

00:38:59,760 --> 00:39:04,400

green infant feeding,  
which is pointing out that,

652

00:39:04,520 --> 00:39:10,440

the climate change people  
and agricultural sustainability people,

653

00:39:12,280 --> 00:39:13,680

usually and

654

00:39:13,680 --> 00:39:17,840

food security people  
do not even consider infant feeding.

655

00:39:18,400 --> 00:39:21,520

But of course, breastfeeding  
is the most ecologically

656

00:39:21,560 --> 00:39:24,680

likely green way to feed an infant.

657

00:39:24,680 --> 00:39:28,520

There's no waste product,  
you know, there's no gases.

658

00:39:28,520 --> 00:39:30,320

You don't use extra water.

659

00:39:30,320 --> 00:39:32,880

There's just all sorts of reasons.

660

00:39:32,880 --> 00:39:38,320

But people that are dealing with climate  
change, people that are dealing with,

661

00:39:38,440 --> 00:39:43,440

the Green New Deal and all that,  
they just

662

00:39:44,600 --> 00:39:48,400  
quite often ignore that,  
that starting with First Foods.

663

00:39:48,640 --> 00:39:52,960  
And now I find that even the food security  
people behave a bit

664

00:39:53,600 --> 00:39:56,600  
from the adult male perspective.

665

00:39:56,640 --> 00:40:00,280  
In other words,  
thinking about the, amount of cereals

666

00:40:00,280 --> 00:40:03,720  
produced, amount of vegetables  
produced, or something.

667

00:40:03,720 --> 00:40:07,960  
So, you've got those in the,  
you know, the, the composites

668

00:40:08,560 --> 00:40:11,760  
of, food produced in an area

669

00:40:12,160 --> 00:40:15,160  
rather than thinking about either,

670

00:40:15,160 --> 00:40:19,520  
a distributions in families  
distribute into family food distribution

671

00:40:19,520 --> 00:40:25,360  
or starting with, infancy, you know,  
so I think those are,

672

00:40:25,760 --> 00:40:28,960  
those are sort of like shifts  
in framework.

673

00:40:29,600 --> 00:40:35,240  
And, so a lot of my interest  
has been in trying to remind

674

00:40:35,280 --> 00:40:40,840  
food security people  
that it kind of starts at, pregnancy.

675

00:40:41,040 --> 00:40:44,440  
You know,  
what should pregnant women be eating? And

676

00:40:45,400 --> 00:40:46,000  
the fact that

677

00:40:46,000 --> 00:40:49,760  
that flavors the amniotic fluid  
and sets the baby up

678

00:40:49,960 --> 00:40:53,080  
to, like, those household flavors

679

00:40:53,080 --> 00:40:56,080  
that they got tasted before and would

680

00:40:57,080 --> 00:41:01,200  
encounter again in human milk,  
which makes it more likely

681

00:41:01,200 --> 00:41:05,280  
that they're going to like that  
taste as opposed to,

682

00:41:05,920 --> 00:41:10,560  
a pregnant woman

that's only exposed to industrial foods.

683

00:41:10,840 --> 00:41:11,200

Yeah.

684

00:41:11,200 --> 00:41:14,200

And then, baby,

685

00:41:15,240 --> 00:41:17,560

tastes all those fake foods.

686

00:41:17,560 --> 00:41:20,560

Yeah. And then is given infant formula.

687

00:41:20,560 --> 00:41:23,280

Well, they develop that

688

00:41:23,280 --> 00:41:27,560

industrial palate

where the fake food, the fake vanilla and,

689

00:41:27,560 --> 00:41:31,640

the the the sugars with, chemical

690

00:41:31,640 --> 00:41:36,640

flavors are what makes them drool

and make them want to eat.

691

00:41:37,280 --> 00:41:40,480

So I think that's why I'm, I find that

692

00:41:41,840 --> 00:41:45,000

the anthropologists are not always

welcomed

693

00:41:45,400 --> 00:41:48,400

by policymakers, but,

Yeah.

694

00:41:48,880 --> 00:41:51,480

You know, in those sense, we are

695

00:41:51,480 --> 00:41:53,600

often the naysayers for

696

00:41:55,360 --> 00:41:56,200

saying something

697

00:41:56,200 --> 00:41:59,840

against industrial food,  
which is, you know,

698

00:42:01,800 --> 00:42:03,040

the name of the game.

699

00:42:03,040 --> 00:42:05,960

I know I was just going to say,  
we're at a point in human

700

00:42:05,960 --> 00:42:09,720

civilization  
that we need more, a lot more naysayers

701

00:42:09,720 --> 00:42:13,520

perhaps there than not.  
Well, we don't even know the implications of

702

00:42:13,520 --> 00:42:16,600

We've had maybe three generations now of,

703

00:42:17,000 --> 00:42:20,000

little humans born

704

00:42:20,280 --> 00:42:24,160

with no maternal milk ever.

705

00:42:24,800 --> 00:42:27,200



So, what does that do to immune systems?

706

00:42:27,200 --> 00:42:29,680

What does that do to the growth of,

707

00:42:29,680 --> 00:42:33,240

potentials for childhood  
cancer or autism or anything?

708

00:42:33,520 --> 00:42:36,840

We just don't know  
if we're not asking the questions. I asked

709

00:42:36,840 --> 00:42:42,080

I used to I did a class on infant  
feeding in the food and culture course.

710

00:42:42,560 --> 00:42:44,360

The guys hated it.

711

00:42:44,360 --> 00:42:47,000

The the women were

712

00:42:47,000 --> 00:42:50,280

would cross their arms and say, well,  
I never had enough milk,

713

00:42:50,280 --> 00:42:54,280

so I couldn't do it, but I insisted  
I would do one class on this.

714

00:42:54,280 --> 00:42:57,640

I didn't do the whole session,  
but I couldn't.

715

00:42:57,640 --> 00:42:59,240

I had to have it in.

716

00:42:59,240 --> 00:43:02,200

And one thing I learned was that,

717

00:43:02,200 --> 00:43:07,320

it in a in a class of 50,  
there might be maybe

718

00:43:07,320 --> 00:43:11,000

half a dozen that had any idea  
how they were fed as infants.

719

00:43:11,200 --> 00:43:12,880

Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

720

00:43:12,880 --> 00:43:17,560

Wow, I do, I, I teach a class currently  
at the New School on kids and food.

721

00:43:19,200 --> 00:43:20,920

And one of the things that I that's

722

00:43:20,920 --> 00:43:24,560

a great observation point that you made,  
there's like that lack of knowledge.

723

00:43:24,560 --> 00:43:29,000

One of the things that I consistently do  
is on our discussion boards or in class.

724

00:43:29,360 --> 00:43:33,160

I'm always like,  
ask your caregivers, you know, parents,

725

00:43:33,680 --> 00:43:37,120

you know, aunts, uncles, grandparents  
ask their caregivers about,

726

00:43:37,600 --> 00:43:40,600

you know, what they remember,  
not only about the students,

727

00:43:40,640 --> 00:43:42,960  
your own early childhood  
and food experience,

728

00:43:42,960 --> 00:43:46,200  
if they were breastfed, if they weren't,  
but also their own memories.

729

00:43:46,200 --> 00:43:46,480  
Right.

730

00:43:46,480 --> 00:43:50,800  
Because that's like like you said, we  
don't know enough and we forget so quick.

731

00:43:51,320 --> 00:43:53,600  
Yeah, absolutely.

732

00:43:53,600 --> 00:43:55,120  
We don't learn from the past.

733

00:43:55,120 --> 00:43:58,240  
And then in order to think for the future,  
as much as perhaps we could.

734

00:43:58,240 --> 00:43:59,560  
Absolutely.

735

00:43:59,560 --> 00:44:02,320  
Oh, so, you know,

736

00:44:02,320 --> 00:44:06,520  
food studies and ASFS and, you know,  
pretty growing and as you mentioned,

737

00:44:06,880 --> 00:44:10,880  
thinking about those food trucks,  
that incredible, diversity

738

00:44:10,880 --> 00:44:14,680  
in the idea of giving, you know,  
intellectual curiosity and respect

739

00:44:14,680 --> 00:44:18,480  
to different kinds of foods and  
cuisines and thus cultures.

740

00:44:20,320 --> 00:44:22,640  
I'm thinking  
too, about your your work in Thailand.

741

00:44:22,640 --> 00:44:28,320  
Have you seen a growing community  
of scholars in Thailand working on food

742

00:44:28,560 --> 00:44:33,160  
or is it still or is it more,  
you know, Western perspective

743

00:44:33,160 --> 00:44:37,520  
looking out at these other interesting,  
tasty cultures and communities?

744

00:44:38,480 --> 00:44:41,080  
I haven't seen,

745

00:44:41,080 --> 00:44:44,680  
say much food studies,

746

00:44:44,960 --> 00:44:48,160  
say from an anthropological  
or a historical perspective,

747

00:44:48,560 --> 00:44:51,960  
but, a big focus on,

748

00:44:52,040 --> 00:44:56,240  
food and identity

and links to nationalism.

749

00:44:56,240 --> 00:45:00,640

So a few years ago,  
the Thai government had,

750

00:45:00,640 --> 00:45:04,040

a program called Thailand  
Kitchen of the World.

751

00:45:04,640 --> 00:45:07,840

And, they were trying

752

00:45:07,840 --> 00:45:11,400

to create, authenticity.

753

00:45:11,400 --> 00:45:15,320

Quote, in Thai restaurants overseas

754

00:45:15,320 --> 00:45:20,400

because of course,  
we get Thai Express and little,

755

00:45:20,400 --> 00:45:24,840

you know, maybe two named noodle dishes  
that appear on every menu.

756

00:45:25,200 --> 00:45:30,880

But, Thai cuisine is incredibly diverse,  
regional differences.

757

00:45:31,320 --> 00:45:37,880

And, there was a real marketing attempt  
to make sure that, if you're calling it

758

00:45:37,880 --> 00:45:40,920

Thai, it better have some

759

00:45:40,920 --> 00:45:43,920

Thai ingredients in it, and it better be

760

00:45:44,080 --> 00:45:47,560  
something that, meets a certain standard.

761

00:45:48,240 --> 00:45:52,200  
So, I'd say that's the direction  
they're going with a growing,

762

00:45:52,440 --> 00:46:02,080  
perhaps a growing interest in,  
some history of, but for instance, Thai

763

00:46:02,080 --> 00:46:07,200  
restaurants are very new in, in Thailand,

764

00:46:07,200 --> 00:46:11,520  
it was more Chinese and Sino Thai.

765

00:46:11,520 --> 00:46:14,520  
And then you'd get, for the real

766

00:46:15,080 --> 00:46:19,040  
Thai food, you'd have it as street  
food or in homes.

767

00:46:19,400 --> 00:46:22,600  
So it's, it's reasonably recent,

768

00:46:23,200 --> 00:46:26,920  
from the 50s and 60s that you'd get the,

769

00:46:26,960 --> 00:46:30,520  
identifiably Thai restaurants.

770

00:46:31,000 --> 00:46:34,760  
So, it isn't as if there's,

771

00:46:34,880 --> 00:46:37,960  
historical tradition there.

772  
00:46:38,240 --> 00:46:41,920  
The recipes for Thai,

773  
00:46:42,520 --> 00:46:45,840  
for very special Thai dishes were,

774  
00:46:45,840 --> 00:46:49,240  
they were passed down orally  
so they weren't written.

775  
00:46:49,840 --> 00:46:53,560  
And, when they were written down,  
they were often written in these little

776  
00:46:53,800 --> 00:46:55,000  
cremation books.

777  
00:46:55,000 --> 00:46:58,880  
They were booklets  
that would be given out at a cremation,

778  
00:46:58,880 --> 00:47:05,080  
and they would contain the, special  
recipes of the person that was deceased.

779  
00:47:05,280 --> 00:47:08,760  
But those are both in Thai and

780  
00:47:08,840 --> 00:47:13,720  
pretty exotic documents  
that you'd find in temples and things.

781  
00:47:14,360 --> 00:47:17,400  
That's amazing.  
So, think it's, it's,

782

00:47:18,720 --> 00:47:18,960  
you know,

783  
00:47:18,960 --> 00:47:21,960  
those are the kinds of things that I think

784  
00:47:22,120 --> 00:47:25,120  
are really,

785  
00:47:26,600 --> 00:47:29,600  
driving food studies.

786  
00:47:29,920 --> 00:47:32,360  
Yeah. In Southeast Asia

787  
00:47:32,360 --> 00:47:36,280  
and if there was a bias,  
it would be towards food history,

788  
00:47:36,600 --> 00:47:40,240  
you know, tracing ingredients  
and particular recipes.

789  
00:47:42,400 --> 00:47:43,960  
That's my impression anyway,

790  
00:47:43,960 --> 00:47:49,400  
because let's face it, ASFS  
is focused on the American scene

791  
00:47:49,480 --> 00:47:55,960  
and, that's a limitation  
and a specialty as well.

792  
00:47:56,720 --> 00:47:58,480  
And that's a great way to put it too.  
Right?

793  
00:47:58,480 --> 00:48:01,400



It's both, you know, there's strength  
in having a focus.

794

00:48:01,400 --> 00:48:05,360

And there's also intentional  
or not an intentional focus or not.

795

00:48:05,760 --> 00:48:07,920

And it's you know, it's limiting.

796

00:48:07,920 --> 00:48:12,360

It's kind of you have to acknowledge that  
this is a specific community in place.

797

00:48:12,560 --> 00:48:16,720

And I look, so interesting  
to thinking about those notions

798

00:48:16,720 --> 00:48:19,720

that the Thai government is invested,

799

00:48:19,880 --> 00:48:22,840

in the notions and ideas of authenticity.

800

00:48:22,840 --> 00:48:23,080

Right.

801

00:48:23,080 --> 00:48:27,760

Which brings up, yes, you know,  
the whole gnarly situation or gnarly

802

00:48:27,760 --> 00:48:33,640

wicked problem, I guess, is something  
that economists say of food tourism.

803

00:48:34,000 --> 00:48:35,040

Yeah.

804

00:48:35,040 --> 00:48:39,160

And culinary culinary  
tourism is very big in Thailand.

805

00:48:39,160 --> 00:48:41,880

Yeah. I, I did not grow up in Thailand.

806

00:48:41,880 --> 00:48:45,840

I grew up in Charleston, South Carolina,  
which if I said that,

807

00:48:46,120 --> 00:48:49,760

you know, 30 years ago when I was starting  
my undergraduate career,

808

00:48:49,760 --> 00:48:53,040

everybody was always like, oh,  
like like Charlotte, like North Carolina.

809

00:48:53,040 --> 00:48:56,040

I'm like, no, no, nobody knew Charleston.

810

00:48:56,200 --> 00:48:59,560

And now Charleston is a very desirable,

811

00:48:59,560 --> 00:49:02,640

you know, culinary destination  
for a variety of reasons.

812

00:49:03,120 --> 00:49:06,640

But it's yeah, that last  
I would imagine in Thailand,

813

00:49:06,640 --> 00:49:10,720

this is a very, you know, proactive  
move of the government

814

00:49:11,160 --> 00:49:15,800

and people who have some kind of stake  
in this, you know, economic and cultural

815

00:49:16,280 --> 00:49:19,600  
to safeguard, protect, promote,

816

00:49:19,800 --> 00:49:23,200  
you know, it's a very intertwined  
kind of question there.

817

00:49:23,200 --> 00:49:25,000  
Right. And it is commercial.

818

00:49:25,000 --> 00:49:26,120  
It is intense.

819

00:49:26,120 --> 00:49:29,120  
And to, be able to export.

820

00:49:29,520 --> 00:49:31,600  
Yeah. Specific Thai products.

821

00:49:32,840 --> 00:49:33,160  
Yeah.

822

00:49:33,160 --> 00:49:37,200  
And it's that kind of like those questions  
of like terroir and things like that.

823

00:49:37,200 --> 00:49:41,600  
And, you know, Western Europe, it's  
what again, what is gained, what is lost.

824

00:49:41,720 --> 00:49:44,800  
Yeah. You this is authentic.

825

00:49:44,800 --> 00:49:48,360  
But then you're you're  
limiting opportunities for that

826

00:49:48,400 --> 00:49:50,320

a fusion that adaptation.

827

00:49:50,320 --> 00:49:52,360

And yeah

828

00:49:52,360 --> 00:49:55,360

fascinating.

829

00:49:55,800 --> 00:49:58,760

I was going to say  
is there any new scholars

830

00:49:58,760 --> 00:50:01,280

that are doing work, you know,

831

00:50:01,280 --> 00:50:04,280

through ASFS or whatnot  
that you're kind of interested in?

832

00:50:04,360 --> 00:50:07,360

That're doing work in this space?

833

00:50:07,840 --> 00:50:12,880

No, I just, I,  
I forget names very quickly.

834

00:50:12,880 --> 00:50:15,040

That is fine. Me too.

835

00:50:15,040 --> 00:50:16,440

Yeah.

836

00:50:16,440 --> 00:50:19,520

Well, what was the last book you read or  
what was it about

837

00:50:19,520 --> 00:50:21,080

that was kind of exciting to you?

838  
00:50:21,080 --> 00:50:22,760  
Thinking about the field.

839  
00:50:22,760 --> 00:50:25,520  
Anna Marie Mol.

840  
00:50:25,520 --> 00:50:28,080  
Mol.  
Okay.

841  
00:50:29,720 --> 00:50:32,720  
I think it's called Thinking About Eating.

842  
00:50:32,800 --> 00:50:36,400  
Her work on food to me is just fantastic.

843  
00:50:37,120 --> 00:50:40,920  
And, I, I hope I have that name.

844  
00:50:40,920 --> 00:50:41,160  
Right.

845  
00:50:41,160 --> 00:50:44,160  
But but thinking and eating are  
part of it.

846  
00:50:44,280 --> 00:50:47,080  
Eating in Theory. That's it.

847  
00:50:47,080 --> 00:50:49,080  
I think it's called Eating in Theory.

848  
00:50:49,080 --> 00:50:54,160  
And it is really powerful  
because she's, trained in philosophy,

849  
00:50:54,600 --> 00:50:57,200  
anthropology, medicine,

850

00:50:57,200 --> 00:51:00,600

and, is an exceptional researcher.

851

00:51:00,960 --> 00:51:05,200

So the, the very,  
very innovative approaches.

852

00:51:05,960 --> 00:51:09,680

But I'm a bit low vision,  
so I, I don't make it

853

00:51:09,680 --> 00:51:13,000

through books very well.

854

00:51:13,000 --> 00:51:18,720

I'm, you know, a blow up, a,  
an article now and then make a big font.

855

00:51:18,720 --> 00:51:22,120

But, it's a, I think

856

00:51:23,320 --> 00:51:27,720

going through the the big, heavy,  
small font books is beyond that.

857

00:51:28,360 --> 00:51:31,760

That's a challenge  
I love, a lot of my students

858

00:51:31,760 --> 00:51:35,400

now, have cued me into audio books.

859

00:51:36,000 --> 00:51:37,560

Yeah, I'm all audio books.

860

00:51:37,560 --> 00:51:38,200

Yeah, yeah.

861

00:51:38,200 --> 00:51:39,520

And and that there's,

862

00:51:39,520 --> 00:51:42,440

you know, thankfully,

a lot of the good like, you know, library,

863

00:51:42,440 --> 00:51:44,840

you know, academic

and otherwise library services.

864

00:51:44,840 --> 00:51:48,160

If there's a book that doesn't

have an audio version, they're working.

865

00:51:48,160 --> 00:51:49,880

It's the one thing I will say,

866

00:51:49,880 --> 00:51:54,760

okay, about all the new technology

they're working to get, they can produce.

867

00:51:54,800 --> 00:51:57,400

Yeah.

You know, limited audiobooks. Right on.

868

00:51:57,400 --> 00:51:57,880

Yeah.

869

00:51:57,880 --> 00:52:02,360

I'm reliant on audiobooks

now, and and I don't find many on food.

870

00:52:03,560 --> 00:52:04,240

That is a no.

871

00:52:04,240 --> 00:52:07,120

So so that brings up all of those  
questions that we have here, too.

872

00:52:07,120 --> 00:52:10,320

Do you think that something  
that perhaps a project, a way

873

00:52:10,320 --> 00:52:12,760

to promote the scholarship  
that ASFS could get in to?

874

00:52:12,760 --> 00:52:15,760

I think it would be incredible because it

875

00:52:16,280 --> 00:52:21,000

I know they're considering monographs  
and edited this, that and the other thing

876

00:52:21,280 --> 00:52:25,760

and I would say, yes, all of the above,  
but if we could add in

877

00:52:26,120 --> 00:52:29,160

some audio material,  
I think it would be terrific

878

00:52:29,680 --> 00:52:34,520

because, it's, it's just a different way

879

00:52:34,760 --> 00:52:37,760

to get messages out there.

880

00:52:38,680 --> 00:52:42,040

I agree. And podcasts.

881

00:52:42,480 --> 00:52:42,960

Right.

882

00:52:42,960 --> 00:52:45,960

Podcasts have become so



883  
00:52:46,120 --> 00:52:50,800  
such a wonderful entry point  
in a deep dive opportunity too for so many

884  
00:52:51,120 --> 00:52:54,040  
you know again scholars and broader,  
you know people just interested

885  
00:52:54,040 --> 00:52:56,320  
in different communities  
and learning about rights.

886  
00:52:56,320 --> 00:52:59,480  
I need need your advice on podcasts.

887  
00:52:59,480 --> 00:53:02,480  
So you have to tell me after  
I will happily share some of them.

888  
00:53:02,760 --> 00:53:03,640  
Okay.

889  
00:53:03,640 --> 00:53:07,960  
I have kind of a radical collection, but  
there are quite a few food ones in there.

890  
00:53:08,280 --> 00:53:13,160  
Yeah, I know the Heritage Farm Network,  
just to give a shout out, is, okay,

891  
00:53:13,160 --> 00:53:14,440  
production company

892  
00:53:14,440 --> 00:53:18,760  
that has a lot of really great,  
researchers and storytelling and.

893  
00:53:19,240 --> 00:53:21,320  
Yeah, I'll, I'll email you a list.

894

00:53:21,320 --> 00:53:24,280

I'll do it after.

Yeah, I'll do that after.

895

00:53:24,280 --> 00:53:27,320

So kind of moving on,

896

00:53:27,320 --> 00:53:30,440

getting towards

the end of our, of our discussion here.

897

00:53:30,760 --> 00:53:35,440

I wanted to start thinking about

what kind of what we were just talking about

898

00:53:35,440 --> 00:53:39,480

that idea of it's a rural North

American situation going for ASFS.

899

00:53:39,960 --> 00:53:42,840

How do you think we can kind of

900

00:53:42,840 --> 00:53:46,960

push it outward and should we,

I know there's an intent

901

00:53:46,960 --> 00:53:49,960

to kind of know drum

or we do have some international,

902

00:53:50,280 --> 00:53:53,320

you know, researchers and scholars

as part of the network.

903

00:53:53,320 --> 00:53:54,640

But do you see that?

904

00:53:54,640 --> 00:53:57,840

Do you see any paths forward for kind of pushing it to be more international,

905

00:53:57,840 --> 00:53:59,280  
or should we just

906

00:53:59,280 --> 00:54:02,760  
like, focus in on the strengths  
of being in North American organization?

907

00:54:04,960 --> 00:54:05,440  
Well, I think

908

00:54:05,440 --> 00:54:08,880  
there's definitely a place for it  
as a North American organization.

909

00:54:09,280 --> 00:54:12,280  
But, the

910

00:54:12,840 --> 00:54:16,760  
I think it would be wonderful  
to be able to work with sort of sister

911

00:54:16,760 --> 00:54:20,800  
organizations  
and different national bodies.

912

00:54:20,800 --> 00:54:25,160  
So there's, now all the Canadian  
Association of Food Studies.

913

00:54:25,560 --> 00:54:28,840  
I'm not going to ASFS this year.

914

00:54:28,840 --> 00:54:33,160  
We're dealing with,  
my colleagues will not go.

915

00:54:33,280 --> 00:54:37,640  
They've canceled every meeting  
in the States until this awful

916  
00:54:37,640 --> 00:54:40,680  
mess of we're not a real country.

917  
00:54:40,680 --> 00:54:43,480  
We're supposed to be a 51st state.

918  
00:54:43,480 --> 00:54:45,160  
On the record, it's bullshit.

919  
00:54:45,160 --> 00:54:48,200  
It's ridiculous  
And all

920  
00:54:48,200 --> 00:54:51,120  
a lot of it is focusing around food.

921  
00:54:51,120 --> 00:54:54,120  
So where, the country is moving

922  
00:54:54,160 --> 00:54:58,520  
very strongly  
to figure out how we can really go local.

923  
00:54:58,800 --> 00:55:02,320  
And because,  
of course, we're a northern country where,

924  
00:55:02,320 --> 00:55:06,840  
our fruits and vegetables  
have been heavily from the state.

925  
00:55:06,840 --> 00:55:12,960  
So there's much,  
much work on greenhouses and hydroponics.

926

00:55:12,960 --> 00:55:18,560

And how are we going to get through this  
with, because nobody seems to be aware of

927

00:55:18,560 --> 00:55:22,000

the huge population differences and scale

928

00:55:22,000 --> 00:55:25,320

and trade in Canada versus the states.

929

00:55:25,600 --> 00:55:29,200

So I've, I used to alternate

930

00:55:29,200 --> 00:55:34,880

between Society for the Anthropology  
of Food and Nutrition and ASFS.

931

00:55:36,320 --> 00:55:37,680

And I've had less

932

00:55:37,680 --> 00:55:41,800

to do with my, my national associations.

933

00:55:41,880 --> 00:55:44,880

And I think that has to change,

934

00:55:45,560 --> 00:55:48,560

but imagine a situation where,

935

00:55:49,600 --> 00:55:52,600

you say every five years

936

00:55:52,840 --> 00:55:56,960

you get together with sister organizations

937

00:55:57,280 --> 00:56:00,280

based in different countries.

938

00:56:00,520 --> 00:56:02,000

I think that could.

Be amazing.

939

00:56:02,000 --> 00:56:04,560

Yeah. It would,  
it would really be amazing.

940

00:56:04,560 --> 00:56:07,480

It would be,

941

00:56:07,480 --> 00:56:10,800

do some, create lots of difficulties.

942

00:56:11,040 --> 00:56:16,840

But even if you just had one stream  
that was the Canadian Food Studies,

943

00:56:16,840 --> 00:56:22,000

which is focusing a lot on northern foods  
and First Nations' foods

944

00:56:22,360 --> 00:56:25,720

and, whatever's going on in

945

00:56:25,800 --> 00:56:29,680

Scandinavia and France and the, the work

946

00:56:29,680 --> 00:56:33,160

in, Singapore and Hong Kong, all these

947

00:56:34,200 --> 00:56:39,280

could if it couldn't be a full meeting,  
it could just be, sister associations

948

00:56:39,280 --> 00:56:43,080

with a stream to allow the,

949

00:56:43,240 --> 00:56:48,240

the integration of the different  
frameworks and different approaches.

950

00:56:49,000 --> 00:56:52,240

Well, that would be wonderful  
because, I mean, as you said, like,

951

00:56:52,240 --> 00:56:56,360

you know, the politics impact, you know,  
all us at the very at every level.

952

00:56:56,720 --> 00:56:56,920

Yeah.

953

00:56:56,920 --> 00:56:59,960

And the idea that, you know, I'm  
just saying you trust in North American,

954

00:56:59,960 --> 00:57:05,160

I'm like, well, we are in North  
American organization right now, but,

955

00:57:05,960 --> 00:57:09,320

you know, ASFS if we have to deal  
with some, you know, the impact

956

00:57:09,320 --> 00:57:13,840

of politics on who can, who can  
and who will be part of the community.

957

00:57:13,840 --> 00:57:16,480

Right? It's yeah. Yeah.

958

00:57:16,480 --> 00:57:18,640

Well, it's North American, but

959

00:57:18,640 --> 00:57:22,120

and the feeling up here  
is that it's really American.

960  
00:57:22,320 --> 00:57:22,600  
Yeah.

961  
00:57:22,600 --> 00:57:25,840  
And of course, that gets all mixed up

962  
00:57:25,840 --> 00:57:29,320  
with this message about there's no border  
and all that sort of thing.

963  
00:57:29,320 --> 00:57:32,760  
So it's, it's a very difficult time

964  
00:57:33,160 --> 00:57:36,440  
for, academics in Canada.

965  
00:57:36,440 --> 00:57:37,960  
Right now.

966  
00:57:37,960 --> 00:57:39,640  
I mean, different problems.

967  
00:57:39,640 --> 00:57:43,000  
I know you're facing it, too, but,  
we have a different,

968  
00:57:43,720 --> 00:57:45,360  
a different kind of a problem.

969  
00:57:45,360 --> 00:57:47,080  
And our situation would be.

970  
00:57:47,080 --> 00:57:49,360  
And I can say that would be an incredible,

971  
00:57:49,360 --> 00:57:53,080  
you know, negative impact on organizations  
like ASFS and.



972

00:57:53,080 --> 00:57:57,240

Yeah, if,

you know, we were if we have that,

973

00:57:57,600 --> 00:58:01,320

absence of Canadian scholars, I'd

that would be incredibly like, deeply

974

00:58:02,160 --> 00:58:03,440

because in fact,

975

00:58:03,440 --> 00:58:06,880

there's because there's a population  
difference, there's fewer people.

976

00:58:06,880 --> 00:58:10,080

So, we have fewer opportunities  
to get together.

977

00:58:10,240 --> 00:58:10,640

Yeah.

978

00:58:10,640 --> 00:58:13,720

And, that's what I always, you know,

979

00:58:13,720 --> 00:58:16,960

what I always loved about ASFS  
and I'm, I'm going to miss it.

980

00:58:17,680 --> 00:58:17,920

Yeah.

981

00:58:17,920 --> 00:58:20,200

I'm we'll miss you this year hopefully.

982

00:58:20,200 --> 00:58:22,920

Hopefully next year.

983

00:58:22,920 --> 00:58:24,240

Right. Hopefully.

984

00:58:24,240 --> 00:58:24,960

And so,

985

00:58:24,960 --> 00:58:26,040

and I will say that

986

00:58:26,040 --> 00:58:29,680

if you're thinking about sourcing  
local fruit, it's not season yet, but

987

00:58:30,000 --> 00:58:34,680

it'll the Orleans outside of Quebec City  
has the best strawberries in the world.

988

00:58:34,840 --> 00:58:37,800

Ooh. All right. They are delicious.

989

00:58:37,800 --> 00:58:42,280

And there's a vendor or a farm farm  
site on the island that also makes,

990

00:58:42,280 --> 00:58:46,360

cassis, like, grows cassis  
and it makes cassis

991

00:58:46,360 --> 00:58:47,520

ice cream.

992

00:58:47,520 --> 00:58:49,960

Oh my. Black currant.

It's like black currant.

993

00:58:49,960 --> 00:58:52,880

And it's swirled with vanilla ice cream.

994

00:58:52,880 --> 00:58:56,440  
Yeah, I went, I went on a trip  
with my girlfriends last summer,

995  
00:58:56,440 --> 00:59:02,720  
and we went to Quebec City in Montreal  
and an unexpectedly unexpectedly.

996  
00:59:02,720 --> 00:59:06,360  
I love Quebec City so much. Yeah, yeah.

997  
00:59:06,360 --> 00:59:07,560  
Delicious.

998  
00:59:07,560 --> 00:59:07,880  
Yeah.

999  
00:59:07,880 --> 00:59:13,480  
And in fact, that's the upside of,  
Trumpism, because we're discovering,

1000  
00:59:14,000 --> 00:59:17,560  
and, and trying to bring up to scale

1001  
00:59:17,800 --> 00:59:23,200  
some of the local food products that,  
you know, had a very small market.

1002  
00:59:23,200 --> 00:59:27,880  
And maybe now we're trying to break down  
provincial barriers

1003  
00:59:28,200 --> 00:59:31,200  
so that more food moves horizontally.

1004  
00:59:31,400 --> 00:59:34,000  
We get less dependent on,

1005  
00:59:34,000 --> 00:59:37,160

on, American food products

1006

00:59:37,320 --> 00:59:41,320

You have such a wide variety of,  
you know, terrain

1007

00:59:41,320 --> 00:59:46,200

and agricultural products and, you know,  
but it's still not know.

1008

00:59:46,520 --> 00:59:49,960

It's still not the, you know, the Central

1009

00:59:49,960 --> 00:59:53,840

California plantation type temperature.

1010

00:59:54,360 --> 00:59:55,520

Yeah.

1011

00:59:55,520 --> 00:59:58,000

That's, you know. Yeah. We,

1012

00:59:59,280 --> 01:00:01,440

yeah, that might be impacted, too,  
if we're gonna.

1013

01:00:01,440 --> 01:00:07,320

Yeah, deport all of our amazing  
agricultural experts and workers. So,

1014

01:00:08,080 --> 01:00:09,600

yeah,

1015

01:00:09,600 --> 01:00:12,640

We're not going to end on, on a  
on a depressing political note.

1016

01:00:12,760 --> 01:00:14,680

No. Okay.

1017

01:00:14,680 --> 01:00:17,920

What are your hopes for food studies  
in the next 40 years?

1018

01:00:17,920 --> 01:00:18,360

We've

1019

01:00:18,360 --> 01:00:19,400

Oh.

1020

01:00:19,400 --> 01:00:23,560

we've gotten through 40 pretty quick,  
and now we're looking at the next 40.

1021

01:00:24,040 --> 01:00:27,040

But what do you where we where  
would you like to see?

1022

01:00:27,280 --> 01:00:27,720

You know.

1023

01:00:27,720 --> 01:00:30,960

Oh I don't know I feel I'm

1024

01:00:30,960 --> 01:00:34,360

80 and I keep thinking  
Amazing.

1025

01:00:34,360 --> 01:00:37,360

You know, I can't even think

1026

01:00:38,120 --> 01:00:38,960

of that.

1027

01:00:38,960 --> 01:00:40,800

I can't think that far ahead

1028

01:00:40,800 --> 01:00:44,480  
because I get frustrated  
because I won't be part of it.

1029  
01:00:45,320 --> 01:00:47,640  
Well, do you, do you have you  
have you said you have children.

1030  
01:00:47,640 --> 01:00:49,200  
Do you have grandchildren?

1031  
01:00:49,200 --> 01:00:54,000  
No, I have, one daughter,  
no grandchildren.

1032  
01:00:54,000 --> 01:00:59,560  
And so I, I'm, I'm having difficulty  
thinking about future.

1033  
01:00:59,600 --> 01:01:03,360  
I, I'm thinking more about,

1034  
01:01:04,360 --> 01:01:07,200  
how to integrate,

1035  
01:01:07,200 --> 01:01:10,280  
you know, over time.

1036  
01:01:10,560 --> 01:01:12,600  
Sorry, not over time.

1037  
01:01:12,600 --> 01:01:17,920  
More like contemporary integration.

1038  
01:01:17,920 --> 01:01:21,840  
Because I honestly feel that,

1039  
01:01:23,360 --> 01:01:26,320  
AI is going to change so much

1040

01:01:26,320 --> 01:01:29,440  
about the way things are,

1041

01:01:29,440 --> 01:01:32,440  
communicated and stored

1042

01:01:32,920 --> 01:01:35,920  
and I have a feeling that the,

1043

01:01:36,280 --> 01:01:39,200  
the model of ASFS

1044

01:01:39,200 --> 01:01:41,320  
may not

1045

01:01:41,320 --> 01:01:42,120  
be and others.

1046

01:01:42,120 --> 01:01:43,960  
It may be transformed.

1047

01:01:43,960 --> 01:01:46,960  
It may not exist in that form,

1048

01:01:47,160 --> 01:01:51,680  
beyond, say, ten years,  
because I think with,

1049

01:01:51,760 --> 01:01:54,680  
it's becoming more and more difficult

1050

01:01:54,680 --> 01:01:58,240  
to travel, the expense of things.

1051

01:01:58,720 --> 01:02:01,720  
Our problems will be to keep

1052

01:02:02,080 --> 01:02:04,960  
food studies,

1053

01:02:04,960 --> 01:02:08,240  
at a human scale rather than having AI,

1054

01:02:08,880 --> 01:02:11,880  
shape so much about our future,

1055

01:02:11,960 --> 01:02:14,960  
our future of eating.

1056

01:02:15,800 --> 01:02:17,720  
But I do think that,

1057

01:02:18,880 --> 01:02:23,440  
the, I don't know what the next 40 years  
will bring.

1058

01:02:24,040 --> 01:02:26,680  
It's hard to say. Right? It's also  
I just.

1059

01:02:26,680 --> 01:02:29,560  
I don't know,  
as it sounds like you also like

1060

01:02:29,560 --> 01:02:33,000  
your years in the classroom  
are really deeply impactful for you.

1061

01:02:33,000 --> 01:02:37,680  
And I know that there as somebody  
who also loves the the practice and the,

1062

01:02:38,320 --> 01:02:43,880  
you know, doing the teaching,  
I yeah, I've noticed a shift in the last,



1063  
01:02:43,880 --> 01:02:46,920  
you know, however many years  
we'll just say five.

1064  
01:02:47,920 --> 01:02:50,320  
Part of it is, you know, that not every

1065  
01:02:50,320 --> 01:02:53,280  
not every student is going to connect

1066  
01:02:53,280 --> 01:02:56,320  
with the material and some just want  
to get the grading it done.

1067  
01:02:56,320 --> 01:02:59,160  
And they have other  
things are passionate about.

1068  
01:02:59,160 --> 01:03:01,480  
But overall, you know, my experience

1069  
01:03:01,480 --> 01:03:05,320  
of, you know, AI entering the classroom  
has been an overall negative one.

1070  
01:03:05,320 --> 01:03:07,960  
And like nobody wants to fail anymore.

1071  
01:03:07,960 --> 01:03:08,680  
Yeah, right.

1072  
01:03:08,680 --> 01:03:10,920  
They just think they can plug in  
and get an answer.

1073  
01:03:10,920 --> 01:03:13,600  
And as you you brought up  
you know that's problematic.

1074

01:03:13,600 --> 01:03:16,880

And both like critical thinking level  
but also on you know

1075

01:03:17,600 --> 01:03:21,560

if we assume we can just plug something in  
and it will harvest

1076

01:03:21,560 --> 01:03:25,640

that lettuce in the right manner for us  
and it won't, it'll miss stuff.

1077

01:03:25,720 --> 01:03:26,680

It'll bruise stuff.

1078

01:03:26,680 --> 01:03:32,080

But, you know, and I think for,  
thinking about ASFS

1079

01:03:34,280 --> 01:03:35,680

as an organization

1080

01:03:35,680 --> 01:03:39,520

and SAFN anthropology of food.

1081

01:03:39,520 --> 01:03:45,760

As you know, these are organizations of 30  
and 40 and 50 years.

1082

01:03:45,880 --> 01:03:50,880

I it would be interesting

1083

01:03:51,920 --> 01:03:56,600

and rewarding if elders could communicate

1084

01:03:56,600 --> 01:04:00,920

something with to the  
to the younger generation.

1085  
01:04:00,920 --> 01:04:05,920  
Things are changing so fast I feel really  
useless, you know, like I can't.

1086  
01:04:06,360 --> 01:04:09,040  
I'm not influencing students anymore.

1087  
01:04:09,040 --> 01:04:12,720  
Just the odd,  
the odd, really odd student, but. So,

1088  
01:04:14,800 --> 01:04:17,200  
you know,

1089  
01:04:17,200 --> 01:04:18,520  
it's it's more.

1090  
01:04:18,520 --> 01:04:21,600  
I'm in the phase of life of reflection  
and looking back,

1091  
01:04:22,360 --> 01:04:25,680  
and I think

1092  
01:04:26,400 --> 01:04:29,400  
with the digital technology,

1093  
01:04:30,640 --> 01:04:33,640  
there's not a feeling that

1094  
01:04:34,240 --> 01:04:37,240  
the knowledge I accumulated in the 60s

1095  
01:04:37,600 --> 01:04:40,600  
has any meaning now,

1096  
01:04:41,560 --> 01:04:45,200  
you know, so that it would be nice

if we could figure out a way.

1097

01:04:45,200 --> 01:04:48,800

And perhaps your oral history  
is part of this,

1098

01:04:48,800 --> 01:04:53,160

to keep that knowledge, in the system.

1099

01:04:53,160 --> 01:04:56,880

But I don't know how,  
but I think you hit a good note there.

1100

01:04:56,880 --> 01:04:59,080

It's doing the oral history projects.

1101

01:04:59,080 --> 01:05:00,400

It's sharing.

1102

01:05:00,400 --> 01:05:03,200

Right. It's. I mean, I would love to know.

1103

01:05:03,200 --> 01:05:05,800

I just been thinking in the back  
of my mind about, you know, your,

1104

01:05:05,800 --> 01:05:08,960

your box of materials that you wanted  
to share with your colleagues.

1105

01:05:08,960 --> 01:05:12,200

And I'm like,  
I would love to get my hands on that.

1106

01:05:12,200 --> 01:05:12,400

Right.

1107

01:05:12,400 --> 01:05:15,800

Well, I'd love to give them to you too,

because I,

1108

01:05:16,000 --> 01:05:19,000

they were all collected before digital.

1109

01:05:19,040 --> 01:05:21,760

And, the Food Institute

1110

01:05:21,760 --> 01:05:24,760

here says they only collect  
digital material.

1111

01:05:25,400 --> 01:05:27,160

Professor Penny, we're going to email.

1112

01:05:27,160 --> 01:05:29,480

We'll figure out what to do about that.

1113

01:05:29,480 --> 01:05:31,120

But that's

1114

01:05:31,120 --> 01:05:35,080

this idea that, you know, same  
as not every one of the students that we

1115

01:05:35,080 --> 01:05:39,280

teach is going to go on to a robust  
and rewarding career in academia.

1116

01:05:39,280 --> 01:05:42,280

Not every, you know, not every

1117

01:05:42,320 --> 01:05:45,560

you know, person in academia  
is going to have the same path forward.

1118

01:05:45,560 --> 01:05:48,880

But there are those of us  
who I completely agree with you.

1119

01:05:48,880 --> 01:05:52,760

I really value the idea of like, you know,  
you have to build out and understand,

1120

01:05:53,160 --> 01:05:57,920

you know, the past in order to deal  
with the present and plan for the future.

1121

01:05:57,920 --> 01:05:58,640

You know?

1122

01:05:58,640 --> 01:05:59,120

Yeah.

1123

01:05:59,120 --> 01:06:02,920

And I think I yeah,  
the thought of the things that you've seen

1124

01:06:02,920 --> 01:06:06,400

and working in Thailand and,

1125

01:06:06,640 --> 01:06:09,640

you know, all these different places  
like that's just incredible.

1126

01:06:09,880 --> 01:06:11,920

The world has completely changed  
since then.

1127

01:06:11,920 --> 01:06:15,240

And I want to I want to pick your brain  
about all of those change.

1128

01:06:15,280 --> 01:06:17,600

Oh, well, you're welcome any time.

1129

01:06:17,600 --> 01:06:20,480

Incredibly valuable to ASFS.

1130

01:06:20,480 --> 01:06:22,720

And to our food studies  
field that we have.

1131

01:06:22,720 --> 01:06:26,280

Nothing really to kind of like  
wrap it up a little bit here.

1132

01:06:26,520 --> 01:06:30,280

That is the purpose of of this wonderful  
oral history project.

1133

01:06:30,280 --> 01:06:31,960

Right. We want to make a record,

1134

01:06:33,040 --> 01:06:34,120

we want to start the

1135

01:06:34,120 --> 01:06:37,120

conversations and get it going there.

1136

01:06:37,200 --> 01:06:41,760

So, I'm just going to say on behalf of ASFS 40,

1137

01:06:42,200 --> 01:06:45,800

the committee  
and ASFS as a whole. I just want to

1138

01:06:45,800 --> 01:06:47,880

thank you for taking the time  
to speak with me today.

1139

01:06:47,880 --> 01:06:48,960

Well, thank you.

1140

01:06:48,960 --> 01:06:53,240

And I very much look forward to continuing  
our conversation on and off the record.

