

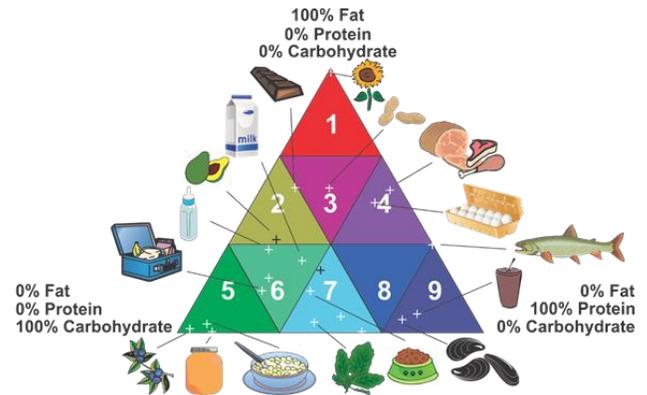
# Spectrum Lecture Series 2016-2017

## Food Reference Materials for Nutritional Assessment

Thursday, March 30, 4:30 PM

Montgomery College  
Germantown Campus  
**Globe Hall (HT building)**

Dr. Melissa M. Phillips  
Chemical Sciences Division  
National Institute of Standards  
and Technology(NIST)  
Gaithersburg, MD



Nutritional content and safety of food products is regulated worldwide, and compliance with nutritional labeling requirements is contingent upon the accuracy and reliability of analytical methods for nutrient and contaminant determination. To assist the US food industry in complying with regulations, as well as assessing and improving measurements, NIST has developed a variety of Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) in collaboration with government agencies, manufacturers, and trade associations. Some of the SRMs currently available include infant formula, breakfast cereal, soy flour, milk powder, egg powder, baby food, meat homogenate, protein drink mix, and dry cat food, with values assigned for vitamins, fatty acids, cholesterol, nutritional and toxic elements, and amino acids, as appropriate. The choice of which should be developed into SRMs is based on the fat, protein, and carbohydrate profile of the food (see triangle above), and also on specific needs identified in the food community. This presentation will focus on the ways in which SRMs assist food manufacturers and regulators in ensuring that nutrition labels are accurate, as well as how interactions with stakeholders influence the production of SRMs.

**Biography:** Melissa M. Phillips has been a research chemist in the Chemical Sciences Division at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) since 2008. She is involved in the certification efforts for food and dietary supplement Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) and is a coordinator of the Dietary Supplement Laboratory Quality Assurance Program (DSQAP) as well as the Food Reference Materials Program. Her interests include development of new analytical methods for the determination of marker compounds and vitamins in dietary supplements and foods, as well as improving the measurement capabilities of the dietary supplement and food communities. Melissa obtained a B.S. in Chemistry, and M.S. in Forensic Chemistry, and a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Michigan State University. Melissa is a member of the AOAC INTERNATIONAL Official Methods Board and is a fellow of AOAC INTERNATIONAL. She lives in Silver Spring with her husband, two daughters, dog, and cat.

As always, Spectrum Lectures are appropriate for a general audience and admission is free. No tickets are required. For questions or to request accommodations for physical disability, please contact Rick Pires at [Richard.Pires@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Richard.Pires@montgomerycollege.edu) or 240-567-7798. More information about Spectrum Lectures can be found at: <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/edu/departments.aspx?id=10883>

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