The global food system has long been challenged by issues regarding environmental degradation, urbanization, industrial agriculture, oligopolistic food production, monopolized markets, top-down rural development and unsustainable food policies. The involuted and complex transnational networks in the food supply chain, rather than easing food supply, has posed an array of challenges to the global food market. Accelerated urbanization around the world also threatens land supply and stable food production. COVID-19 has further exposed the weaknesses of the food supply chain and led to critical food issues, including spikes in food prices, supply shortages, food contamination and competition in food logistics.

This conference will draw together food scholars and practitioners to interrogate various food problems at the time of a pandemic crisis. It aims to revisit many of the existing problems and flaws in the global food system that challenge humanity and sustainability. At a time of crisis, we see opportunities for a discovery of food for thoughts and social changes.