

Mary Ann Lila is Director of the *Plants for Human Health Institute* (PHHI), North Carolina State University. She holds the endowed David H. Murdock Chair, and is a Professor in the Department of Food, Bioprocessing, and Nutrition Sciences. Through ground-breaking, transdisciplinary discovery and outreach, the team of faculty at the PHHI pioneers a dramatic shift in the way the American public views and uses plant food crops – not merely as a source of nutrients and flavorful calories, but as a powerful **resource for components that protect and enhance human health**. Integrated research in metabolomics, biochemistry, pharmacogenomics, breeding and postharvest attributes are aimed at development of mainstream fruit and vegetable produce with enhanced health benefits, *and* introduction of new or underappreciated crops and products from various sites throughout the globe, allowing consumers to make proactive, responsible dietary. Projects in Dr. Lila's laboratory team include Medicines for Malaria Venture; an EPA STAR program on wild berries and tribal communities in Alaska; and a blueberry genomics and transcriptomics initiative.