



### **Research Leader Joins Midland Research Institute for Value Chain Creation**

**Midland, Michigan – June 5, 2017** – The Midland Research Institute for Value Chain Creation (MRIVCC) is pleased to announce the addition of Bahar Aliakbarian, PhD., a respected scholar whose work will focus on smart packaging, especially as it pertains to entrepreneurial activities and bringing technology to market.

“We are thrilled to have a researcher of the caliber of Bahar as part of our Midland-based team at MRIVCC,” said Katherine A. Franz, MRIVCC Executive Director. “She brings multi-disciplinary research experience to her new role and provides depth and expertise that will enable us to pursue and address critical challenges facing our world.”

Aliakbarian completed her Ph.D. in chemical, process and material engineering at the University of Genoa, Italy, in 2009, where she was an adjunct professor and research fellow. Aliakbarian’s research is focused on agro-food industrial wastes. Aliakbarian has received multiple awards for her research, including the Endeavor Research Award from University of Sydney, School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. Aliakbarian’s research at MRIVCC will focus on product authentication, encompassing anti-counterfeiting, anti-tampering, brand protection, and supply chain security. She will be moving from Genoa, Italy to Midland, Michigan soon.

She will work in collaboration with other scientists at MSU, MRIVCC and external private and public sector partners.

#### **About MRIVCC**

The Midland Research Institute for Value Chain Creation is a premier research and education facility dedicated to developing effective and sustainable solutions to improve all types of public and private value chains. Established by Michigan State University in 2013, MRIVCC conducts cross-disciplinary research, with input from our corporate partners, in areas such as value chain optimization, data analytics, engineering, smart packaging, anti-counterfeiting, and water and food safety. The



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Institute was founded by leaders in value chain creation and development at MSU, including the Eli Broad College of Business, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, College of Engineering, College of Social Science, and School of Packaging. Founding donors include The Dow Chemical Company, Dow Corning Corporation, Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation, Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, The Dow Chemical Company Foundation, and the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation. Visit MRIVCC's website at [mrvcc.com](http://mrvcc.com) for more information about the Institute, its programs and services.

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