



Message from the Chair

September 30, 2015.

Dear CSIFT Members, Students and Friends,



Glenn Bluemer
CSIFT Chair 2015-16
Barry Callebaut

The cold air is returning, green leaves are changing, and our favorite fall foods are coming into season. Whether it is an Oktoberfest beer or a Pumpkin Spice Latte that you've been waiting for all year, fall is finally upon us once again. While the final three months on the calendar mark the end of 2015, they also represent the beginning of another season for the CSIFT, with our first dinner meeting of the year held last week.

Dr. John Coupland joined us at our first dinner meeting of the year to talk about the origins of the Food Industry in Chicago. He talked about the Chicago food industry while it was in its infancy, its spring, when there was little to no food laws or regulations in place. Today, we have moved a long way from the plant conditions which were condemned for being inhumane to animals and workers alike. Now we have certifications and safety standards.

This summer we reached a point where fast food workers went on strike because they were no longer satisfied with their compensation, a situation the early Titans of industry never would have dreamed of. It is this kind of development that we should be proud of as members of the food industry. As the years tick by and seasons fade, we are growing.

This fall we will be hosting a number of events which are meant to bring together our members and friends to join us in sharing knowledge and ideas, making new contacts in the industry, and building a stronger food industry moving forward. One of the new events this fall will be in December at the Brookfield Zoo where we will be hosting a beer tasting contest sponsored by a number of breweries, including our friends from Goose Island! We will have plenty of seasonal specialties on hand and I'll bet a few surprises as well.

There are more events planned for the spring and summer months of 2016 that I'm sure you'll enjoy, but for now, let's savor the moment and enjoy the fall season as it descends upon us.

Glenn Bluemer



Chicago Section
Institute of Food Technologists



Chair CSIFT 2015-2016