



## Chicago Section IFT the First Section



### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Hello CSIFT Members.

Food science and all the surrounding food professions are careers/positions in an industry to be proud of! Over time, we have changed the world's food supply allowing safe and abundant food and water. Yes, I realize our work is not done here in our homeland & globally and that we have more to do, **and we will**. For this Holiday Season, be thankful for the safe and bountiful contributions that our career choices have created. Share with others and be giving of your knowledge and your time.

Are you aware that we have been adding programs CSIFT to "give back"? Last year we added a food bank donation program to one of our meetings knowing that our contributions would be the beginning of a way to support our communities. This year our Suppliers' Night included collecting food and supply's from our vendors for local charities. This effort was organized by one of our new CSIFT members, Travis Miller of Miller Research Group, through our Hospitality Committee. Travis joined our Section in September as a way to

network and meet more food professionals in the Chicago (and surrounding) areas and he is already an active and engaged Member. Any of you who want to reach out and assist with any projects, or be a volunteer during one of our events is greatly appreciated and we always have something to do. We listen and would love to hear your suggestions and ideas too!

Do read about our Suppliers' Night in this issue. This special event has continued to grow and fund our Section's coffers so we can offer quality programs, scholarships for students, support for members, and fun educational events throughout the year! To every vendor, all 492 of you who purchased a booth – thank you for your support. To our many Supplier Night volunteers – GREAT JOB! Very deserving "thank you's" also go to our staff at the CSIFT Business Office – Lynnda Nelson and Marty Roth, and our Suppliers' Night Chair, Joe Stout, Skidmore Sales. THANK YOU.

For December we will be returning to the same location we used last year for our Holiday Party – the Westin Chicago north Shore in Wheeling, IL. The location is easy to get to (extremely close to the junction of 94 & 294), and a beautiful venue for our Holiday Party. If you attended last year, you may remember Dave Bennett with Wirtz Beverage. Last year he paired his wines with chocolates for a fun, educational, and delicious event. This year he has graciously agreed to return and pair his wines with artisan cheeses that Dr. Diane Osgood, with Osgood Sustainability Consulting will be presenting. Read more in this issue and make sure to register early for this special evening.

At the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, we are continuing our community efforts to "give back" by asking each of our Members to bring a food donation for the food drive benefiting the Chicago Food Depository. When you bring a food donation for the food drive, this will be exchanged for a raffle ticket. I did learn that our Chair of the



## Chicago Section IFT the First Section



Hospitality Committee, John Chambers, DMH Ingredients, has some wonderful raffle gifts to give away for everyone who participates!

Also, remember that “one special someone” that we all need to say thank you to? Our spouse/significant other! We spend so much time during our lives working – that for this evening – we can include our special someone in our professional lives. As a thank you from CSIFT, “Couples will receive a complimentary bottle of wine (to take home)”. Our Holiday party is intended to be a light, festive event – to say thank you, to mingle, and to meet new friends. I look forward to seeing all of you; couples and singles, whose significant others cannot attend, join us in celebration!

Be thankful to be part of this wonderful Community that contributes so much to making a difference and “feeding tomorrow” (this is now IFT’s new branding and tag line). Have a safe and happy holiday season and I look forward to seeing all of you at our Holiday Party.

Yours in CSIFT,  
Pam

Pamela Vaillancourt – 2010-2011 Chair, CSIFT  
[pamvtic@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pamvtic@sbcglobal.net) or [p.vaillancourt@rqa-inc.com](mailto:p.vaillancourt@rqa-inc.com)