



Chicago Section
Institute of Food Technologists

The First Section ★ Since 1941



Chicago Section IFT Ballot for 2024-25

Nominations for Officers

Chair Elect: Open

Treasurer: Frank Sabella, SVP R&D Mondelez International (to be retired as of March 4, 2024)



Frank is responsible for providing strategic leadership for these categories delivering consumer inspired innovation, brand value and quality to our delicious products. Prior to this he was the Global Vice President Quality, Food Safety, Scientific & Regulatory Affairs for Mondelez.

Mr. Sabella draws upon over 35 years of R&D, quality, and crisis / risk management experience in the food industry. He was a Certified Food Scientist and Certified Quality Engineer. He has served on the Board of Trustees for Institute for the Advancement of Food and Nutrition Sciences as past President and Treasurer.

I would like to continue to serve on the CSIFT EXCOM to give back to the Food Technology community and to help develop the next generation of talent. I have strong project management and people interaction skills which hopefully assist the CSIFT in its volunteer mission. Thank you for the consideration.

Secretary: Molly Hicks, Director of Quality & Food Safety, Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurants



I've been a member of IFT for 15 years, previously volunteering on the CSIFT New Professionals and Hospitality committees. I am a graduate of University of Illinois and have been working in the Chicago area for 18 years. I've met a lot of great people in the industry through CSIFT and encouraged others to become more involved.

I've been serving as Secretary for Chicago Section IFT since 2022 and would love to continue in that role.



Nominations for Executive Committee



Charlotte Allen, Ph.D., CEO Rebel Success for Leaders

For over 25 years, including her time at Kraft Foods, Charlotte's worked with teams to facilitate transformational change. Today she works with the Fortune 1000 to develop change-savvy organizations and innovate to lead the market. Charlotte holds a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University and is an internationally bestselling author.

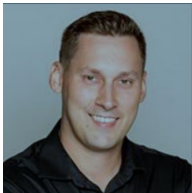
Over the next 3 years the food industry will experience substantial growth. I'm excited about the opportunity to impact the science of food professionals in Chicagoland, one of the key hubs for the industry. The potential is great to further leverage this community to tackle future challenges.



Karen Galena, President, First Logistics Management

During my career (35+ yrs.), I've helped organizations grow and improve service, at the least cost through visionary operational processes. I'm known as an industry connector, from my association involvement and monthly networking group which I started in 2015. My passion is finding ways to help organizations thrive.

Giving back to the industry is deep rooted in all my efforts. Starting my career managing Teamsters for Frito-Lay - one of few women in the industry and subsequently becoming a visionary, role model, speaker, mentor, and executive. I would be honored to serve on the Executive Committee.



Mario Jez, Account Executive, Advanced Biotech

I have been in the food industry for over 11 years and transitioned from R&D to sales. I enjoyed training to become a flavorist but was given the opportunity to combine by R&D and flavorist background into sales. I bring a unique perspective to flavor, food, and fragrance companies.

Transitioning into sales has expanded my network tremendously, and I want to continue building relationships within the Chicago IFT network. I would like to collaborate within this industry and stay connected with members. Lastly, I want to be more involved with Chicago IFT.



Sihui Ma, Lecturer of Food Science and Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Before joining the University of Illinois, I completed my master's and Ph.D. degree in Food Science & Technology from Virginia Tech. There I served as a Graduate Teaching Scholar in a formal teaching program, and explored the impact of food and beverage fermentation on bioactive compounds relevant to human health.

I would like to continue serving as a member of EXCOM and continue to strengthen the connection between CSIFT and our students in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I am committed to communicating our students' needs and feedback to CSIFT,



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encouraging students to get more involved with CSIFT, and reinforcing the connection of FSHN with the food industry. I also want to help attract young talents in studying Food Science, contributing to a safe, nutritious, accessible, and affordable food supply.



Nicole Malicki, Sr. Account Manager, Revela Foods

I am the Sr. Account Manager for Snack Seasonings at Revela Foods. Before moving into the sales realm, I had roles in both Applications and R&D in ingredients. I have been a member of IFT since 2013 and am extremely passionate about the food industry.

I have been involved in IFT since my student years and am eager to volunteer once again. This organization is vital to the food industry and I would be honored to be a member of EXCOM



James Nasella, Director of Supply Chain Quality, Glanbia Nutritionals

James is a graduate of Drexel University (B.S. in Culinary Science 2011) and Michigan State University (M.S. Food Safety 2014). He served in the role of the Chair from 2018-2021 and on the Executive Committee this past year. He would like to continue in this role. He is also currently leading the Strategic Planning Committee.