



## Letter from the Chair: September 2017

### *Welcome 2017-18 Leadership Team*



Welcome to the Chicago Section IFT 2017-2018 year! I am happy and honored to serve as your Chair and looking forward to volunteering and listening to feedback for how we can better serve the food industry.

I'd like to personally thank our Officers and Executive Committee members for donating their time and for their active participation on our leadership team. [View them here.](#)

I'd also like to express a heart-felt thank you to our committee chairs and committee volunteers for supporting the organization with a lot of hard work and great ideas, for creating phenomenal events and for committing time from their families and personal lives to give back to our industry.

As we start our year, I would like to share some of the ideas that we are working to serve you better:

- *Creating different types of events like our October Event "Dine Around" where you will be able to choose between three venues to participate in a wine pairing and networking event*
- *Offering technical sessions in early hours or afternoon hours to adjust better to the different schedules of the members*
- *Facilitating recruitment for companies and job hunting for members by implementing the use of a colored sticker on badges as an indication of "my company has open positions" or "I am looking for a new opportunity"*
- *Partnering with different food industry organizations to reach different audiences*
- *Offering different levels of sponsorship for companies and members to continue with our mission.*

The food industry is in constant evolution and we as professionals have to continuously adjust to new challenges and changes. In some cases those adjustments must take place extremely quick, which is difficult. What better way is there to learn about those changes than being around other professionals and members that face the same challenges every day? Help us and join us in our events. You will find new friends, mentors, and growth opportunities on our leadership team and committees, all while having fun. When doing so, you proud to be a part of Chicago Section IFT!

Finally, if you are looking for opportunities to give back to our professional community, we welcome new volunteers that can donate their time in any capacity. Help us fulfill our mission to increase



**Chicago Section**  
Institute of Food Technologists

The First Section ★ Since 1941



awareness, encouragement, advancement, and knowledge in the food science space. Deepen your contribution, your network, and your influence in our Chicagoland food industry.

Please contact me directly if you're interested in learning more and volunteering with some of Chicago's best leaders and minds in Food Science.

Ivonne Litwin  
Mérieux NutriSciences  
Chicago Section IFT – Chair