



Chicago Section IFT the First Section



Message from the Chair

March 2013

Dear CSIFT Members,

We had a very exciting and successful Student Night event on March 11 at Chateau del Mar in Hickory Hills. Over 40 food science students from greater Chicago area representing U of I, IIT and Dominican College attended the event and benefited from a tour of Griffith Labs and a variety of workshops organized by the Hospitality Committee under the leadership of Keith Schafer. I have attached below a thank you note from one of the students. It's quite gratifying:

.... I just want to say thank you for the lovely CSIFT Student Night this year. It is my second time to CSIFT Student Night and I really enjoyed it- not only the food, but also the other professionals at the Speed Networking; they have offered a lot of insights in job/ internship research. Also, the tour at Griffith Laboratory is also very good. All of the scientists at the Griffith laboratory are very happy to answer any of our questions.

Please do forward this email to other CSIFT board members if you have the chance; I truly appreciate the tremendous amount of effort that is put into evening. I also want to thank the sponsors for this pleasant CSIFT student night...

Sheng- Chieh Chang (Sindi), U of I (class of 2014)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Student Night committee and volunteers for a fantastic job of organizing the event, the members and corporations for sponsoring student dinners and Griffith Labs for the facility tour.

Now I would like to share a couple of highlights from the last Executive Committee meeting:

- **Midwest Area College Bowl:** The Committee revisited the original request for funding for the event and voted unanimously to approve an additional \$500 to raise our sponsorship to match the original request (\$1,500). The event is organized and hosted by the University of Illinois for the Midwest Area IFTSA. The winning team from the Midwest area will compete in the IFTSA College Bowl the Annual Meeting in Chicago this summer.
- **Breakfast Technical Seminar Series:** We do have a volunteer to lead this program! I am proud to inform you that Zeek Agosto from Northland Labs has been appointed as the chair of our Breakfast Technical Seminar Series. We already have three volunteers to assist Zeek on this committee. Now, we are actively seeking a corporate sponsor for this program.



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- **CSIFT Website:** We would like to revamp and harmonize the design, layout and appearance of our communication media channels (i.e., newsletter, website, etc.) to maximize impact, functionality, attract traffic and sponsors. To that end, I am sponsoring a task force to evaluate the current appearance, explore potential options for revamping the website and make recommendations. The task force members include: Bill Becht (Chair), Denise Michalik, Laura Colby, Jim Anderson and Lynnda Nelson.

We just received a congratulatory note from the national IFT informing us that our Section is a winner of the IFT Membership Referral Program. The Section will receive a \$500 reward from IFT. Thank you for supporting and nurturing our partnership with IFT.

I look forward to seeing you at our joint meeting with AACT on Monday, April 8 at Waterford Banquets in Elmhurst.

Warm regards,
Vijay

Chicago Section IFT – Chair 2012-2013

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