



Uwe Nienaber, 2011-2012 Chair

### **Message from the Chair**

Dear CSIFT Members,

You should have received an email with voting instructions for the ELECTION of the Section's officers and executive committee members on February 8, 2012 from our business office. The virtual voting booth is now open and I want to make sure that you take action and cast your vote to boost this year's participation rate.

It will make all of the many volunteers and candidates more valued and appreciated if our membership takes an active role in the election process. So let's make it a record turn-out this time! Don't delay - vote now!

My second request is about your Section's awards program. This year we are asking you to submit nominations for the CHICAGO SECTION IFT CHAIR'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. This award is presented every other year to recognize an outstanding achievement in Food Science. The individual needs to be a member of the Chicago Section IFT to be eligible. The award consists of a \$250 honorarium, an inscribed plaque, and expenses.

In addition we are recognizing an outstanding CSIFT Member who has distinguished himself or herself in the service of the Chicago Section IFT with the ELLERY H. HARVEY SERVICE AWARD. This award is presented every year and consists of a \$200 honorarium, a scroll, and expenses. All Chicago Section members are eligible, excluding elected officers for the year. Nominations for both awards are to be submitted to the immediate past-chair Pam Vaillancourt by 30 March 2012. Nomination forms can be found here: [Chair's Achievement Award](#) & [Ellery H. Harvey Service Award](#)

Please take note that we have changed our STUDENT NIGHT event to the month of March this year. As in the past our Hospitality and Student Night committee is organizing an event that helps current students from the University of Illinois, Purdue University, Dominican University and the Illinois Institute of Technology to connect with professionals in the field, while at the same time helping our members to identify future talent. There are several ways in which you can support the event:

- \* Volunteer for speed networking or resume building sessions
- \* Sponsor a student with a dinner when you register for the event
- \* Have your company donate for the "goodie bags" given to the students, and get recognized
- \* Interact with the students at the event and answer their questions about the profession

Additional details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

And if you have a suggestion or complaint, then please do me a favor and click below to drop me a line. See you all in a few weeks at our March Student Night.

Uwe Nienaber - CSIFT Chair - [uwe.nienaber@kraftfoods.com](mailto:uwe.nienaber@kraftfoods.com) -847-646-4623