



## Chicago Section IFT the First Section



### April Dinner Meeting Highlights

*"I attended the IFT Student Night this past Monday with U of I and I just wanted to express my gratitude for the opportunity. I loved interacting with professionals in the food industry and I feel that I made some valuable contacts. I understand that you are one of the chairs for the Student Night committee, and so I wanted to thank you for helping to make the program possible and so easy to participate in! Please pass on my gratitude to all who were involved in making it such a wonderful event. Thank you!" -Chrissy Coles, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Food Science*

*"...I want to thank you for everything this organization has given me. Not only am I grateful for the IFT scholarship, but all the resources IFT offers are truly amazing. I am privileged to be presenting a poster at this year's IFT Expo, and I was fortunate enough to attend the expo last year in Chicago with my university. I could not have enjoyed myself more, and it only increased my enthusiasm for this field. IFT makes food science so enjoyable and accessible to students, and I simply cannot imagine doing anything else. Thank you again for your wonderful opportunities. I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans this summer." - Ariel Cavazos*



As it is our tradition, the Chicago section's April meeting is dedicated to our students. So it was time again for Student Night. A team of two employees from Kraft Foods, Perfecto Perales, Senior Director of Packaging Research, and Dr. Steve Hill, Director of Cheese and Dairy R&D, presented on "Diversity and Inclusion at Kraft RDQ". They introduced the audience to Kraft Foods as a global food company which generates more than half of its revenues outside North America. They talked about the importance of diversity which encompasses experiences, perspectives and skills that make each employee



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unique. Inclusion stands for a respectful culture that values differences as vital assets for the company's future success. Part of the diversity strategy is to recruit food scientists, engineers and other disciplines from many different universities and to support professional organizations like IFT.

The presenters also gave an overview of Kraft Foods' global Research Development and Quality organization with more than 3300 employees and an annual budget of approximately half a billion US dollars. A number of examples highlighted the various university courses relevant to the food industry. Several recent innovations introduced successfully into the marketplace were discussed covering the areas of ingredient technology, nutrition, packaging and product innovation. Perfecto and Steve finished their presentation with a brief overview of their career paths, followed by a few thoughts on the importance of mentoring and continuous learning.



### **CSIFT Sponsored Scholarship- The Jonathan Baldwin Turner Scholarship- JBT Scholarship** Amanda Rosendale- University Of Illinois

<http://students.aces.illinois.edu/scholarships/jbt>

**Students who were awarded Feeding Tomorrow scholarships for the 2010-2011 academic year:**

University of Illinois-Urbana

Lily Benner  
Arial Cavazos



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### Purdue University

Martina Buckholtz

Abe Mittler - Quality Assurance Division

Belinda Christina - Food Microbiology Division scholarship

Stacey Hirt - Junior/Senior scholarship

Katherine Veenhuizen - Junior/Senior scholarship

Kelsey Tenney - Freshman scholarship



### Raffle Winners

Chantal Schwebach - University of Illinois

Edwin Cortes - Dominican

Winnie Chang - IIT

Ankush Kukreja - IIT