



# Chicago Section IFT the First Section



## NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND HUMAN NUTRITION.

We wanted to share with the Chicago Section IFT what FSHN students are doing as they begin their semester. The Food Science Club or the Association of Food Technologists (AFT) is a student organization that helps food science students of all levels in the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department with their college and future careers. We are a proud college chapter of IFT and we work hard to bring the global food science community to UIUC.

Our club objectives are:

- To build a strong relationship between students and faculty in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition.
- To present leadership opportunities to students.
- To connect students and the food industry through guest speakers, company tours and internship opportunities.

Since we held executive board elections in the spring, we were able to hit the ground running this semester. Our executive board includes: President (Ariel Cavazos), Vice President (Merry Wang), Secretary (Katharine Girone), Treasurer (Disha Gandhi), Social Chair (Kelsey Choquette), Historian (Lun Ou), ACES Council Chairs (Andy Nistor & Noah Roberts), and Explore ACES Chairs (Ellyn Polley & Lauren Smith).

After a successful week of membership recruitment at Quad Day and freshman orientation, we held our first general meeting on 9/4. There was a great turnout for our first company information session with Kraft Foods. At this session Kraft employees describe their company structure, values, work environment, and recruitment opportunities available. Of course, food is always included! Since then, we have hosted an information session with Kellogg's. We are planning an intern workshop with Diageo. We have a number of companies that will be visiting in October that are looking to recruit FSHN students for internships and full-time positions. We also have many fun activities planned including a farmers' market trip, apple picking, and cooking chili to sell on the quad; anything to take advantage of the beautiful fall weather in Champaign! AFT and FSHNGSA are also very excited to collaborate with events for FSHN students, and we are getting ready for an exciting year!

The Food Science and Human Nutrition Graduate Student Association (FSHNGSA) is a graduate student association for the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department. Our mission is to increase the interaction among faculty and graduate students by providing academic, social, and career related events. Elections for a new set of officers concluded just over a week ago, bringing in some returning but many new first year graduate students into the executive board. Our current executive board consists of the following members: President (Joseph Donovan), Vice President (Jennifer Hoeflinger), Past President (Clarissa Koga), Treasurer (Bethany Richardson), Secretary (Timothy Turner), Webmaster (Max VanTassell), Public Relations Chair (Wan-Yuan Kuo), Social Chair (Emily Eklund), and Symposium Chair (Elizabeth Gentner).

Only three weeks into the 2012-2013 school year and the FSHNGSA has already been very busy! The previous year's officers held one final event, a "Welcome Back" BBQ, where about 30 returning and incoming graduate students were able to meet-and-greet just prior to the fall semester beginning. Following that gathering, another "Welcome Back" lunch event was held on August 31<sup>st</sup>, with over 60 graduate students and department faculty attending. This event was particularly valuable to the incoming students, as each person at the event took a moment to personally introduce themselves and their research.

Last week the FSHNGSA had Dr. Susan Brewer, professor emeritus in our department, present at the re-occurring Pioneer Seminar Series'. The PSS, invites a department professor to give a 50-minute presentation



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about their field of specialization or current lab research. The attending 50+ students and faculty enjoyed lunch. Dr. Brewer introduced the concepts of the relationship between color and light, and how these concepts can be applied to various areas within the field of food science. The PSS presentations, as with all previously mentioned events, are free for all attending students and faculty.

With many more exciting events to come, the FSHNGSA looks forward to the year ahead!

And we will be bringing a bus load of students to Suppliers' Night on November 15<sup>th</sup>!

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