



Message from the Chair

April 24, 2015

John Budin, Ph.D.
Chicago Section IFT 2014-2015 Chair
FONA International Inc.

Dear CSIFT Members, Students and Friends,

This past Monday the Chicago Section IFT had a joint meeting with the American Association of Candy Technologists (AACT). The AACT had their annual supplier's night event which consisted of table top chocolate and confectionary demonstrations followed by the CSIFT dinner meeting. Our speaker was Ron Sukenick, who gave an interactive talk on "The Power is in the Connection." The talk provided strategies for developing and utilizing deeper professional relationships.

The May dinner meeting will be the 53rd Annual Tanner Lecture, and is the last of our dinner meeting season. The origin of the Tanner Lectureship is part of the rich history of the Chicago Section IFT and was the outcome of an amazing accomplishment. The historical details provided in this column come from a variety of sources, of which I have tried to assure historical accuracy. If there are any discrepancies, please accept my apologies in advance and provide me with a correction.

During the early years of IFT, the Sections would manage all aspects of the Annual IFT Meeting when it was held within the geographical boundaries of their Section. The Chicago Section IFT hosted the Annual IFT Meeting in 1960 and the event was very profitable – the Section made \$15,000, which at the time was a considerable amount of money. After making this profit, discussion began on what to do with these funds. Leaders of the Chicago Section IFT wanted to use these funds to benefit the Section membership. Through these discussions, the concept and intent became clear – to use these funds to bring an outstanding lecturer that had a career of significant contributions in food science.

The next order of business was to identify an individual to whom the Lectureship would be named. The Chicago Section wanted to honor a local individual with strong contributions to IFT. It is important to note that at this time, IFT was still a relatively young organization.

Dr. Tanner (1888-1957) joined the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1923 and was the first chair of Bacteriology (now Department of Microbiology). His research focused on food



Chicago Section
Institute of Food Technologists

The First Section ★ Since 1941



safety issues, specifically pasteurization and meat curing, and was the author of more than 150 publications in microbiology and public health. Dr. Tanner wrote the first textbook in food microbiology and this textbook was widely used. His scholarly activities would help lead to the establishment of the Food Technology Department at the University of Illinois in 1947.

Dr. Tanner was a founding member of IFT, the sixth President of IFT (1945-46), was awarded the Stephen Babcock Award (1952) and was posthumously awarded the Pasteur Award (1959).

Dr. Tanner founded the scientific journal, *Food Research* which later became to what today is known as the *Journal of Food Science*. In summary, Dr. Tanner was a local individual, a highly regarded expert on food microbiology, and an early pioneer of IFT which led to the posthumously naming of the Chicago Section IFT Lectureship in his honor.

The concept of a distinguished lecturer did not remain unique to the Chicago Section IFT. In 1981 the Minnesota Section IFT would establish their Macy Award, in honor of Harold Macy, Dean Emeritus of the University of Minnesota and a founding member of IFT. The purpose of the Macy award is to advance the profession and practice of food technology.

Over time, it is the individuals that maintain the prestige of the Tanner Lecture. This year we are honored and excited to have Dr. Gary Reineccius from the University of Minnesota be our 53rd Tanner Lecturer of the Chicago Section IFT. Dr. Reineccius will speak on the “Advances in Encapsulation Research for Extending the Shelf-life of Oxidizable Food Ingredients.”

I look forward to seeing you on the May 18 Tanner Lecture at the Cafe La Cave in Des Plaines!

Kind regards,

John Budin, Ph.D.
Chicago Section IFT Chairman 2014-2015
FONA International, Inc.
Phone: (630) 578 8588
email: jbudin@fona.com