



## Message from the Chair

May 15, 2014



**John Chambers**Chicago Section IFT 2013-2014 Chair
DMH Ingredients

Dear CSIFT Members,

I hope you all had a great time at the Tanner Lecture dinner meeting. As our last dinner meeting for this term I couldn't have been more pleased on the turn out. We had great food, an excellent presentation, and plenty of time to reminisce with one another on the great times we have had over the last year. Our Historian did an excellent job in capturing those memories in a slideshow that was displaying during dinner.

I want to send out a BIG "Thank You" to the committee volunteers and our business office for making all the dinner meeting events special this year! The House and Program Committees continued their reputation of providing a great venues and great guest speakers for our attendees this year.

It was an honor to have John W. Erdman Jr., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign our Tanner Lecture speaker. He gave a great presentation that was enjoyed by all. The topic was titled "Does Processing of Foods Impact Cancer Risk? The event was held at Cafe La Cave in Des Plaines, IL. His presentation was very informational and relevant to the folks in the CSIFT community. Thanks to Dr. Erdman, I will promise to eat more steamed broccoli and cooked tomatoes. As he stated "Broccoli & Tomatoes: Eat Them Together, Life Will Be Better"! If you missed the presentation we will have Mr. Erdman's presentation on our website for your review.

At the dinner meeting it was my pleasure to announce our first ever VIP Guest Experience Selection that was initiated by our Membership Committee Co-Chairs Joy Dell'Aringa and Sharim Lane. The first VIP Guest award went to Griffith Laboratories. Amy Jones and Chris Carr accepted the award on behalf of Griffith Laboratories. As a Section we value the efforts of Griffith Laboratories over the years in the food industry. Their VIP Invitation was thoughtfully selected as their company is recognized as an industry leader within the CSIFT community. We hope they thoroughly enjoyed their time experiencing a





preferred look at our organization and that they will be as inspired as we are to influence others within their company to join, engage, volunteer, and develop within IFT's First Section – The Chicago Section.

Since it was our last dinner meeting of the term I would like to show my appreciation and gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Chairman. It has been truly an honor for me to be Chairman of this Section. I have learned so much over the last few years from our volunteers and the procedures it takes to make this organization run. In an addition to the experience I have been able to grow some great relationships that will last me a lifetime.

It has been an interesting year. We have had exciting speakers, great venues, contract negotiations, new website proposals, bylaw changes, Unified Membership, a lot of laughs, and even some tears as we lost one of long time leaders in Sue Monckton. But I know we have all grown from these experiences. I look forward to being a volunteer with Chicago Section for years to come and to help see through the Long Range Plans that we have set.

For years we have had a great and vibrant Section. I hear this more and more as I have talked to the leaders of other Sections throughout the country. Though being great for years, I think we can do even better. When I look at the people we have in place now and the energy and commitment of these folks, we will continue to be #1. With that said I am very pleased to be able to volunteer with our elected leaders we have set for the next couple years.

John Budin will be your next Chairman starting September 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be in good hands with John. He is a great leader and shares the same passion I have to keeping this Section # 1. I am very excited to have his leadership skills on the team. Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Chairman. It has truly been an honor and a blessing.

Please come out and celebrate with us at our 2014-15 Kick Off meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>. See our website for more details.

Best regards,

John Chambers
Chicago Section IFT Chairman 2013-2014
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