

INSTITUTE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGISTS DC SECTION QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Third Quarter 2019 | September 27, 2019

HELLO AND HAPPY FALL!

Hello from officers of the DC section of the Institute of Food Technologists! We hope everyone is having a wonderful , if not warm, start to their fall!

If there are any questions about the newsletter, accomplishments, or tips to include, please email us at ift.dc.section@gmail.com.



IFT SECTION RECOGNITION

The DC IFT Section has been recognized as a Section of Excellence for 2018-2019! Thanks to all the section members for making this happen!



IFT MEETING AND EXPO

It was great to see many of the DC IFT Section members at the IFT Annual Meeting and Expo in New Orleans this summer, particularly at the section happy hour! We hope that those of you who were able to participate enjoyed your time networking with other members of the section, and learned some new things walking around the expo floor and during the many fascinating scientific sessions.

We are planning another section happy hour for the 2020 IFT Annual Meeting and Expo in Chicago, which is taking place July 12-15. We hope to see many of you there! More details will be provided closer to the meeting.

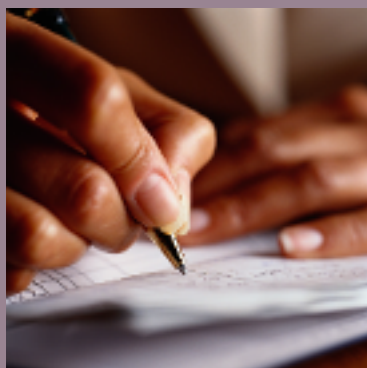
KEY DATES

The DC IFT Section Board is working to schedule two events for the fall - a volunteer event in October or November, as well as our Holiday Happy Hour in December. Please be on the lookout for emails from the section on these events. If you have any thoughts on future events, please let us know - you can reach the section at ift.dc.section@gmail.com.

We are also in the middle of planning for next year's Food Policy Impact, our key annual event where we bring in speakers to present to IFT members on various issues of interest. More information will be provided soon.

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

Is there a particular topic or issue that you're interested in that you want to write about for the quarterly newsletter? If so, please reach out to us (ift.dc.section@gmail.com) to share your thoughts!



REGULATION MATERIALS

Major changes are coming for the Nutrition Facts Label beginning January 1, 2020. What are the key changes? The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has lots of good information on what the major changes are and information to educate consumers on these changes. More information can be found on their website.

What about bioengineered disclosure? The US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) keeps updated FAQs on this rule on their website, including a new Disclosure Determination Tool which helps determine whether or not mandatory disclosure is required.

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There's been lots to celebrate with member accomplishments this season! Some of these are noted below.

- New section member **Suzanne Pecore** was recognized at this year's IFT Annual Meeting with the Sensory and Consumer Sciences Achievement Award. Congrats Suzanne, and welcome to the DC section!
- **Martin Chapman**, President of Indoor Biotechnologies, announced development of the MARIA® for foods, which is a state-of-the-art multiplex array capable of measuring food allergens. The new technology will be presented at two meetings in October: the NIST Food Safety Workshop and the MoniQA International Symposium on Food Fraud Prevention and Effective Food Allergen Management.
- **Dr. Lawrence Blume** was featured in a two-page editorial in *Food & Drink* regarding cannabis edibles and is an invited speaker to the Professional Manufacturing Confectioners Association scientific symposium on cannabis in confectionary and snack products in November.
- **Dr. Taylor Wallace** published two opinion pieces on the role of bioengineering in solving nutrition issues (*The Detroit News*) and on establishing a national institute for nutrition (*USA Today*).
- **Jack Cooper** presented a poster, *Why a Public Private Partnership is Necessary for the Discovery of New Food Packaging Materials* at the New Orleans Food and Beverage Environmental Conference. Jack also presented the poster at the National Academies workshop "Closing the Loop on the Plastics Dilemma." Section member **Jesse Zuehlke** also presented the poster at the International Life Sciences Institute meeting, "Scientific Advances and Challenges in Safety Evaluation of Food Packaging Materials."
- IFT DC Section Board President **Andrea Wong** was promoted - she is now the Senior Vice President of Scientific and Regulatory Affairs at the Council for Responsible Nutrition. Congrats Andrea!

MEET YOUR BOARD: ALLISON COOKE

In the next several newsletters, we are going to highlight some of the section Board members so members can get to know them a little better. This quarter we are highlighting Allison Cooke, the new President-Elect for the DC section.

How long have you been involved in IFT?

I officially joined IFT in 2017, but I had participated in IFT events before. In 2015, I was a speaker at the IFT Annual Meeting and Expo. I presented on domestic and international regulations impacting sugar reduction initiatives.

It was my first time at IFT - it was so interesting to walk around the expo and participate in other scientific sessions. The expo floor was definitely something to behold as a newcomer!

When did you become a member of the DC section Board?

I served as the DC Section Secretary from 2018-2019 before becoming President-Elect of the section for 2019-2020.

What is one of your key goals as President-Elect?

I would love to see the section be more engaged with our members, particularly our student members. We have such a unique section compared to others around the country, so I think it's important to share our experiences with one another.

What's your favorite thing to do around DC?

Maybe it's a symptom of being an IFT member, but I love to find new restaurants and bars around the city. I am also a big sports fan, so enjoy catching a game when I can. Very excited for the start of hockey season - GO CAPS!!

