



New York Section
Central New Jersey Subsection
Institute of Food Technologists



NIFTY News Central

A Joint Newsletter of the New York Institute of Food Technologists and the Central New Jersey Subsection

March 2021

CNJIFT Virtual Meeting

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Webinar 4:30 – 6:00 pm Eastern Time

No Charge to Participate

**How a nonprofit like AmpleHarvest.org
Can Help Your Business's Food Waste
Reduction Effort**



Speaker:

Gary Oppenheimer
Founder & Executive
Director
AmpleHarvest.org

While food waste nonprofits typically rely on corporate partners to support their work, there are times when a nonprofit's mission can actually help a business. Learn how this award winning NJ-based food waste nonprofit works to end the waste of surplus locally grown fresh food, while also partnering with businesses seeking to reduce their own food waste or grow their business.

Mr. Gary Oppenheimer is Executive Director and Founder of Ample Harvest. A self-described aging geek, he has worked with computers and communications going back to the 1970's. As director of a community garden in 2009, he learned about the wasted food in many plots and created a program called "Ample Harvest" to get the excess food to local food pantries. Realizing this as a nationwide problem, he created a nationwide solution called AmpleHarvest.org to use the Internet educate, encourage and enable millions of growers nationwide to share their ample harvest with local food pantries in all 50 states.

(Registration Information on Page 2)

The Impact of COVID-19 on IFT

In a special message, IFT President Noel Anderson provides an update on the impact of the pandemic on IFT, and our commitment to our members as we weather this storm.



We've been living in a world forever changed by the coronavirus for a full year now. The pandemic has left in its wake not only catastrophic health impacts, but also economic, social, and organizational waves that will be felt for quite some time.

I recognize the many challenges and sacrifices the IFT community has made over the last 12 months. My heart goes out to those of you who have lost your jobs. For those of you still working, it hasn't been easy. You may be working from home alongside family members or spending all day, every day alone. Those of you going to the office may be working in new spaces with new safety protocols. Academicians and students have had to adapt to online teaching and learning, and time in research labs has been dramatically reduced. Then there's also the social and emotional chaos and uncertainty of the pandemic. Whatever your new reality looks like, it's undoubtedly different.

Much like the challenges many of us have experienced in our personal lives, IFT has felt the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on several levels.

As a mission-driven organization, IFT is grounded in purpose—to advance the science of food and its application across the global food system to help ensure safe, sustainable, nutritious, and delicious food is available and accessible to all. Although we offer many programs and benefits to our members and the science of food community aligned with this purpose, the IFT Annual Event and Expo has consistently been our most significant source of revenue and income.

(Continued on Page 6)

Register for CNJIFT Virtual Meeting

How to Register

This Zoom meeting is being conducted on a complimentary basis. There is no charge to participate, but pre-registration is required. Complete the online registration form at <https://nyift.org/events/cnjift-dinner-meetings/>.

Once registered you will receive a confirmation closer to the date of the meeting with a link containing the Meeting ID and the Password. Please log in about 10 minutes prior to the start of the webinar to avoid any technical issues.



2021 UPCOMING MEETINGS

** Indicates Board Meetings Held.
Members are encouraged to participate.

Thursday
** April 29 Joint Virtual NYIFT/Nutmeg Meeting
Design Features of PepsiCo's New Laboratory
Kevin O'Sullivan, SVP, R&D – Global Beverages, PepsiCo

Thursday
May 6 **NYIFT Suppliers Day & Career Fair**
Meadowlands Expo – Secaucus, NJ

Monday
June 14 **CNJIFT Golf Outing**
Cranbury Golf Club – Cranbury, NJ

July 18-21 IFT 2021 – Chicago, IL –
Details will be available at <https://www.iftevent.org/>

2021 NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

This Newsletter is a publication of the New York Institute of Food Technologists and the Central New Jersey Subsection. The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are the opinions of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position of IFT, or the NY/CNJ sections of IFT and should not be interpreted as such.

April Issue March 26
May Issue April 3
June Issue May 7

Articles can be faxed to the NYIFT Office at 201-490-5922 or emailed to nyiftoffice@optonline.net

NYIFT Officers

CHAIR

Spencer Sullivan
PepsiCo
Spencer.sullivan@pepsico.com

CHAIR-ELECT

Shirin Madanshekaf
PepsiCo
shirin.madanshekaf@pepsico.com

PAST CHAIR

Marlene Hyme
Flavor & Fragrance Specialties
m.hyme@ffs.com

SECRETARY

Yangyang Jin
Sun Chemical
yangyangjin52@gmail.com

SECRETARY-ELECT

Gina Cobianchi
Nestle US Nutrition
Gina.cobianchi@us.nestle.com

TREASURER (Exp. 2022)

Melanie Gong
Citromax
mgong@citromax.com

TREASURER-ELECT

Sally McLeod
Morgan Stanley
finpro@hotmail.com

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Suzanne Mutz-Darwell – *Exp. 2021*
Firmenich
suzanne.mutz.darwell@firmenich.com

Marc Meyers – *Exp. 2022*
Meyers Consulting
marc.meyers@meyersconsulting.com

NYIFT OFFICE

P.O. Box 138
Cresskill, NJ 07626
Tel: 201-905-0090
Fax: 201-490-5922

Email:
nyiftoffice@optonline.net

Visit us at www.nyift.org

CNJIFT Officers

CHAIR

Amy Gilliland
amygilliland00@gmail.com

CHAIR-ELECT & NY LIAISON

Open Position

PAST CHAIR

Ryan Gaboy
bioMérieux
ryan.gaboy@biomerieux.com

SECRETARY

Joe Auslander
Panos Brands
joeauslander@gmail.com

TREASURER

Ronnie McBurnie
Groncki Associates
ronniemcb@verizon.net

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Jo Ann Fritsche **Exp. 2021**
IFF
jo.ann.fritsche@iff.com

Maria Manisero **Exp. 2022**
IFF
maria.manisero@iff.com

NYIFT/CNJIFT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Graduate Student

Shuo Yuan
Rutgers University
Dept. of Food Science
sy362@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

Undergraduate Student

Akino Tomizawa
Rutgers University
Dept. of Food Science
akino.tomizawa@rutgers.edu

Contact us at
nyiftoffice@optonline.net

STUDENT NIGHT – Poster Presentation Recap

This year's Student Night was certainly different and the students who applied for the scholarships and poster applications all adapted very well during the interviews via Zoom. They should all be commended for their professionalism to stay on time and keep the judges engaged throughout their virtual time. Special thanks to the judges this year – Chair Carol BoNey, Gloria Dematos Stern, Amy Gilliland, Paul Takhistov, and Bev Tepper. A big THANK YOU goes to Debbie Koch at Rutgers for coordinating the logistics for the interviews and Poster Presentations and special thanks to Gerri at the NYIFT Office for facilitating the Zoom interviews and for organizing the poster presentations online so that the students could visit with members live!

Congratulations NYIFT Scholarship Winners . . .

Graduate Student Winners (\$1,500 each):

Marina Girbal Gonzalez | Ke Sui | Kevin Tveter | Ting Zheng

Undergraduate Student Winner (\$1,000):

Akino Tomizawa

Congratulations NYIFT Poster Presentation Winners . . .

First Place \$500: **Kui Sui** for the poster:

Cannabidiol CBD Reduces Inflammation and bone loss in a murine model of female post-menopause

Second Place \$300: **Regina O'Brien** for the poster:

Development of lexicon to describe Brassicaceae and non-Brassicaceae baby leafy greens grown with Controlled Environment Agriculture with links to chemical composition

Third Place \$200: **Michael Shen** for the poster:

Sweetener type determines the rate of carbonic acid synthesis in carbonated drinks

Undergraduate Special Recognition \$100: **Akino Tomizawa** for the poster:

GRAS Flavonols as Potential Molecular Probes of Physical Properties in Food Systems

This year we created an opportunity for **Team Competitions** to submit their entry. **Congratulations** to the following Team who was awarded for their Product Development Competition: Smart Snacks for Kids. The team shared the award of \$300.

Aditya Ambole | Erika Cochran | Leslie Mora | Natasia Ortiz

The Poster Presentations are all available online at the NYIFT Virtual Galleria. We encourage you to browse the booths and review what amazing research the students are doing with their professors. Access is available here:

<https://nyift.org/nyift-virtual-suppliers-expo/>. If you forgot your passcode from the Virtual Suppliers Expo, simply fill out a quick attendee form and you'll receive your passcode to enter the floor plan. Once you click on the Floor Plan, you will see a section marked "**Poster Presentations**". You can contact the students via their email address; the Zoom link is inactive.

2020-2021 NYIFT CORPORATE SPONSORS

as of February 26, 2021 – A star (★) indicates a new Corporate Sponsor for 2021.
Those companies in **BOLD** have renewed their sponsorship for 2021.

**Time to Renew! To be listed in the APRIL 2021 Newsletter,
renewal must be received by March 26, 2021**

Thank you for supporting the NYIFT. Your contributions help fund our Scholarships and Awards.

Accurate Ingredients/Ingredient Resources

Acme-Hardesty

Advanced BioTech

Balchem Ingredient Solutions

Bell Flavors and Fragrances

Beverage Hill International

Biomerieux

Bontoux Inc.

Certified Laboratories Inc.

Comax Flavors

Divi's Laboratories (USA), Inc. ★

Domino Specialty Ingredients

DuPont Nutrition & Health

Enzyme Development Corporation

Givaudan

GNT USA Inc.

Gold Coast Ingredients Inc.

Hunter Walton and Co. Inc.

Ingredient Connections Inc.

Ingredient

J.F. Kelly Company

KALSEC, Inc.

Mincing Spice Company

Palsgaard Inc.

Perimondo

Scott Process Equipment Corp.

Sethness - Roquette

Sun Chemical ★

Ungerer & Company

Virginia Dare

Not a Corporate Sponsor? Join Today! Get recognition on our website, newsletters and more!

Some of the many benefits of being a Corporate Sponsor include:

- \$100 discount per booth and premium booth placement at 2021 NYIFT's Suppliers' Day
- Complimentary employment advertising – a savings of \$200 per ad per month!
- Your company name publicized in each issue of the NYIFT newsletter and on the website
- Publicity and recognition of your commitment to the food industry throughout the year
- Receipt of a full list of Suppliers' Day participants with their name, company and contact information shortly after Suppliers' Day.
- Opportunity to submit a project brief for a Cornell University Food Science Summer Scholar Program

There are 2 ways to join. Use the form at the end of this newsletter or complete the online form at <https://nyift.org/membership/become-a-corporate-sponsor/> and follow the payment instructions.

Questions? Contact:

Corporate Sponsor Chair Martin Slayne at 469-767-4031; martin@slayneconsulting.com;

Gerri Cristantiello at the NYIFT Office at 201-905-0090; nyiftoffice@optonline.net

Rutgers University Undergraduate and Graduate Food Science Student Update

Written by: Akino Tomizawa (Undergraduate IFT Student Representative)
and Marina Girbal (Graduate Student Association IFT Student Representative)



With the new year, the arrival of the snow, and the winter holidays, January was a quiet month for the Food Science GSA. Even though there were no events, we used the time to plan a wide range of activities for the upcoming semester. The Food Science Undergraduate Club and the GSA, in conjunction with the NYIFT Scholarship Committee and Office, worked hard to host Student Night. Unfortunately, this year's event was not in person, but it gave us the opportunity to reframe its structure. We organized a panel of young food science and agricultural professionals to discuss the topic: "Future Food Scientists: Agents of Change," which is now more relevant than ever. Our panelists each

specialized in different areas of the food industry. Mr. Nick Tarleton is currently working at Kraft-Heinz as a Data Manager, Ms. Danielle Dos Santos is an Associate Brand Manager at Mars-Wrigley, and Mr. Steven Jeanty combines his job in industry with his current undergraduate studies as a Plant Science major at Rutgers University. This virtual event featured relevant topics such as sustainability, food safety, food security and food policy.

The Undergraduate Food Science Club was busy planning another exciting and engaging semester. We kicked off the spring semester with a collaborative event with the UC Davis Food Technology Club and two of their distinguished faculty members, Dr. Maria Marco, and Dr. Luxin Wang. Dr. Richard Ludescher, Dr. George Carman, and Dr. Mukund Karwe represented Rutgers. Both students and faculty enjoyed learning about each other's programs, and the opportunity to network and socialize with students and faculty from a different university. The Chapter Buddy Program, facilitated by the IFTSA, has provided students from universities across the nation, with a unique and invaluable opportunity to connect and learn from their peers. As the reach of the food industry continues to grow on a global scale, this program allows students to be well prepared for their future careers in the industry. For Valentine's Day, our club was able to get together to learn about the connections between food and love through fun and interactive trivia games and icebreakers. The rest of the semester will continue to be filled with opportunities for professional development with the added benefit of social interactions with our friends and peers.

Student Night is always an exciting and inspiring event that students look forward to. It gives students the opportunity to celebrate each other. This year, it was especially vital that students have a sense of normalcy and the ability to support one another. Thanks to the continued support and dedication of NY/CNJIFT, students were able to come together, albeit virtually, to foster and provide a message of hope for the future. We congratulate all the winners of the undergraduate, graduate and team poster competitions this year, as well as the winners of the NYIFT undergraduate and graduate scholarships! We are all collectively so proud of all that Rutgers students (and those from other institutions) have achieved at such an unprecedented time in history. We hope to carry on these traditions and continue to strengthen our presence and ties with NY/CNJIFT and many other members.

The Impact of COVID on IFT . . . (Cont'd from page 1)

While there is no question cancelling the in-person event was a necessary course of action given the circumstances, it caused a major disruption to our operating model and significant loss in revenue that couldn't be recovered. This required us to reduce staff by 23%, with all remaining staff taking temporary salary reductions and a salary freeze.

Prior to the pandemic, we had embarked on a process to review and evaluate all existing IFT programs. This process became increasingly urgent once we understood the financial ramifications of our post-pandemic future. IFT had more than 90 programs, with new ones being added every year. The sheer volume of activity was stretching our staff and volunteers so far that it was becoming difficult to innovate and adapt to ensure the programs we offered were still relevant and aligned with our purpose. With the reduction in staff and declining revenue, it wasn't feasible to continue programs just because we've always done them. We had to make tough decisions to reduce programs not only to reduce costs, but also to make space for new program development. In doing so, we are able to bring our costs and programs closer to balance with our new reality, create new value for members, grow our community, advance our mission, and plan a resilient strategy to bridge to a brighter future.

It was imperative for us to look at all of our programs objectively to determine if they were delivering enough value and whether IFT was the best place for these programs to reside. Since our staff and volunteers are passionate about and attached to all of our programs, we hired a consultant to facilitate this process with rigor and objectivity. Every program was reviewed across more than 20 different dimensions, including a cost assessment, ROI, member engagement with the program, mission alignment, multi-year trends, duplication of efforts with competing organizations, and more. Ultimately, the process resulted in a recommendation to the Board of Directors to eliminate 14 programs. In addition to these programs, IFT's Food Technology magazine has reduced the number of annual issues from 12 to 11 by combining the December and January issues. In the months ahead, we'll be communicating the details and timing of these program eliminations with relevant program volunteers, stakeholders, and participants.

Despite these challenges, there have been many bright spots in the last year. I'm particularly proud of how quickly staff and volunteers pivoted to create our first virtual annual event and food expo—SHIFT20. While certainly different from the on-site experience, SHIFT20 gave us the opportunity to experiment with new, creative, accessible, and adaptive ways to bring our community together, a trend that will continue in 2021 and beyond. Also, our Global Food Traceability Center has done some exceptional work with the Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability to develop traceability standards and interoperability guidance for the seafood industry. These are just two of the many valuable activities that have progressed despite the persistence of COVID.

The members you have elected to serve on the IFT Board of Directors have worked diligently to lead us through this crisis while continuing to deliver resources, experiences, networking, and learning opportunities. It hasn't been easy, and the sacrifices have been great, but they have carried the heavy responsibility of making these difficult decisions in order to ensure the organization not only survives but thrives. I am truly grateful for their dedication and leadership during these challenging times.

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the impact of IFT's conscientious governance and financial management over the years on our ability to weather this storm. Our fiscal responsibility in better times has enabled us to build a sizable reserve fund that has become a lifeline for the organization to operate through this challenge efficiently yet confidently. Without it, we would be in a much more dire state. While it certainly isn't ideal to be operating at a significant revenue deficit augmented by our savings, we are fortunate to be able to continue advancing our mission and supporting the monumental work of the science of food community.

I often say, let's not waste this crisis, and I truly mean it. The challenges have been great, but our collective resolve is greater. Our leadership team remains committed to bringing our community exceptional programming, networking, learning opportunities, ways to volunteer and give back, and more. We are in this together. I am confident that through these trials, IFT will adapt and grow and emerge stronger than ever.

Reprinted from IFT's Blog: <https://www.ift.org/news-and-publications/blog/2021/the-impact-of-covid-on-ift>

EMPLOYMENT REFERRAL SERVICE

TO PLACE A POSITION WANTED OR POSITION AVAILABLE AD

To place a **POSITION WANTED** ad you must be a member of the NY/CNJ IFT. Contact the NYIFT at 201-905-0090 for details.


Corporate Sponsors of the NY/CNJ IFT can place a **POSITION AVAILABLE** ad at no charge. The fee to post a **POSITION AVAILABLE** ad, if your company IS NOT a NY/CNJIFT Corporate Sponsor, is **\$200** per ad, per month. To become a Corporate Sponsor contact Gerri Cristantiello, NYIFT Office at 201-905-0090.

NOTE: Positions will be removed after 3 months unless you contact NYIFT to continue to have your posting listed.

TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FOR THESE JOB OPENINGS

Contact Gerri Cristantiello
NYIFT Office: 201-905-0090
Email: nyiftooffice@optonline.net

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

 **A-1032 TECHNICAL SERVICE LEAD – FOOD AND NUTRITION** – This position is entrepreneurial and has the ownership mindset of creating a startup business in a safe environment with the funds and resources from within the company. S/he is responsible for developing food and beverage prototypes to showcase Sun Chemical colors and technologies. S/he leads technical support to customers and sales team on color evaluation in food applications. S/he manages a portfolio of customer projects, prioritizes and allocates resources in alignment with business strategy. The Technical Service Lead works closely with Sun Chemical R&D, analytical and technical services in pigment group to fully leverage existing capabilities and resources.

[Click for a complete job description, position requirements and how to apply](#) [Click for a complete job description, position requirements and how to apply](#)

Job Location: Carlstadt, NJ or Cincinnati, OH

A-1031 FOOD SCIENTIST/BIOCHEMIST: Part-Time - Divi's Laboratories (USA) Inc. is seeking a Part-Time Food Scientist/Biochemist with experience in Food Science, Nutrition, Vitamins, and Supplements. This position will assist the Technical Director, assist with sales and customers on technical and application related questions, join on customer visits, assist with contract manufacturing operations; QC Review technical sales documentation, perform sales training, and ensure FSMA/FSVP compliance updates.

Job Location: Partially remote, monthly attendance at the office in Florham Park, NJ required.

For information or to apply contact Denise Catini at d.catini@divisnutra.com. (11/20)

A-1030 SQF (SAFE QUALITY FOOD) COORDINATOR: Part Time – Perimondo is seeking a Part-Time Safe Quality Food Coordinator. This position is responsible for maintaining and coordinating the creation of documents required in our QMS (Quality Management System). Additionally, this position is responsible for coordinating and tracking activities required to maintain our SQF Certification. Must work independently. Good knowledge of food safety regulations and some lab experience is an advantage. [Click for Complete Job Details and Application Process.](#)

Job Location: Florida, NY – (11/20)



2021 CORPORATE SPONSOR APPLICATION | Corporate Sponsor Dues: \$350

Submit your application online at: <https://nyift.org/membership/become-a-corporate-sponsor/>
or complete this form and return with your check.

Company Name: _____
(As it is to be listed on the Newsletter and the NYIFT website)

Contact Person: _____
First Name Last Name

Street Address/PO Box Apt #

City State Zip

Phone: Email:

Website/URL to link your Company Name

Additional Contacts: The benefits of being a NYIFT Corporate Sponsor extend to other departments, by providing us with the contacts in the following departments, your company can benefit the most.

Please check this box if you are the main contact for all departments

Research & Development:

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Human Resources/Personnel Hiring: For Complimentary Employment Advertising

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Marketing Department: For Suppliers Day Expo Benefits

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Credit Card – Email completed form to nyiftoffice@optonline.net and pay online at www.squareup.com/store/nyiftshop

Check – Please make check in the amount of \$350 (one year sponsorship) payable to New York IFT and remit with form to: New York IFT, P.O. Box 138, Cresskill, NJ 07626

We want Corporate Sponsors' input. What speakers or topics would you like to hear at NYIFT meetings?
Where would you like meetings held? Would you like to be on a committee?

Questions? Contact NYIFT Office at nyiftoffice@optonline.net | Tel: 201-905-0900 or
Corporate Sponsor Chair Martin Slayne at martin@slayneconsulting.com | Tel: 469-767-4031

Visit our website at www.nyift.org for calendar of meetings and events