

## 2018-2019 Section of Excellence

The IFT Volunteer Section was awarded the Section of Excellence Award just prior to IFT19. The dedication to the food science and technology profession, volunteer events, and excellent leadership are all aspects that we have been commended on. This is an amazing accomplishment for the section!



# IFT VOLUNTEER SECTION NEWSLETTER

## July 2019

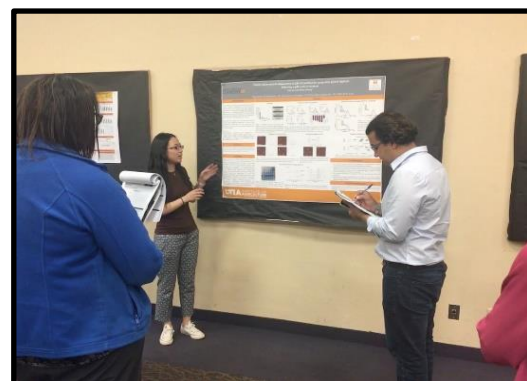
### Chattanooga Meeting

The Chattanooga meeting was held on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Roger Lawrence, the Corporate VP of Global Quality & Regulatory for McCormick & Company, Inc., was the guest speaker. Roger is also on the IFT Board of Directors, so students were able to meet with him prior to seeing him again at the IFT19 Annual Meeting & Food Expo. He gave a great information session on successful tips for both students, faculty and industry members.

### Nashville Meeting

The IFT Volunteer Section Nashville meeting held the 3rd Annual State-Wide Competition for Food Safety Modernization Act, Food Safety, and Food Science Students on May 29<sup>th</sup>. The UT Food Science Club (FSC) students received funding from the UT Center for Student Engagement's Student Organization Travel Fund (SOTF) for transportation to the meeting. Several students submitted

abstracts for consideration, but the competition was fierce! Six students were oral competition finalists, and 11 students were poster competition finalists. The competition was so fierce, there were several students that tied! Make sure to check out the student winners below! Students were able to view the Food Safety Modernization Act booth as well as get a tour of the TSU High Pressure Processing Facility prior to the competition. A large "thank you" to Dr. Aliyar Fouladkhah for organizing, the co-chairs and judges, the funding support from USDA (Projects 2017-07534, 207-07975, and 2017-06088), and Pressure Biosciences, Inc.



*Nan Li, PhD student at UT, presenting her research poster during the Poster Competition session at the IFT Volunteer Section Nashville Meeting*

### IFT Recognition

Prior to IFT19, the IFT Volunteer Section was notified that they were selected as a Section of Excellence for the continued commitment to IFT, section members, and the food science and technology profession. The Section was recognized in the Hall of Honor at IFT19, and Jennifer Vuia-Riser (UT past-student representative), Kyla (UT present student representative), and Joshua Brantley (UT student representative-elect) were able to view the IFT Volunteer Section name in the Hall! It was a great moment for the students to see how the hard work of the Section Board and experiences they had from events were being recognized by IFT. Additionally, Valerie H. Bradley, Aliyar Fouladkhah, Virginia O. Mercer, Karen S. Powers, and Qixin Zhong were named 2018-2019 Outstanding Section Volunteers! Check out all of the IFT recognitions on the [IFT Community site](#).

### IFT19

The UT FSC students were able to receive funding again from the SOTF to travel to IFT19 which assisted with transportation, housing, and registration, which allowed for high UT Food Science student representation! There were over 10 student research presentations from UT, and some students were even able to win awards! Purni Wickramasinghe won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Biotechnology Division, Andrea Nieto won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Nutraceutical & Functional Foods Division, and Hao Zhang won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Carbohydrates Division Poster Competition during

the Phi Tau Sigma & IFT Honor Division Competition at IFT19. Jennifer Vuia-Riser received one of the eight Feeding Tomorrow General Graduate Student Scholarships for the upcoming academic year and was recognized at IFT19 as a scholarship recipient.

The UT FSC even came home with an award, taking home the inaugural IFTSA Chapter of the Year Award in the Develop category through their efforts to empower students through service, community, and experiences! The diversity of activities and professional development opportunities would not have been complete without the events held by the IFT Volunteer Section. Make sure to stop by the Food Science Building in Knoxville to see the trophy!

### UT Food Science Club to host IFTSA 2020 Midwest Area Meeting

At the IFTSA 2019 Midwest Area Meeting, the UT FSC won the bid to host the 2020 Midwest Area Meeting. April 2020 will be here before we know it, so Jennifer Vuia-Riser (Lead Chair), Joshua Brantley (Co-Chair), and Bob Pellegrino (Co-Chair) have been hard at work organizing details. Be on the lookout for communication from the Area Meeting Chairs as they begin organizing the event and looking for sponsors to help with food, local tours, the College Bowl Competition, and showing the diversity of the Tennessee food industry! If you are interested in sponsoring or donating to the IFTSA Midwest Area Meeting & College Bowl Competition to be held at UT, please email Jennifer ([jvuia@vols.utk.edu](mailto:jvuia@vols.utk.edu)).

### Free Professional Development Webinars from IFTSA

This summer, IFTSA will be hosting two free online webinars for IFTSA members. You can virtually attend the “Marketing Yourself Professionally” webinar on July 23<sup>rd</sup> (1-2PM) and the “Publishing Prowess: Tips on Getting Your Manuscript Accepted” with Dr. Foegeding (Editor in Chief for the IFT Scientific Journals) webinar on August 15<sup>th</sup> (10-11AM). Make sure to register for the [July 23<sup>rd</sup>](#) and the [August 15<sup>th</sup>](#) events!

### Student Leadership

The current UT student representative, Kyla, is graduating in December, but she will play an advisory role to the incoming UT Student Representative, Joshua Brantley. Joshua did the trifecta; he became the UT Food Science Club Vice-President, the IFT Volunteer Section Student Representative, and became an Area Meeting Co-Chair for this upcoming year! The 2017-2018 UT Student Representative, Jennifer Vuia-Riser, will serve on the IFTSA Board of Directors as a Member at Large for the 2019-2020 year. Make sure to see her at IFT20 as she will be helping organize and run some of the IFTSA events.

### Sign up to be a part of IFT

Want to network with thousands of food science professionals? Want to be a part of the IFT Volunteer Section? Meet other students in food science? Gain exclusive access to internship opportunities, scholarships, and free professional development events? Sign up to be an IFT member! Just go to [IFT.org](http://IFT.org) and click on “[Become a Member](#)”. From there, follow the on-screen instructions. [Students get discounted dues](#) and becoming an annual member is only \$60! Just graduated? There is an “[Early Career](#)” option that is discounted too!



The Hall of Honor at IFT 19 recognized the Volunteer Section as a 2018-2019 Section of Excellence

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Annual State-Wide Competition for Food Safety Modernization Act, Food Safety, and Food Science Students Winners</b>	
<b>Poster Division</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> : Kaleh Karim (TSU) (tied), Jennifer Vuia-Riser (UT) (tied) 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Shreya Singh Hamal (TSU) (tied), Purni Wickramasinghe (UT) (tied) 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Jayashan Adhikari (TSU)	<b>Oral Division</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> : Monica Henry (TSU) (tied), Trent Kerley (UT) (tied) 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Abimbola Allison (TSU) 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Shan Hong (UT)
<b>Co-Chairs and Judges</b> Dr. Aliyar Fouladkhah Dr. Niamul Kabir Mr. Shahid Chowdhury Dr. Monique McCallister	

Questions? Reach out to the Volunteer Section’s UT Student Representative, Joshua Brantley ([jbrant12@vols.utk.edu](mailto:jbrant12@vols.utk.edu)).