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Upcoming Event:

- **SUMMER 2016 | Section Social**
Date TBD

UNL, FPC Showcased at Spring Meeting



The Nebraska Innovation Campus hosted IFT-A's Spring Meeting and put Suji's Korean Cuisine and the Food Processing Center in the spotlight.

The Spring Section Meeting was held April 12 on the Nebraska Innovation Campus (NIC) at the University of Nebraska– Lincoln (UNL). Presenters at the meeting included Suji Park, Chief Inspirational Officer of Suji's Korean Cuisine and Bethany Jackson, Technical Services Manager at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Food Processing Center (FPC). Tours of the FPC's new facilities and equipment were given by Lori Keeler and Bethany Jackson.

Suji Park presented "Food Dreams Made Real", a talk describing her journey building a multinational business in Japan, Korea, and the United States.

She credited UNL's Dr. John Rupnow and the FPC for boosting her business to new heights. Her decision to establish her research and development offices on Innovation Campus were as a result of the resources and expertise available through the Food Processing Center. Suji described her passion for building her brand, saying, "Whatever I do, I'm going to own it". The precepts of Suji's Korean Cuisine are threefold: clean label, authenticity, and perception. To maintain her clean label, fruit extracts are used to bolster sweetness, and dishes are built on four main ingredients; sesame, garlic, and soy sauce or pear puree.

Bethany Jackson gave a presentation describing the updated capacity and functions of the FPC at UNL with the transition to the new facilities at NIC. The Applied Research and Engineering group utilizes the expertise of research assistant professors at the University. A new Food Properties Testing Service has been established as well as new professional development opportunities. The newest course will take place in June, entitled FSPCA Preventive Controls for Human Food. In addition, the FPC offers Labeling and Regulations, Laboratory Services, Product and Process Development, Sensory Analysis Laboratory, Small Business Development Services, and Pilot Plants. To contact Bethany or learn more about FPC, visit <http://fpc.unl.edu/>.

2016 IFT-A Student Scholarships

Again this year, the Aksarben Section awarded scholarships to outstanding University of Nebraska-Lincoln Food Science and Technology Students at the Spring Student Recognition Banquet held on February 26th in Lincoln. This year's recipients were Alexandra Tobin, Erica Lewis, Erica Pribil, and Julianne Kopf. Presenting the awards on

behalf of IFT-A were Jennifer Mancuso and Celia Bravard. Congratulations to the winners, and best wishes to all who applied!



Pictured above L to R: Jennifer Mancuso, Erica Pribil, Erica Lewis, Alexandra Tobin, and Celia Bravard. Not pictured: Julianne Kopf. Photo courtesy of Justin Lewis, UNL.

A Message from the Chair, Steve Harrison

Institute of Food Technologists – Aksarben Section Members:

We are closing in on the end of the fiscal year and I want to take the time to thank all of the current Board of Directors (BOD) rolling off that will not hold BOD positions next year (Ryan Talley – Past Chair, Sarah Ellington – Secretary, Pam Lawson – Treasurer, Kevin Samuelson – Member at Large and Kaitlin Reimer – Student Representative). I followed in the footsteps of Jennifer Mancuso who got the IFT Aksarben Section going again and Ryan Talley who put our systems and processes in place. We would not be here today if not for them! I made it my goal to increase the diversity of the BOD going forward.

This current year we had about 75% of our BOD derived from ConAgra, including myself. Next year no single company will represent more than 25% of the BOD. Next year's BOD comes from UNL, Natural Food Concepts, ConAgra, TreeHouse, Midwest Laboratories, D&D Foods, Anderson Partners and Smitty Bee Honey. We are truly diverse and well represented from many facets of the food industry. Next year brings the IFT Aksarben BOD both new blood (64%) to our ranks as well as returning tenured members (36%). Further, both Melanie and Jennifer plan to participate in the IFT National Leadership Summit on July 15th. Melanie and Jennifer will be well prepared to lead us next year as Chair and Chair-elect respectively and I look forward to helping out too as Past Chair. Thanks for the opportunity to be your IFT Aksarben Section Chair. I enjoyed the year and look forward to an even more prosperous next year!

“We are truly diverse and well represented from many facets of the food industry.”

All the best,

Steve Harrison

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