

TECH TALK



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1. Thursday, October 18, 2007

What: BC Food Protection Association Food Safety Conference – **Preparing for the Future**
For more information visit: www.bcfpa.net
When: 7:00 am – 6:30 pm
Where: River Rock Casino Resort & Conference Centre
8811 River Road, Richmond, BC

2. Thursday, November 15 & Friday, November 16, 2007

What: Western Canadian Functional Food & Natural Health Product Network
6th Annual Conference Eastern Traditions & Western Trends
For more information visit: www.bcf2.com
When: Thursday: 7:30 am – 8:30 pm
Friday: 7:30 am – 1:30 pm
Where: Vancouver Airport Marriott
7571 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC

3. January 2008

What: Students Night – Hosted by UBC Students
More details to follow.
When: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: University of British Columbia

4. Wednesday, February 27, 2008

What: BCFT Suppliers Night
For more information visit: www.bcft.ca
When: 4:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Where: Coast Hotel and Convention Centre
20393 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC

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Call for Nominations Out Now for National IFT Leadership Positions!

Now is the time to take your IFT volunteer involvement to the next level. You have an opportunity to nominate yourself or a colleague for President-Elect or for a position as a Member of the 2008-09 Board of Directors. Visit the Committee page of www.IFT.org to access our IFT Leadership Brochure to learn more.

Beginning Thursday, August 30, it is quick and easy to submit a nomination online. Visit www.IFT.org and login to "Member Center" to complete the Volunteer Leadership Nomination Form.

A form can also be requested by contacting Heather Lang in the IFT Executive Office at hmlang@ift.org. Deadline is October 11, 2007, so be sure to submit your nomination today!



For Employers and Job Searchers

BCFT sponsors 'no-charge' job postings and resume postings on our website. Please ensure the posting is in pdf or word document form. Optionally, we can provide a form for the job posting.

Check out the current positions available at this link. http://bcft.ca/Positions_available.htm

For more information or to post a job, contact Nancy Ross at webmaster@bcft.ca



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VANCOUVER VICTORIA KELOWNA WINNIPEG



“Harvesting a Nation’s Appetite: A Taste of Food Science and Nutrition Trends to Come”

Summary by Margaret Daskis and Crystal Cinq-Mars

What a smorgasbord of exciting and interesting group of speakers and topics, all in one day! We were treated to a range of specialists from food engineering, food genomics, packaging, and nutritional communication.

Members of the UBC Food Science Department kicked off the morning with Dr. Tim Durance speaking of and showing his research in Radiant Energy Vacuum Dehydration, an economic alternative process for lyophilization (freeze drying) with unique properties of its own. The short video clips in his presentation illustrated the changing properties of products as they are exposed to this process. It was exciting to be able to see the actual changes to the physical shape and the resulting textural identities. From the initial food research to the current pharmaceutical applications, Dr. Durance reminded us of the unknown destinations research can lead.

The UBC tag team then provided Dr. Zhaoming Xu to explain the latest research and relationship between Vitamin D and cancer. “Topical and tropical” are the main suggestions to receive your recommended dose. As usual, the final definitive level of dietary Vitamin D required to prevent cancer is debated, and is also not the “one stop shop” for all cancers. More research and debate to come!

Our guest from Australia, Dr. Gordon Robertson, a renowned specialist in the Health Implications of Food Packaging area, walked us through the history of packaging compounds entering food products. From lead-containing solder used in metal cans of the past, to chemicals from packaging films and inks used in current packaging materials, it is evident that packaging needs to be as equally regulated as the food itself. We all threw away our bottled water containers, only to then realize that even glass is not perfect! Not only must the material itself be considered, but also the process and end use of the package, in order to evaluate the relative risk to the consumer.

After lunch, Dr. Steve Lund identified the advances in his team’s research of using biomarkers to identify beneficial gene sequences of plants. His specific genomic research in the Viticulture field assists in understanding the ripening process, mechanisms for controlling metabolism and other processes that affect the final agricultural product. Understanding genomes is the first step to solving complex agri-food problems. Not all genetic research marries fish bits with plant bits!



Dr. Gordon Robertson spoke on Health Implications of Food Packaging.

Our final speaker for the day, Leslie Beck, a registered dietician, author, journalist, and media commentator, provided the latest statistics of Canadian dietary trends. Making discriminating choices in what we eat is the main focus of the dietary advice from nutritionists and dieticians; we should be looking for high quality carbohydrates and not discounting all types as the villains in our society! Acknowledging the demographic, social, and lifestyle trends of the population is critical when developing meals and meal replacements. Actually, what is a meal these days but a series of snacking opportunities?! The challenge: How do we incorporate the nutritional requirements into the snacking format?

The attendee surveys indicated from “good” to “excellent” ratings for the speakers and topics. Any suggestions for next year’s program? Please contact Cassandra, our program chair.

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Let's Honour BC's Best Through IFT and CIFST Awards!

Because BCFT is in the unique position of being a section of both IFT (Institute of Food Technologists) and CIFST (Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology), members may be eligible for a wide number of awards, depending on the national organization to which they are affiliated.

IFT has a large number of awards established to "honour outstanding individuals, teams and organizations for contribution to the profession of food science and technology". Eligibility for these depend on the specific award type. Brief descriptions of the awards and nomination forms can be found at <http://members.ift.org/IFT/Awards/>. Please note that the *deadline* for nominations for all IFT achievement awards is *December 1*.

CIFST also has several annual awards designed to recognize the "endeavours and contributions of members to CIFST and the food industry". Descriptions and nomination forms can be found at <http://www.cifst.ca/default.asp?ID=851>. Deadline for nominations for CIFST awards is around the end of February.

Each of you are encouraged to think of those deserving members of BCFT, check out the available awards, and get those nominations in. As Awards Chair, Anne McCannel (anne_mccannel@bcit.ca) can assist with the nominations if desired. It's always wonderful to have our members recognized through these national awards.




BCFT Website

Please check out the BCFT website at www.bcft.ca for:

- *Up to date information about upcoming BCFT events,*
- *Job Postings, for those companies needing a hard working food technologist,*
- *Job Seekers, for those hard working food technologist needing a company,*
- *Book your table at Supplier's Night using our online registration.*



If you have any feedback or events that you would like posted, please email Melanie Thomson at webmaster@bcft.ca.



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British Columbia Produces Award Winners!

Anne McCannel (BCFT Awards Chair) presents Emily Ho and Eva Pierre (BCIT Food Technology graduating students) with the BC Food Technologists Award in Food Technology.



Submitted by Anne McCannel

A number of BCFT members were honoured at the Awards Recognition ceremony held at the CIFST / BCFT National Symposium Series on September 27.

Student members of the 2006 – 2007 BCFT executive were recognized for their hard work over the past year. **Alana Drescher** (UBC), **Emily Ho** (BCIT), **Riska Ngudjiharto** (UBC), **Eva Pierre** (BCIT), and **Mira Tanumihardja** (UBC) each were presented with certificates of appreciation.

Nancy Ross, of Robertson & Ross Associates, received the **Barry Walsh Memorial Award** in recognition of her long standing commitment and dedication to the BCFT executive over many years. Nancy has held almost every position available on the

executive, including chair, program chair, newsletter editor, membership chair, banquet chair, and secretary. For a number of years she held several positions at the same time. BCFT is pleased to acknowledge Nancy's extensive contributions through the Barry Walsh award.

For the first time, those who have been involved with BCFT through consecutive membership with CIFST or IFT for 25 years or longer were recognized. Members of the **25 Year Club** (many of them members for longer than 25 years) include: **Sharon Riches**, **Dr. Eunice Li-Chan**, **Alnoor Hirji**, **Dr. Jane Ruddick**, **Rick Gammer**, **Nancy Baillie**, **Dr. Shuryo Nakai**, **Vic Martens**, **Dr. Tim Garland**, **Dr. John Vanderstoep**, **Barry Morgan** and **Dr. Jim Richards**.

Jerry Hedding and **Dr. Bill Powrie**, who have held consecutive memberships for an amazing fifty years were welcomed into the **50 Year Club**. We wish them many more years to come!

(Confirming consecutive membership with the national organizations was not a flawless task, and we apologize if anyone was missed. Please contact Anne McCannel if you or someone you know should have been included in the 25 or 50 year club.)

At previous separate events held at UBC and BCIT, the BC Food Technologists Awards were presented to **Alana Drescher** (UBC grad, Food Science Major) and **Emily Ho** (BCIT grad, Food Technology) and **Eva Pierre** (BCIT grad, Food Technology).

Congratulations to all our award winners!

Thank you from BC Food Technologists Award Recipient

Dear BCFT Executive:

Thank you for nominating me for the BC Food Technologists Award. I finally believe that hard work does pay off and I appreciate you recognizing my efforts working on the executive.

Working with BCFT was the ideal experience for me. I needed to schedule my time, prioritize my goals, and challenge my weaknesses. I believe that my duties as a student representative were the main contributors of my success in the Food Technology Program.

I am a graduated leader, seeking to pursue my initial goal of a degree. I know now what my capabilities are, and I am thankful to you for steering me to them.

It is so nice to be recognized; but, honestly I am lucky to be a part of something that I really enjoyed. Thanks again.

Yours sincerely,

Eva Pierre

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