

# TECH TALK



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 1. Monday January 14, 2008

**What:** 2008 Annual BCFT  
Student Night  
Hosted by UBC Students  
*Food Systems on Mars*

**When:** 5:45 pm – 8:15 pm

**Where:** Asian Centre Auditorium,  
University of British Columbia  
1871 West Mall  
Vancouver, B.C

### 2. Wednesday, February 27, 2008

**What:** BCFT Suppliers Night  
For more information please visit:  
[www.bcft.ca](http://www.bcft.ca)

**When:** 4:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**Where:** Coast Hotel  
and Convention Centre  
20393 Fraser Highway  
Langley, BC

## Message from Chair:

As another year draws to an end and I am reminded of the words of Bill Vaughan – *An optimist stays up to see the New Year in, a pessimist stays up to make sure the Old Year passes leaves.*

With 2007 ending, what is your mindset? Are you looking forward to the New Year or just grateful that you can turn the page on 2007?

For BCFT we have seen a great 2007! A number of programs and events in spring and fall of 2007 have jump started us into an even better schedule for 2008. Starting with a fantastic event for Student's Night on January 14<sup>th</sup> at UBC, we will culminate the season with the CIFST convention in PEI in May and the Annual IFT show in New Orleans from June 28-July 1. In between there will be a series of BCFT sponsored events for our members, including Suppliers Night and the Annual Banquet and Golf Tournament.

This year, some of our supplier participants will be presenting seminars prior to the Suppliers Night event on February 27<sup>th</sup> at Langley Convention Centre. This will provide our members with a greater understanding of what suppliers to the food industry are providing as services and products.

The New Year looks to be a bright year for the food industry and food technology. I hope to see you all at our events in the coming season. It is your support and expertise that makes our association a success and in turn our association's support and assistance can help make you a success in your chosen profession.

From myself and the executive of the BCFT we wish you and your families a happy 2008!

**Peter Taylor – 2007/2008 Chair BCFT**

## WANTED: Directed Studies Projects for BCIT Students!

The BCIT Food Technology Program is again accepting project proposals from companies willing to sponsor students taking the Directed Studies course in Food Technology. Past projects have included: HACCP and prerequisite program development, food product development, shelf life studies, nutritional analysis, waste utilization, etc.

The students have one day per week (Wednesdays) from January to April to devote to the project. The student must complete a literature review on the project area, develop methodology with assistance of the sponsor, and then carry out the specific research. Work may be done at BCIT and/or company

premises. During the project, the student has access to BCIT Food Technology pilot plant and analytical equipment. Presentation of oral and written reports will take place at the middle of May. The sponsor is asked to be available to advise the student throughout the project, attend the oral presentation, complete a brief evaluation of the student, and cover costs of consumables.

For information, please contact Anne McCannel at (604) 432-8269 or [Anne\\_McCannel@bcit.ca](mailto:Anne_McCannel@bcit.ca). Projects must be submitted by December 19 to be considered. Project acceptance depends on suitability and interest by the students.

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# 2008 Annual BCFT Student Night

## “Food Systems on Mars”

### When:

Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 5:45 pm to 8:15 pm

### Where:

Asian Centre Auditorium  
UBC, 1871 West Mall  
Vancouver, B.C

### Highlights of the Event:

5:00 pm – 5:45 pm	Check-in/Registration
6:00 pm	Challenge Cup
6:30 pm	Refreshments, Light meal, Networking
7:00 pm	Speaker—Dr. Michele Perchonok from NASA “Challenges of Developing a Food System for a Mars Mission”
8:00 pm	Door Prizes

### Cost:

<b>Student Members:</b>	FREE
<b>Student Non-Members:</b>	\$5
<b>Members:</b>	\$20
<b>Non-Members:</b>	\$40

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** or the cost is \$40 at the door regardless of membership status.

Interested in taking a look into food systems beyond the planet earth? UBC will be hosting The 2008 Annual BCFT Student Night **Food Systems on Mars** on January 14<sup>th</sup> at the Asian Centre, UBC. Enjoy a great informational talk by an IFT Distinguished Speaker. Anyone interested in an interesting talk about space food, networking and great food should attend!

The evening will start off with a fun round of the Challenge Cup where students and industry members will be grouped randomly into teams to answer trivia questions related to food science. A prize will be awarded to the winning team. A light

dinner will be served afterwards along with networking opportunities.

The main focus of the event will be our IFT distinguished speaker from NASA in Houston, Dr. Michele Perchonok. She will be speaking about the “Challenges of Developing a Food System for a Mars Mission.” The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is currently working towards future long duration manned space flights to the Moon and Mars. These missions require development of both a Transit Food System and a Surface Food System. The Transit Food System will consist of prepackaged food with an extended shelf life of 3 - 5 years. It will be supplemented with salad crops that will be consumed fresh. The Surface Food System will allow for food processing of crops. Crops such as wheat, soybean, rice, potato, peanut dried beans, and salad crops, will be processed to final products to provide a nutritious, safe and acceptable diet for the crew.

Dr. Michele Perchonok has been the Advanced Food Technology lead at NASA/Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas since September 2000. Her responsibilities include space food product development, menu definition, nutritional requirements implementation, food processing, food packaging development, and the integration of NASA food science research for lunar and Mars missions. Since 2005, Dr. Perchonok has had the added responsibility of managing the Shuttle Food System and the Space Food Systems Laboratory. Michele Perchonok is active in the Institute of Food Technologists. Currently, she is a member of the Task Force on Governance the Task Force on Strategic Development and the Career Guidance Committee. Dr. Perchonok recently completed a 3 year term on the Executive Committee as a Membership Representative.

### PARKING

Parking is available in the Fraser Parkade located next to the Asian Centre on Memorial Road intersecting at West Mall for a flat rate of \$4.00 after 5p.m.

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## 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](http://bcft.ca/Positions_available.htm)

For more information or to post a job, contact Melanie Thomson at [webmaster@bcft.ca](mailto:webmaster@bcft.ca)




## BCFT Website

Please check out the BCFT website at [www.bcft.ca](http://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](mailto:webmaster@bcft.ca).



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## *UBC Student Mira Tanumihardja Receives Multiple Awards*

M i r a Tanumihardja, a fourth year Food Science student from the University of British Columbia, is one of the recipients of the 2007 CIFST Student Scholarship Trust Award as well as the IFT Quality Assurance Division - Abe Mittler Memorial Scholarship.

Mira was one of the BCFT Student Representatives in 2006 - 2007 whose roles were promoting BCFT events to students and assisting in organizing student volunteers. Her industry internship experiences includes working in the department of Quality Control/ Quality Assurance at the J.M. Smucker Co. (Intern Supervisor; Oxnard, CA), at Rogers Sugar Co. (Assistant; Vancouver, BC), and Scenic Fruit Co. (Technician; Gresham, OR).

While attending university, she also shared her knowledge by working as a Teaching Assistant and Problem-Based Learning Tutor for undergraduate courses: Principles of Food Engineering, Food Process Science, and Microorganisms in Food Systems. Additionally, to enhance her research skills, she worked as a literature reviewer for the UBC Food Information Service; volunteered at the UBC Food Science Laboratory working on Vacuum Microwave Drying; and presently is working on her undergraduate thesis project on Functional Foods. Graduating in May 2008, she intends to work in the food industry before potentially pursuing further studies.



***Mira Tanumihardja, a former BCFT Student Representative, received the CIFST Student Scholarship Trust Award as well as the Abe Mittler Memorial Scholarship. Congratulations, Mira!***

## *14th Annual Supplier's Night Event Coming Soon to Langley*

Mark your calendars and prepare to attend the BC Food Technologists 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Supplier's Night Table Top Event on Wednesday February 27, 2008.

Location: Coast Hotel and Convention Centre  
 Address: 20393 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC  
 Time: **4:00 pm to 7:30pm (new time)**  
 Tickets: \$5 members and students  
 \$10 non-members

Please refer to our website [www.bcft.ca/suppnight.htm](http://www.bcft.ca/suppnight.htm) for directions to the hotel.

### **New in 2008!**

We are planning two additional functions in conjunction with Supplier's Night – a speaker luncheon and product seminars.

Pre-registration will be required for these two functions. Attendees will have free access to the Supplier's Night.

Mark your calendars and see you at the Supplier's Night in 2008!

## *UBC Life Sciences Career Fair Booth*

We are looking for 2 members to help oversee a BCFT booth at the 2008 UBC Life Sciences Career Fair on January 28th from 4:00 pm (arrival time) to 7:30 pm at the UBC Student Union Building. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. The booth will have a display board with information about BCFT and how to join. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Reena and Sharon at [ubc.bcft@gmail.com](mailto:ubc.bcft@gmail.com).

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