

# Great Lakes IFT News

December 1 Winter 2014

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## December Holiday Social

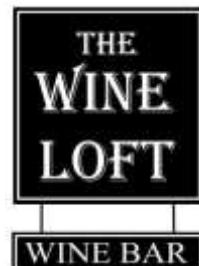


Join the IFT Great Lakes Section on December 11, 2014 at the Wine Loft in Kalamazoo for our December Dinner meeting! We are excited to celebrate another great year as a section with some delicious appetizers!

The Wine Loft is located at 161 E Michigan Avenue in Kalamazoo. Appetizers and a cash bar will be available starting at 5:00, feel free to register a guest for this event as well!

Again this year, the section is encouraging each attendee to bring a new, un-

wrapped toy for the **Toys for Tots** collection that will take place during the evening. The section will host a gift basket raffle, and will distribute additional raffle tickets to guests bringing toys.



## Upcoming Events:

### • Winter Dinner Meeting and Toy Drive

Thursday December 11, 5:00—9:00  
The Wine Loft  
161 E Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI

Come and celebrate another great year as a section! Guests are encouraged to participate in the gift basket raffles, and to bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots collection.

- Dates TBD for the following events:
  - Executive Board Nominations: January 2015
  - Basketball Watch Party: February 2015
  - Student Scholarship Applications **DUE**: March 2015
  - Supplier's Day Expo and Wine Dinner: April 2015



Congratulations to the Great Lakes Section of IFT for being recognized as an IFT Section of Excellence for 2013—2014!

# September Dinner Meeting Success!

The Great Lakes Section IFT held their first fall meeting of the year at the bright, open, 1-year old “Grand Rapids Downtown Market” on Tuesday, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014. For those who haven’t been to the GR Downtown Market, it is yet another example of the urban renewal taking place in what had been an area previously populated with rundown warehouses and storefronts. 44 of our section members and friends had the opportunity to browse the culinary collective of butchers, bakers, fish mongers and other artisanal food vendors prior to some networking and social time, which was then followed by a delicious dinner served by Martha’s Vineyard catering.



As dinner concluded there was a brief review of upcoming section events led by section chair Andrea Gerstle as well as other announcements provided by Andrea Kirk. The attendees were then treated to an engaging and insightful presentation by Dr. Wei Liao, registered professional engineer and an associate professor at the department of Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering at Michigan State University (MSU). The title of Dr. Liao’s presentation was “A self-sustaining organic waste utilization concept to address the food wastes handling challenge”, which is a topic we all need to become more educated about as both food manufacturers and food consumers. We thank Dr. Liao for his time and commitment to helping reduce the carbon footprint of our industry!

## Delicious Dinner at the October Meeting!

A “wunderbar” time was had by all who attended the October 2014 Great Lakes Section IFT Meeting which was held at the Culinary Institute of Michigan on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Twenty Six members, students and guests were treated to a German-themed five-course dinner that included, among other things, Kartoffelpfannkuchen (Potato Pancakes with Apple Sauce and Crème Fraîche) and Sauerbraten with Buttermilk Spetzle and Braised Red Cabbage.

Following this delicious meal, the attendees were educated and entertained about the creation of both simple and complex chocolate masterpieces by Chef Luis Amado. Chef Luis re-emphasized the critical role played by temperature, viscosity and a large, dry work area in chocolate manipulation. He also shared numerous humorous personal anecdotes. And of course, there were those chocolate samples at the end

of his presentation, which were both amazingly scrumptious and beautiful to look at.

Another great outcome of this meeting was that the IFT section was able to donate \$750 toward the CIM Student Scholarship fund! Thank you to all who were able to attend!



## Great Lakes IFT supports students at MI ASM Fall Conference

On Oct 24th & 25th , Michigan American Society for Microbiology held their Fall meeting at the Hagerty Center at Northwestern Michigan college in Traverse City. One of our GLS IFT members, Christopher Snabes was the conference organizer and provided our section with the opportunity to sponsor the student dinner on Friday night at the Hearth and Vine restaurant at Black Star Farms. In total, 35 students attended this event; 26 Undergrads, 8 Graduate Students, 1 PhD Student. These students came from 11 Michigan colleges and universities including Wayne State and MSU. Four student had the opportunity to present their research findings at the conference and others displayed their work in student poster sessions.

Other highlights of the conference included presentations by distinguished speakers in the field of Food Microbiology and Food safety including Purnendu C. Vasavada, PhD from University of Wisconsin on “Food Safety Trends: Emerging Pathogens & Contemporary Food Safety Issues”, Doris H. D’Souza, PhD from University of Tennessee on “Human Noroviruses in Foods” Omar A. Oyarzabal, PhD from University of Vermont on “**Challenges in Isolating Campylobacter from Foods**” and Francisco Diez-Gonzalez, PhD from the University of Minnesota on “Salmonella in Low Water Activity Foods. GLS IFT chair Andrea Gerstle attended the conference and shared some of the opportunities offered to Food Science students by the GLSIFT. The GLS IFT and MI ASM share a common goal of supporting students who are pursuing a career in foods and we are excited to have initiated a new partnership to further that goal.



Great Lakes Section  
Institute of Food Technologists

## **IFT GLS Gives Back at Days of Caring**

This year, the IFT GLS Section was again able to participate in Days of Caring—an event where section members are encouraged to give back to the communities around them. As usual, the section members gave their time very generously! A total of 38 volunteers at five different locations volunteered for an impressive 86 hours! This year, we highlight a summary of member activities in Newaygo County:

True North Community Center in Fremont coordinates a monthly food distribution program with the Feeding America Food bank. In September, Fremont PTC and Fremont Applications group joined with the Great Lakes section IFT to provide volunteers to assist in the food distribution event. Twelve employees participated in the food distribution on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

The GLS IFT supported this 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Day of Service event as a part of a national initiative for IFT Regional sections and Student Associations across the US focus on the importance of giving back to the greater good by volunteering at food banks. Sections and student clubs were challenged to mobilize their members and volunteer for a few hours in their community. The volunteer hours for all events will be tabulated and announced at the 2015 IFT Annual Meeting & Food Expo in Chicago. There the IFT will recognize these efforts and celebrate how much IFT gave back to helping end hunger in America.

Many thanks to our volunteers all over the state, in Battle Creek, Detroit, Fremont, Grand Rapids, and Lansing!



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### **GLS IFT Student Scholarships**

Great Lakes Section Student Members—Don't forget to apply for scholarships from the Great Lakes Section, and national IFT organizations! Scholarships are a great way to finance your tuition, and/or travel to the IFT National Meeting each summer. Watch for more details to be posted to <http://greatlakesift.org/students/> soon, and remember, applications will be due

**March 1, 2015.**

### **GLS IFT Member Feature**

Calling all GLS IFT members! We would like to begin a feature in the newsletter with information about our members and member companies. Do you or one of your colleagues have a really interesting job, or work for a great company? Let us hear about it!

Email your submissions to:

[greatlakesift@gmail.com](mailto:greatlakesift@gmail.com)

Don't forget to send a picture too!

# Area Job Openings

Title: Food and Agricultural Processing Specialist (Academic Specialist) #9462

Position Location: Negotiable split between western Michigan MSUE office and MSU Product Center Food-Ag-Bio Venture Development office, Michigan State University, East Lansing

Date Available: Immediately

Position Description: Develop and grow an effective program of consultation services in processing and technical operations management for food and agricultural processors in the state of Michigan. This program will focus on assisting processors (new and existing) to establish and expand their processing operations, solve technical and operational problems, and address processing aspects of new product development.

As part of the program, the successful candidate will: Deliver one-on-one counseling with food and agricultural processing clients of the MSU Product Center. Such counseling could include consultation on process design, operations and problem-solving, product development related processing issues, packaging, food safety, process authority, HACCP, regulatory compliance and other critical processing needs of clients; Coach and assist a network of 15 MSUE innovation counselors located throughout Michigan in developing and delivering processing management counseling services; Maintain and expand a network of contacts and resource providers both within MSU and with industry experts beyond MSU to assist the growth of food and agricultural processing in the state; Actively participate with the Community Food Systems work group within the MSUE Greening Michigan Institute; Serve as a liaison with the growing network of incubator kitchens around the state. The position reports to the Associate Director of the Product Center who is responsible for venture development related counseling with input from the Director of the MSUE Greening Michigan Institute.

Minimum Requirements: A master's degree in scientific or business field related to processing and operations management, or equivalent work experience. A minimum of 5-years' experience (10 years or more preferred) with food and/or agricultural processing and operations management. Working knowledge of process design, operations and problem-solving, product development related processing issues, packaging, food safety, process authority, HACCP, regulatory compliance and other critical processing procedures. Excellent communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills required.

Salary: Commensurate with Experience

For more information and application:

<https://jobs.msu.edu/> Search for position #9462

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. The University actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities.

## Great Lakes IFT Awarded Section of Excellent for 2013-2014

**We are pleased to announce that our section is being recognized as a 2013-2014 Section of Excellence. This recognition symbolizes the section's commitment to IFT, section members, and the food science and technology profession. The events held throughout the year, exemplary volunteers, dedication to students, and excellence in leadership demonstrate ongoing devotion to ensuring that the sections will flourish for years to come.**

**In order to be recognized as a Section of Excellence or Section of Merit, the section must meet or exceed several criteria. They include the following: the section**

**Annual Report and Financial Report are submitted by the deadline, membership exhibits stability or growth, at least three meetings are held in the year, the section website/newsletter is up-to-date, and the section demonstrates their commitment to future generations of food scientists and their community.**



## Executive Committee of Great Lakes Section IFT 2014—2015

- **Andrea Gerstle, Chair**

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## Call for Volunteers

Our Section is always looking for volunteers to provide many different services. Volunteers are needed this year to help with event planning, event photography, writing articles about recent meetings, Facebook updates, judging student scholarship applications, and more!

Email us at [greatlakesift@gmail.com](mailto:greatlakesift@gmail.com) and let us know how you would like to serve your section.

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