President’s Message: Martin F. Sancho-Madriz, Ph.D.

It is an honor to have the opportunity to join the other colleagues in the leadership team of our beloved Honor Society in Food Science and Technology, Phi Tau Sigma. The work of our Honor Society would not be possible without the contributions of all the volunteers who take on the duties and responsibilities necessary to support our mission. I would like to thank all who contributed in the 2019-2020 cycle. A special recognition to the colleagues who served as chairs of standing committees in the last year: Ravi Chermala, Awards; Dr. Claire Koelsch Sand, Chapter Affairs; Dr. Matt Taylor, Constitution and Bylaws; Dr. Kantha Shelke, Finance; Dr. Lauren Jackson, Membership and Qualifications; Dr. Kathy Kotula, Newsletter & Communications, and Development; Dr. Tom Aurand, Nominations and Elections. Much appreciation goes to Dr. Kathiravan Krishnamurthy for his effort this year towards the work of the Program Committee and for the great job he and his committee have done in organizing and continuously updating our website. Thanks also to those who chaired ad hoc Committees: Dr. Denny Heldman, Audit; Dr. Kantha Shelke, Strategic Relations; Dr. Claire Zoellner, Student Relations; Dr. Kathiravan Krishnamurthy, Website/Wikipedia; Dr. Daryl Lund, Recruitment Campaign; Dr. Mary Schmidl, Building a Science Bridge; and Dr. Rebecca Creasy, Internship Organization. A special recognition is due to Phi Tau Sigma’s Executive Director, Dr. Kathy Kotula, for her constant dedication taking care of the administrative needs of our organization, and for the outstanding job she does every month as Editor-in-Chief of our Newsletter. I would also like to recognize Dr. Liz Boyle, who as President last year did a great job leading our Society and who kindly provided me guidance on the duties of the President-Elect.

A special thanks to the colleagues who partnered with us to have Phi Tau Sigma as a co-sponsor of sessions at the 2020 Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting, SHIFT20, held virtually this year. Eighty members participated in the 2020 Phi Tau Sigma Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony, also held virtually for the first time ever, July 13. All the individual awardees are recognized in this Newsletter, as well as the Outstanding Chapter of the Year.
In addition to all the work by volunteers, our Society relies on the generosity of donors, sponsors and contributing partners. In 2019-2020 Phi Tau Sigma was able to fund scholarships and awards for a total of over $8000, as well as our programs. Please join me in thanking all those colleagues and organizations who contributed in 2019-2020 recognized in the Newsletter.

As we enter the 67th year of our Honor Society living in the times of a pandemic, I am sure that we as members of Phi Tau Sigma will continue to rise to meet new challenges and opportunities, supporting and recognizing excellence in the field of food science and technology. Please help us promote our Honor Society by encouraging and nominating qualified candidates to join and by seeking volunteer opportunities within Phi Tau Sigma, either at the national/international organization level or with your local Chapter. To those of you in leadership positions in the food industry, I encourage you to consider recognizing members of your team who already joined Phi Tau Sigma by sponsoring Lifetime Memberships, or by sponsoring Phi Tau Sigma scholarships, awards, and programs.

I am looking forward to working with the Executive Committee and with all of you who volunteered to serve Phi Tau Sigma in different roles for 2020-2021.

Please contact me with new ideas or suggestions to help us further advance the work of our Honor Society at mfsancho@cpp.edu.

About your Phi Tau Sigma President:

Martin F. Sancho-Madriz, Ph.D., is a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma and founder of its Chapter at Cal Poly Pomona where he serves as Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs. A Professor in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science, he earned a B.S./Licentiate degree in Food Technology from the University of Costa Rica, followed by M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Food Science and Technology (FST) from Cornell University. He was hired as the first and only FST tenure-track faculty member in 1997 to develop a new FST B.S. degree, beginning in 1999 with three students and growing it to around 180 students, four tenure-track positions, a full lecturer position, and several part time lecturers in 2017 when he assumed a university management position. In partnership with Orange Coast College, he also established the first Culinology® Program in California, fifth at the national level. Working with over 100 food companies and State and Federal government agencies, he developed an internship program as a graduation requirement for FST students. He previously held faculty positions at the University of Costa Rica and New Mexico State University.

Dr. Sancho-Madriz served seven years as Chair of the Nutrition and Food Science Department and under his leadership the total number of students grew from 326 in 2010...
to 681 in 2017. With external and internal funding he set up Sensory Evaluation and Food Processing Technology laboratories, while updating equipment for the food chemistry and analysis lab and the experimental kitchen labs. He also served as Chair of the Academic Senate and as Associate Dean of the College of Environmental Design. He is a graduate and Board member of the LEAD 21 leadership program as well as a Fellow of the Food Systems Leadership Institute, a program of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU).

Martin was competitively selected as the 2002-2003 IFT Congressional Science and Engineering Fellow under the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Policy Fellowships Program. He served as Chair of the Council of Food Science Administrators as well as in several IFT Committees including the Higher Education Review Board, was Co-Chair of the Southern California Institute of Food Technologists Section (SCIFTS) and served thrice as Chair of the Southern California Food Industry Conference. He is a recipient of the Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture Advisor of the Year Award and the Teacher of the Year Award, received an Outstanding Volunteer Award by SCIFTS in 2007, and became the recipient of the 2018 SCIFTS Distinguished Achievement Award becoming the first Latin American to receive this award since it was established in 1954.

Martin loves visiting museums of contemporary art whenever he has an opportunity, has an eclectic musical taste, has been drinking Costa Rican coffee since he was five, enjoys Spanish Jerez fortified wines, and his favorite outdoor activities are hiking and bike rides in scenic areas.

News:

Phi Tau Sigma Awards Ceremony available on-line
(contributed by Dr. Kathiravan Krishnamuthy)

If you missed the awards ceremony on July 13, 2020, you can watch the presentation on our website or social media. I made a video out of the PowerPoint presentation for seamless integration. The video is currently displayed on the first page of our website: www.phitausigma.org. It was also posted on our Facebook and LinkedIn pages.

Our website
http://www.phitausigma.org

Our Youtube channel
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXhKd6IpZACIV-YL_y0gytA/

Our Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/phitausigma

Our LinkedIn page
https://www.linkedin.com/company/14565458
Know your Leadership:

Phi Tau Sigma Executive Committee:

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<tr>
<td>Martin Sancho-Madriz, Ph.D.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mfsancho@cpp.edu">mfsancho@cpp.edu</a></td>
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<td>Rodrigo Tarté, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Kathryn L. Kotula, Ph.D.</td>
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Phi Tau Sigma Directors:

2018-19 to 2020-21: Until August 31, 2021

- Stephen Campano, M.S.  
  - steve.campano@hawkinsinc.com
- Lili He, Ph.D.  
  - lilihe@foodsci.umass.edu
- Claire Zoellner, Ph.D.  
  - cez23@cornell.edu
- Ravi Chermala, M.S., M.J., MBA  
  - ravichermala@gmail.com
  (Ravi replaced Rodrigo Tarté who advanced to President Elect)

2019-20 to 2021-22: Until August 31, 2022

- Martha Cassens, M.S.  
  - mcassens@achfood.com
- Rebecca Creasy, Ph.D.  
  - rebecca.creasy@tamu.edu
- Yaguang (Sunny) Luo, Ph.D.  
  - yaguang.luo@ars.usda.gov
- Laura Strawn, Ph.D.  
  - lstrawn@vt.edu

2020-21 to 2022-23: Until August 31, 2023

- Navagnana (Navam) Hettiarachchy, Ph.D.  
  - nhettiar@uark.edu
- Poulson Joseph, Ph.D.  
  - poulsonjoseph@gmail.com
- Fanbin Kong, Ph.D.  
  - fkong@uga.edu
- Matthew (Matt) Taylor, Ph.D.  
  - matt_taylor@tamu.edu

2019 – 2020 Phi Tau Sigma Committees

Awards

“The Awards Committee shall develop appropriate awards programs to recognize distinguished scientists who have made substantial contributions to Food Science and Technology and its related disciplines. Awards programs shall also be developed to recognize promising younger scientists and students.” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 1]

Charlwit Kulchaiyawat, Ph.D, Chair (charlwit.kulchaiyawat@fosterfarms.com), Lili He, Ph.D., Incoming Chair, Ravi Chermala, M.S., Past Chair, Ravi Jadeja, Ph.D., Yaguang (Sunny) Luo, Ph.D., Rotimi Aluko, Ph.D., Elena Castell-Perez, Ph.D., Nathalie Plundrich, Ph.D., Janamamkumar Pandy, M.S. (student), Thadeus (Tad) Beekman (Ph.D. student), Srinivas Janaswamy, Ph.D., Hosahalli Ramaswamy, Ph.D., Daphne Weikart (Ph.D. student), Navam Hettiarachchy, Ph.D., Paul Vijayakumar, Ph.D.

Chapter Affairs

“The Chapters Affairs Committee shall be responsible for the relationships between the SOCIETY and the Chapters” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 2]
Terri Boylstom, Ph.D., Chair, (tboylsto@iastate.edu), Evelyn Watts, Ph.D., Naim Montazeri, Ph.D., Minh Duong (Ph.D. student), Trisha Bhatia, Ph.D., Lester Harry Schonberger (Ph.D. student), P. Kumar Mallikarjunan, Ph.D., Minwei Xu, M.S. (Ph.D. student), Shengyue Shan, M.S. (Ph.D. student), Emerson David Nolasco Guzman (Ph.D. student), Laurel Dunn, Ph.D.

Constitution & Bylaws
“The Committee shall maintain continuing surveillance over the developments of any conflicts between the Constitution and the Bylaws. It shall review and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on all proposed amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws.” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 3]
Rick Falkenberg, Ph.D., Chair (rick.falkenberg@outlook.com), Hossein Daryaei, Ph.D., Incoming Chair, T. Matt Taylor, Ph.D., Past Chair, Kenneth McMillin, Ph.D., Anand Mohan, Ph.D., Vijaya Varma Indukuri, Ph.D., Lida Rahimi Araghi, M.S., Ravi Jadeja, Ph.D., Manoj Sawale (Ph.D. student), Chengchu Liu, Ph.D., Virginia Ng, M.S., Shankaralingam Pitchiah, M.S.

Finance
“The Finance Committee shall be responsible for managing the SOCIETY’S finances including preparing and submitting the budget.” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 4] Kantha Shelke, Ph.D., Chair (kantha@corvusblue.net), Daryl Lund, Ph.D., Ken Lee, Ph.D., Mary Schmidl, Ph.D., Kathryn L. Kotula, Ph.D., Liz Boyle, Ph.D., Martin Sancho-Madriz, Ph.D., Rodrigo Tarté, Ph.D.

Membership & Qualifications
“The Membership and Qualifications Committee shall review all membership nominations for compliance with the SOCIETY’S requirements and shall recommend qualified candidates to the Executive Committee for induction into Phi Tau Sigma.” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 5] Lauren Jackson, Ph.D., Chair and Past Chair (lauren.jackson@fda.hhs.gov), Elizabeth M. Grasso-Kelley, Ph.D., Incoming Chair, Rick Falkenberg, Ph.D., Diane Schmitt, Ph.D., Ashwini Wagh, Ph.D., Kevin Mis Solval, Ph.D., Rodrigo Tarté, Ph.D., Shantrell Willis, Ph.D., Trisha Bhatia, Ph.D., Geoffrey Smithers, Ph.D., Ogechukwu Tasie, Ph.D., Sarah Cabellero, B.S. (M.S. student), Vanessa Undisa Kishasha, M.Sc., Hefei (Herve) Zhao (Ph.D. student), Maria Plaza-Delestre, Ph.D.

Newsletter and Communications
“The Newsletter shall serve as a source of information about the SOCIETY, its Members, and other news and information related to Food Science and Technology.” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 7] Kathryn Kotula, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief, Chair (kkotula@msn.com), Claire Zoellner, Ph.D., Associate Editor (cez23@cornell.edu), Anthony W. Kotula, Ph.D., Hossein Daryaei, Ph.D., Tianxi Yang, Ph.D., Laura Stawn, Ph.D., Diane Schmitt, Ph.D., Gabriela John Swamy, Ph.D., Jennifer Fidelers M.S. (Ph.D. student), Tiantian Lin, Ph.D.

Nominations & Elections
“The Nominations and Elections Committee shall solicit nominations for officers and At-Large Councilors, screen candidates and obtain written agreements from them to serve if elected, in time to meet the balloting deadlines.” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 6] Tom Aurand, Ph.D., Chair, (tom.aurand@gmail.com), Liz Boyle, Ph.D., Incoming Chair, Charles Onwulata, Ph.D., Lida Rahimi Araghi, M.S. (Ph.D. student), Kasiviswanathan Muthukumarappan, Ph.D., Nuria Acevedo, Ph.D., Zhongli Pan, Ph.D.
**Program**

“The Program Committee shall be responsible for identifying and presenting appropriate programs to encourage the long-range professional growth of the SOCIETY. It shall be responsible for all activities at the Annual Meeting of both the SOCIETY and of the Institute of Food Technologists, other than the meeting of the Executive Committee. The committee may develop or assist in developing programs for smaller groups or members, such as: Chapters, regional meetings, symposia or scientific lectureships.” [Phi Tau Sigma Bylaws, Article XI, Section 8]

Rodrigo Tarté, Ph.D., Chair, (rtarte@iastate.edu), Martin Sancho-Madriz, Ph.D., Past Chair, Liz Boyle, Ph.D., Kathiravan Krishnamurthy, Ph.D., Hossein Daryaei, Ph.D., Yiwen Li, B.S. (Ph.D. student), Yanhong He, Ph.D., Jamie Kendrick Wiggins, M.S., Cordelia Selomulya, Ph.D., Joy Simpson, M.S., MBA, Anna Hayes, B.S. (Ph.D. student), Kaavya.Rathnakumar, M.S. (Ph.D. student)

**Development**

Develop and implement strategies and mechanisms to raise long range funding to allow Phi Tau Sigma to be funded in perpetuity.

Mary Schmidl, Ph.D., Chair, (mschmidl@umn.edu), Kathryn Kotula, Ph.D., Past Chair, Daryl Lund, Ph.D., Bob Yongsheng Xiang, Ph.D., Vaidhyanathan Anantharamkrishnan (Ph.D. student), Christopher Baker, Ph.D., Ravi Tadapaneni, Ph.D., Yao Wen Huang, Ph.D., Lily Yang, Ph.D.

**Ad Hoc Audit**

Audits, reviews, and reports on the Treasurer’s records.

Mary Schmidl, Ph.D., Chair, (mschmidl@umn.edu), Denny Heldman, Ph.D., Past Chair, H. Kenneth Johnson, M.S., Keith Belk, Ph.D., Steve Campano, M.S.

**Ad Hoc Strategic Relations**

Develop and recommend to the Executive Committee a prioritized strategic plan for long term financial stability and relationship building of Phi Tau Sigma.

Kantha Shelke, Ph.D., Chair and Past Chair, (kantha@corvusblue.net), Dongjun Zhao, Ph.D., Joshua Herring, Ph.D., Pablo Coronel, Ph.D., Louise Wicker, Ph.D., Sara Gagg, Ph.D., Herbert Stone, Ph.D., Peter Salmon, M.S., MBA, Jorge Welti-Chanes, Ph.D., SuriyaPrakaash Lakshmi Balasubramaniam, M.S. (Ph.D. student)

**Ad Hoc Student Relations**

Develop and recommend to the Executive Committee a prioritized strategic plan for a long term relationship with IFTSA and Phi Tau Sigma and improve student relations/interactions with student members of Phi Tau Sigma. The recommended strategies may be implemented with Executive Committee approval.

Claire Zoellner, Ph.D., Chair (cez23@cornell.edu), Damla Dag, M.S. (student), Elizabeth Sharpe, M.S., Merve Yildirim Erturk (Ph.D. student), Franklin Bonilla Torres (Ph.D. student), John Luchansky, Ph.D., Gabriel Keith Harris, Ph.D., Andrew Neilson, Ph.D., Amy Andes (Ph.D. student), Halak Mehta (Ph.D. student), Sonali Raghunath (Ph.D. student), Ahmed Gomaa (Ph.D. student), Lu Yao Ma (Ph.D. student)

**Ad hoc Website/Wikipedia Committee**

Provides leadership, creativity and timely information for the Phi Tau Sigma website and the webpage on Wikipedia.

Kathiravan Krishnamurthy, Ph.D., Chair & Past Chair (kathiravan.rps@gmail.com), Pablo Coronel, Ph.D., Maryam Enteshari, M.S., Lida Rahimi Araghi, M.Sc., Vijaya Varma Indukuri, Ph.D., Minwei Xu, Ph.D., Tianxi Yang, Ph.D., Sofia Feng, Ph.D., Avinash Patel (Ph.D. student)
**Ad hoc Internship Organization Committee**

To organize and administer a program to advertise and link companies seeking interns with Phi Tau Sigma students seeking internships.

Kantha Shelke, Ph.D., Co-Chair (kantha@corvusblue.net), David Park, B.S., Co-Chair (dkpark72@aol.com), Rebecca Creasy, Ph.D., Past Chair, Gayathri Balakrishnan, Ph.D., Ellen Bradley, B.S., Christina Dewitt, Ph.D., Purnendu C. Vasavada, Ph.D., Nancy Maragioglio, B.S., Sarah Corwin (Ph.D. student), Jorge Muriel Mundo (Ph.D. student), Govidaraj Dev Kumar, Ph.D., Chelsea Tyus, Ph.D., Milda Embuscano, Ph.D., Yaozhou (Sophie) Zhu, Ph.D., Natalie Haag, B.S., Shengyue Shan, M.S. (Ph.D. student)

**Calendar:**

**->Phi Tau Sigma Scholarship and Awards Schedule:**

November 30: Deadline to submit nominations to the Awards Committee for the Dr. Daryl B. Lund International Scholarship.

February 1: Deadline to submit nominations to the Awards Committee for the Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award, the Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship, the Dr. Gideon “Guy” Livingston Scholarship, and the Phi Tau Sigma Founders’ Scholarship.

April 1: Deadline to submit nominations to the Awards Committee for the Phi Tau Sigma Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award.

Send completed nomination forms to both Awards Committee Chair Charlwit Kulchayawat, Ph.D. (charlwit.kulchayawat@fosterfarms.com) and Executive Director Kathryn L. Kotula, Ph.D. (klkotula@msn.com). (More information: http://www.phitasigma.org/awards/)

**->December 9:** Deadline to submit Nominations for the Dr. Carl R. Fellers Award, and other IFT Achievement Awards.
(More information: https://www.ift.org/community/awards-and-recognition/achievement-awards)

**->Phi Tau Sigma Chapter Schedule:**

November 1: Deadline to order Honor Cords and lapel pins to ensure delivery before Fall graduation dates

March 15: Deadline for membership nominations to ensure decisions from the Membership and Qualifications Committee before the Annual Meeting

April 1: Deadline to order Honor Cords and lapel pins to ensure delivery before Spring graduation dates

May 1: First call for Chapter annual reports

June 1: Second call for Chapter annual reports

July 1: Final call for Chapter annual reports

August 1: Deadline for Chapter annual reports

Reminder to all Chapters: In order to receive the Certificate of Merit or Certificate of Excellence, Chapters must submit their annual reports for evaluation by August 1. Please send your annual report to the current Chair of the Chapter Affairs Committee, Terri Boylston, Ph.D., (tboylsto@iastate.edu), with a copy to Dr. Kathryn L. Kotula (klkotula@msn.com).
Student Research Synopsis:
Thermally Processed Oil Exaggerates Colonic Inflammation and Colitis-Associated Colon Tumorigenesis in Mice
(Contributed by: Jianan Zhang, Ph.D. student under the direction of Prof. Guodong Zhang, Department of Food Science, University of Massachusetts-Amherst; Research Group website: http://blogs.umass.edu/qudongzhang)

Recently published work featured:

Introduction: Frying in vegetable oil (e.g. canola, soybean, and corn oils) is a popular cooking and food processing method worldwide. As a result, the frying oils of frying food are widely consumed by the general public. The Nurses’ Health Study (NHS) showed that ~14% of women and ~23% of men consume 4-6 times per week of fried food. To date, the effects of frying oil consumption on human health are inconclusive, making it difficult to establish dietary recommendations or guidelines. Most previous studies were performed to investigate the effects of frying oils on disease initiation in healthy animals, but the effects of frying oil on
disease development are not well understood\textsuperscript{2,3}. A better understanding of the health impacts of frying oils is of need.

**Purpose:** The objective of this research was to investigate the health impacts of frying oil consumption on colon inflammation and colon cancer using an animal model and to explore the potential mechanism involved.

**Methods and Results:** In Figure 1, we show that dietary administration of frying oil, which was prepared under the conditions of good commercial practice, exaggerated dextran sodium sulfate (DSS)-induced colitis and azoxymethane (AOM)/DSS-induced colon tumorigenesis in mice. In addition, dietary administration of frying oil impaired intestinal barrier function, enhanced translocation of lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and bacteria from the gut into the systemic circulation, and increased tissue inflammation. Finally, to explore the potential compounds involved in the actions of the frying oil, we isolated polar compounds from the frying oil and found that administration of the polar compounds exacerbated DSS-induced colitis in mice.

**Fig 1.** Dietary administration of frying oil exaggerates AOM/DSS-induced colon tumorigenesis in mice. (A) Scheme of animal experiment. (B) Tumor number, total tumor size, and average tumor size in mice. (C) Spleen weight. (D) Left panel: representative images of H&E and immunohistochemical staining of PCNA of the colon. Right panel:
quantification of PCNA staining. (E) FACS quantification of immune cell infiltration in the colon. (F) Gene expression in the colon.

Conclusion: Our results showed that dietary administration of frying oil exaggerated development of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and IBD-associated colon tumorigenesis in mice, and these effects could be mediated by the polar compounds in the frying oil.

Significance: A better understanding of the health impacts of frying oil will lead to dietary guidelines and public health policies. For individuals with or prone to inflammatory bowel disease should avoid or control the consumption of fried food.

Press release: https://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/article/study-shows-frying-oil-consumption

References:

Lifetime Member Tribute: Shannon M. Coleman, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor and State Extension Specialist, Iowa State University

Why did you become a Lifetime Member?
I decided to become a Lifetime Member during my first year of teaching as an Assistant Professor. I wanted to serve as a role model for my students to show them the involvement does not stop after you have received your degree. One thing that I have loved about my local Phi Tau Sigma Chapter is that it has served our community through outreach events.

Education:
B.S., Food Science & Technology, minor Chemistry Alabama A&M University
M.S., Food Science & Technology Alabama A&M University
Ph.D., Animal Science Colorado State University

Experience/Accomplishments:

Certifications
- On-Farm Readiness Review
- Better Process Control School
- Preventive Control for Human Food Qualified Individual
- Produce Safety Alliance Trainer
- National Restaurant Association ServSafe® Food Protection Manager
- Development and Implementing HACCP, Food Safety Net Services, Ltd
Areas of Expertise:
My Extension and research endeavors improve the quality of life of Iowans by ensuring food is safe for consumption. My Extension work focuses on providing a food safety curriculum for the local food system in Iowa. The audience I serve is gardeners, home-based food operators, & small food processors.

Awards and Honors (selected list):
ISU College of Human Sciences (CHS) Early Achievement in Extension or Professional Practice Award, 2020

Multicultural Student Affairs-Black History Month Faculty & Staff Spotlight from ISU Office of Student Affairs, 2017

Personal: Family, Interests, Hobbies:
Crafting, movie watcher, & loves to travel

Advice to university students and career food scientists and technologists:
I would advise students to find what area of food science interests you and gain as much experience as you can in that area. I have encouraged students to volunteer or observe research in a professor's laboratory to gain an insight on that topic.

Careers: Fermentation Process Development Engineer
(Contributed by Yawen Zhai, Ph.D., Evelo Biosciences)

Introduction/Background:
After completing my bachelor's degree in Food Science and Technology in China, I went abroad to continue studying Food and Bioprocessing Sciences in North Carolina State University, for my master’s degree in the first place. I had the opportunity to work in a USDA lab conducting vegetable and fruit fermentation for my thesis research. I found myself very interested in Food Science, especially fermentation technology during the first 2-year of my masters, so I went ahead and pursued my Ph.D. in the following 2 years. It was during those last 2 years that I opened my mind: what I learned and gained can not only be applied to food industry but also to the biotechnology field and even pharmaceuticals. Fermentation is such a powerful tool that can have different applications from making food and beverages all the way to making drug products on a large scale that can help treat diseases.

Qualifications:
During my four years of graduate school, one of the important things that I learned means a lot to me: Never limit what you can learn and explore. Due to the nature of my fermentation research, I took other courses that were outside the Food Science department, such as Industrial microbiology, Fermentation technology, Microbial metabolic regulation, and even some chemical engineering classes that are related, and helped build up and expand fermentation knowledge. It was mostly because of the experience I gained during that period that opened my mind. I got to know

Yawen Zhai, Ph.D. at her graduation commencement wearing her Phi Tau Sigma Honor Cord, 12/19/19
and learn a lot of things that are very related, yet also above and beyond my Food Science discipline. After all, Food Science itself is a multidisciplinary major where you also need to have a good understanding of Chemistry, Microbiology, Processing, Engineering etc. Being well-rounded will really help you have a better position and be more qualified when it comes to your career.

**Positions:**
For people like me who have just graduated from school, they would likely start from entry level position. This is the entry level engineer role in the fermentation department at our company. And it also involves more research and development work. In the future, the projects will go more towards commercial and large scale which is directly correlated to the final production.

**Duties:**
My current company is a start-up biotechnology company, and the ultimate goal is to produce affordable drug products. Day to day duties include 70-80% lab-based work, that has lab scale research and development involved, for fermentation process development and optimization. Being responsible, creative, flexible and fast paced is critical to succeed. The rest of the 10-20% work includes tech transfer to an external contract manufacturing organization for larger scale production, and internal communication with other departments within the company.

**Salaries:** (general ranges)
$80,000 ~ $110,000 annually, but please keep in mind, this is in Greater Boston Area, the cost of living is high. Salary often times is heavily depending on the area your job is in.

**Benefits:** (tangible)
Employee benefits at the company, 401K, Paid Time Off, Medical insurance, Dental insurance, etc.
Other benefits also include the real-world experience I have been gaining for what biotechnology companies and pharmaceuticals look like and how they really operate. Benefits also include what I learn from my coworkers and colleagues on a daily basis, which keeps me learning and growing.

**Conclusion:**
Do not be limited by the major and degree you currently have when looking for opportunities. Food Science has really broad application and can pivot into many fields. Industry and Academia have their own good, there is no right or wrong thing, what really matters is things (jobs) that suit you the best, so that you will fit the job best as well. Those would be my two-cents.

**Member News:**

**Dr. Rhonda Miller**, a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is a recipient of the 2020 Signal Service Award of the American Meat Science Association (AMSA). The AMSA Signal Service Award was established in 1956 and is given to members in recognition of devoted service and lasting contributions to the meat industry and to the association. The Signal Service Award is sponsored by Cargill, Elanco Animal Health and Johnsonville, LLC. Recipients were honored on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 3:30
p.m. (CST), during the Virtual 66th International Congress of Meat Science and Technology (ICoMST) and the AMSA 73rd Reciprocal Meat Conference (RMC) awards presentation. (The AMSA Signal Service Award confers the honor of AMSA Fellow to the recipients.)

Dr. Rhonda Miller has combined a career in industry with her tenure in academics to provide the meat industry with high-impact, industry-oriented research and teaching. She has worked as Director of Research and Development for Monfort, Inc. where she developed over 300 new products. Rhonda has been a productive scientist and teacher within the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University since 1988. She has developed a national and international reputation as a premier meat scientist for the beef and pork industry. Her program investigates pre and post-harvest factors impacting red meat quality. She is known and respected nationally and internationally for her use of trained and consumer sensory evaluation techniques to improve the eating quality of beef and pork and other food products. She has been a part of receiving over $25 million in external grants with over $5 million attributed directly to her program, has published over 150 scientific articles, 195 abstracts, 40 invited papers, 8 book chapters, and has trained 68 graduate student and 2 post-doctoral research associates.


Dues Reminder:

Your dues status is listed in the cover email of this Newsletter. If you have not already paid your dues, Phi Tau Sigma Member dues are $40 per year, but students get a discount so their dues are $20 per year. Lifetime Membership is $400 (just once). Please access the Phi Tau Sigma Membership Dues Page at: http://www.phitausigma.org/membership-dues/. Proceed on to pay by PayPal. Once you are successful with your PayPal payment, you will receive a receipt. If you do not receive a receipt, please try again.

Dues can also be paid by check payable to Phi Tau Sigma, (made with U.S. Funds and drawn on a U.S. Bank). (Do not send a money order.) Do not write the check to Kantha. Mail your check to: Kantha Shelke, Ph.D. (Do not address to Phi Tau Sigma.)

33 West Ontario, Suite 57F, Chicago, IL 60654.

Send an email to Kantha to let her know to expect your check (kantha@corvusblue.net).

You are welcome at any time to give a donation to the Dr. Carl R. Fellers Award Fund, the Dr. Gideon "Guy" Livingston Scholarship Fund, Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Awards Fund, Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award Fund, Dr. Daryl B. Lund International Scholarship Fund, Phi Tau Sigma Founders’ Scholarship, Phi Tau Sigma Chapter of the Year Award, the Program Fund, or the General Fund. http://www.phitausigma.org/donate/

We also ask each Chapter to send a list of their current, and lapsed, members along with contact information to the Chapter Affairs Committee Chair, Claire Koelsch Sand, Ph.D. at: clairekoelschsand@gmail.com, to help ensure our records are accurate.
Phi Tau Sigma Store:

Phi Tau Sigma has an online store. Items featured include Honor Cords, Official Lapel Pins, Banners (podium and wall/table), Annual and Lifetime Member dues, printed Certificates of Membership, and an opportunity to make tax deductible donations to Phi Tau Sigma. The Society Store can be found by going to www.phitausigma.org/store.

Support Phi Tau Sigma through AmazonSmile:

If you shop at Amazon, please register Phi Tau Sigma as your charity through AmazonSmile. The AmazonSmile Foundation will then donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to Phi Tau Sigma. This may not sound like a lot, but it adds up. Be sure to enter Amazon through AmazonSmile every time you shop (https://smile.amazon.com/).
Thank you!

Editorial:
Phi Tau Sigma Scholarship and Awards Honorees:

Jennifer Fideler, Ph.D. Candidate
North Carolina State University
Dr. Daryl B. Lund Student International Travel Scholarship
Sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Daryl and Dawn Lund

Vaidhyanathan Anantharamkrishnan (Vaidhy), Ph.D. Candidate
University of Minnesota
Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship
Sponsored by Dr. Rakesh K. Singh
Yunbing Tan, Ph.D. Candidate
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship
Sponsored by Elsevier Publishing Co. & Peter M. Salmon, M.S., MBA

Hualu Zhou, Ph.D. Candidate
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship
Sponsored by William Benjy Mikel, Ph.D. & David K. Park, B.S.

Anna Marie Rose Hayes, Ph.D. Candidate
Purdue University
Dr. Gideon “Guy” Livingston Scholarship
Sponsored by Dr. Catherine Adams Hutt and Peter Barton Hutt, M.S., MBA
Kathryn Williamson, M.S.
The Ohio State University
Phi Tau Sigma Founders’ Scholarship
Sponsored by Hawkins, Inc.

Dr. Claire E. Zoellner
iFoodDecisionSciences, Inc.
Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award
Sponsored by Nina Teicholz, M.Phil.

Purdue University “Hoosier” Chapter
(represented by Sarah Corwin RD, LD, Ph.D. and Anbuhkani (Connie) Muniandy, M.S., Ph.D. student)
Phi Tau Sigma Outstanding Chapter of the Year
Sponsored by Dr. Yaguang (Sunny) Luo & The Southern California Institute of Food Technologists Section

Watch the Awards Ceremony at:
Our website: http://www.phitausigma.org
Our Youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXhKd6IfpZACIV-YL_y0gytA/
Our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/phitausigma
Our LinkedIn page: https://www.linkedin.com/company/14565458
Why I Contribute to Phi Tau Sigma:

I invest in Phi Tau Sigma because I believe in its’ long-standing traditions and purpose.

I remember the excitement when elected into Phi Tau Sigma while beginning my career as a young professional. I now reflect upon my near-completion of a 48-year professional career using my food science & technology education, knowledge and experience to helping to protect our public health.

As I am sure other members concur, there is no doubt that being recognized as a member of Phi Tau Sigma helped to advance my career. I am honored to be a member among such a distinguished organization of esteemed professionals from academia, industry and the government along and with accomplished and dedicated student members soon entering the workplace and poised to also succeed in our place.

It is only fitting that I continue to invest in our Society as a thank you for the joy and fulfillment I received over my rewarding career. I encourage Phi Tau Sigma members, who have not yet done so, to commit to becoming a Lifetime Members. I additionally challenge you to also volunteer your time and commit to an annual financial contribution in support of Society student scholarships.

Each time one of us annually contributes to Phi Tau Sigma, we are helping to ensure that our profession attracts and promotes our best and brightest food scientists who are well-prepared to confront even more complex global challenges standing in the way of abundantly and safely feeding the world.

What other human investment in sustainability could be more worthwhile?

David K. Park, B.S.

About Phi Tau Sigma Communications:

The Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter Committee includes: Kathryn Kotula, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief, Chair (klkotula@msn.com), Claire Zoellner, Ph.D., Associate Editor (cez23@cornell.edu), Anthony W. Kotula, Ph.D., Hossein Daryaei, Ph.D., Tianxi Yang, Ph.D., Laura Stawn, Ph.D., Diane Schmitt, Ph.D., Gabriela John Swamy, Ph.D., Jennifer Fideler M.S. (Ph.D. Candidate), Tiantian Lin, Ph.D.

Please be responsive to their inquiries for information for the Newsletter.

The Newsletter Committee particularly wishes to share news from Phi Tau Sigma Members and Chapters. Any items for the monthly Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter should be emailed in Word to Editor Kathryn L. Kotula, Ph.D. at klkotula@msn.com or Associate Newsletter Editor Claire Zoellner, Ph.D. at cez23@cornell.edu. Write “Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter” in the subject line. Please provide the information by the 1st of the month. Thanks.
Documents:

Phi Tau Sigma Documents can be found on our website at: www.phitausigma.org.

Phi Tau Sigma Membership Nominations
http://www.phitausigma.org/membership-nomination-2020-doc/

Phi Tau Sigma Scholarships and Awards Forms
http://www.phitausigma.org/awards/

Phi Tau Sigma Constitution and By-Laws
http://www.phitausigma.org/constitution/
http://www.phitausigma.org/bylaws/

Phi Tau Sigma Mentorship Program
http://www.phitausigma.org/mentorship/

Every Member Get A Member Campaign
http://www.phitausigma.org/growing/

Donors, Sponsors, and Contributing Partners:

Phi Tau Sigma accepts donations and has a variety of available sponsorship opportunities.

Phi Tau Sigma is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, so your contributions are
tax deductible to the extent provided by U.S. law.

Donations and sponsorships may come from, but are not limited to, Corporations, Companies, Universities, Government agencies, Associations, Consultants, and individuals.

Contributions are appreciated in any amount, and can be made by way of the Phi Tau Sigma website (http://www.phitausigma.org/sponsor/). Donations by check can be made by contacting: Treasurer Kantha Shelke, Ph.D. (kantha@corvusblue.net), 33 West Ontario, Suite 57F, Chicago, IL 60654. Please write “Donation” or “Sponsorship” in the subject line. Contributions of $500 or more will be recognized publicly by the Society at the annual meeting, on the Phi Tau Sigma website, in printed material associated with relevant programs and events, and in the monthly Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter. Sponsorships of awards and scholarships are also available at levels of contribution sufficient to cover the associated cost of the award or scholarship. Endowments are also accepted.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for the Phi Tau Sigma Annual Recognition Event, Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award, Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Award (up to 3 will be awarded), the Dr. Gideon “Guy” Livingston Scholarship Fund, the Phi Tau Sigma Founders’ Scholarship, the Dr. Daryl B. Lund International Scholarship Fund, and the Phi Tau Sigma Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award. Donations can be made towards the awards and scholarships listed above, as well as the Program fund and the General fund. There are also endowment opportunities for student scholarships named for the sponsoring company.
Phi Tau Sigma has a **Contributing Partners Program** with five levels of sponsorships as described below. The Contributing Partner receives all of the benefits in the previous levels, plus the addition of the benefit listed for that level.

**Bronze** ($5,000)
- Company listing in the “Donors and Sponsors” section of the Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter.
- Recognition with company name on [www.PhiTauSigma.org](http://www.PhiTauSigma.org)
- Prominent recognition at all major Phi Tau Sigma events

**Silver** ($10,000)
- Bronze benefits.
- Posting your company's job openings and internships in the Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter.

**Gold** ($15,000)
- Silver benefits.
- Acknowledgement of sponsorship and placement of corporate logo on plaque or scholarship/award memorabilia.

**Platinum** ($20,000)
- Gold benefits.
- A press release associated with significant contributions, distributed to allied professional and trade associations for circulation to their membership via their publications, e-news and/or listservs.
- Complimentary access to student resume database.

**Diamond** ($25,000)
- Platinum benefits.
- Prominent multi-year listing on the Phi Tau Sigma website as a sponsor of an Endowed Program.

Some corporations will match individual contributions of their employees, so check with your company about matching funds.

For more information contact the Treasurer, Kantha Shelke, Ph.D. (kantha@corvusblue.net), or the Executive Director, Kathryn L. Kotula, Ph.D. (klkotula@msn.com). Please write “Donation” or “Sponsorship” in the subject line.

**2019-2020 Contributing Partners:**

**Hawkins, Inc.** is a progressive concern that manufactures and distributes specialty chemicals and provides functional solutions for a wide variety of industries. The Food Ingredients Group is a leading manufacturer of innovative pathogen control technologies and ingredients for the food industry. The formation of Ingredient Works, an entity conceived to capitalize on expertise in functional ingredient applications, food industry knowledge, technical service, and an extensive product portfolio, is focused on the comprehensive science of shelf-life, providing customized solutions to both the common and the highly complex issues faced every day by food manufacturers. The ultimate goal for the Hawkins
Food Ingredient Group is to re-define the concept of shelf life and become a complete solution provider to the food industry. (Contribution to support the Phi Tau Sigma Founders’ Scholarship, and the Phi Tau Sigma general fund.) **Hawkins, Inc. is a Bronze level Contributing Partner.**

**2019-2020 Sponsors and Donors:**

**Dr. Mary K. Schmid** is the President of the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFOST), a Lifetime Member and a past President of Phi Tau Sigma, a Past President of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) and Adjunct Professor, University of Minnesota.

**Dr. Theodore P. Labuza** is a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, a Past President of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) and the Morse Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor of Food Science and Engineering, University of Minnesota.

**Dr. Fergus Clydesdale,** a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is the Distinguished Professor and Director of the UMass Food Science Policy Alliance, University of Massachusetts Amherst and a member of Phi Tau Sigma since the 1960’s.

**Dr. Rakesh K. Singh** is the Past President of Phi Tau Sigma, a Lifetime Member; and is Professor and Head of Department of Food Science & Technology at the University of Georgia. He is also a Fellow of IFT and Editor-in-Chief of LWT – Food Science and Technology. (Sponsorship of a Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship.)

**Dr. Daryl and Mrs. Dawn Lund.** Dr. Lund is past President of Phi Tau Sigma, Lifetime Member, past Treasurer, current Assistant Treasurer, and an Emeritus Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison. (Sponsorship of the Dr. Daryl B. Lund Student International Travel Scholarship.)

**Peter M Salmon, M.S., MBA,** a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is the Founder and President of International Food Network, Inc., currently retired. (Sponsorship towards a Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship.)

**Elsevier Publishing Company.** Elsevier books have an established reputation for providing ground-breaking and expansive content; written by world renowned, award-winning authors and reviewed by an expert team of editors. Elsevier Food Science content covers aspects of food from chemical composition, to growth and production to distribution and consumption – from farm to fork. Our extensive collection includes eBooks, print books, series, handbooks, and major reference works, all complementing our expansive collection of food science journals and designed to help food science professionals continue to be innovative and make evidence-based contributions to the communities, translating knowledge into applications for the world. Our wide variety of books and eBooks reflects our passion for empowering early career researcher development, initiating innovation, and sharing established expertise in the Food Science field. (Donation towards a Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship.)
William Benjy Mikel, Ph.D., a Phi Tau Sigma past President and a Lifetime Member who appreciates the field of food science and technology. (Donation towards a Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship.)

Nina Teicholz, M.Phil. is an adjunct professor at New York University, investigative science journalist and author. Her international bestseller, *The Big Fat Surprise* has upended the conventional wisdom on dietary fat–especially saturated fat. The executive editor of “The Lancet” wrote, “this is a disquieting book about...ruthless silencing of dissent that has shaped our lives for decades ... researchers, clinicians, and health policy advisors should read this provocative book.” *The Big Fat Surprise* was named a 2014 *Best Book* by *The Economist*, *the Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *Mother Jones*, and *Library Journal*. Teicholz is also the Executive Director of The Nutrition Coalition, a non-profit group that promotes evidence-based nutrition policy. She is a graduate of Stanford and Oxford Universities and previously served as associate director of the Center for Globalization and Sustainable Development at Columbia University. Teicholz is the only journalist to date to be elected to Phi Tau Sigma. (Sponsorship of the Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award, and Phi Tau Sigma programs.)

David K. Park, B.S., Phi Tau Sigma Lifetime Member, is Principal, Food-Defense, LLC, providing expert food safety / food defense, USFDA and USDA-FSIS Process Authority consultation for thermal and non-thermally processed low acid canned foods (LACF), acidified foods (AF), and refrigerated extended shelf life foods (ESL) and their packaging systems. (Donation towards a Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship.)

Dr. Catherine Adams Hutt and Peter Barton Hutt, Phi Tau Sigma Lifetime Members. Catherine is food safety and regulatory consultant and expert witness with RdR Solutions, and Peter is an attorney with Covington and Burling. Both are IFT Fellows. (Donation for the Dr. Gideon "Guy" Livingston Scholarship)

A donation was made towards a Phi Tau Sigma Scholarship by a Phi Tau Sigma Lifetime Member who wishes to remain anonymous.

A donation was made to Phi Tau Sigma by another Phi Tau Sigma Lifetime Member who wishes to remain anonymous.

Dr. Yaguang (Sunny) Luo, a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is a Food Scientist with the US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service. Her work focuses on food quality and safety of fresh and fresh-cut produce. Dr. Luo is the Past Chair of the IFT’s Fruit and Vegetable Product Division, and is also the Past President of Chinese American Food Society. (Donation towards the Phi Tau Sigma Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award.)

The Southern California Institute of Food Technologists Section (SCIPTS) is one of the largest sections of the international society of professional food personnel involved or interested in any of the various aspects of the field of food. Whether you are a food technologist, researcher, scientist, engineer, executive, administrator, educator, author, marketer, consultant, student, or salesperson, there is a place for you in this multi-faceted organization. "To fulfill human needs for a quality food supply through science, technology and education." This is the mission of the SCIFTS and of its members. In keeping with this
mission, SCIFTs is proud to bring you the latest advances in OUR journey toward its fulfillment. (Donation towards the Phi Tau Sigma Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award.)

The American Meat Science Association is a broad-reaching organization of individuals that discovers, develops, and disseminates its collective meat science knowledge to provide leadership, education, and professional development. Our passion is to help meat science professionals achieve previously unimaginable levels of performance and reach even higher goals. We accomplish this by fostering a learning community of meat scientists, industry partners, outside thought leaders and other stakeholders who embrace this vision. AMSA is an individual membership organization of more than 1000 meat scientists representing major university research and teaching institutions and meat processing companies in the United States and internationally. Its members conduct basic and applied research and education programs in muscle growth and development, meat quality, food safety, processing technology and consumer and marketing issues relevant to the international meat industry. AMSA is the premier provider of learning and knowledge for the meat science discipline. The association delivers innovative learning experiences, opportunities for peer-to-peer collaboration and leadership development programs designed to advance the meat science discipline. (Donation towards the refreshments at the Phi Tau Sigma and IFT Division Competition Awards Ceremony.)

2020-2021 Sponsors and Donors:

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**Dr. Mary K. Schmidl** is the President of the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST), a Lifetime Member and a past President of Phi Tau Sigma, a Past President of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) and Adjunct Professor, University of Minnesota.

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