



The Honor Society of Food Science and Technology

Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter November 2020

News:

Membership & Qualifications Committee - Membership Nominations

(Contributed by Lauren Jackson, Ph.D., Chair Membership and Qualifications Committee)

The 2020-2021 Membership and Qualifications (M&Q) Committee is eager to begin reviewing student and professional nominations for membership in Phi Tau Sigma!

There is a new membership nomination form. Only this form will be accepted after December 1, 2020.

Changes in the form include the following:

1. Nominator names and email addresses are now required on the first page of the form (Section 1)
2. For student nominees, core courses taken as a graduate student should be marked with an "*" (Section 2)
3. For student nominees who pursued or are pursuing programs of study other than those meeting the IFT Education Standards, a short description of the course content should be included in the statement of qualifications (Section 4). For courses that are difficult to identify as food chemistry and analysis, food safety and microbiology, food processing and engineering, etc. from the title, a description of course content and how/why the course counts towards the requirements should be provided.

Other important things to keep in mind when preparing nominations:

1. The latest version of the nomination form in MS Word and PDF formats can be obtained from Phi Tau Sigma website using the links below:
<http://www.phitausigma.org/phi-tau-sigma-nomination-2021-doc/>
<http://www.phitausigma.org/phi-tau-sigma-nomination-2021-pdf/>
2. Only nominations prepared on the current version of the form will be accepted for review.
3. Prior to completing the nomination form, please review the instructions found on pages 3 – 4 of the form.
4. Please make sure that all sections of the nomination form are complete, and that the information provided is accurate. The M&Q Committee has noticed that sections of the nomination form pertaining to "Elected Offices, Leadership or Professional Activities" and "Awards, Recognitions and Publications" are occasionally not completed fully, which makes it difficult to assess the nominee's leadership and honor achievements. This is important since simply having high grades as a student does not guarantee that a nominee will be elected a member. In addition, another section that needs special attention is the

“Statement of Qualifications”, since this section summarizes why the nominee should be considered for membership in Phi Tau Sigma.

5. Both nominators must be Phi Tau Sigma members in good standing and have their membership dues paid up-to-date; at least one nominator must be a professional Member.
6. Send completed nomination forms to Kathryn Kotula, Ph.D. (klkotula@msn.com).
7. Pay the appropriate nomination fee (\$20 for students or \$40 for professionals) at <http://www.phitausigma.org/membership-dues/>. Dues can be paid by check or through PayPal. If a nominee is accepted for membership, the dues are used for the first year payment of the dues. Keep in mind that nominations will not be reviewed until the nomination fee is payed.
8. Review of nominations can take up to a month. Nominees approved for membership in Phi Tau Sigma (and nominators) will obtain an e-mail from the M&Q Committee Chair (Lauren Jackson, Ph.D.). In the event that a nominee is not approved, nominators will be contacted and specific reasons that the nominee was not approved will be provided.

If anyone has any question about the nomination process, or the requirements and qualifications required for student and professional members, please contact the M&Q Committee Chair, Lauren S. Jackson, Ph.D. at Lauren.Jackson@fda.hhs.gov.

Awards Committee:

(Contributed by Charlwit Kulchaiyawat, Ph.D., Chair of the Phi Tau Sigma Awards Committee)

Dr. Daryl B. Lund Student International Travel Scholarship – Deadline November 30

The Dr. Daryl B. Lund Student International Travel Scholarship is presented annually to a student Member of Phi Tau Sigma - The Honor Society of Food Science and Technology, to supplement international travel for educational purposes. The scholarship, in the amount of \$2,000, is presented to honor the commitment of Dr. Lund, whose international reputation for outstanding scholarly contributions and inspired leadership has fostered and facilitated the global advancement of food science and technology.

Nominees shall be students who are members in good standing during the administrative year of the nomination, although they may have graduated by the presentation of the award.

Nomination materials must be submitted to the Chair of the Awards Committee by email by November 30th (charlwit.kulchaiyawat@fosterfarms.com), with a copy to the Executive Director (klkotula@msn.com). For more information on the nomination process please visit the Awards section of the Phi Tau Sigma website (<http://www.phitausigma.org/awards/> [[phitausigma.org](http://www.phitausigma.org)]). For information specific to this scholarship, including the nomination form, please visit <http://www.phitausigma.org/lund-scholarship/> [[phitausigma.org](http://www.phitausigma.org)].

Know your Leadership: Directors

Stephen Campano, M.S., a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is Vice President of Research and Applied Technology for Hawkins, Inc. He received a B.S. degree in Animal Science and M.S. degree in Animal Industries from the University of Connecticut in 1978 and 1981, respectively, and has spent the past 30+ years working with the meat industry in a variety of positions with processors and allied suppliers. Steve has been involved in developing and directing food safety research initiatives with government, industry and academic institutions, and has been instrumental in the development and application of new food ingredient technologies, both domestically and internationally. He was elected to the American Meat Science Association Executive Board, served as President in 2008/2009, was conferred an AMSA Fellow in 2011. Steve is past Chair of the Phi Tau Sigma Membership and Qualifications Committee, the Awards Committee, the Recruitment Campaign Committee, and the Development Committee. Steve was the 2015 recipient of the Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award.



Lili He, Ph.D., a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is currently an Associate Professor of Food Science at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She received her Ph.D. degree from University of Missouri-Columbia in 2009 and did her postdoc training in University of Minnesota between 2009 and 2012. Then she joined the faculty in the Food Science Department at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst as an Assistant Professor in 2012. Dr. He's major research focus is to develop and apply the most advanced and innovative analytical techniques to help solve critical and emerging issues in food science. Her group has developed various surface enhanced Raman scattering based techniques for food safety and food chemistry applications. Her excellence has been recognized by receipt of the 2012 Young Scientist Award from the International Union of Food Science and Technology, 2015 ACS-AGFD young scientist award, 2016 young investigator award from Eastern Analytical Symposium, 2016 IFT Samuel Cate Prescott Award for Research, and was selected as one of the Talented 12 by C&EN, the ACS magazine in 2016.



Claire Zoellner, Ph.D., is a Food Safety Scientist at iFoodDecisionSciences, Inc., managing research and development of food safety and quality software tools and data analytics. Claire earned a B.S. in Food Science and Human Nutrition from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology from Cornell University, where she also completed a Postdoc. In addition to serving as a Phi Tau Sigma Director, she also serves as the Associate Editor of the Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter and Chair of the Student Relations Committee. In 2020, she received the Phi Tau Sigma Special Recognition Award.

Ravi Chermala, M.S., M.J., MBA., a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is Director of Quality at Beech-Nut Nutrition. He is an accomplished Food Safety and Global Quality Management Systems leader in the development, execution and management of Food Safety and Quality programs. His track record includes 20 plus years of successful experience encompassing a variety of food products and technology, globally advancing quality and food safety with demonstrated success in contributing to the overall strategic direction, food safety issue prevention, and enhancing food safety culture. He holds an M.J. in Global Food Law and M.S. in Food Safety, both from Michigan State University. MBA from Western Governors University, Utah, and M.S. in Microbiology from SRTM University. Ravi successfully designed, developed, and implemented best-in-class systems in all areas of food safety and quality to meet requirements (e.g., Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), and Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)). He also has led several successful sanitation excellence activities, invested time in talent development, and led several successful cross-functional continuous improvement projects, achieving/maintaining third-party certifications with excellent ratings for his facilities and built himself as a role model for the food safety/quality culture. He is involved in many different activities which are all tied to the enhancement of the food industry. Ravi is active in IFT, the American Society for Quality, and Phi Tau Sigma. Ravi is a Fellow of the Institute of Food Science and Technology (FIFST), and Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health (FRSPH) (2018).



Martha Cassens, M.S., is currently the Vice President of Product Innovations, Development, and Quality at ACH Food Companies. She previously worked at Hillshire Brands, Sara Lee, ConAgra (Armour Swift-Eckrich) and Vienna Beef. She has 30 plus years of meat and food industry experience in research, quality assurance, and product / process / package / innovation development. Martha earned her B.S. in Food Science, specializing in Meat and Processing, and her M.S. in Food Science, specializing in Nitrite and Frankfurters, both from the University of Illinois. Martha is an active member of the American Meat Science Association, Institute of Food Technologists, Research Chefs

Association and Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, and has served on various committees for each of the associations.

Rebecca Creasy, Ph.D., is a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma and currently works with a global non-profit that focuses on holistic community development. Rebecca received a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (B.S.A.) degree with a major in Food Science and a minor in Nutrition Science from The University of Georgia in 2007. She earned a Ph.D. in Food Science and Human Nutrition with a minor in Agricultural Education and Communication in 2013 from the University of Florida. Her dissertation research focused on effects of cranberry polyphenols on human immune function. Following graduate school, Rebecca worked at the University of Georgia as an Area Extension Agent focusing on community food safety and nutrition education. She has also worked as an

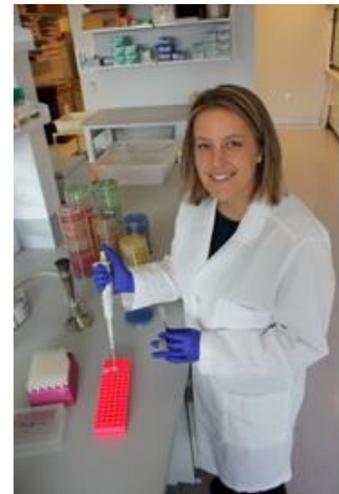


Instructional Assistant Professor at Texas A&M and has served as Advisor of the Texas A&M Chapter of the Institute of Food Technologists Student Association, member of the Institute of Food Technologists Teaching and Learning Work Group and has actively participated in Phi Tau Sigma as Chair of the Membership and Qualifications Committee and member of the Ad hoc Internship Organization Committee. In 2018, Rebecca received the Marion Teaching Award for exceptional teaching and outstanding mentorship of underclassmen within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University.



Yaguang (Sunny) Luo, Ph.D., is a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma and a Lead Scientist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She joined the agency after five+ years of research and management experience in the food industry. Sunny served on the Inter-Agency Food Safety Task Force of the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy, the joint FAO/WHO expert panel on food safety. Sunny served as the President of Chinese American Food Society and chaired the IFT's Fruit and Vegetable Product Division. She currently serves on the External Advisory Board for Harvard University and Nanyang Technology University (Singapore) Sus-Nano Initiative. Sunny has led or co- led 19 externally funded research projects exceeding \$16 million, and currently directs a trans-disciplinary and multi-institute (10) research team. Dr. Luo is an elected Fellow of IFT.

Laura K. Strawn, Ph.D., is a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, and an Associate Professor, Extension Specialist of Produce Safety in the Department of Food Science and Technology at Virginia Tech. She holds three degrees in Food Science with food microbiology emphases, as well as minors in Epidemiology and Molecular Microbiology: a Ph.D. from Cornell University under Dr. Martin Wiedmann, a M.S. from the University of Florida, under Dr. Michelle Danyluk, and a B.S. from the University of California, Davis. Her research program at Virginia Tech focuses on the microbial safety of fresh fruits and vegetables; specifically, the ecology, evolution, and transmission of foodborne pathogens in the produce field to fork continuum. Additionally, Dr. Strawn works directly with produce stakeholders on various produce safety issues, as well as teaches a cadre of food safety curriculums. She leads Virginia Cooperative Extension's educational efforts on the Food Safety Modernization Act's Produce Safety Rule including teaching Produce Safety Alliance Grower Trainings and performing On-Farm Readiness Reviews. Dr. Strawn is also the Lead of Applied Research for Virginia's Fresh Produce Food Safety Team, Extension Team Leader for the Delmarva Food Safety Task Force, and an invited-member of the Radiation Advisory Board for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Professional service includes involvement in Phi Tau Sigma (Board of Directors), International Association for Food Protection, and the Institute of Food Technologists.





Navam S. Hettiarachchy, Ph.D., is an IFT Fellow and an IUFoST Fellow, is a Lifetime member of Phi Tau Sigma. She earned her Ph.D. in Biochemistry, Hull University, England; M.S. University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and B.SC in Chemistry, Madras University, India. She is a University Professor, Department of Food Science at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Prior to this she was an Associate Professor and the Director of Food Science program at North Dakota State University and served in R&D in food industry. As a researcher she combines an interdisciplinary background with skills and develops and implements strategies for high-impact research for a diversified integrated structure-chemistry-function properties of food

proteins and bioactive peptides with special focus on pulses, and rice, adding value to industry co-products, phytonutrients specifically curcuminoids - polyphenolics, and moving onto preparing of 3D ink printing of targeted nutritious and healthy foods. She is a resource Professor to Japan in training food science related courses to 18 countries. Currently she is the Chair of: the Awards, Research Reproducibility & Replicability, and Research Council Committees at the University of Arkansas. She has a history of advising and coaching teams of students to several first- place award winnings at international, national and local levels including IFT Disney product development, and College Bowl competitions. Navam received several teaching and research awards at all levels. She is the past Presidents of: American Association of Food Scientists for the Indian sub-continent – Institute of Food Technologists (AAFSIS-IFT), and Stem Cell coalition (University of Arkansas Medical School). Navam is an active member of Phi Tau Sigma (Board of Directors), Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), AAFSIS-IFT, and American Oil Chem. Society.



Poulson Joseph, Ph.D., is the Director of Food Protection & Protein Innovation at Kalsec®, Kalamazoo, Michigan. He received his Ph.D. in Animal and Food Sciences from University of Kentucky focusing on applications of proteomics in meat quality and strategies to improve meat color and oxidative stability. Subsequently, Poulson completed his post-doctoral research on muscle food quality at Mississippi State University. At Kalsec®, he leads the Food Protection & Protein team with research emphasis on natural antioxidants and works closely with food/pet food industry clients by offering technical and analytical support. He spearheads the team's effort in innovative natural and clean label solutions for improving meat/protein-based foods' quality and shelf-life. Poulson has delivered invited lectures in professional meetings and academic institutions and had

conducted industry workshops globally. He is actively involved in American Meat Science Association (AMSA), as well as Phi Tau Sigma. At Phi Tau Sigma, he served as the Chair of Awards Committee from 2017-2019. At the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), he had served as IFT Muscle Foods Division's Chair and as member of Leadership team from 2013-2019. He was the recipient of IFT Division Best Volunteer Award (2014), IFT Muscle Foods Division's Member-of-the Year Award (2016), AMSA Achievement Award (2018), and IFT Emerging Leader Network Award (2018).

Fanbin Kong, Ph.D., a Lifetime Member of Phi Tau Sigma, is an Associate Professor of Food Engineering at the University of Georgia. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Environmental Engineering from Tianjin University and Tsinghua University, China, respectively. He had several years of industry experience working in wastewater treatment. He then obtained another M.S. degree in Food Science from North Dakota State University, and received his Ph.D. degree in Food Engineering from Washington State University in 2007. He did his postdoc training at UC Davis between 2007 to 2011 before joining UGA in 2011 as an Assistant Professor. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2016. Dr. Kong has developed vigorous research and teaching programs. His research emphasis included developing dynamic in vitro gastrointestinal models to study food digestion, and using radio frequency (RF) heating technology to pasteurize low moisture foods. Dr. Kong has a strong interest in developing and using innovative teaching methods to improve student learning outcomes. He received the NACTA Teacher Award of Merit in 2015. Dr. Kong has been active in several professional organizations including IFT and IAFFP, and participated in various activities including reviewing abstracts and proposals and organizing sessions for annual meetings. He served as the President of the Chinese American Food Society (CAFS) for 2018-2019.



Matthew (Matt) Taylor, Ph.D. is a Professor in the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX. He joined the faculty there in 2007 after completing his Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN. Bachelor and Master of Science degrees were both earned in Food Science from North Carolina State University. His teaching, research, and outreach programs all center around the microbiological safety of foods. His specific research interests lie in encapsulation of antimicrobial additives/preservatives to improve their usefulness in food products. Nevertheless, his research program in recent years has expanded to incorporate process validation for members of the U.S. rendering industries, helping to provide pathogen destruction validation to comply with FDA regulatory requirements for these industry members. His outreach program focuses on interacting with other food safety stakeholders and industry members, where he provides training, as well as works with organizations that promote food safety in the U.S. and globally. In recent years, he has partnered with IFT to help re-configure food microbiology and food safety content offered through their Certified Food Scientist preparatory course, working to develop training that demonstrates the integration of the disciplines within food science for food product processing. He has served Phi Tau Sigma as a committee chair for multiple committees, recently the Constitution and Bylaws committee.



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 Kulchaiyawat, Ph.D. (charlwit.kulchaiyawat@fosterfarms.com) and Executive Director Kathryn L. Kotula, Ph.D. (klkotula@msn.com). (More information: <http://www.phitausigma.org/awards/>)

->December 7: 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:

- October 25: 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).

->Election schedule:

- December 15:** Nominations due to Nomination and Election Committee (Tom Aurand, Ph.D., Chair, tom.aurand@gmail.com)
- January 2: Nominations and Elections Committee convenes
- January 21: Deadline for Nomination and Elections Committee to submit slate of candidates to President
- February 5: Last date on which nominations by petition may be submitted
- March 2: List of candidates will be emailed to the Members for balloting
- March 30: Deadline for casting ballots
- April 8: Deadline for tabulation of ballots
- May: Newly elected individuals announced to the Membership in the May Phi Tau Sigma Newsletter

->July 18-21, 2021, Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL:
(times tentative, and presumes an in-person meeting)

July 18 (Sunday):

11:00am-12:15pm Phi Tau Sigma Executive Committee Meeting
 12:15pm-1:30pm Lunch Break
 1:30pm-2:30pm Phi Tau Sigma Leadership Council Meeting and Annual Business Meeting
 12:30pm-1pm Student Competition Poster Set-up
 1:00pm-2:30pm Student Poster Competition Judging
 6:00pm-7:00pm IFT Awards Celebration, includes the presentation of the Dr. Carl R. Fellers, Ph.D. Award sponsored by Phi Tau Sigma (Meet the Award winners at the IFT Networking Reception immediately following.)

July 19 (Monday):

12 noon-1:30pm Phi Tau Sigma and IFT Division Competition Awards Ceremony

Significance of the Dr. Carl R. Fellers Award to Past Recipients

The Dr. Carl R. Fellers Award is the most prestigious award offered by Phi Tau Sigma with the purpose to recognize those who have brought honor and recognition to the profession of food science and technology through a distinguished career in that profession displaying exemplary leadership, service and communication skills that enhance the effectiveness of all food scientists in serving society. Past Dr. Carl R. Fellers Award recipients were asked to participate in a brief survey that was administered electronically through Qualtrics to gain insight on their perception of this recognition.



Dr. Carl R. Fellers

There was a 77.8% response rate from the 27 participants asked to respond to the survey and the survey results are shown below:

Question 1: What did receiving the Dr. Carl R. Fellers Award from Phi Tau Sigma mean to you? (Check all that apply)

Response	Percent	Count
The prestige associated with this award	26	13
Recognition by peers	30	15
Recognition of career accomplishments	36	18
Other (Type response below)	8	4

Other responses to this question:

- The recognition of Dr. Fellers' great accomplishments every time this award is given is hugely important. As time goes on fewer people seem to know and understand the immeasurable effect that Dr. Fellers contributed to the food industry by doing research with Impact – a practical application, as well as Dr. Feller’s involvement in the history of IFT and the formation of Phi Tau Sigma.
- Close association of Phi Tau Sigma and the profession
- This is a special category and I felt humble to be included in it
- A unique honor

Question 2: How did this award affect your professional career? (Check all that apply)

Response	Percent	Count
Enhanced CV/Resume	56	14
Led (contributed) to a promotion	0	0
Increased consultations or referrals (more people contacting for help or guidance in the area since you were recognized as an expert in this field)	20	5
Did not affect my professional career	16	4
Other (Type response below)	8	2

Other responses to this question:

- Acknowledgement from peers
- It is difficult to gauge affects

Question 3: What aspects of this award were important to you? (Check all that apply)

Response	Percent	Count
Being nominated by peers	28	16
Receiving the \$3,000 honorarium from Phi Tau Sigma	9	5
Receiving a plaque from IFT	5	3
Receiving this award on the IFT stage	14	8
Being recognized for a distinguished (15+ years) career	32	18
Simultaneous election to Phi Tau Sigma membership if not currently a member	7	4
Other (Type response below)	5	3

Other responses to this question:

- What is most important is the recognition by Phi Tau Sigma, in the name of Dr. Fellers.
- This award unifies the recipient with the Food Science Department at the University of Massachusetts. I wish to emulate Dr. Fellers' honesty, effectiveness, reliability, and productiveness.
- Being associated with great people in the field of food science

Question 4: Are there any aspects that you feel should be changed or added to the Dr. Carl R. Fellers Award?

- Recognition for career accomplishments was the most important aspect. I've been inspired by IFT awardees all my professional career. I hope that my accomplishments might inspire other members to make a difference.
- Add "Dr." in front of Dr. Fellers' name on the plaque.
- Being recognized by your peers at IFT is extremely gratifying. There are many such deserving candidates in our profession. Thank you for all you do for us.
- No! The Food Science Department of the University of Massachusetts Incorporated the Phi Tau Sigma based on characteristics that reflected the concepts that Dr. Fellers incorporated into our education. He chose honesty as one behavior characteristic that is essential.
- A potential dilemma with any award characterized by a person's name is that those not familiar with the award may not know what the award recognizes. That information is part of the process of nominating and giving the award, but the

meaning may be lost when it is listed on a CV and viewed by those not involved with the process of granting the award. There are other with awards that include what is being recognized in the name (e.g. 'Smith' award for research; or 'Jones' award for public service). It may also help keep the legacy of the person (e.g. Carl Fellers) alive.

- No, criteria are very clear and provide important recognition in our profession
- It is not important to me that this award be connected to IFT
- Asking each awardee to join or lifetime join Phi Tau Sigma is a great practice. Stay consistent with IFT that is renaming awards by function, so FTS Distinguished Career Award in honor of Dr. Fellers lets people outside of our society know what it is all about.
- The dedication contributions of Carl R. Fellers to the profession of Food Science should not be lost. Even as the profession continues to evolve, the role of those that started the profession should be understood by Food Science professional in the future.
- No, it is a wonderful award

Over 85% of respondents appreciated being recognized for a distinguished career, having dedicated more than 15 years to their profession, and being nominated by their peers was important to more than 75% of respondents.

Lifetime Member Tribute: Yvonne Chan Masters, Ph.D.

Senior Food Safety Compliance Manager, John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc., Elgin, IL

Why did you become a Lifetime Member?

When I was a graduate student, I was president of the Cornell University Chapter of Phi Tau Sigma where I learned important leadership skills and had camaraderie with many food scientists in Phi Tau Sigma. To keep in touch with food science members in Phi Tau Sigma, I became a Lifetime Member.

Education: B.S. in Microbiology with a minor in Chemistry and M.S. in Food Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Ph.D. in Food Science with minors in Dairy Science and Microbiology from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY.

Experience/Accomplishments: At John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc., I manage different facets of the company and interactions with external regulatory bodies to ensure the most effective control measures are in place for food safety, food defense and COVID-19. With my food safety expertise, I have written Food Safety Plans in compliance with FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements and coordinated numerous validations of low moisture snack foods such as roasted nuts. I am a Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA) Lead Instructor for Preventive Controls of Human and Animal Food. Also, I am a Food Defense Coordinator who wrote Food Defense Plans to comply with FDA Intentional Adulteration (IA) rule. I collaborated with the Peanut & Tree Nut Processor Association (PTNPA) and technical experts to revise the Industry Handbook for the Safe Processing of Nuts. In my previous work experience, I was a Supplier Quality Lead in Cheese & Dairy and Senior Microbiologist in Food Safety at Kraft Foods.



Areas of Expertise: Food Safety, Quality, Food Defense

Awards and Honors (selected list): USDA National Needs Fellowship (2003 – 2006), IAFF Student Travel Scholarship (2006), IFT Graduate Scholarships (2004, 2005, 2006), V. Duane Rath Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2006)

Personal: Family, Interests, Hobbies: I have been married to my husband for 5 years and we have an active 3 year old daughter. I enjoy cooking for my family, learning about art history, and watching movies.

Advice to university students and career food scientists and technologists:

To university students, I recommend getting involved in leadership roles in food science organizations like Phi Tau Sigma to learn important leadership skills and build your network. For food science professionals, mentoring a food science student can be rewarding for both student and mentor. To both students and professionals, always remember to challenge yourself even though a project or topic is out of your comfort zone. If someone told me when I was a student or starting out in my food science career that I would someday be working on a virus control plan during a pandemic, I would not have believed them! I know more about public health, coronaviruses, employee safety and contact tracing than I would have ever expected. I believe the leadership skills I used in Phi Tau Sigma and technical thinking in food science helped me provide technical leadership for my company during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Careers: Sr. Food Technologist

Contributed by Ravi Kiran Tadadpaneni, Ph.D., Impossible Foods

Introduction/Background: My roots are from India where I did my undergraduate program (B.E.) in Food Processing Technology from Sardar Patel University, India. Later I joined the graduate program (MS) at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) majoring in Food Process Engineering. In my last stop at the academic world, I earned my Ph.D. diploma from Washington State University majoring in Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

Positions: Sr. Food Technologist – Impossible Foods, Redwood City, CA
Food Engineering Manager – Taylor Farms Pacific. Tracy, CA
Food Scientist – Taylor Farms Pacific. Tracy, CA
R&D Food Science Intern – METER Group (Formerly Decagon Devices), Pullman, WA
Research Staff – Institute of Food Safety & Health, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL



Duties: At Impossible Foods, my role is housed in the Product Development and Commercialization team. My primary duty is to work on scaling up the novel benchtop products (at a pilot plant or full-scale manufacturing plant).

Salaries: Monetary compensation changes with the position of a specialized team and the base salary has a broad range from \$70,000 to \$110,000. In my observation, most of food companies in California are matching salary offerings at par with information technology firms.

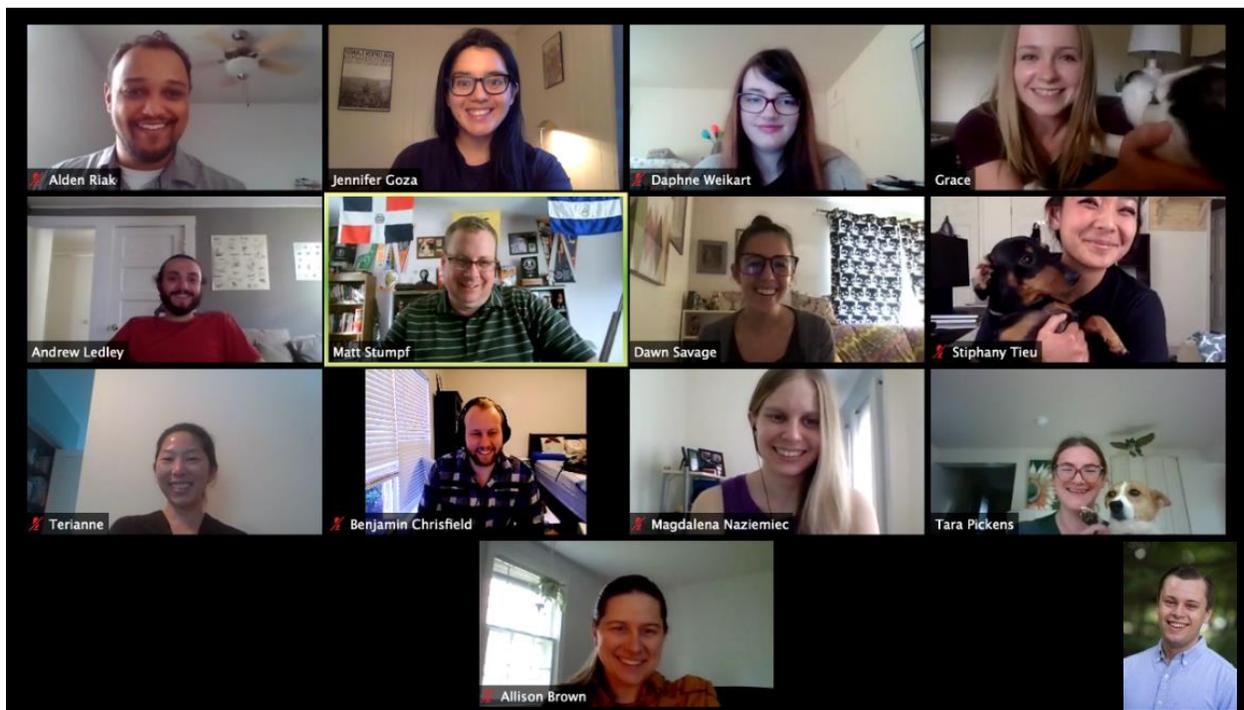
Benefits: Equity offering, 4-week PTO with 2 floating days and 2 for volunteering, Health and Dental insurance, healthy catered food every working day, and many more.

Conclusion: I have been following Impossible Foods from 2011 and I always felt that this is the company I want to work for. Even though I had other job offers in hand, I chose Impossible Foods and undoubtedly, I feel that is the best decision that I have made for my career growth. I am working in a company that has a dedicated mission and also offers excellent resources to its employees to progress in their careers – especially during the challenging times of COVID-19. Overall, I feel all employees of the company are passionate about what they do and support each other. That being said, I believe that more than ever food professionals should embrace a mission-oriented career and start working towards core issues of food – wastage, sustainability (climate change), easy access to nutritional products (focus on developing countries) and other societal challenges in relevance to food.

Chapter News: Pennsylvania State University

(Contributed by Tara L. Pickens, MSc – Ph.D. Candidate. Current Vice President of the Pennsylvania State University Chapter of Phi Tau Sigma)

The PSU Chapter of Phi Tau Sigma has weathered the changing times and remained strong. COVID-19 related organizational challenges and bidding a fond farewell to two of our Executive Board members, Drew Elder and Benjamin Chrisfield, as they wrap up their Ph.D. work and move on to a new “chapter” in their lives.



Pictured above, at our Leadership Inventory Workshop: Alden Riak, BSc, MSc in progress – Events Committee; Jennifer Goza, B.A., Ph.D. Candidate – Current President; Daphne Weikart, BSc, Ph.D. in progress – Events Committee; Grace Voronin, BSc, Ph.D. in progress – Treasurer; Andrew Ledley, BSc, Ph.D. Candidate – member; Matt Stumpf, M.A. and Dawn Savage, M.A. – Workshop Leaders; Stiphany Tieu, BSc, MSc in progress – member; Terianne Hamada, B.A., Ph.D. Candidate – member; Dr. Benjamin Chrisfield – Alumni member; Magdalena Naziemiec, MSc, Ph.D. Candidate – Web Manager; Tara L. Pickens, MSc, Ph.D. Candidate – Vice President; Allison Brown, MSc, Ph.D. Candidate – member; Drew Elder, BSc, Ph.D. Candidate – member (inset)

We have remained a strong and connected organization throughout; and our current Executive Board has a wealth of ideas to sustain that connection, and further, to connect with undergraduates in a flagship mentorship program that is targeted for a soft release this Fall 2020! We have been working with our Food Science Club IFTSA Chapter Executive Board, their faculty mentors, and our Department Head to implement a program that will facilitate a connection between graduate students – some of whom have valuable knowledge to share about their internships or industry experiences – and undergraduate students who would like guidance as they navigate the early stages of their anticipated future careers.

Further, our Event Planning Committee has worked diligently to plan and implement a Professional and Leadership Development workshop series to be held in tangent with our monthly General meetings. These workshops feature activities that aim to support building skills for success in career and leadership development. Other special events will feature guest speakers and alumni.

Looking forward to sharing our progress with you all in the future!

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!



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 Strawn, 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/phi-tau-sigma-nomination-2021-doc/>

<http://www.phitausigma.org/phi-tau-sigma-nomination-2021-pdf/>

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
- 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.

2020-2021 Sponsors and Donors:

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)

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.)

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 technical and regulatory 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. 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.

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.)

Dr. Rakesh K. Singh is a Past President of Phi Tau Sigma, a Lifetime Member; and is a Professor in the Department of Food Science & Technology at the University of Georgia, where he was department head from 2001 to 2020. He is also a Fellow of IFT, Fellow of IAFoST, Fellow of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences of India, and Editor-in-Chief of LWT – Food Science and Technology. (Sponsorship of a Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship.)

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.

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.

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.
(Donation towards a Phi Tau Sigma Student Achievement Scholarship.)

Corvus Blue LLC is a Chicago-based contract food science and research firm retained by food, dietary supplement, and allied enterprises to expedite new product development and commercialization and pave the path for rapid market realization with competitive intelligence and food science communication. The firm works with startups and established entities at the intersection of science and business to maximize opportunity and minimize risk.