

**IFT Food Laws and Regulations Division**  
**Report of Division Student Representatives**

Submitted to: FLRD Executive Committee

Submitted by: Caitlin Boon and Laura Pillsbury, FLRD Student Representatives,  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Date: March 10, 2008

---

We thank the Food Laws and Regulations Division for giving us the opportunity to serve on the Executive Committee of the Division and for the support the Division provides for students to attend Division activities. Below, please find a list of updates on our activities as student representatives over the past year as well as items of concern regarding student activities.

**Updates from 2007-2008:**

- Efforts were made to improve the application process for the Burdock Group Student Travel and Luncheon Ticket Awards. Feedback from students suggested that some students were not applying for luncheon ticket awards because the application required too much time to prepare. In previous years, the application for luncheon tickets required applicants to write a short essay on an event in the past year and the effect this event had on the future of food policies and regulations. Even though the essay was meant to be relatively easy to prepare, we found that students were actually spending significant time researching their essays to ensure that they made a good impression on the experts in policy that might be evaluating their work. In an effort to encourage more applicants, we worked with the Burdock Group to replace the past essay requirement. For 2008, applicants will be asked to describe their interest in food laws and regulations and why they would like to become more involved in the Division. It is our hope that this new application will allow us to recruit more students that are genuinely interested in the Division to the luncheon at the Annual Meeting.
- The FLRD Burdock Group Student Travel and Luncheon Ticket Award applications were advertised on the IFTSA website and over the IFTSA and Division listservs in late January. The applications are due on March 14, 2008 and award recipients are to be notified by May 1, 2008.
- Hudaa Neetoo, a student from the University of Delaware was recruited to serve as a first contact for all new Division Members. Periodically, a welcome e-mail with information Hudaa compiled on the activities of the Division will be sent to all new members in an effort to gain greater involvement of new members in Division activities. A draft of this e-mail is attached at the end of this report.

Hudaa would like any feedback the Executive Committee has on changes they would like to make.

### **Concerns for Future Student Representative Duties**

- Laura Pillsbury is slated to begin her second year as FLRD Student Representative in August 2008. However, Laura will be graduating this summer and will no longer be a full-time student. Laura is willing to continue to serve in this position if approved by the FLRD Executive Committee. If the committee determines that Laura's student status will not allow her to continue in this position, a new student will need to be elected or appointed.
- Caitlin Boon will rotate off of the FLRD Executive Committee in August 2008. A new student representative will need to be found to serve in this position. With the permission of the Executive Committee, the current student representatives will advertise this opening over the IFTSA listserv, the Division listserv, and possibly the Food Industry Environmental Network service.
- We have been informed that the Division Graduate Student Research Paper Competition has had no participants in the past 5-6 years. Given this history, we feel that changes are needed. Some questions we feel the Executive Committee should consider include:
  - Are there enough students working in this area to generate an interesting session? (We can only think of a handful of students that would have work at this level - 1-2 students from UMass, 1-2 students from Maryland, and students from the Michigan State distance program)
  - Should we keep the competition, but put new efforts into marketing?
  - Should the competition be folded into the general graduate paper competition? (this was suggested by Barbara Rasco, but we have a few concerns about how to create fair judging between the traditional science papers already part of the general paper competition, and the policy papers that would come from this division)
  - Should we discontinue this competition and use the funds for an additional Burdock Award or another student activity?

## **Draft Welcome Letter**

Dear valued FLRD member,

Thank you for joining the Food Laws & Regulations Division, one of IFT's communities most committed to promoting the application of science and technology to the establishment of new regulations and the amendment of current ones. We are certain that you will find great value in your membership.

As a FLRD member, you are entitled to a variety of benefits, including:

### *DIVISION NEWSLETTER*

All members are automatically eligible to receive the latest issue of the newsletter. The content includes but is not limited to names and contact information of current division officers, message from incoming and outgoing officers, bios of Executive Committee candidates as well as up-to-date articles from the Food Industry Environmental Network (FIEN).

### *EMAIL & ADVANCE EVENTS ALERTS*

Members will also periodically receive emails about forthcoming FLRD events including the Division Symposium, Luncheon & Business Meeting during the IFT Annual Meeting, information about the invited speaker at the Luncheon and the topic of his/her (address) speech, opportunities to sign up and order luncheon tickets online, lists of current division officers, officer position vacancies, requests to members to submit votes for elections and requests for comments by members of the IFT FLRD on documents pertaining to food regulatory issues amongst others.

### *DIVISION INFORMATION*

Members can find out about a whole host of current and past activities including Annual Meeting Symposia, courses in partnership with IFT as well as a division-sponsored listserv by checking out the division website at [http://www.ift.org/divisions/food\\_law/](http://www.ift.org/divisions/food_law/)

### *NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES*

Membership in the division provides a social and intellectual platform for building contacts and networking with primary actors in the field of food science and technology namely industry professionals, government regulators, research scientists and academics. The Business Luncheon organized by the division offer ample opportunities for networking, making new friends or revisiting old friendships.

### *EDUCATION AND INFORMATION*

A host of resources pertaining to Food Laws and Regulations at the disposal of members are accessible through links from the website. Internet resources span information from Government, Judicial, State, Academic, Company and other sources.

#### *FLRD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS*

##### **Chair Designate**

Michael C. Falk  
Life Sciences Research Office  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda MD 20814  
Business : (301)634-7030  
Fax : (301)634-7876  
[falkm@lsro.org](mailto:falkm@lsro.org)

##### **Chair Person**

Jack L. Cooper  
Food Industry Environmental Network  
33 Falling Creek Ct.  
Silver Spring MD 20904  
Business : (301)384-8287

##### **Past Chair**

Joseph Daniel Eifert  
Virginia Tech  
Food Science & Technology  
Blacksburg VA 24061  
Business : (540)231-3658  
Fax : (540)231-9293  
[jeifert@vt.edu](mailto:jeifert@vt.edu)

##### **Treasurer**

Hilary Shallo Thesmar  
Egg Nutrition Ctr.  
Ste. 725  
1900 L St. NW  
Washington DC 20036-5053  
Business : (202)833-8850  
Fax : (202)463-0102  
[hshallo@enc-online.org](mailto:hshallo@enc-online.org)

##### **Division Student Representative**

Caitlin S. Boon  
Univ. of Massachusetts  
100 Holdsworth Way  
228 Chenoweth Laboratory  
Amherst MA 01003  
Home: (704)453-1080  
[csboon@foodsci.umass.edu](mailto:csboon@foodsci.umass.edu)

##### **Division Student Representative**

Laura Anne Pillsbury  
Univ of Massachusetts  
Dept of Food Science  
228 Chenoweth Laboratory  
100 Holdsworth Way  
Amherst MA 01003  
Home: (765)495-3082  
[laura.pillsbury@gmail.com](mailto:laura.pillsbury@gmail.com)

##### **Division Membership Secretary**

Hudaa Neetoo  
Southgate Gardens  
18 Marvin Dr Apt B3  
Newark DE 19713  
Home: (302)831-6821  
Fax : (302)831-2822  
[hudaa@udel.edu](mailto:hudaa@udel.edu)

##### **Div SPS Representative**

Marilyn D. Schorin, Ph.D, RD,  
Schorin Strategies LLC  
1400 Willow Ave Ste 1901  
Louisville KY 40204  
Business : (502)452-1100  
Fax : (502)452-1100  
[schorin@schorin-strategies.com](mailto:schorin@schorin-strategies.com)

##### **Division Web Editor**

David B. Haytowitz

USDA-ARS-BHNRC-Nutr Data Lab  
Bldg 5, BARC-West, #307A  
10300 Baltimore Ave.  
Beltsville MD 20705-2350  
Business : (301)504-0714  
Fax : (301)504-0713  
[david.haytowitz@ars.usda.gov](mailto:david.haytowitz@ars.usda.gov)

**Division Member at large**

Dr. George A. Burdock  
Burdock Group  
Ste 710  
801 N Orange Ave  
Orlando FL 32801  
Business : (407)802-1400  
Fax : (407)802-1405  
[gburdock@burdockgroup.com](mailto:gburdock@burdockgroup.com)

**Division Member at large**

Dr Barbara Blakistone  
68 Greenwood Cir  
Wormleysburg PA 17043  
Business : (703)752-8887  
Fax : (703)752-7583  
[bblakistone@nfi.org](mailto:bblakistone@nfi.org)

## **JOIN IFT FLRD NOW!**

Food Science students, undergraduates and graduates alike, are invited to join the Food Laws and Regulations Division. Division membership comes with a nominal fee of \$4 in addition to the National IFT Student Membership dues (\$50). By becoming a member of FLRD, you will be eligible to receive all the benefits listed above.

## **STUDENT MEMBERS**

### **Food Laws and Regulations Division Burdock Group Student Travel Award 2008:**

Applications are now being accepted for the Student Travel Award to the IFT Annual Meeting. For 2008, the Burdock Group is providing the IFT Food Laws and Regulation Division with a \$1,000 grant to offer **two** travel awards of **\$500** each to student members of the IFT Student Association with an interest in food laws and regulations to assist in their participation in IFT Annual Meeting, which will be June 28 - July 1, 2008 in New Orleans.

The Division is also sponsoring **one \$500** travel award and **10 tickets** for winning students to participate in the Division Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Last year, Dr. Cathy Adams, Corporate Vice President for Worldwide Quality, Safety and Nutrition at McDonald's was the luncheon speaker.

At the luncheon, you will also get to reconnect with fellow FLRD members and witness the presentation of the prestigious Burdock Student Travel and Division Student Travel Awards to deserving students. Two of the awards will be presented by Dr. Burdock of the Burdock group, who initiated these awards several years ago. Also, a Division Student Travel Award will be presented to a deserving student by Division Chair, Joe Eifert of Virginia Tech. The awards are designed to encourage student participation in the IFT Annual Meeting as well as to encourage student interest and participation in the field of Food Laws and Regulations.

Interested students should send the completed application (attached) to Dr. Susan Abraham by email to [sabraham3001@yahoo.com](mailto:sabraham3001@yahoo.com) by Friday, **March 14, 2008**.

A) The winners of 2007 Burdock Student Travel Awards in the amount of \$500 each are:

1. Chike Ifezue (Master's student, University of Massachusetts)
2. Oleksandr Byelasnov (Ph.D. student, Colorado State University)

B) The winner of the Division Student Travel Award in the amount of \$500 is:  
Laura Pillsbury (Master's student, University of Massachusetts)

C) The Division also held a student competition for complimentary tickets to the Division Annual Meeting and Luncheon. The winners of the complimentary luncheon tickets are:

*Not available*

## **INPUT TO DIVISION ACTIVITIES AND SEMINARS**

1. Your input is highly desired! Become an active student member of the FLRD by volunteering to be on the executive board.
2. Alternatively, make your voice heard by submitting a short article, scientific or other, to be published in the division newsletter. Students interested in contributing articles should email the newsletter editor, David Haytowitz at [david.haytowitz@ars.usda.gov](mailto:david.haytowitz@ars.usda.gov)

## **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

What's important to you?

The FLRD has a very informative website to satisfy its readership. But the divisions needs your input to make it relevant and perhaps even newsworthy. For suggestions about the website, e-mail the website editor David Haytowitz at [david.haytowitz@ars.usda.gov](mailto:david.haytowitz@ars.usda.gov). Also, just what should the FLRD be doing to help students? Whether it be offline or online. What do you feel you need from us? What are we doing right or what could we be doing better? To share your views or if you have any comments or suggestions, email the FLRD Student Representative Huda Neetoo at [huda@udel.edu](mailto:huda@udel.edu).

We invite you to join us and participate in all Division activities. Your support and ideas are welcome and will help the Division fulfill the needs and interest of all the members.

Thank you for committing to the IFT FLRD through your membership. We look forward to serving your information needs.

Food Laws and Regulations Division