

## Message from the President

Hello SJIFT Members!

You may be wondering why I am writing this President's letter when I just served as Immediate Past President? Well, the SJIFT had some resignations in our executive board earlier this year and according to our Bylaws, a vacancy on the Board must be filled from current members of the Board. So, yours-truly was voted in to serve another term as President for the 2016-2017 governing year. I hope you don't get tired of me!



The good news is that we have a full slate of new officers for 2016-17 starting with our President Elect, Ryan Gossweller of Batory Foods. Quinn Zweigle of National Raisin is our Immediate Past President. Quinn spent a lot of time with our National officers to complete our Affiliation Agreement, and also assisted the NCIFT and SCIFT in this endeavor. Brittney Cemo of National Raisin is our current Treasurer pro-tem and will serve in that capacity until her term expires August 31 of 2017. Brittney has done a great job with the books and is improving our record-keeping. Our new Secretary is Matt Cholakian of Hydrite Chemicals, and our three Members at Large are: Trish Frazier of Brenntag whose term runs to 8-31-17, Dr. Erin Dormedy of CSU Fresno whose term runs to 8-31-18, and Jordan Bolin of National Raisin, whose term runs to 8-31-19.

We also have a new Social Media Chair, Nicole Miranda from Munger Farms. Nicole will be managing our website and all of our IT needs, and has already made a positive impact on our Section.

I can't say enough praise for all of the work that our 2015-16 SJIFT Board did last year and how excited I am to be working with our new board for the upcoming year.

I am also proud to announce that for the second year running, the SJIFT was named as a Section of Excellence by the National IFT. The Board also received recognition as Outstanding Section Volunteers which was well deserved.

We have some great events planned for this year. First of all, if you haven't signed up for the SJIFT Scholarship Golf Tournament on Thursday Sept 22, there is still time. This is our major fund-raiser and our source of money for the scholarships we give out to CSU Fresno students. We also are planning a fall plant tour on Tuesday November 15. We have booked our speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Sloan, who we have had in the past and she does a great job of presenting new trends in the food industry. We are lining up our plant tour and restaurant, so stay tuned.

We will have at least 4 new professional meetings this year, and plan to have a winter dinner meeting in late February, plus our Student Recognition Night where we give out our Scholarships, on Thursday April 20.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Scott Nichols