

Call for Technical Research Paper Abstracts Submission Guidelines



**Las Vegas, NV
June 25-28, 2017**



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Call for Abstracts Overview

The Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) welcomes the submission of quality and original food science and technology research for presentation at IFT17®.

Scientific Program Goals

In 2017, IFT will continue and expand upon its' long standing history of offering the best and most comprehensive food science educational program by:

1. Providing cutting-edge, top quality scientific research and programming by leading food science professionals and researchers.
2. Offering relevant research and programming on key focus areas facing food science professionals, consumers and the industry.
3. Presenting both basic and transformative research and applied science.
4. Holding new ePoster sessions which feature high level scientific research to be presented by primary authors in a more formal session room. Presenters have 15 minutes to actually present a digital version of their poster in front of a small seated audience, with 5 minutes at the end for questions. Only primary authors are allowed to present in an ePoster session so be sure you clearly identify the primary author in your abstract submission.
5. Maximizing the attendee value through their participation in the scientific program.

An accepted abstract honors the scientific and scholarly achievements of the presenters and helps contribute to the growth of the food science and technology field. Each year, as many as 1,300 abstracts are submitted to IFT for consideration. IFT's divisions are charged with reviewing all abstracts and thus determining the "best of the best" among them for the IFT17 schedule. IFT welcomes and appreciates all who submit abstracts and looks forward to another successful year.

Abstract Submission Categories

Presentation Format

Proposals accepted will be presented as either physical posters presentations on the expo floor, or as ePoster presentations:

ePoster sessions will feature research abstracts to be presented in a session room in front of a small seated audience. ePosters will be presented only by primary authors in front of a small seated audience, a TV monitor to display a digital version of the poster and an iPad kiosk for the



primary author to present and navigate around the poster. More details will be provided to primary authors of accepted abstracts regarding presenting in an ePoster session.

Abstract Category/Division

Refer to Appendix D for Division descriptions to select the appropriate division in which to submit an abstract.

Abstract Competitions

Qualified individuals may also submit their research for consideration with the following abstract competitions:

- Division Competitions including a few oral competitions
- George F. Stewart International Research Paper Competition
- Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) Young Scientists Poster Award

For more information on the abstract competitions please see the “Competition Guidelines” on www.ift.org/IFT17

Technical Research Papers Critical Date Overview

The following timetable shows the activities and events which will lead to developing successful poster sessions at IFT17.

7/15/2016	Call for abstracts opens online
12/16/2016 4pm CST	Call for abstracts closes; Late submissions will not be accepted
2/17/2017	Submitters notified of status of submission. Approved submitters asked to confirm acceptance of offer to present
3/17/2017	Deadline to confirm invitation to present abstract
3/21/2017	Accepted abstracts added to IFT17 online Session Planner
6/2/2017	Digital posters due to IFT for ePoster sessions
6/25/2017 – 6/28/2017	IFT17

Right of First Refusal

IFT reserves the right to publish the accepted abstracts in a Book of Abstracts, on the IFT website or both. Authors are not required to submit papers for publication. Papers should not have been published prior to IFT17. The right of first refusal applies to all research, science and technology abstracts/papers presented at the annual meeting. Authors are encouraged to submit their papers for consideration in IFT's publications—the Journal of Food Science (JFS), Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety (CRFSFS), the Journal of Food Science Education (JFSE), and Food Technology. As soon as possible after IFT17, authors should visit <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jfs> to submit their manuscripts to JFS, CRFSFS, and JFSE. To submit to Food Technology, contact Bob Swientek at bswientek@ift.org. Call the IFT Publications Office at 312-782-8424 for further information. Those who do not wish to publish their papers in IFT publications but rather other journals should also contact Bob Swientek to request permission.

Poster Presenter Information and Reimbursement Policy

IFT is extremely appreciative of the hard work, dedication and expertise presenters provide each year. Without this help the IFT annual event would not be a success.

Presenter Affirmations

All submitters will be asked to complete a series of affirmations to let IFT know they accept, are aware of the important deadlines and that they will follow standard presenter protocols. There are a few affirmations that the majority of presenters do not have to accept such as giving IFT the right to audio or videotape the presentation (for oral presentations) and distribute the PowerPoint slides. Only if your paper was accepted as an oral presentation will these affirmations apply.

Refer to [Appendix C](#) for a listing of the presenter affirmations.

Reimbursement for Presenters

IFT does not reimburse presenters for travel, hotel, registration fees or other expenses incurred during the annual meeting.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

Submission Deadline: December 16, 2016 by 4pm Central Time
Time for informing acceptance/rejections: February 17, 2017

Individuals interested in submitting timely and high-quality science papers are encouraged to submit under this section. Additionally, graduate student and international abstract competitions are a part of this submission process. More information on all of these submission opportunities are detailed in the Competition Guidelines.

Abstract Selection Criteria

IFT reserves the ultimate right to select abstracts submitted for review by the Scientific Program reviewers based on quality factors including, but not limited to:

- Scientific merit,
- Relevancy to the food science industry,
- Innovation,
- Practical application of content,
- Pertinence to division and tracks, and
- Pertinence to target audience(s).

Abstracts failing to meet one or more quality factors will not be selected.

Poster Presentations

(Does not include ePoster sessions – separate format as described on page 4)

Poster presentations provide the opportunity for the presenters and the audience to talk with one another. A physical arrangement of poster boards is used for this interaction. Each presenter is provided with a freestanding bulletin board on which to display the poster. A number of posters will be displayed during each poster session. During the designated period, approximately two hours in length, the audience moves through the poster displays, stopping to interact with those who are presenting research that is of special interest to them. Poster presenters should come prepared with a 3-5 minute oral presentation to provide interested attendees. Some poster presenters find it useful to have selected handouts for interested attendees visiting their posters. These could be a reduced photocopy of the poster, selected data/conclusions, or other relevant material. This is completely optional and presenters must produce their own copies.

Abstract Submission Rules

- The data presented must not be published before IFT17.
- The data presented must be substantive. IFT discourages the submission of incomplete research at the time of submission. Recent results may be added at the time of presenting. However, the results shown in the abstract must be substantive.
- Abstracts MUST address the following:
 1. Justification
 2. Objective
 3. Methods
 4. Results
 5. Significance of your research to the food science field.
- Authors should not split data to create several abstracts from one study. If two or more abstracts on related topics with minimal information are submitted, priority of related abstracts will be reduced.
- Data must represent new findings obtained using the scientific approach. Data similar to previous presentations should not be submitted. Findings should be stated in sufficient detail to support conclusions.
- The abstract must cite quantitative data from representative experiments. Do not simply state that the results will be discussed.
- Abstracts may be no longer than 350 words.
- Standard abbreviations may be used without definition. Nonstandard abbreviations must be kept to a minimum, and must be placed in parentheses after the first use of the word or phrase abbreviated.
- Do not include references, credits or grant support.
- Abstracts dealing with commercial products or services must have a scientific emphasis and should not be submitted for promotion purposes. Also see New Products and Technologies Submission Guidelines for abstracts of this nature.
- All abstracts must use correct grammar and punctuation.
- Proofread very carefully for formatting, spelling, and grammar to avoid errors before submission. **You will not have the ability to edit your abstract after submission deadline.**
- Tables and images may NOT be included in the abstract.
- All authors must have a copy of the abstract before the time of submission.
- At least one of the authors must be a member in good standing of the Institute of Food Technologists or one of the non-U.S. IFT Allied Organizations.
- Incomplete proposals will not be reviewed.

NOTE: Individuals interested in promoting a particular commercial product or services are encouraged to participate as exhibitors in the food expo. New and unique products or technologies introduced between January 2013 and 2017 should be considered for the New Products and Technologies abstract

presentations. See the *Call for New Products & Technologies Abstracts Submission Guidelines* for more information.

A checklist of information requested at the time of abstract submission can be found in [Appendix A](#). This will enable submitters to prepare their submissions prior to submitting online if they prefer.

Refer to [Appendix B](#) for a sample abstract.

Abstract Revisions

Changes **are not** permitted after submission deadlines. All authors must be listed at time of submission. No changes will be made after the submission deadline.

Abstract Withdrawal

Submit withdrawal requests in writing by April 21, 2017 to avoid publication.

Abstract Review and Acceptance

Abstracts will be peer-reviewed in a multi-step process. Each abstract must be submitted to one appropriate division for consideration. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed by experts in the division to which they are submitted.

- Each abstract will be critically evaluated by at least five reviewers and the selection will be based on the abstract selection criteria listed above.
- Any abstracts submitted not meeting the criteria and adhering to these guidelines will not be selected.
- The same quality and scientific merit standards will be applied to both oral and poster presentations.
- Possible reasons for abstract rejection
 - Information is not new or is similar to previous presentations/publications
 - Methods are not appropriate or informative
 - Statistical analysis incorrect or missing
 - Results are not clearly presented, discussed or interpreted
 - Findings are insufficient to support the conclusion
 - Incomplete study, not substantial
 - Promote commercial products, not science, as the primary goal
 - Do not follow the format guidelines
 - Many language errors
 - Topic not relevant to IFT members

Notifications

Only primary authors will receive e-mail notification of abstract status **on February 17, 2017**. It is the responsibility of the primary author to inform all co-authors and faculty advisors of disposition status and abstract scheduling

information (if accepted). **Please check with all authors regarding acceptance before contacting IFT.**

All notices will be sent as bulk email messages from amsp@ift.org. Many times web-based email accounts (e.g., Hotmail, AOL and Yahoo) automatically send bulk email messages into the spam folder. Please check both your inbox and your junk mail folder for your disposition notice.

If you have not received your e-mail by end of day Central time April 17, please contact the IFT Knowledge & Learning Department by email at amsp@ift.org. **It is the responsibility of the primary author to ensure that he/she has a valid and current email address. This will ensure timely delivery of your abstract disposition notice.**

By submitting an abstract IFT assumes you will be in attendance to present if your submission is scheduled.

Poster Presentation Guidelines

Presentation

- If a paper is accepted as a poster presentation, the author(s) must attend IFT17 to present the poster in person. If you are a student, faculty may not present your poster for you. Failure to show up to present the poster, if not justified in advance, will jeopardize the acceptance of submissions by the author(s) for the next three IFT annual events.
- Printed posters must be sized so that they can fit on the 4ft tall by 8ft. wide display board that IFT provides each poster presenter. **Your poster must be smaller than 4ft. high by 8ft wide.**
- Papers scheduled for poster presentation will be numbered and listed in the IFT17 Program Directory.
- Posters to be presented in an ePoster session must be submitted electronically to IFT in advance of IFT17. Primary authors are the only authors allowed to present an ePoster. More details regarding poster presentation format will be communicated upon acceptance of ePosters in late February, 2017.

Printed Poster Display Hours and Expectations (Times are subject to change)

- Presenters of printed posters are asked to set up their posters 30 minutes prior to the start of the poster session.
- Printed poster presentations will be available for viewing at least a two hour period and the author(s) identified to present will be required to stand

with the poster for at least 45 minutes. Specific presentation times will be communicated upon notification of the poster presentation day and time. Failure to be present during this period of time will be regarded as not showing up and will jeopardize the future acceptance of their papers by IFT.

- If you have multiple posters scheduled at the same time, please split your time accordingly and/or ask a co-author to fill in for when you are not able to be at one of your posters.
- Tear-down must be completed no later than 30 minutes after the poster session has ended. Printed posters left up after the tear-down period will be removed and disposed of by IFT staff. IFT is not responsible for any lost or damaged poster.

All printed posters must remain on display for the entire duration of the poster session. IFT staff members and student monitors will be available during the setup period to provide authors with the materials needed to mount the data and illustrations. The student monitors will be available during the entire session to provide authors with any information or assistance they may need.

For printed posters, IFT will provide:

- 4 ft. tall by 8 ft. wide board as a display area.
- “Dots” with adhesive on one side and Velcro on the other will be available at the poster session in a limited quantity.
- Signage identifying your paper number and the title will also be provided. Do not remove your title board. This is how attendees will find your work.
- Requirements for ePoster presentation will be distributed to primary authors upon acceptance notification.

You must provide:

An abstract of your paper and illustrations must be in a size and format suitable for poster display. In addition, it is suggested that you prepare brief statements of the purpose of your work, your experimental methodology and design, and the major results of your findings and their implications.

The abstract and illustrations must be readable by interested viewers from a distance of about three feet or more. Text material should be printed from a laser printer with a font size large enough to read from this distance.



Sample of the poster board display
for poster presenters

Keep illustrations simple. Simple use of color, however, can add emphasis. Any photograph should be a minimum of 8" x 10". Minimum size for all other illustrations is 9"x 12".

Do not mount your illustrations on heavy boards because these may be difficult to place in position on the poster boards using the Velcro dots.

Optional Materials

Some poster presenters find it useful to have selected handouts for interested scientists visiting their posters. These could be a reduced photocopy of the poster, selected data/conclusions, or other relevant material. This is completely optional.

Disclaimer: IFT is not responsible for any lost or damaged posters.

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are some of the most frequently asked questions during the abstract submission process, with references to additional information in this set of guidelines.

1. When is the deadline to submit abstracts?

Abstracts are due by December 16, 2016 by 4 pm Central Time. Late submissions will not be accepted.

2. Can I make changes after the abstract submission deadline?

No. After the deadline, submitters will not be allowed to make changes.

3. When will I hear if my abstract was accepted for presentation?

Submitters will be notified on February 17, 2017.

4. Does submitting an abstract guarantee acceptance?

Unfortunately, it does not. Abstracts are peer-reviewed by division reviewers based on the quality factors outlined in these guidelines. Any abstracts submitted not meeting the quality factors will not be selected.

In some cases, abstracts that satisfactorily meet these requirements will also not be selected due to limited program space and the higher quality of competing abstract submissions.

5. What is the review process for abstracts?

Divisions will review all abstracts submitted to their division only. Each abstract will have an average score based on all the reviews and will be selected based on quality of research and overall review scores.

6. Do I have to submit my abstract to the Journal of Food Science for publication?

Yes. Submission of an abstract to IFT17 indicates that the authors agree to give IFT the first opportunity to publish the work (right of first refusal). Authors are encouraged to submit their papers for consideration in any of IFT's publications—the Journal of Food Science (JFS), Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety (CRFSFS), the Journal of Food Science Education (JFSE), and Food Technology. As soon as possible after IFT17, authors should visit <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jfs> to submit their manuscripts to JFS, CRFSFS, and JFSE. To submit to Food Technology, contact Bob Swientek at bswientek@ift.org. Call the IFT Publications Office at 312-782-8424 for further information. Those who do not wish to publish their papers in IFT publications but rather other journals should also contact Bob Swientek to request permission.

7. How do I submit an abstract?

Review the Call for Abstract Submission Guidelines for more information. Visit www.ift.org/IFT16 (current annual event web site) and there will be a link to the Call for Proposals page. Select Technical Research Paper to submit an abstract.

NOTE: Be sure to submit your abstract through the correct submission type. Incorrectly submitted abstracts will not be transferred.

8. What if I have to withdraw my abstract?

Contact IFT at amsp@ift.org. The deadline to withdraw submission, if accepted, is April 21, 2017 to avoid publication.

9. What if I am having technical difficulties submitting my abstract?

Contact Planstone by email at support@planstone.com.

On the submission site, there is a green feedback and support tab. Click on this tab to create a help desk ticket. You will have a resolution within 24 hours.

10. Does the division I select for review of my abstract have to be the same division related to a competition I want to compete in?

Yes, however, you can also be eligible for the George F. Stewart International Research Paper, Marketing & Management and the Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening Young Scientists Poster competitions. For more information on division competitions please see the Competition Guidelines.

Contact Information

Trouble Submitting Abstract Online?

Contact Planstone by email at support@planstone.com.

On the submission site, there is a green feedback and support tab. Click on this tab to create a help desk ticket. You will have a resolution within 24 hours.

Call for Abstracts policy question?

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Appendix

Appendix A: Technical Research Paper Requested Information

Below is the information that will be requested from you while you are submitting a technical research oral or poster paper. The required fields are marked with an asterisk (*). Please feel free to use this document as a checklist to help guide you through the submission process. **The submission deadline for technical research papers is December 16, 2016 at 4PM Central Time. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

Title/Body	
	*Enter your presentation title. Titles should be entered in title case. Titles cannot be changed after the submission deadline on December 16, 2016.
	*Enter your abstract details (no more than 350 words) including Introduction, Method, Results and Significance. Abstracts cannot be changed after the submission deadline on December 16, 2016
	Enter in industry relevant text for use with the media (no more than 300 words).
Presenter Affirmations	
	*(See Appendix C)
Presentation type/category	
	*Select Presentation type: Poster or ePoster
	*Select a category/division for your submission; This will be the division that reviews your abstract and the division competition you will compete in if eligible.
	*Choose one key focus/core science track
	*Respond to additional affirmations. Audio taping release, PowerPoint Distribution, PowerPoint Revisions
Keywords	
	*Enter 1-3 keywords. One keyword is mandatory.
Authors	
	*Add all authors to your abstract. Once your abstract is submitted you will not be able to make changes or add authors.
	During this step please indicate which author is your primary author. All correspondence will be sent to the primary author.
Details	
	All abstract submitters who qualify for a competition i automatically entered into competition. If you DO NOT want to be considered for a competition please check the box.
	*Select whether or not the primary author will graduate before July 30, 2016
	*Select if the primary author is a non-U.S. citizen and if the research has been conducted outside the U.S.
	Indicate if you are a AFRI, USDA – NIFA awardee submitting an abstract for the Project Directors' (PD) meeting(including award number and program code) and/or the Scientific Program
	Indicate if you would like to be considered for the Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) Young Scientists Poster Award
Proof and submit	
	Review the summary of your submission. You may come back to this site to edit your information until December 16, 2016. After December 16 no changes can be made to your submission.

Appendix B: SAMPLE Technical Research Paper Abstract

Determination of Boiled Candy Glass Transition Temperature by Genetic Algorithm (GA) and Capacitor Based Thermal Analysis (CTA)

Introduction:

The glass transition temperature (T_g) is a very important parameter for candy production. The measurement of T_g , however, is done by comparably expensive and sophisticated equipment including differential scanning calorimeter (DSC), dielectric analyzer, and nuclear magnetic resonance. In this study, a Capacitor Based Thermal Analysis (CTA), which is much less expensive and less sophisticated analysis, was used to test the T_g of candy samples and the results were compared to DSC.

Method:

In this study, the T_g of several candies were measured by placing samples between two stainless plates, and monitoring capacitance and temperature as the samples were heated. The data of capacitance as a function of temperature were processed by a genetic algorithm (GA), and fitted to a three-section model to determine T_g . The T_g of the candies were independently measured by DSC as a reference.

Significance:

GA based CTA provides a much cheaper and less sophisticated methods for small or medium confection manufacturers to measure the T_g of their products, helping them supervise or control the quality of the products during or after processing. For other researchers, GA based CTA is a new method with computational algorithm involved to study the phase transition of other food materials.

Results:

The results showed that when the T_g of the candy was below $\sim 15^\circ\text{C}$, the measurement from GA and capacitor based thermal analysis (CTA) was higher than that from DSC. However, if T_g of the candy was higher than 15°C , the two methods gave similar values. GA based CTA provides a feasible new way to measure phase transitions in candies with relatively inexpensive equipment, and less need for user interpretation of data.

Appendix C: Presenter Affirmations

Please indicate your acceptance of the following preconditions to presenting. If you do not agree with one or more of the following statements or if you have any questions, contact IFT Staff at amsp@ift.org.

Deadlines

I agree to meet the critical deadlines provided to me in my invitation letter with respect to submission of materials and arriving my assigned session.

IFT17 Registration

I understand that as a presenter I must pay the appropriate IFT Member or Non-member registration fee. Registration information will be available at www.ift.org/ift17 by March 1, 2017.

Right of First Refusal

IFT reserves the right to publish the accepted abstracts in a Book of Abstracts, on the IFT website or both. Authors are not required to submit papers for publication. Papers should not have been published prior to the meeting. The right of first refusal applies to all research, science and technology abstracts/papers presented at IFT17. Authors are encouraged to submit their papers for consideration in IFT's publications—the Journal of Food Science (JFS), Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety (CRFSFS), the Journal of Food Science Education (JFSE), and Food Technology. As soon as possible after IFT17, authors should visit <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jfs> to submit their manuscripts to JFS, CRFSFS, and JFSE. To submit to Food Technology, contact Bob Swientek at bswientek@ift.org. Call the IFT Publications Office at 312-782-8424 for further information. Those who do not wish to publish their papers in IFT publications but rather other journals should also contact Bob Swientek to request permission.

Handouts

I understand that IFT does not provide paper copies of PowerPoint slides or any other handouts. Any presenters choosing to distribute handouts must bring their own copies.

Reporting

I agree that an article reporting on my presentation may be included in the post-IFT17 communication or on the IFT website, the purpose of which is to provide meeting highlights to those members who did not attend. I further acknowledge that members of the media may attend my presentation to record and report on its contents.

Conflict of Interest

I agree that if I have any commercial relationships that my presentation will be evidence-based and I will disclose my relationship to the products/services from that entity. Additionally, I will not sell while presenting and will avoid any appearance of impropriety or inordinate promotion of a product or service I sell or provide.

Copyright Release

I assume full responsibility for securing the necessary clearance and permission for publication and presentation from any third party holding rights to any of the presentation material. I have obtained concurrence from the sole author, co-authors or co-workers before submitting my materials for presentation and publication and have acknowledged all contributions to the work. In addition, any use of a motion picture movie, in whole or in part, during my presentation requires a public performance license. I will not include or refer to any movie clip without obtaining a public performance license prior to my presentation.

I give the Institute of Food Technologists and its agents permission to include my abstract and any other materials distributed or displayed in a compilation of conference materials in paper or electronic format. I give the Institute of Food Technologists and its agents permission to include my presentation description and biography electronically on the Web.

Indemnification

I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold IFT, its directors, officers, employees, and agents harmless from and against all claims arising from my participation as a presenter, including any claim that the material included in the presentation or the use to which the presentation will be put infringes the rights of any third parties.

I agree to all of the above statements (Required Yes Response)

Applicable to abstracts accepted in ePoster Sessions:

Audio Taping Release

I give the Institute of Food Technologists permission to audio record and produce audio tapes, DVD-ROMs and/or other electronic media of my presentations at IFT17, for subsequent use and/or sale by IFT or its contracted vendor partners.

I agree to the above statement (Required with either Yes or No Response)**Poster Materials Distribution**

I give the Institute of Food Technologists permission to produce videotapes, CD-Roms and/or other electronic media of my poster materials presented at the IFT17, for promotional use and/or sale by IFT or its vendors.

Background Information: IFT has retained the services of an education recording services company, to capture the audio and poster materials at so that attendees can purchase all available presentations or individual sessions they missed. The poster materials will be linked with your audio file only if you give us permission below.

I agree to the above statement (Required with either Yes or No Response)

Poster Material Revisions

I understand that any revisions to my poster materials must be uploaded through the presentation management system at least 25 minutes in advance of when my session starts. The updated copy will then be sent electronically to my session room.

I agree to the above statement (Required with either Yes or No Response)

Appendix D: Submission Category/Division Descriptions

Aquatic Food Products - Addresses all aspects of the science and technology of fish and shellfish including harvesting, production, preparation, processing, utilization, nutrition, and marketing.

Biotechnology - Explores the opportunities and challenges in this multidisciplinary field composed of at least half a dozen areas in the life sciences, ranging from gene splicing and plant breeding to microbial fermentation and plant cell culture.

Carbohydrates - Addresses food carbohydrate manufacture, characterization, function, and use.

Dairy Foods - Concerned with quality control, compositional standards, product and process development, equipment and plant design, sanitation, sensory evaluation, biotechnology of dairy cultures, and development and implementation of marketing strategies.

Education, Extension & Outreach - A forum to discuss the continuum of food science education, from elementary school to adulthood. Of particular importance are current research opportunities, innovative teaching methods and learning techniques, effective methods for serving your clientele and examples of successful outreach.

Food Chemistry - Addresses the composition and properties of food and food ingredients, and the chemical, physical, and biological changes in food constituents as a result of preparation, processing and storage.

Food Engineering - Focuses on the engineering of foods.

Food Law & Regulations - A forum for discussing the development and implementation of food laws and regulations. Members are from industry, academia, government, and the legal profession.

Food Microbiology - Largest professional organization of food microbiologists in the world, encompassing all areas of food microbiology, including those aspects of food science and technology in which bacteria, fungi, viruses, protozoa, and parasites play a role.

Food Packaging - Provides leadership and technical expertise in food packaging technologies.

Foodservice - Focuses on the supply preparation, presentation, and delivery of foods, usually for immediate consumption away from home.

Fruit & Vegetable Products - Concentrates on the production and post-harvest handling of fruits and vegetables for processing, and the manufacturing, packaging, and storage of processed fruit and vegetable products and by-products.

International - Promotes international scientific communication and technology transfer among food scientists through its newsletter, education programs, and hosting of non-U.S. members at IFT17.

Marketing & Management - Focus on marketing and management activities directly involved in the development of food and beverage products.

Muscle Foods - Encompasses the areas of aquatic, poultry, and red meat species and interacting disciplines, both basic and applied.

Nonthermal Processing - Provides a forum for discussing nonthermal technologies for processing foods such as pulsed power engineering, ultra-high pressure, ozone, and reemerging food irradiation.

Nutraceuticals & Functional Foods - Provides interaction among IFT members, organizes training programs, scientific meetings, and symposiums; and provides accurate information to the media regarding emerging scientific, extension, and industrial production health issues in this rapidly growing segment of the field.

Nutrition - Addresses the study of the biochemical and physiological processes concerned with the growth, maintenance, and response to stress of the body and its constituent organs, bridging the gap between food science and nutritional science.

Product Development - Offers an opportunity for food scientists developing new or improved food products to interact and promote new development.

Protein - Addresses all aspects of the science and technology of plant based, muscle based and alternative proteins. This includes the nutritional aspects, processing, protein interactions, satiety, and functional properties.

Quality Assurance - A forum for issues relating to quality assurance, quality control, and food wholesomeness.

Refrigerated & Frozen Foods - Concentrates on all aspects of the preservation of foods employing refrigeration or freezing technology.

Sensory and Consumer Sciences - A forum for members involved in the discipline used to evoke, measure, analyze, and interpret reactions to the

characteristics of foods and materials as they are perceived by the senses of sight, smell, taste, touch, and hearing.

Toxicology & Safety Evaluation - Addresses all aspects of the science and technology of toxicology and safety evaluation relevant to foods or food components.