

NIFTY NEWS CENTRAL

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Embrace the Fall Semester

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As the new academic year begins, Rutgers Food Science students are eager to embrace fresh opportunities for learning, innovation, and professional development. Before we dive into what's ahead, let's take a moment to reflect on the achievements of the past year and use those successes as a foundation for even greater accomplishments.

Last year, the Graduate Student Association (GSA) and the Undergraduate Club worked closely with NYIFT/CNIFT, bringing more students to the dinner meetings and other activities. Students also played an active role in various events, such as volunteering at Supplier's Day. One of the highlights was Student Night, a highly successful event organized by the GSA, which attracted over 90 attendees. This event provided students with valuable insights into possible career paths and opportunities to build connections with industry professionals, as well as showcase their research projects to the attendees.

Meanwhile, our student chapter was deeply involved in various IFT Student Association (IFTSA) events this year. Rutgers formed a product development team that created a healthy snack for the Mars Product Development Competition. Our College Bowl team also participated in the North Atlantic Regional Competition. We had the unique opportunity to collaborate on a global scale, partnering with the IFTSA chapter at Tec de Queretaro in Monterrey, Mexico. Together, we hosted joint meetings like Coffee Chats and created "Day in the Life" videos. These initiatives helped to expand the reach of food science as a profession, breaking down barriers and uniting future food scientists across the globe.

In July 2024, students attended IFT FIRST in Chicago, with travel support from NYIFT/CNIFT. This experience allowed us to connect with peers and faculty from universities across the U.S. and beyond, while also gaining exposure to the latest trends and cutting-edge science and technologies in the food industry.

As we embark on this academic year, our students are already diving into a range of exciting activities. The Rutgers Food Science GSA and Undergraduate Club started the year strong with a warm welcome for both new and returning students. In addition, we're actively building our student competition teams. If you're interested in sponsoring the next generation of food scientists, we encourage you to reach out to us via e-mail at NYIFToffice@NYIFT.org

Here's to a productive and inspiring fall semester for all our Food Science students!