NYIFT and GSA Travel funds

1. What are travel funds:

   Students (M.S. and Ph.Ds only, not post-docs) who plan to attend the national IFT meeting get some money funding for their travel expenses. Each student gets points for attending the Food Science Club and regional IFT meetings/events. Before the national IFT meeting, the finance committee will add up the points and money will be allocated accordingly. So the more involved the student is, the more points and thus the more money he/she gets. However, this money can only be used if the person in question is actually going to attend the national IFT meeting.

2. Where does the money come from:

   The GSA club gets money from two sources: Food Science Graduate Program and/or Department and NYIFT, provided that the budgets of these entities allow it for a given year. It is important to note that NYIFT points are different from the points you earn through club activities. So make sure to also be active on the regional level since that can translate into lots of money at the end.

3. How to earn NYIFT points:

   - First, you have to be a NYIFT member in order to be eligible for NYIFT money.

   - You earn (1) NYIFT point for every NYIFT or CNJIFT meeting you attend (not to mention that you get 50% reimbursement for the tickets, so don't lose your receipts!).

   - You earn (4) points if you present a poster/oral presentation at the national IFT meeting.

   - You earn (2) points if you enter the paper competition at national IFT meeting.

   - Another (4) points if you present a poster at the NYIFT student night.

   - (4) points for applying for NYIFT scholarships (whether you get it or not).

   - (4) points for applying to the national IFT scholarships.

   - (4) points for being a NYIFT/CNJIFT student representative.

   - (2) points for the person responsible for NYIFT/CNJIFT meeting sign-up sheets and call-in.

   - (2) points if you attend the Eastern Food Science Conference and (4) points if you present a poster/paper.
- You also earn points for involving for holding a position/run for an elected position/serve a committee at IFTSA or IFT divisions.

4. **How to earn GSA club points:**

- First, you have to fulfill the following 4 requirements and you must attend Rutgers lunch at National IFT meeting in order to be eligible for travel money.

1. **Attend 2/3 (two-thirds) of the meetings held that year.** New students who will not have been enrolled an entire year at the time of the IFT Annual Meeting must have attended 2/3 (two-thirds) of the meetings from the time of their enrollment to the time of the Annual Meeting. Students holding full-time internships must attend 2/3 of the meetings held in the time they are present in the department.

2. **Chair at least one committee or event.**

3. **Attend one Central New Jersey IFT or New York IFT meeting per semester.** If a student is registered for a class that meets on an IFT Meeting night, he/she may participate in an Education committee outreach activity in lieu of meeting attendance.

4. **Be a member of National IFT.** Travel funds for the IFT National Meeting will be allotted to Food Science GSA Members only.

   - You earn (1) point for each club meeting you attend.
   
   - You earn (1) point for any club activity/event you attend, another (1) point for helping or for being on the committee for that particular activity/event (chairs get (2) points instead of one).

   - You earn (8) points if you are a GSA officer.

   - You earn points for being on the college bowl team and product development team.

   - You also earn points for participating in the committees.

5. **When will the money be available:**

   The NYIFT money will be available before the national IFT meeting. It is yours to keep or spend. However, the GSA money won’t be available until after the meeting. When you bring all the trip receipts to Paulette Arico, she will issue a check to you.

   For further questions, please contact an officer. Bear in mind that the dollar value per point varies from year to year depending on the amount of money available, the number of students attending, and the level to which they have been involved.