

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE & HUMAN NUTRITION

ALUMNI UPDATE

Winter 2009

Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition

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Send us news

The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition would like to know about your professional accomplishments and personal news.

Have you launched a product, received a promotion, earned a certification, or been elected to a position within a professional group? Did you relocate, get married, have a child or reconnect with other alumni?

Please send these updates to Marla Todd by **April 1** at martodd@illinois.edu for inclusion in the next departmental newsletter.

FOOD LABS RENOVATION COMPLETE

Newly renovated food labs on the third floor of Bevier Hall debuted during the fall 2008 semester. A generous gift from Jay and Doris Kelley Christopher made renovation of these half-century-old laboratories a reality during summer 2008.

The renovation allowed for reallocation of space, permitting more kitchen stations. In addition to added workspace, the laboratories are equipped with audio-visual tools and new appliances. Countertops, cabinets, flooring, and lighting were also updated.

"Alumni and previous users of the food labs are astonished at the changes and updates that have been made," said Greg Knott, FSHN Assistant to the Head. "We can see the difference

in the experiences that our students have, as well."

The Christopher's and The Pampered Chef also equipped the laboratories with Pampered Chef® kitchen utensils and accessories. Hamilton Beach provided a donation of stand mixers for the labs.

Finally, a maintenance fund has been established to ensure that the food labs remain in prime condition for the benefit of students. Those interested in contributing to this maintenance fund can direct gifts to the



FSHN Facilities Maintenance and Equipment Fund.

"The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition deeply appreciates the generosity of Jay and Doris Kelly Christopher," said Dr. Faye Dong FSHN Department Head. "This renovation would not have been possible without their kind gift."

FSHN WELCOMES TWO NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

Dr. Yong-Su Jin joined FSHN in August 2008 as an Assistant Professor in Microbial Genomics. He formerly served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Food Science and Biotechnology at the Sungkyunkwan University in South Korea. From 2002 - 2006 he served as a Post-doctoral Research Associate in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. Jin obtained his Ph.D. in Food Science while studying under the advisement of Dr. Thomas



W. Jeffries at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Jin's areas of research include microbial genomics, metabolic engineering, systems biology, biotechnology, and synthetic biology. His research will be part of the campus interdisciplinary initiative in molecular bioengineering of biomass conversion in the campus Institute for Genomic Biology.

Dr. Margarita Teran-Garcia joined FSHN in August 2008 as an Assistant Professor. Dr. Teran-Garcia formerly served as Co-Director Cell Culture Core at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, La. She obtained her Ph.D. in Metabolism/Nutrient-gene interactions from the University of Texas at Austin in 2001 and her M.D. from the Facultad de Medicina, UNAM in Mexico. From 1992 - 1995 she completed her residency at the National Institute of Pediatrics located in Mexico. Dr. Teran-Garcia's research



emphasis is in genomics and obesity. Because of her expertise in clinical nutrition, nutrigenomics, and childhood obesity, she will make valuable contributions to the University of Illinois instructional program; and to the research expertise as the department continues to increase capacity in the areas of nutrigenomics and obesity.



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