Greetings Colleagues and Friends of FSHN

As we rapidly approach the end of Fall Semester, 2020, I want to say that although this has been a most unpredictable, unprecedented year, I have never been more proud to be a part of the University of Illinois. Our campus established a set of strong COVID policies that allowed us to remain in operation and bring tens of thousands of students, faculty and staff back to campus successfully. The U of I developed a saliva based COVID test and all were required to test twice a week to gain access to campus buildings. The Urbana-Champaign campus is approaching 900,000 tests with a 7-day positivity rate of 0.35%. Positive cases were handled swiftly and professionally allowing for everyone to feel relatively comfortable in our spaces and our research and teaching environments. As planned, we will finish fall term classes online after Thanksgiving. There were approximately 25% of our classes face-to-face this term and our faculty and teaching assistants became fluent with online education technologies and virtual meetings. The students handled all these transitions very well. I have had the pleasure of seeing this unfold and would like to thank everyone for their part in making Fall 2020 a great semester!

Recently ACES units have all been engaged in creating activation plans and we look forward to updating you regularly on our upcoming new initiatives! It is our plan to distribute this newsletter quarterly. Note that there is a section for notables for alumni. Please send your alumni updates, significant notable events to fshn-general@illinois.edu for us to share in these newsletters; we would love to hear from you.

As the holiday season approaches, we want to pass along our wishes for a wonderful holiday season! We hope that you and your families are all safe and healthy and we look forward to being able to interact with you in person in the near future.
Thank you for your support of FSHN.

Best regards,

Nicki Engeseth

Discover FSHN

FSHN earned bragging rights within the college and increased exposure by having the largest percent increase in YouTube views for their department/unit video.

View the FSHN Video

Everybody Eats @ Bevier Café

Student-run Bevier Cafe pays it forward to others

Research Highlights

Cancer Center at Illinois Member Research Focuses on Health Disparities in Cancer
Machine learning helps researchers identify bacterial biomarkers to determine food intake

Dr. Hannah Holscher, Assistant Professor of Nutrition in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, and senior author of the paper, explains the study is the first to use bacteria to identify food intake.

Distracted Learning - Big Problem and Golden Opportunity

In a paper published in the Journal of Food Science Education, Dr. Shelly Schmidt, Professor of Food Chemistry and Director of Assessment for the Undergraduate Food Science Program, reviewed recent studies on distracted learning and suggested strategies to help students stay engaged and on task.
FSHN - In the News

Dr. Yanina Pepino featured in
The New Yorker –
The Race to Redesign Sugar

Forget artificial sweeteners. Researchers are now developing new forms of real sugar to deliver sweetness with fewer calories. But tricking our biology is no easy feat.

September 2020

Dr. Soo-Yeun Lee is quoted in
Insider, Health

Dietitians say there is no scientific evidence that MSG is bad for you and is actually found in everything from tomatoes to instant noodles
Dr. Karen Chapman-Novakofski is featured in My Campus, October 2020.

Please send alumni updates to: fshn-general@illinois.edu

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