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**Prior Award Recipients**

1987 - Emily Anderson

1988 - Elwood Caldwell

1989 - John Ringstrom

1990 - Karen Dragon

1991 - Rusty Nelson

1992 - William Davidson

1993 - Lorraine Smith

1994 - Edmund Zottola

1995 - Gary Richter, John Hall, Alden Drew

1996 - Elizabeth Knight

1997 - Katherine Swanson

1998 - Larry Pearson

1999 - Purnendu Vasavada

2000 - Gary Geist

2001 - Anand Rao

2002 - Frank Busta

2003 - Joseph Warthesen

2004 - Robert Freemore

2005 - Michael Mensing

2006 - Daniel Kennedy

2007 - Cheryl Dienken

2008 - Award Not Given

2009 - Award Not Given

2010 - Award Not Given

2011 - Award Not Given

2012 - Award Not Given

2013 - Award Not Given

2014 - Cheryl Dienken

2015 - Tina Hacker

2016 - Brenda Knapp-Polzin

2017 - Lisa Pannell

2018 - Sharon Herzog

2019 - Dana Dronen

2020 - Mary K. Schmidl

2021 - Award Not Given

2022 - Mike Getter

2023 - Kirsten Ruud

2024 – George Annor

**History of the President’s Award**

The President’s Award was established by the Minnesota Section of the Institute of Food Technologists in 1987. In the words of the Bylaw adopted to formally establish the Award, its purpose is “to recognize a member in the section who has served the Section and the profession in an outstanding manner”.

The Award consists of an engraved plaque with the citation and an honorarium. The presentation is featured at the first dinner meeting of the year for the Minnesota IFT Section.

All members of the Minnesota Section are eligible for this award. The selection of the award is made by a committee of the Section, which is comprised of current and former Presidents of the Minnesota Section.

Nomination for the award may be made by the any member of the Minnesota Section. The Award recognizes the dedication that many IFT members have for their professional scientific society and says “thank you” to all who have given their time to improve the future of the food sector.

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The Minnesota Section President’s Award for 2024

Presented to:

**GEORGE ANNOR, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor

Department of Food Science & Nutrition

University of Minnesota

Monday

September 23rd, 2024

Wayzata, Minnesota

**2024**

**President’s Award Recipient**

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**GEORGE ANNOR, Ph.D.**

Dr. George Annor is an Associate Professor of Cereal Chemistry and Technology and a McKnight Presidential Fellow in the Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Minnesota. He is also chair for the General Mills Endowed Professorship in Cereal Chemistry and Technology.

Dr. Annor’s research focuses on components of cereals and grains and how they are affected by breeding, agronomy, and non-thermal processing techniques.

With faculty in the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, Dr. Annor is working to explore the food and functional characteristics of new and novel cereal, protein, and oilseed crops. As an example, Dr Annor developed a method to rapidly screen large numbers of samples for wheat gluten quality at the early stages of wheat variety development. He also collaborates on breeding programs focusing on oats and corn and is working on potential uses of ingredients made from intermediate wheatgrass (Kernza), a crop known for producing ecosystem services. Dr. Annor has also worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in the past to develop Food Composition Tables for West Africa.

Dr. Annor has been an active member of The Minnesota section of IFT and has contributed to the section in various ways. He is currently the chair of the Macy Award committee and a Director-at-Large. Dr. Annor has also served as MNIFT President, Silent Auction Committee Chair, MNIFT Secretary, Programming Committee Chair and more!

**Program Agenda**

4:00 – 5:00 PM MNIFT Board Meeting

5:00 – 6:10 PM **Social Hour**

6:10 – 6:25 PM **President Award and**

**Phi Tau Sigma Intro**

6:35 – 7:25 PM **Panel**

7:25 – 7:30 PM **Closing Remarks**

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**President’s Award Committee**

Hasmukh Patel (Chair), US Dairy and Foods Consulting LLC

Lindsay Budin, Agropur

Kasiviswanathan Muthukumarappan, SDSU

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***We recognize and applaud the dedicated service of George Annor presenting to him the President’s Award for 2024 from the***

***Minnesota Section of IFT.***