



April 5, 2013

Dear Richard Draper:

I am pleased to inform you that Maria E. Rodriguez has successfully earned the designation of Certified Food Scientist (CFS). With this approval, they will be one of the food scientists who will be etched in the history of IFT and the profession for being a part of the inaugural class of CFS certificants.

As you may know, the CFS was created in response to a profession-wide study in which food science supervisors affirmed that a certification was needed and would help employers identify qualified personnel. The vast majority of supervisors also agreed that the program would help increase the recognition and visibility of the profession.

Through earning the CFS, Maria E. Rodriguez has demonstrated the requisite applied knowledge and skills and commitment to lifelong learning required to earn this distinction. Food science is constantly evolving, and it is imperative for employees to stay current on the latest developments in the field. In the spirit of continued learning, and maintenance of the CFS, certificants must complete 75 contact hours of professional development every five years. There are many different ways to demonstrate learning and become recertified. We hope that you will support their learning plan to maintain the certification, grow professionally and in so doing help grow your organization and the profession.

Please help us in congratulating Maria E. Rodriguez for their attainment of the CFS that will serve as excellent example for colleagues and future generations of food scientists. Posting this information on your organization's website, social media channels, or other modes of communication are well deserved.

Sincerely,

Kurt Buckman, CFS
International Food Science Certification Commission Chair