



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kat Seiffert
Marketing and Communications Manager
kseiffert@culinology.org

Research Chefs Association Announces 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Chicago (April 2, 2018) – The [Research Chefs Association](http://www.researchchefs.org) (RCA) has announced its 2018-2019 board of directors. The newly elected and continuing officers and directors began their term as of March 29, 2018, and include:

PRESIDENT

Jason Behrends, Ph.D., CCS®

Business Development
Red Arrow Products
Fayetteville, Arkansas

VICE PRESIDENT

Anh Nguy

Project Leader, Culinology
Ingredion Incorporated
Bridgewater, New Jersey

TREASURER

Justin Kanthak

National Account Manager
Griffith Foods
Bartlett, Illinois

SECRETARY

Jaime Mestan, CSC®

Director of Bistro Products
Vienna Beef Ltd.
Chicago, Illinois

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Catherine Proper, CEC

Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Erich Chieca

Director of Culinary Sales
Sadler's Smokehouse, Inc.
Commerce, Michigan

Susan Edwards*

Foodservice Business Development Manager
Sealed Air/Cryovac
Charlotte, NC

Jessica Goldstein*

Vice President/Director of Marketing & Sales
Nu Products Seasoning Company (NuSpice)
Oakland, New Jersey

Stephen A. Kalil, CEC, CRC®

Principal Culinologist
Flavor Design Studio
Dallas, Texas

Nick Landry*

Culinary Development Chef
Southeastern Mills
Rome, Georgia

Noah Michaels, CRC® *

Culinary Team Leader
Symrise
Teterboro, New Jersey

Paul Rockwell, CEC, CFS

Corporate Chef
Diversified Foods & Seasonings
Madisonville, Louisiana

Nelson Serrano-Bahri

Vice President and Executive Chef
Puerto Rico Food Innovations, LLC
Guaynabo, Puerto Rico

Rosemary Trout, M.S., Food Science & Biotechnology

Assistant Clinical Professor and Program Director, Culinary Arts and Food Science
Drexel University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Barbara Zatto

Chef, Culinologist, Food Writer
Shoreline, Washington

BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE

Michael Cheng, Ph.D., CHE

Interim Dean

Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management, Florida International University
North Miami, Florida

BOARD ADVISOR

Allen Freed

President

AJ Freed, LLC

Tucson, Arizona

“We are excited to have such a strong group of industry professionals leading the association in 2018,” said RCA President Jason Behrends. “As we end a strong conference in Savannah, we look forward to continuing the positive momentum RCA is experiencing through the leadership of these volunteers.”

Thank you to those who served on the 2017-2018 Board, including Gerrie Bouchard, CRC[®], MBA, Amanda Bushong, Jeff Cowles, CCS[®] and Kami R. Smith, C.E.P.C.

**Indicates new board members*

###

About the Research Chefs Association

Founded in 1996, the [Research Chefs Association](#) has rapidly grown to more than 2,000 members, including chefs, food scientists, technologists, writers, nutritionists, academics, researchers, consultants, sales and marketing professionals, suppliers, co-packers, distributors and students. RCA integrates food sciences and culinary arts expertise to elevate product development and is committed to the advancement of Culinology[®]—the blending of the culinary arts and food sciences.

For more information on the RCA, visit www.culinology.org.