

To All Our Members & Friends:

On behalf of myself and the CIBS organization, I hope you are all continuing to be safe and coping as best possible with this unprecedented situation.

The year is halfway through and we have regrettably not been able to get together with our members and friends as we have done every year since 1948. As most of you are aware, due to the COVID lockdown all our 2020 events through the present have been canceled and postponed to the same time next year.

I would like to thank our membership family and all those that have been unwavering supporters of the CIBS organization throughout the years. While this nightmare has preempted our ability to get together, laugh, and network, we look forward to a positive 2021. I am optimistic we will soon be back to normal and able to hold the amazing events we couldn't this year.

One bit of good news! Although holding meetings & events was not possible, one thing we are happy to announce is that we were able to award our first 2020 scholarship to Ms Keza Ruranga – a 2020 Graduate of Rutgers University with a Major in Packaging Engineering. Keza had already been selected as our award recipient, prior to the lockdown, and we are delighted we were able to award her the scholarship in spite of it. The next 2020 scholarship will be awarded to an FIT student later this year – more details to follow.

On a sad note, this month we lost one of our dear and long-time members, Tom Leahey. We extend our condolences to his family, friends, and members who knew him. While we can't do it in person, we hold a minute of silence in our hearts in his honor.

Once again, we thank you for your steadfast commitment and support. Life is full of challenges and this is just another one I am confident we will overcome together.

Be well! Stay safe!

Judy Vincenty
2020 CIBS President