



FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES

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To: FIAE's Members

From: Kathy Siefken, CAE, Chair

Re: Barbara McConnell Announcement

This is to advise you, that on June 24, 2009 Barbara McConnell, President, FIAE, advised the Board that after serving FIAE for over 14 years, she would be stepping down as our President, effective April 1, 2010.

Barbara has been an extremely popular and effective leader in helping FIAE to grow in membership, resources, services and credibility. Her knowledge of the food industry; association management skills; public policy acumen; and her wit and wisdom has earned her not only our deepest thanks and appreciation, but also our love and friendship. We will miss her greatly, but we also recognize that no one deserves more, the time to devote to more leisure, travel and other personal challenges which she wishes to pursue.

As Barbara said, "certainly, it will be hard to say goodbye, but there comes a time when it is simply time to move on, to make room for new leadership and new ideas, and to take more time for oneself and other challenges. I look forward to being with you in November for another great conference and through March of next year; AND, I shall always appreciate and value the time we had together."

As Chair, I have formed a search committee to consider applications to fill this position. If you have any recommendations, please find attached an RFP for the position, as well as the last Minutes of the 2009 Strategic Planning Committee.

**Kathy Siefken, CAE, Chair
FIAE**