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Food Recovery Network's National Board Welcomes New Member and New Board President

COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND — August 27, 2018 — Food Recovery Network (FRN) is proud to announce that Perteet Spencer is assuming the role of President of the National Board of Directors. Spencer joined the FRN Board of Directors in 2018. Ernie Minor, who has been on FRN's Board since 2014 and served as the President since 2015, is stepping down from his position after three years in this role. He will continue on as a member of the Board.

Additionally, the Board welcomes new member, Dr. Jennifer Schmitt, the program director and lead scientist for the NorthStar Initiative for Sustainable Enterprise at the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment. Schmitt joined the board in July of this year.

Mr. Minor, the Vice President for Business Development at AVI Foodsystems Inc., led the Board through its creation and execution of the current strategic plan, which is now in its third and final year. "I have been able to oversee FRN's work through some crucial years of growth and development," Ernie said. "I have been honored to be at the helm of its National Board as FRN has grown from a young, upstart nonprofit to the industry leader that it is today."

Ms. Spencer, who works as Principal, Brand Growth Solutions for natural, organic, and specialty analytics and insights company SPINS in Chicago, was voted to become the third Board President in FRN's history for her understanding of the food space, her background in strategy, and her commitment to strengthening the Network.

"I am thrilled to pick up the baton from Ernie and continue the great work of FRN's National Board," Ms. Spencer said. "FRN continues to have enormous potential for growth, and with just one year left in the current strategic plan, I am looking forward to designing an updated plan that will help this organization keep pace with the changing landscape of food waste and food recovery."

Dr. Schmitt's expertise in environmental research and position in higher education will add a much-needed perspective to the Board. Her research at the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment focuses on tracing environmental impacts through supply chains, circulating byproducts back into production systems, sustainable agriculture, and conservation outcomes in Tanzania. As part of this research, Dr. Schmitt studies the environmental impacts of food waste, using food waste for animal feed as well as the social and environmental intersection of food waste.

"I look forward to beginning my journey with FRN," Dr. Schmitt said. "It is critical for FRN to understand the perspective of professionals in higher education as the organization continues to develop partnerships in that sector, and I am honored that FRN recognized that I could bring in this voice."

Regina Northouse, FRN's Executive Director since 2015, says she is proud of how the Board's membership has grown in the past year. "Our National Board of Directors are experts in their work from across a number of industries," Ms. Northouse said. "That professionals like Dr. Schmitt and Ms. Spencer want to contribute their thinking and resources to FRN to stay relevant, grow, and combat food waste, hunger, and the negative effects on the environment proves how FRN has matured as an organization over the past several years."

About Food Recovery Network

Food Recovery Network (FRN) unites and supports college student leaders in the fight against food waste and hunger in America. Since 2011, FRN students have recovered more than 3 million pounds of surplus food, that would otherwise go to waste, from their campus cafeterias and local restaurants to donate to hungry Americans. Food Recovery Network has more than 235 college campus chapters in 44 states and the District of Columbia. For more information about Food Recovery Network, visit www.foodrecoverynetwork.org. Follow us on Twitter @FoodRecovery and Instagram @FoodRecovery and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FoodRecoveryNetwork.