

June 11, 2007-

The World association of chefs societies' and its respective education committee announces the first chefs to be certified under its newly launched professional chef certification program. The WACS certification program was launched to recognize the skills of a WACS chefs and to ensure all global chefs improve their skills and knowledge through certification and education from WACS.

In return WACS will recognize these credentials through the first stage of our program with the long term goal of certifying chefs globally through a practical cooking test.

Chefs who wish to be recognized under the WACS certification program must be able to document multiple years of professional cooking or catering experiences at the levels of chef de cuisine, head chef or executive chef and provide evidence of special training in sanitation and hygiene.

In addition candidates must pass a 200 question written examination based on world cuisine and universal philosophies of foodservice management and food safety. Included in the exam are sections dealing with culinary arts, classical cooking, baking sciences, sanitation and hygiene, nutritional cooking and the management and supervision of foodservice employees.

We are pleased to announce that Chefs Rodney James Butler, Scott Jaeger, Tobias Macdonald, John Carlo Felicella, Jennifer Ellen Peters and Harold Bonkowski of The Canadian Culinary Federation, Fédération Culinaire Canadienne and Chef Elango Rajendran of the Indian Federation of Culinary and Associations, and Chef Glen Austin continental director of WACS based in Australia Associations have now earned the important designation of WCC, WACS Certified Chef.

There are presently chefs taking the exam in Ireland, Scotland, Australia and we hope to share more good news soon.

The WACS certification program was developed under the direction of Chef Edward G. Leonard, CMC, AAC WACS Vice President and chairman of the WACS education committee in cooperation with Chef Bradlee Barnes, CMC, AAC chairman of the American Culinary Federation's (ACF) Certification Committee and Mike Baskette, CEC, CCE, ACF Director of Educational Development and Certification

Working with Chef Leonard as well were educational representatives from five country chefs associations: George Hill, Australian Culinary Association; John Clancy, Panel of Chefs of Ireland; Bruno Marti, CCC, AAC HOF Canadian Culinary Federation, Fédération Culinaire Canadienne, P. Saundrarajan, Indian

Federation of Culinary Associations, and Tony Jackson, Federation of Chefs Scotland.

The WACS education committee launched a pilot program in April 2007 incorporating 46 chefs from five different countries to test the tenants of the WACS certification procedures and prove the integrity of the exam and its ability to measure universal knowledge of culinary arts. The pilot program is still continuing with a full launch of the WACS certification program expected later this summer 2007.

For more information on the WACS Certification Program contact your country's WACS representative or write to wacscertify@acfcchefs.net. WACS' certification program is administered by the American Culinary Federation which is based out of St. Augustine, Florida, USA.