



IAFP

Applied Laboratory Methods PDG

TELECONFERENCE MINUTES – Oct 8th 2009

MEETING ATTENDEES:

Present: Sandra Tallent, Angelo DePaola, Byron, Brehm-Stecher, Nandini Natrajan, Derrick Bautista, Reginald Bennett, Purnendu Vasavada, Leslie Thompson, Vanessa Cranford

MINUTES: Vanessa Cranford

AGENDA

- Discussion of 2010 IAFP Symposium and Workshops for submission:
(**Symposia/ Workshop Completed Submission due October 19th 2009**)

Symposia Planning 2010 Update

- Significance and Detection of STEC or non O157:H7 E.coli (Michael Brodsky & Beatriz Quinones)
- Bacterial toxins: A past or an emerging issue for food safety (Patrice Arbault & Julian Cox)
- Less recognized and Presumptive Pathogens (Purnendu Vasavada)
- Food and Food Environment Test Considerations in View of Changing Regulations (Jeff Kornacki)
- The Science and Art of Epidemiologic Investigations in the Food Industry- Emerging Approaches and Implications (Jeff Kornacki)
- From Farm to Fork to Physician: Detection of Human Pathogens Across the Production to Consumption to Disease Continuum (Byron Brehm-Stecher and Mary Lou Tortorello)
- Additional Symposia for Discussion

Workshop Planning 2010 Update

- PCR Olympics with *V. parahaemolyticus* (Angelo Depaola)
- Joint Committee with the Seafood PDG on sampling and sample preparation
- Additional Workshop for discussion

SUMMARY:

I Symposiums

- **Significance and Detection of STEC or non O157:H7 E.coli** (Michael Brodsky & Beatriz Quinones)
Initial contact with speakers and all have accepted. An email was obtained from Michael Brodsky that this symposium was complete and ready for submission.

- **Bacterial toxins: A Past or an Emerging Issue for Food Safety** (Patrice Arbault & Julian Cox)

This submission is between the Applied Lab Methods PDG and the Beverage PDGs-Frank Burns (Chair of Beverage PDG) confirmed joint symposium. Patrice needs to obtain: Speaker 1 for Bacterial Toxins- The ones who can reach our meals. This talk would give an overview, particularly the significance/ epidemiology of toxins. How important are the intoxications, in relation to infections.

Speaker 5 for Botulinum toxins- a raising threat in our meals? This presentation will focus on *Clostridium botulinum* toxin with recent epidemiological data, some current concerns and present an update about analytical methods for detection.

Dr Vasavada recommended that Reginald Bennett with the FDA would be a good speaker for the first topic on bacterial toxins. Reginald was on the conference call and expressed his willingness to be a speaker if requested.

- **Less Recognized and Presumptive Pathogens** (Purnendu Vasavada)

The outline of the symposium will address the following:

- Lesser Recognized Members of the Family Enterobacteriaceae

- Lesser Known Foodborne Viruses

- Infrequently Identified Food- and Water-borne Parasites

- Gastrointestinal Yeast Infections- *Cryptococcus* and *Candida*

- Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis*, *Helicobacter pylori* and other pathogens associated with Gastrointestinal Illnesses, IBD and Cancers

- Mycotoxigenic molds

Dr Vasavada indicated that there are three confirmed speakers and the symposium was 75% complete in preparation. However, a speaker recommendation is still needed on the topic of pathogenic yeast if there are any PDG recommendations.

- **Food and Food Environment Test Considerations in View of Changing Regulations** (Jeff Kornacki)

The previous PDG recommendations to this symposium have been incorporated such as discussing surrogates for testing process efficiency; give definition of surrogate versus indicator organisms.

The recommendation to have a presentation by the regulatory agencies for a regulatory perspective was also incorporated. Don Zink, FDA was added as speaker #1 for the topic: New and emerging food safety regulations related for testing, record access and the food registry. This symposium is completed and ready for submission.

- **The Science and Art of Epidemiologic Investigations in the Food Industry- Emerging Approaches and Implications** (Jeff Kornacki)

The suggestion from the last meeting to add a case study-covered in the first topic was incorporated with Arthur Lang from the CDC discussing Epidemiological Investigations Past Present and Future- Key Differences and Case Studies. This symposium is complete and ready for submission.

- **From Farm to Fork to Physician: Detection of Human Pathogens Across the Production to Consumption to Disease Continuum** (Byron Brehm-Stecher and Mary Lou Tortorello)
It was identified that this symposium is a novel topic with linking the clinical perspective to the farm to fork approach. This symposium was accepted as submitted at the last PDG meeting and is ready for online submission to IAFFP.

II Workshops

- PCR Workshop (Angelo Depaola and Kathleen Rajkowski)
The PDG discussed the direction of this workshop in detail on the last conference call that would be a joint effort between the Applied Lab Methods PDG and the Seafood Quality and Safety PDG. The current revised proposal of the workshop is to have the first half of the workshop (morning session) discuss the "basic aspects of PCR" as a symposium and the (afternoon session) view several vendor demonstrations of PCR technology for testing seafood. The following speakers and vendors have been confirmed for participation.

Morning Session of Presentations:

1. PCR history and terminology (ordinary and real-time)
Dr. Marlene Jane - Louisiana State University
2. Primers
Dr. David Needleman- Molecular Biologist USDA, ARS, ERRC

BREAK

3. Qualitative versus Quantitative
Wendy McMahon- Silliker Inc.
4. Advantages versus Disadvantages
Dr. Mansour Samadpour- IEH, Inc
5. PCR applications
Dr. Andrew DePaola- FDA

Afternoon Session of Vendor Applications:

Confirmed: DuPont, Applied Biosystems, BioGX, Abbott Molecular

Not Yet Responded: Idaho Technology, Neogen, BIO RAD, Eiken Chemical Company

If a PDG member has a recommendation of contact of a vendor that would be a good participant please contact: Angelo.Depaola@fda.hhs.gov

III Sample Prep Working Group

Joint Committee with the Seafood PDG on sampling and sample prep (Mary Lou Tortorello & Kathleen Rajkowski)

Mary Lou in 2007 submitted a request to IAFP which was approved to develop working groups on sample preparation methods. Mary Lou in conjunction with Kathleen Rajkowski from the Seafood Quality and Safety PDG will form the working group to work on the sampling and sample prep of the seafood commodity during the year. If you are interested in being an active participant of the working group please email:

Vanessa.M.Cranford@disney.com of your interest to participate in the working group.

Mary Lou and Kathleen will determine the first teleconference date for the working group

CONCLUSION:

- The PDG symposium and workshop planners were thanked for their hard work and dedication to the PDG. They were also reminded that Oct 15th is the deadline to send their final outline versions to be shared with the PDG. The organizers would also be sent the online link directly for submitting their symposium and workshop to IAFP for the deadline date Oct 19th for submission and consideration by the program committee.