

## Pre Harvest Food Safety PDG

**Members Present:** Paula Cray, Siddhartha Thakur, Mitchell Gilgour, Jack Guzewich, Divya Jaroni, Kalmia Kniel, Anna Lammerding, Jeffrey LeJeune, Mayra Marquez, Jitu Patel, Manpreet Singh and Claudio Zweifel.

**Board/Staff Member Present:** Don Zink.

**New Members:** Gayeon Won, Carl Custer, Patricia Desmarchelier, John Wendell, Edmund Zottola, Monica Ponder, Mario Estrada, Marilyn Erickson, Walid Alali, Rajesh Nayak, Sanja Ilic, Courtney Parker, Sharan Lanini, Guy Loneragan, James Gorny, T.G. Nagaraja, Keith Ito, Ben Tall, Ynes Ortega, Sarah Smathers, Ellen Thomas, Craig Henry, Elena Enache and Frank Burns.

**Visitors/Guests:** Arlette Shazer, Changqing Zhu, David Reyda, Marc Scantlin and Carla Napier.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 10:00 a.m., Sunday, July 31, 2011.

**Recording Secretary of Minutes:** Paula Cray.

### Old Business:

1. PDG Objectives and focus areas introduced again for new members. It was clearly highlighted that this PDG is restricted to research and education strictly in the area of pre-harvest and not peri- or post harvest level.
2. Call for comment or additions to last year's meeting minutes – none raised.
3. The PDG discussed multiple symposium topics via a teleconference call on Oct. 1, 2010. A total of three symposia were introduced and finalized. These include two from Pre harvest, which were accepted as symposia, and one was accepted in conjunction with the Meat and Poultry PDG.

### New Business:

1. New areas for symposia topics for next year were discussed. These include:
  - a. Rajesh Nayak initiated a topic on emerging pathogens at the pre-harvest level. He gave *Salmonella* Pullorum example – it has decreased to non-detectable levels while *S. Kentucky* is now the most common serotype in broilers. *Salmonella* Kentucky is not considered to be virulent for humans. Perhaps these serotype changes are driven by the NPIP plan. Carl Custer talked about portraying this 'unintended consequences' that occur when microbial communities are disrupted. Raj will lead the effort to put this symposium together.
  - b. Jack Guzewich talked about the interface between pre-harvest and all components that comprise pre-harvest aspects of production. The best example is the interface between produce and food animals. We have pasture run-off into rivers, litter used as fertilizer, produce grown in close proximity to animal production, compost issues, etc. Carl Custer again brought in the unintended consequences aspect of pre-harvest production practices. It was suggested that Carl and Jack put this symposia together as a collaborative effort between the Produce, Meat and Poultry and Pre-Harvest PDGs.
  - c. Siddhartha Thakur and Divya Jaroni discussed food animal challenges in niche market. Parasites are important and sheep and goat production are under produced or niche areas of production. Jeff LeJune wanted to know what the consumption of ostrich was and pointed out that a niche market in one country may represent major consumption in other countries. i.e., Guinea pigs in South America. Carl introduced the question of economic and social advantages of controlling feedlots. Paula asked

- if the *Salmonella* Arizonae seen in sheep is due to exposure to exotics that may be found in the more arid areas where sheep and goat production may be prevalent. Jeff LeJune talked about local foods raised for consumption, CSA's and the farm market. Milk and vegetable production are also niche areas. Siddhartha and Divya will lead an effort to put together symposia for consideration.
- d. Guy Loneragan introduced the topic concerning entering an era where control measures are emerging. How do we take efficacious interventions and implement them i.e. Salmonella vaccine in poultry very common now but implementation is an issue. Jeff L. asked about non-efficacious interventions – is industry pushing an agenda or do government regulations affect implementation. Guy discussed social science – why people implement what they do. Carl suggested they add incentives and impediments to implementation of efficacious products. Guy will lead this symposium effort and work with the International Law PDG.
  - e. Jim Gorny introduced the topic that there was no harmonized approach to implement different areas of field research and experimental design. What are key experimental variables needed for these efforts. Siddhartha agreed that this is an important area of consideration. Guy says that we need a 'principle of minimums' – is the input or output of an experiment the place for refining variables. Jim argued for just set list of key variables. Annette O'Connor's work was mentioned. Siddhartha introduced the topic of international trade. Walid Alali is putting a similar symposium in another PDG and suggested that we have speaker from the pre-harvest PDG. i.e., Alejandro Castilla and Mindy Brashears is doing work in Mexico. Walid is looking at poultry coming in from Mexico particularly at the different standards that are used to regulate input. Carl discussed the problem of aquaculture standards from international countries as related to antimicrobial use is published. GAO also issued a report recently. Siddhartha will work with Jim on this symposium topic together with Walid.
  - f. Craig Henry discussed that there is an increasing desire to use local produce. What are the differences between domestic and international produce production on a large scale versus the integrity of local produce? What does local mean – 100 to 200 miles? What is the bridge between organic produce and what is being sold into food service? Are there variations in pathogens coming from 'local' produce, particularly since there was no further processing? Could this idea be part of Jeff's proposal or a webinar? Jeff L. will look at some of this and work with Craig on this idea as a cross between PDGs.
  - g. T. J. Nagaraja introduced the topic of methodology and standardization of non-O157 in fecal samples. Perhaps this is appropriate for discuss with the applied methods section i.e., problem with detections, particularly when feces is the matrix or a 'dirty' samples. Paula pointed out the detection is different from needing an isolate for further characterization. In clinical world there is movement to move ahead in treatment of septicemia, Ben Tall, FDA, pointed out. T.J. will work with Applied Methods PDG to put a symposium together.
  - h. Siddhartha introduced a symposium topic on the use of antimicrobials in food animal. What is the impact of removal of subtherapeutic antimicrobials? Dr. Zottola pointed out that if we neglect education of farmers about hazards we won't make any headway on this topic. Siddhartha will lead this effort.
2. Paula pointed out that symposium talks should not necessarily be about one person's research. These talks should be broad, thought provoking and serve as a basis to drive future research. They should be broad and meant to show state of the art. She suggested that symposium organizers look at short symposia and partner with another PDG or related topic.

3. Guy Loneragan pointed out that he is a 10-year IAFP member and didn't have a good idea what a PDG is, Paula pointed out that it's not only a professional development group but a "passion" development group. This is where a person can showcase their passion and talent, expand their knowledge in unrelated areas. This is where you can highlight your passion for an area by proposing symposia and networking with other scientists.
4. Paula will be stepping down this year and serve as Past Chair next year. Siddhartha Thakur will take over and Divya Jaroni was elected Vice Chair by affirmation. Siddhartha's term will end in year 2014.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. There was some concern where the members mentioned about not being very clear on the objectives and mission of the PDGs. We will recommend to the executive board to highlight the important role played by the various PDGs to fellow members and the students.
2. Approve Siddhartha Thakur as the Incoming Chair and Divya Jaroni as the Vice Chair of the Pre Harvest Food Safety PDG at IAFP 2012.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 22, 2012.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:50 a.m.

**Chairperson:** Paula Cray.