

Journal of Food Protection Management Committee

Number of Attendees: 35

Members Present: Vijay Juneja, Sean Leighton, P. Michael Davidson, Joseph Frank, Lauren Jackson, Elliot Ryser, Andy Hwang, Alejandro Castillo, Barbara Ingham, Manan Sharma, Sherri McGarry, Xiangwu Nou, James O'Donnell, Laurie Post, Abani Pradhan, Siddhartha Thakur, and Hyun-Gyun Yuk.

Board/Staff Present: Neil Bogart, Linda Harris, Kalmia Kniel, Alejandro Mazzotta, Mickey Parish, Christina Wilson, Lisa Hovey, Didi Loynachan and David Tharp.

Visitors/Guests Present: Daniel Bendjouia, Peter Bodnaruk, Catherine Cutter, Atin Datta, Brian Himelbloom, Stephen Kenney, John Larkin, Judy Luther and Guodong Zhang.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:03 a.m., Sunday, July 31, 2016.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Sean Leighton.

Old Business: Committee reviewed minutes from 2015 *JFP* Management Committee meeting. A motion was approved to accept the 2015 minutes, as written. No edits were needed.

New Business: The Committee reviewed agenda and approved the meeting agenda.

The meeting opened with a vote to elect the incoming Vice Chair. Two candidates were up for election by all present members. Sean Leighton was elected Vice Chair for 2017. Mike Davidson provided the *Journal's* Scientific Editors' Report. Highlights include that Vol 78 (2015) included 2,312 pages and 302 articles (295 research articles). By comparison, Vol 77 published in 2014 contained 2,232 pages and 295 articles, which

included 290 research papers and five review papers. The average length of time between receipt of manuscripts and their publication remained the same in 2015 compared to 2014. Maryland was the most published state within the USA. The editorial board consisted of 159 members, with 46 representing non-USA countries. *Ad hoc* reviewers were instrumental in the review process. Ninety-one accepted but unpublished manuscripts are currently in queue. While it appears as though the backlog has increased, in reality it is a timing issue, not a back-log issue. Dr. Davidson concluded by stating that the “Most Cited Publication” award was given again this year. A “most-downloaded publication” award was also given. For more details about the *Journal* in 2015, please see the Scientific Editors’ report and the Administrative Editor’s report prepared by Didi Loynachan.

Didi mentioned that a \$2,500 open access fee for members and \$3,000 for non-members was approved by the Board and implemented. Nine authors have used this option so far. Our open access policy has been better defined and will be posted on the new Web site, once it is ready to go up. Indices will no longer be published beginning with this year’s volume, relying on keyword searches instead. ORCID can be used to sign-in for authors. The first time ORCID is used to sign in, it will be linked to Allen Track. A document delivery service was also used, entitled Copyright Clearance Center Document Deliver Service. This service was acquired from Infotrieve and will continue to provide journal articles through the CCC. 2015 impact factor was 1.6, total cites are 11,888, the five-year IF is 1.963 and the Immediacy Index is 0.212. A question was asked if the Impact Factor change was significant enough to warrant a formal discussion. Judy will visit in her presentation. A question was asked about subscription numbers. We continue to see a decrease in institutional subscriptions. At one point, we are at 1,500–2,000 and this level continues to go down. One reason that David Tharp mentioned is due to the varying and multiple access points online. This is a trend observed in almost all journals as libraries cut back, etc.

A Scientific Editor search will be conducted this year to replace Dr. Mike Davidson (due to retirement). Dr. Davidson shared some thoughts on how much he has enjoyed his

time as Scientific Editor. David Tharp announced the deadline for applications would be September 12, 2016, which is similar to the time frame deployed in the last search process (55 applicants were received last time). A selection committee will need to be established to receive and review all submitted information. A teleconference will be held with IAFP and the selection committee to decide on the chosen candidate to join as a Co-Editor. The decision will be made and offer extended by the end of October, with the new Editor receiving articles in December 2016. It was proposed that six members will be on the selection committee, including the Vice Chair. A request was made for volunteers to fill out the selection committee, with one representative from Europe and one from the USA desired. Two volunteers were identified as Sherri McGarry and Xiangwu Nou. Vijay Juneja (Chair) mentioned that he has a couple of names of professors that he will be approaching to represent academia. Elliot Ryser will represent the scientific editors on this committee.

Judy Luther from Informed Strategies presented a "Progress Report on *JFP*" to the committee. The objectives of this effort were to 1) Improve the ability of IAFP to better meet the needs of authors, editors and readers; 2) Provide metrics that can recognize the value of published research to multiple communities; 3) Connect the content with global research to increase visibility and Impact Factor of *JFP*; 4) Work with publishing partners who can support ongoing innovation. Ingenta was satisfactory initially, but a change was needed, and other options exist in the market. The enhanced publication process was focused on four areas: Editorial, Production, Platform, and Metrics.

EDITORIAL: How methods papers are identified has been a topic of discussion. Having the word "methods" in the keyword in the abstract would be a good idea to drive consistency moving forward. This will influence discovery via Google Scholar and other discovery methods. With the new system, we can offer a "special collections" link on the website. This allows us to gather and organize articles on a key topic and feature them for readers. **PRODUCTION:** Articles will be released as they are completed and reviewed as opposed to on a fixed cycle. If we invoice on acceptance, we could receive payment at the same time as production. Didi mentioned that when you find an article

on the new site, it will automatically recommend other articles. Barbara Ingham mentioned this was a really nice feature from the academic/author perspective. A process for expediting articles that are time sensitive is being considered. Scientific editors could identify papers that are time sensitive, or authors could request a particular paper be considered for expedition. ORCID identifier is critical for international access. CrossRef will automatically match and link an author's articles. Cited by linking means when you are reading, you can see other articles that reference it. It is recommended that *Journal of Milk and Food Technology* articles from 1967 to 1976 be accessible online at no cost to subscribers. PLATFORM: Consolidating with Allen Press, which uses Atypon technology in their Pinnacle platform. HighWire has new investors, with two of the larger customers leaving (Sage Publishers has gone to Atypon and Oxford University Press has moved to SilverChair). Consolidation of the workflow allows for an expedition of some of the enhancements we've discussed. A new *JFP* test site was shared with the committee and multiple innovations highlighted. METRICS: *JFP*'s Impact Factor is 7th highest in competing journals. ASM decided not to post its Impact Factor this year in an attempt to drive the right behavior behind the use of an impact factor. It is ASM's belief that the IF not be used to rate a journal and that it has become over-dominant as a metric. *JFP*'s impact factor has fluctuated between 1.5 and 2 over the past several years. Judy stressed that the IF is an extremely lagging indicator. Altmetrics.com offers blog, social network and press access and is widely used by publishers. Proposals have been submitted by both Altmetrics.com and Plum Analytics. A list of indexes that are referenced on the IAFP website was shared. It was recommended that "Navigator" and "DigiTop" be added.

The following recommendations were made: 1) Create "subject collections" of existing articles on hot topics; 2) Conduct a discovery audit to confirm that *JFP* metadata is reaching indexing services and appearing in the literature; 3) Implement Altmetric.com; 4) Evaluate Peer Track and Allen Track. It was requested that committee members share any additional ideas with Didi, should they have them. Feedback was received that we should be sensitive to changes to the online platform and how they could affect users that are accustomed to the more traditional ways of viewing and accessing

information. A discussion was had around methods papers. Some methods papers aren't easily identifiable by simply searching the title or abstract, so leveraging keywords would help. Alejandro asked about the possibility of a marketing strategy. A question was asked around the timing of some of these changes – it is anticipated that all content will be up on the new site by the end of August. With all the moving parts, we need to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible for everyone. Didi is going to work with Allen Press to confirm the timeline so it can be effectively communicated. The communication and marketing strategy should be reviewed and designed for maximum impact and visibility. As ASM has moved away from the Impact Factor, it was discussed what the appropriate metric is. The balance between selectivity/quality and volume need to be considered. Selectivity could be reflected by measuring the rejection rate a particular journal exhibits. A higher rejection rate could suggest selectivity is higher. Judy believes that the Impact Factor won't disappear as a metric anytime soon, despite ASM's stance. A comment was made that some academic institutions insist on students publishing in journals with impact factors greater than 2.0. Judy commented that there is a growing gap between research occurring and the relevance to the general public and the impact factor doesn't necessarily reflect the adoption by a wider audience. She commented that "books, journals and everything else" is now "Books, Journals, *data sets* and everything else." Alejandro mentioned that the impact *JFP* has specifically on the food industry is quite significant and may not be reflected in the IF. A long discussion was had on how this could be better reflected, shared or measured to track the journal's relevance and perhaps to contribute to the marketing effort. A comment was made that asking authors to reference previously published *JFP* articles could strengthen our IF. The future is most likely going to move toward an IF for an individual article vs. a role up/average of all impact factors for a particular journal. We believe *JFP* is positioned to benefit from this approach.

A motion was approved to recommend a marketing and communication strategy for the *Journal of Food Protection* to the Executive Board to support the output of Judy Luther's work.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The Committee recommends that Sean Leighton be appointed to Vice Chair of the committee.
2. The Committee recommends that the Board consider and support recommendations that have come out of Judy Luther's approach.
3. The Committee recommends that the Board support the development of a marketing and communication strategy to drive the timely promotion of the *Journal*. We recommend the allocation of resources to support the involvement of a marketing/communications specialist to lead this effort.

Next Meeting Date: July 9, 2017 in Tampa, Florida.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Vijay K. Juneja.