

Journal of Food Protection Management Committee

Members Present: Sean Leighton (Chair), Fred Breidt (Vice Chair), Joshua Gurtler, Lauren Jackson, Elliot Ryser, Panagiotis Skandamis, Faith Critzer, Peter ben Embarak, John Donaghy, Peyman Fatemi, Sanjay Gummalla, Deon Mahoney, Ynes Ortega, Patricia Rule, Manan Sharma, and Hyun-Gyun Yuk.

Outgoing Members Present: Vijay Juneja, Alejandro Castillo, and Laurie Post.

Board/Staff Present: Linda Harris, Kalmia Kniel, Mickey Parrish, Didi Loynachan, Lisa Hovey and David Tharp.

Visitors/Guests Present: Betty Yaohua Feng, Balasubramanian Ganesan, Maha Hajmeer, Ahyoon Kim, Yeong-Eun Lee, and Guodong Zhang.

Number of Attendees: 31.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:05 a.m., Sunday, July 8, 2018 by Sean Leighton.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Laurie Post.

Old Business: Committee reviewed minutes from the 2017 *JFP* Management Committee meeting. A motion was approved to accept the 2017 minutes, as written. No edits were needed.

New Business: Retiring members: Vijay Juneja (Outgoing Chair), Alejandro Castillo, Laurie Post, and Dike Ukuku were thanked for their service to the Committee.

New members: John Donaghy, Peter Ben Embarek, Peter Evans, Sanjay Gummalla, Jeffrey Lejeune, Deon Mahoney, and Ynes Ortega were welcomed.

No additions to agenda. It was approved as distributed.

Election of Vice Chair: Fred Breidt was elected as Vice Chair of the Committee.

Reappointment of Scientific Editors: Lauren Jackson and Elliot Ryser both agreed to remain as Co-Editors for another four-year term beginning January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2022.

Scientific Co-Editors Report: Panos Skandamis provided the journal's Scientific Editors' Report. Highlights include that Vol. 80 (2017) included 2,152 pages and 265 articles (255 research articles). By comparison, Vol. 78 published in 2015 contained 2,312 pages and 302 articles, which included 295 research papers and notes and 10 mini-review, review and general interest papers. Volume 80 contained ten fewer articles than 2017.

The decrease in manuscript submissions was discussed. Articles are of higher quality and reputation is recognized. One concern is the impact factor is below other publications and this somewhat discourages authors. Remedy has been to have faster review and publication times and publish more mini-reviews and reviews that have higher citation rates. Responsiveness to authors is a metric to consider. These changes are having an effect (M. Parrish). The average length of time between receipt of manuscripts and their publication decreased in 2017 compared to 2016 due to articles being published online ahead of print. The average time was 7 months, a month decrease. Submission rate reviewed by J. Gurtler and the editors recently sent out an additional solicitation for this year.

Dr. Frank retired in 2018 after serving the journal for 16 years. On Jan 1 2017, a new Scientific Co-Editor was elected, Dr. Joshua Gurtler, from the USDA ARS.

The Editorial Board consisted of 159 members, with 52 representing non-USA countries. Members serve 3-year terms and anyone interested in reviewing manuscripts on an ad-hoc basis or serving on the Editorial Board should contact the editors. An evaluation process for reviewers was discussed. With shorter time allowed for review, there could be an issue with "superficial" reviews. Dr. Skandamis commented that this was mitigated to some extent by the editors' role in assessing reviews for issues.

Dr. Skandamis concluded by stating that the "John N. Sofos Most Cited Publication Awards" and the "Most-downloaded Publication Award" would be awarded again this year at the Editorial Reception. For more details about the journal in 2016, please see the Scientific Editors' report and the Administrative Editor's report prepared by Didi Loynachan.

Administrative Editor's Report: Didi and the Editors met twice by conference call since last July to discuss procedural issues and ways to promote manuscript submissions, increase contact with reviewers, and increase usage through article collections.

Changes were made to the table of contents in the print issues. Articles are listed by paper type and in page number order to match the online issue. TrendMD was added to the website in 2017. There was a 2.83% increase in visitors over the first five months of 2018 due to connections to other journal websites.

Since the move to Pinnacle, usage of *JFP* articles is up. In 2018 to date, there were more than 320,000 downloads and this is on track to surpass the 2017 downloads (375,706).

During 2017, 27 open-access articles were published. To date in 2018, 13 authors with accepted papers have selected open access with 10 published in the first seven issues. To date, one general interest, one mini-review and six review papers have been published.

The 2017 impact factor data was released by Clarivate just prior to the meeting indicating a slight increase from 1.417 to 1.510.

Consortium on Scientific Integrity Update: Linda Harris.

Consortium members are ILSI, NA, and NAS. Standardized ethical principles and best practices to promote scientific integrity in published research. Impact on and opportunities for *JFP* should be evaluated. Sean will set up a conference call with several members to discuss.

Volunteers to Promote *JFP* via Social Media: Didi mentioned that as part of *JFP*'s marketing plan, focused tweets by Editorial Board Members and authors are encouraged. Plain-language summaries to distribute. Tweet through Kudos with links to *JFP* website. Manan and Sean will send instructions on how to advertise articles through various social media venues to members of the Committee. Twitter Analytics can provide useful metrics. Recommend the establishment of a separate *JFP* Twitter account.

Update on Author Instructions: Was approved by IAFP Board. The expanded scope includes Whole Genome Sequencing and Food Defense topics as examples. Chemical contaminants also added.

Published Metrics Discussion: A comprehensive review of different indices to measure journal health and impact was briefly presented. Sean will send information to the Committee.

Review Articles: Dr. Skandamis indicated a set number should not be targeted but reviews are important to include.

Overview of *JFP* Citation and Usage Data Analysis Report: The report by Judy Luther was sent to Committee members. Highlights will help direct marketing efforts. Visibility is important to authors. Publishing highlights and short summaries will increase visibility. Recommendation to include these by some means will be determined.

IAFP Board Action: Articles published from 1967 to present are on the website. The Board approved action to place Volumes 1 (1937) through 29 onto the website so that they can be accessed.

Unfinished Business: Discussion on the addition of methods papers to the journal. Need to first frame a definition of a methods paper. Special article collections will be discussed at the later time.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. In an effort to increase engagement of the journal with IAFP Members, the Committee would like to recognize the John N. Sofos Most-cited *JFP* Research Publication Awards at the Awards Banquet reception on Wednesday nights during the IAFP Annual Meeting.
2. The Committee would like to explore the use of podcast technology and potentially partner with existing podcasts to further engage members of IAFP and the scientific community in *JFP*. The podcasts could be 10–15 minute "interviews" with *JFP* publication authors, explaining the research in a casual, informative manner.
3. The Committee would like to request the Board approve *JFP* to require submitting authors to include a "highlights" section in all paper submissions to expand the journal's internet discoverability and impact on the scientific community.

4. Recommend approval of Fred Breidt as Vice Chairperson.
5. Recommend the Board approve the establishment of a separate *JFP* Twitter account.
6. To appoint both Elliot Ryser and Lauren Jackson as Scientific Editors for *JFP* for 4-year terms ending December 31, 2022.

Next Meeting Date: July 21–24, 2019, Louisville, KY.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:11 p.m.

Chairperson: Sean Leighton.