

Student PDG

Attendees: Alexis Hamilton, Anna Townsend, Annette Kenney, Blessing Chukwuaja, Carmen Cano Roca, Catherine Gensler, Chao Liao, Claire Marik Murphy, Dianna Wilson, Emily Forauer, Erika Kadas, Erika Mariana Estrada, Francis (Gillian) Muchaamba, Grace Dewi, Haknyeong Hong, Hope Eseose, Janny Mendoza Mencia, Jared, Jiyeon Yi, José Eduardo Lucero, Juan Moreira, Jyoti Aryal, Karuna Kharel, Katheryn Parraga Estrada, Lang Sun, Leslie Pearl Cancio, Luke Shawn Thomas, Manish Thapaliya (Neelam Sharma), Matt, Minh Duong, Minji Hur, Minji Kim, Olivia Haley, Rawan Raad, Rawane Raad, Sarah Jones, Savana Everhart Nunn, Seulgi Lee, Sloane Stoufer, Susanna Aiyedun, Tengfei Li, Thiago Santos, Urvi Shah, Veeramani Karuppuchamy, Weifan Wu, Yadwinder, and Singh Rana

Number of Attendees: 48.

Board/ Staff Present: Ruth Petran.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:01 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Karuna Kharel.

Old Business: All student members were encouraged and reminded to renew membership and register in IAFP Connect, if not done already, as we are transitioning and will be primarily using IAFP Connect. We went over the IAFP Antitrust guidelines with all student members. The outgoing and incoming Board members introduced themselves. All the student focused activities in 2020–2021 were successful including, mentor-mentee program, student liaisons program, affiliate connection, trivia nights, coffee hours, and 3 MT competition; there were new sponsorship and partnership with industry and local affiliates—Smithfield, Tyson, Arkansas association for Food Protection, Tyson, Cargill, Chobani and New Jersey Association for Food Protection. Approximately 12.9% of participants in the mentor-mentee program were based outside of the U.S.; mentors were from academia, extension, industry, government, and the program emphasized the value of network building. For the liaison program, 19 student liaisons are serving IAFP PDGs and committees. Majority of this work occurred during the virtual PDGs and committee meeting in June 2021. For the affiliate connection program, the new IAFP PDG LinkedIn group page has been opened and affiliate student highlights were posted. We encouraged everyone to join the local affiliates and LinkedIn page for updates.

“Meet your favorite food scientist” was a new activity developed last year. It allowed students to connect with 9 world class scientists from academia, government and industry. Around 45 students all over the world came to at least one of these meetings. Received good feedback from students so moving forward we’re planning to continue this activity. We won’t be able to sell t-shirts or stickers this year, it will probably start from next year. However, everyone was encouraged to consider donating money to the foundation as it funds a lot of PDG activities and student travel scholarships. We would also like to extend our thanks to IAFP staff for their guidance and help during past and future activities.

New Business: In the Annual Meeting, 4 sessions (2 RT and 2 symposia) are being sponsored or co-sponsored by PDG. This year’s 3MT competition will be hosted virtually as a webinar at the beginning of August; deadline for submission is June 25, 2021 Friday. There are networking opportunities during the Annual Meeting—student luncheon (July 18, Sunday); student mixer (Tues, July 20) and 5 coffee hours (virtual). Also, best photo expressing summary of IAFP 2022 experience will be awarded to in-person meeting attendee. Student monitoring opportunities for the Annual Meeting were discussed.

Mentor-mentee program will be merged with IAFP’s new mentor match program; registration is open, and the mentorship period begins June 2021 until May 30, 2022. Register in IAFP Connect to get connected with your mentor. Students were encouraged to fill out student liaison surveys and be a liaison to PDGs and committees. There will also be fall and spring social hours. Meet your fav food

scientist 2021–2022 series will be continued. Groups consisting of 10 students and 1 amazing food scientist over 30 min – 1 hr zoom meeting during months of October, Nov, or Dec.

New activity for the year will be student presentations and discussion series, including short presentations of your research ideas, findings, or progress. Good opportunity to refine presentation skills and connect with other students.

Students were put into several breakout rooms to brainstorm possible proposals for IAFP 2022. All the ideas will be collected, drafted as a proposal, and sent out collectively as a PDG.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend approval of Claire Marik Murphy for Vice Chair of the Student PDG.
2. We have appreciated the space that the IAFP Staff and Board have provided students so far with the Student Booth in the Exhibition hall. We would like to recommend the expansion of the Student Booth by providing additional sitting spaces to create a place for students to network with peers, professionals and mentors. Alternatively, we recognize that there are constraints with Exhibition Hall set-up and believe that a set of tables and chairs in the conference venue sectioned off for students could provide a similar result.
3. Recommend the ability to live stream future Student PDG Business Meetings to allow for the inclusion of students unable to attend the in person meeting.

Next Meeting Date: July 31–August 3, 2022, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:02 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Erika Estrada.