



Seafood Safety and Quality Professional Development Group

What is so exciting about the Seafood Safety and Quality Program Development Group is the enthusiasm that each group member brings to the discussion. As with IAFP, our group is diverse in experience and professional role – educators, regulatory, industry, students and analytical. A rich and diverse perspective to a truly international industry. Our current roster count is now over 170 PDG members! What is so unique about so many in this group is that they have made seafood quality and safety a lifelong endeavor.

To provide a perspective, the Seafood Industry is one of two industries that by law required the implementation of formal HACCP systems for over 20 years now. Further, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the global seafood supply has increased to record levels, over 170 million tons in 2016. For the United States as well other countries, a high percentage of seafood products are imported, either processed or as raw material, for further processing. What we have found out is that new and different risks continue to impact seafood. For example, the increased demand for convenience and ready-to-eat products has produced new food safety, quality and regulatory challenges for all food types as well as for seafood. To bring forward and

address these challenges, the Seafood Safety and Quality PDG has been working with its members, many of them leading experts in seafood safety and quality. At IAFP 2019 in Louisville, KY, the Seafood PDG fostered three sessions to spotlight emerging hazards:

- **Emerging Foods: Seaweed; Super Food, Health and Safety, Challenges and Opportunities**
- **Emerging Hazards Associated with Seafood**
- **What Do We Know about Microplastics in Food and Their Impact on Human Health**

Most importantly, we look forward to welcoming and promoting new seafood professionals who we hope will join us in leading seafood safety and quality development. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the Seafood Quality and Safety PDG. Our goal is to continue to provide an accessible forum for all involved in the Seafood Industry. Log onto the IAFP website for more information or to join the Seafood PDG.

Forest D. Reichel (Outgoing Seafood PDG Chair)
and Foivos Genigiorgis (Incoming Seafood PDG Chair)