

## **Committee on Control of Foodborne Illness (CCFI)**

**Members Present:** Michael Batz (Chair), Bob Buchanan, Carl Custer, Laura Gieraltowski (newly elected Vice-Chair), Kari Irvin (Secretary), Margaret Kirchner, Stacey Klinzing, Ewen Todd, Ian Young, Melanie Firestone, Dan Weller.

**Board/Staff Present:** Ruth Petran, Manan Sharma.

**Visitors:** Mansour Samadpour.

**Number of Attendees:** 13.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 8:05 a.m., Sunday, July 16, 2023.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Kari Irvin.

**Old Business:** Minutes from the 2022 meeting were approved. This year's CCFI sponsored symposia were discussed. One proposed symposia that was not accepted was subsequently proposed as a webinar, but the submitter never received any automated follow up, or email responses from staff or the Webinar Committee. This resulted in a recommendation to the Board. The committee discussed the Board's responses to last year's recommendations.

**New Business:** The committee continued its discussion from last year on the Ewen C.D. Todd Award. After discussing the current description and criteria, the committee decided to move forward with proposing some revisions to the award description to better reflect the original intent of the award to acknowledge work in foodborne disease epidemiology and outbreak response activities. The committee also discussed that while the Ewen C.D. Todd Award celebrates a lifetime of accomplishments, there is a need to acknowledge the efforts of junior and mid-level career professionals in the field of outbreak response, foodborne disease epidemiology, and similar work in public health. A small group of CCFI members will further develop this idea over the next year in the hopes of proposing a new award next year.

The committee discussed potential webinars. CCFI will move forward to re-submit the previously submitted symposium on FSMA 204 (discussed in old business) as a webinar. The committee also discussed the CCFI co-sponsored symposium Food Safety within the Horticultural Sector in Africa, which had to be canceled after speakers had visa issues. CCFI would like to work with that symposium's convenors and speakers to see if there would be interest in proposing it as a webinar.

The committee discussed developing proposals for IAFP 2024 and identified a number of potential topics. Further discussion will occur over *IAFP Connect*.

The committee discussed the CCFI meeting format. There was agreement that CCFI meetings should change to be more similar in format to most PDG meetings at IAFP. Specifically, the meeting should be welcome to people that are not on the committee, should be no longer than two hours long, should have a laptop and projector, and should include a short talk or presentation when possible. There may be a need for an additional working session for collaboration on the manuals, but this might need to be scheduled on Saturday when there aren't conflicting PDG meetings. On a related point, the committee discussed and agreed to hold quarterly virtual meetings in addition to the in-person meeting at the IAFP Annual Meeting.

The committee discussed revising the current mission statement. At the Chairs' meeting on Saturday, someone asked why there wasn't a PDG for foodborne epidemiology and related public health work; CCFI is the natural home for foodborne epidemiology within IAFP, but too few epidemiologists and public health professionals attend our meetings or are members of CCFI. The committee decided to revise the mission statement to both better reflect the current activities of the committee and help to communicate to potential members the content of our discussions.

After an open call for nominees, the committee elected Laura Gieraltowski as Vice-Chair.

#### **Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. CCFI recommends Laura Gieraltowski be named Vice-Chair.
2. CCFI respectfully recommends improving the webinar submission tracking through the online website. Submitters should receive a confirmation, possibly automated, that the submission was received so it can be referenced in future follow up discussion.
3. CCFI recommends revising the mission statement of the committee in the by-laws to better reflect the goals and current activities of the committee. The committee will provide suggested revised text prior to the Board's fall meeting.
4. CCFI recommends revising the criteria for the Ewen C.D. Todd Award to better reflect its original intent to primarily recognize major accomplishments in the field of foodborne disease epidemiology, outbreak investigation, and related public health work. The committee will provide the Board with suggested revised text prior to the Board's fall meeting.

**Next Meeting Date:** Saturday, July 14, 2024, Long Beach, California.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 10:08 a.m., Saturday, July 16, 2023.

**Chairperson:** Michael Batz.