

Food Law PDG

Members Present: Jenny Scott, DeAnn Benesh, John Allan, Zeb Blanton, Jr., Jack Cooper, Carl Custer, Gordon Hayburn, Bobby Krishna, Yale Lary, Jr. , Deon Mahoney, Mickey Parish, Caroline Smith DeWaal, Steve Toeniskoetter and Christina Ritchey Wilson.

Board/Staff Member Present: Katie Swanson.

New Members: Robert Buchanan, Mark Moorman and Christie Gray.

Visitors/Guests: Evelyn Gutierrez, Jeanne Garbarino and Erica Sheward.

Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 a.m., Sunday, July 22, 2012.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: DeAnn Benesh.

Update from Executive Board: Katie Swanson

- Record attendance appears to be likely again this year.
- Encouraged everyone to serve on IAFP Committees – contact David Tharp or Don Schaffner if interested.
- IAFP has chosen Google Groups instead of creating listservs for PDGs. There are rules for use. Because a member can opt out of Google Group participation, official PDG business must go through email.
- PDGs are encouraged to continue hosting webinars. Nominal \$25 charge for webinars when the webinar is offered to non-members. Webinars are archived on IAFP website for viewing later.
- An IAFP meeting app and wi-fi are available this year.
- The strategic plan will be available via *Food Protection Trends*. IAFP Mission remains the same; IAFP Vision is new. One focus of the strategic plan is to get Affiliates and Members more engaged to do the work of the association.
- Available VHS and DVD formats are dated, so a small group led by Don Schaffner is working on new IT avenues to deliver materials to Members.
- Without foundation funding, we can't continue the work of the organization (e.g., support for student and speaker travel), so please support!

Old Business:

- 1) Motion to approve July 31, 2011 meeting minutes – Mickey Parish; seconded by Carl Custer.
- 2) IAFP Board response to 2011 recommendations:
 - a) Approval of Vice Chair, DeAnn Benesh – Approved.
 - b) Improve PDG meeting overlap: Board revised the Committee and PDG schedule for 2012.

- c) Where do consumer groups, lawyers, FAO, etc. 'fit' in their affiliation (when the only choices are: Industry, Education, Government)? Board discussed and determined members should self-identify and select affiliation as one of the three available categories to help ensure committees have balanced representation. Caroline Smith-DeWaal will attend the Constitution & Bylaws Committee for further discussion. She will also gather perspective from the non-profit industry as to where they would identify themselves and report to the Board.
- 3) Review of last year's activities: The PDG had expected to provide webinars based on FSMA Rules, but since we are still waiting for their release, this expectation will be fulfilled when the rules are released. There was also a suggestion to consider scheduling an FDA listening session at the IAFP Annual Meeting for specific rules once released in order to take advantage of the stakeholders in attendance.
- 4) Symposium submissions – A number of symposia were submitted last year, two were accepted for the 2012 Annual Meeting.
- 5) White paper for *Food Protection Trends (FPT)* – Critical Tools for Comparing National Food Safety Programs. No additional progress was made on the paper this past year. Actions: Caroline Smith DeWaal and DeAnn Benesh will reassess previous vision for the paper to now focus on a Codex document related to guidelines for a national food safety system, first working to create a primer on Codex and then using the Codex document to illustrate the process. It was suggested that a recent IOM paper could be useful in this effort (see next item).
- 6) Strengthening core elements of regulatory agencies in developing countries – A paper on Strengthening Core Elements of Regulatory Systems in Developing Countries published April 4, 2012 by the Institutes of Medicine, in addition to being relevant to the previous white paper, might also be of interest to readers of *FPT*. Action: Caroline Smith DeWaal will work with Bob Buchanan to investigate publication of the executive summary, perhaps excluding information related to drugs and devices, in *FPT*.
- 7) White papers on FSMA: No progress made this year. PDG still believes these papers would be worth creating for publication in *FPT* or by IAFP. Actions: 1) Caroline Smith DeWaal, John Allan, DeAnn Benesh, Erica Sheward and Mark Moorman will meet to discuss and outline a plan with milestones to complete (may work with applied lab methods PDG on a section related to testing by accredited laboratories).

New Business:

- 1) Do we want to initiate a Google Group for the Food Law PDG?
- Some advantages: archives messages; can do webinars (free) – need to look at advantages for those outside the US; can set up to be customized and

have summary sent to you. Is it possible to set up separate pages on Linked In for PDGs so we can control connections and in coming information? Bobby Krisna agreed to present a webinar on use of Google Groups and Google Plus that could be recorded and made available to others. Action: See Recommendations to IAFP Board.

2) Session suggestions:

- 1) Symposium or Workshop: How to be an expert witness. How to be effective; how to write a good declaration; what it's like to do a deposition; what a judge expects from an expert witness. Provide trainers/speakers that have been legal counsel on food safety cases and expert witnesses. Need to cover both sides: plaintiff and defense. Consider organizing a type of certification for completion of this workshop. Investigate partnering with Bill Marler and Jody Swaim. Action: Bob Buchanan and Steve Toeniskoetter will outline topics and speakers; check on an IAFP session from 4-5 years on product liability as a starting point; consider holding a Webinar before/after/both to provide an overview of the issues.
- 2) Symposia on CODEX – WTO/FAO/SPS. Codex - 50th anniversary next year. Start with: What is Codex, what it has produced, how is it working with WTO/FAO/SPS? Plan for a full symposium. Actions: Caroline Smith DeWaal, Jenny Scott, Deon Mahoney and Bob Buchanan will develop in conjunction with International PDG.
- 3) Labeling claims – Workshop or symposium regarding labeling claims, warning statements and data to support claims. The Food Chemical Hazards and Food Allergy PDG has a session on this topic at 2012 IAFP, but it is U.S. focused. Actions: Gordon Hayburn will follow up with this PDG to determine how to continue building on this topic for a session next year with an international scope.
- 4) Post FSMA and EU regs; Lessons learned – mistakes in implementation of regulations, and improvements that result. Perhaps start as a Webinar, followed by Symposium next year based on feedback from the webinar. Share best practice among international regulators around the challenges of regulatory delivery post progressive food legislation being passed. Learning from and building upon the experiences of the UK post the EU food safety and standards reforms to help inform and support the development of an effective, risk-based, consistent, proportionate and cost-effective enforcement infrastructure, particularly in respect of the enforcement challenges around FSMA. Action: Erica Sheward and Gordon Hayburn to organize.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Google Group Training Webinar: Provide a webinar to IAFP Members demonstrating options available via Google Groups and Google Plus for PDGs to

have the information needed to determine if they would like to use these approaches. Webinar would be recorded and on the IAFP Web site for all members to view. Bobby Krishna, Dubai Municipality, has been using Google Groups and Google Plus since 2007 and would be happy to provide this Webinar to the association.

Next Meeting Date: July 28, 2013, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:51 a.m.

Chairperson: Jenny Scott.