

Food Law PDG

Members Present: DeAnn Benesh (chair), Mickey Parish (vice chair), Jenny Scott (past chair), John T. Allan, Zeb E. Blanton, Jr., Robert L. Buchanan, Jack L. Cooper, Scott K. Crerar, Shaun Kennedy, Anna M. Lammerding, Deon Mahoney, Mark A. Moorman, Caroline Smith DeWaal, Gloria I. Swick-Brown, Kevin Webster, Lisa M. Weddig and Christina R. Wilson.

Board/Staff Member Present: Don Zink.

New Members: Neil Bogart, Lee Carella, Katie Clayton, Faye Feldstein, Yaohua Feng, Steven Gendel, Atef Idriss, Abraham Inouye, Tim Jenkins, Xiumei Liu, Patrick Logan, Indaue Mello, Michael Roberson, Sarah Schober, Chuck Seaman, Ben Stone and Filiz Yeni.

Visitors/Guests: Catherine Hart, Thomas Jones, Michael Kuhlman, David Luedeke, Bob Strong and Audra Wallis.

Meeting Called to Order at: 2:00 p.m.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Mickey Parish.

Welcome and Introductions:

- Chair DeAnn Benesh called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. This was followed by individual introductions. The Chair then discussed the anti-trust statement and asked attendees to sign the attendance sheets.
- Don Zink, Board Liaison, was introduced and provided greetings from the Board. He announced that three new PDGs were formed this year and mentioned that overlap of PDGs has been raised as a concern by members. The Board is asking PDGs to consider Saturday as an option for holding PDG meetings. He then discussed symposium development and encouraged partnerships with other PDGs.

Old Business:

- Steve Gendel made a motion to accept the 2012 PDG meeting minutes. Motion was approved.
- A Board recommendation from last year's PDG meeting regarding recording a webinar for all IAFP membership on the use of Google Groups to assist with PDG communication was discussed. The Board had responded that IAFP staff would arrange with the presenter, but had not followed through. The PDG agreed that this topic should be revisited. DeAnn will contact IAFP staff to initiate.
- Review of last year's activities:
 - o Update on white papers:
 - § A white paper series on 7 topics related to FSMA was discussed. Caroline Smith DeWaal reported that four articles were published in FPT and the remaining three articles on surveillance, laboratories, and imports would

be worked on this year. Authors are needed for the articles on laboratories and imports.

§ A recent publication of the National Academies, *Strengthening Core Elements of Regulatory Systems in Developing Countries*, was discussed. This report provides 31 recommendations on approaches for food regulations and capacity building; however, solicitations to support the recommendations are minimal. Bob and Caroline agreed to extract food issues from the reports executive summary as a basis for another white paper. This might also be an appropriate symposium topic with the International PDG.

§ A white paper on *Critical Tools for Comparing National Food Safety Programs* was discussed. Jenny Scott suggested summarizing Codex guidance as one element of the paper.

- o Webinar was conducted last year on FDA's Proposed FSMA Preventive Controls for Human Food Rule. The webinar was well received and attendees were highly complementary. Don Zink discussed IAFP logistics on webinars and efforts to minimize costs. He indicated that we should be able to determine the number of visits to the webinar on the Web site.
- o The PDG symposium submission on the 50th anniversary of Codex was accepted by the Program Committee for this meeting. A discussion ensued regarding the difficulty in determining which symposia we sponsored or co-sponsored since PDGs are not listed for symposia in the meeting program.
- o It was noted that Mike Taylor of FDA will provide a special presentation on the newly proposed FSMA import rule on Wednesday, 12:45 to 1:25 in Ballroom B.

New Business:

- Professor Xiumei Liu of the China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment presented an update on changes to the food safety regulatory system in China based on their new 2009 food safety law. Professor Liu provided details on restructuring that took place to merge responsibilities for food safety into three agencies: Ministry of Agriculture, General Bureau of Food and Drug Administration, and Ministry of National Health. She mentioned that another agency, AQSIQ, remains responsible for exports and imports of foods, but not for domestic foods.
- Caroline indicated that she had attended the *FPT* meeting earlier and had requested that our seven series of white papers be published in booklet form. *FPT* did not provide any objections to the request.
- Symposium ideas for 2014:
 - i. Kathy Glass submitted an idea to the PDG on controversies related to labeling claims, such as clean labels. Other ideas related to labeling were also discussed including consumer misperceptions on safety of GMOs, the use of "natural", Prop 65 in California, and food suitability. No firm

agreement was determined for a specific topic, so a subcommittee will discuss and submit a proposal on the PDG's behalf. The subcommittee:

1. Kathy Glass
 2. Thomas Jones
 3. Atef Idriss
 4. Scott Crerar
- ii. "Codex 101" was not approved by the Program Committee for 2013, but the topic will be reviewed for resubmission as a short symposium or as a workshop. The subcommittee:
1. Caroline Smith DeWaal
 2. Bob Buchanan
 3. DeAnn Benesh
 4. Deon Mahoney
 5. John Allen
- iii. Steve Gendel indicated that the Food Chemical PDG is asking for cosponsorship from Food Law on a proposal related to regulatory schemes on chemicals and allergens. The PDG agreed to cosponsor.
1. Steve Gendel
- iv. A topic from last year on "How to be an expert witness" was discussed. Shaun indicated that this topic was presented at a recent regional ABA meeting. This could be a good workshop topic.
1. Steve Toeniskoetter
 2. Bob Buchanan
- v. The PDG agreed to cosponsor a symposium proposal with the International PGD and Food Defense PDG on traceability as a table top exercise.
1. Faye Feldstein
 2. Shaun Kennedy
 3. Abe Inouye
 4. Tejas Bhatt
- vi. There was a discussion on boundaries of food safety laws as related to issues such as food waste, food security, poverty and impact on trade. Do food safety laws drive food insecurity in places such as Africa.
1. Atef Idriss
 2. Thomas Jones
 3. Tim Jenkins
- vii. Standardizing national food safety systems: New tools and methods.
1. Caroline Smith DeWaal
 2. Bob Buchanan
 3. DeAnn Benesh
 4. Deon Mahoney
 5. Filiz Yeni

- Engagement of the PDG members throughout the year was discussed, and the use of webinars was emphasized. One topic of interest for a future webinar is the Safe Food for Canadians Act. It was suggested that it be structured similarly to the successful FSMA webinar, and include speakers from government, legal and industry. Other topics discussed were the ANPR/Intentional Contamination activity in FSMA. Jack Cooper suggested we investigate cooperating with the IFT Food Laws and Regulations Division during their annual division meeting in Washington DC. It was noted that we should interact with CAFPA if we pursue that option.

Recommendations to the Executive Board

1. Approve Mickey Parish as Vice Chair of the Food Law PDG.
2. Publish all 7 articles on FSMA from *FPT*, in electronic booklet form on the IAFP Web site.
3. List PDG sponsorship on symposia in the annual meeting program.
4. Have the program committee send a master list of approved symposia, listed with corresponding PDG affiliation, to all PDG Chairs/Vice Chairs.
5. Because PDG meetings overlap – post the agenda of PDG meetings outside the PDG meeting room doors at the annual meeting, so if members are only able to attend a portion of a PDG, they can scan the agenda to determine which portion[s] of the PDG meeting to join.

Next Meeting Date: August 2, 2014.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:55 p.m.

Chairperson: DeAnn L. Benesh.