As I sit here writing this article, I realize that it will be my last report to you. I am reflecting on the year and thinking of the wonderful experience it has been for me. Being part of the Affiliate Council and the Board is, by far, the best way to learn about IAFP. We get involved in so many activities related to the running of IAFP that makes this the great organization it is. We also get involved in the planning for the future of IAFP as discussed by President Farber in the most recent edition of *Food Protection Trends*. Looking at the number of E-mails that I received over the year, I can certainly attest to the volume and variety of work that forms part of your association. I have also met and come to know many wonderful people attached to IAFP over the year. These include our excellent staff, Board members, Affiliate members and IAFP sponsors that are key components of the IAFP team.

I have really enjoyed my involvement with the Affiliate Council (Continued on Page 2)
and know that your next Chair has a wonderful year ahead of her. I was very excited when Maria Teresa Destro from Brazil, or as we affectionately call her “MT,” agreed to become part of the Affiliate Council. I expect that you and the Council will have a great year ahead and that MT will be a great asset to our community of Affiliates. With her vibrancy and keenness for success, she also brings a different point of view that should benefit the Affiliate Council.

I am looking forward to a growing Affiliate network in the future with enhanced involvement from our global community. The Board strategic planning meeting “Future Search Process” that President Farber discussed in Food Protection Trends spoke of the goal of reaching out to Affiliates and getting more involvement. This past year we have spoken to a number of groups with respect to forming a new Affiliate. I am optimistic for these groups to become active in IAFP. If you do not already have one, I encourage you to consider forming an Affiliate and contacting IAFP for pointers and assistance with this task.

I have written throughout this year of the importance of the Affiliates and why I think we need more involvement from people around the world. Affiliates form the conduit in both directions between those employed in food related professions and the world’s leading food safety association. I feel that we need more participation of Affiliates from around the world to make IAFP fully represent the world. Even though I will no longer be chair of the Council or member of the Executive Board, I will still welcome your questions and thoughts. I have had experience with building the British Columbia Affiliate and will answer your questions and provide guidance where I can.

Our Affiliates work hard to bring the message of food safety to those in the areas in which they call home. These dedicated volunteers are key to helping IAFP realize its mission of providing a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply. Each year IAFP recognizes certain Affiliates based on information submitted in their annual reports with Affiliate awards. This year, special congratulations go to the British Columbia, Missouri, Ontario, Florida, and Kentucky Affiliates for their outstanding work.

Sadly I must report that this year our efforts to raise funds to hold an Affiliate Educational Reception in Calgary were not successful and therefore the reception has been cancelled. The situation was also reviewed by the IAFP Board and their recommendation was also to cancel the reception. It was not an easy decision for us. We were looking forward to this reception and being able to respond to the Council’s wish to return to the type of meeting with an invited speaker. Although we are very disappointed with this step, I must point out that the current state of affairs this year left us with no alternative. We plan to bring this topic to the Affiliate Council this year for further discussion. It will be through your support that we can make this happen again.

Now is the time to finalize your plans for the IAFP Annual Meeting in Calgary. It will be an event not to miss. Earlier this year I wrote to you seeking support for the Silent Auction. Those of you who have been to previous meetings know the popularity of this event and the excitement of the event as we near the closing time. It is one of the many ways we as Affiliates can support the IAFP Foundation.

This year the IAFP Annual Meeting will have a Welcome Reception for all attendees on Saturday, August 12 at 4:30 p.m. This Welcome Reception will replace the New Member Reception and the Affiliate Educational Reception. Please join us at the Welcome Reception. With the cancellation of our Affiliate Educational Reception, this is our opportunity to better get to know each other as well as other colleagues at the meeting.

In closing, I would like to thank you for all of the support that you have given me during my tenure and the great work that all of you do on behalf of IAFP. I would also like to express my appreciation to our dedicated staff for their great work and support throughout the year. I look forward to seeing you all at our Affiliate Council meeting in Calgary.

The primary purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed of Association activities. Another purpose is to share information among Affiliates. We want to know what activities each Affiliate has planned for the future, what things have worked well for membership drives, meeting attendance, speaker presentations, awards received by members of Affiliates, or anything that Affiliates are proud of accomplishing. We especially want to publish photos and articles from Affiliate meetings.

Forward Affiliate news for publication to Nancy Herselius at the IAFP office.
Affiliate Delegates of Record

Following is a list of delegates from each of the 41 Affiliates. Please review the delegate listed for your Affiliate and notify Nancy Herselius at the Association office if your delegate has changed.

Alabama: Tom McCaskey
Alberta: Lynn McMullen
Arizona: Mohammed Heydari
Brazil: Maria Teresa Destro
British Columbia: Terry Peters
California: John Bruhn
Capital Area: Carl Custer
Carolinan: Frank Greene
Florida: Peter Hibbard
Georgia: David Fry
Idaho: Dennis Gaalswyk
Illinois: Matt Rhodes
Indiana: Helene Uhlman
Iowa: Leo Timms
Kansas: Tom Morey
Kentucky: Sang-Do Ha
Metropolitan: Fred Weber
Mexico: Montserrat Hernandez-Itturriaga
Michigan: Janet Phelps
Mississippi: Gala Miller
Missouri: Harshavardhan Thippareddi
New York: Steve Murphy
New Zealand: Roger Cook
North Dakota: Grant Larson
Ohio: Gloria Swick-Brown
Ontario: Kathy Wilson
Pennsylvania: Eugene Frey
Portugal: Laurentina M.R. Pedroso
Quebec: Julie Jean
South Dakota: Darwin Kurtenbach
Southern California: Steve Nason
Tennessee: Ann Draughon
Texas: Fred Reimers
United Kingdom: David Lloyd
Upper Midwest: Dan Erickson
Washington: Stephanie Olmsted
Wisconsin: Randy Dagg
Wyoming: Sherry Maston

Congratulations Affiliate Award Recipients

Affiliate Membership Achievement
Kentucky Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians

Best Affiliate Communication Materials
Ontario Food Protection Association

Best Affiliate Annual Meeting
Missouri Milk, Food and Environmental Health Association

Best Affiliate Education Conference
Florida Association for Food Protection

C.B. Shogren Memorial
British Columbia Food Protection Association

When in Calgary, be sure to thank the members of the Alberta Affiliate Local Arrangements Committee. They have put a lot of work into making your visit to IAFP 2006 a very memorable one.

Co-chairs:
Gary Gensler and Lynn McMullin

General Volunteer Coordinators:
Valerie Bohaychuk and Gary Gensler

Companion Host and Volunteer Coordinator:
Susan Gibson

Special Events Volunteer Coordinator:
Kevin Webster

Welcome Bags:
Donna Christensen
Videos from IAFP Audiovisual Library Available at Annual Meeting in Calgary

A total of nine videos will be available for viewing in the Audiovisual/Speaker Ready Room in the Telus Convention Centre on Monday and Tuesday, August 14 and 15. Three of these videos will be those purchased within the last year. The other six are those that have been the most requested in the past year.

To continue the growth of our Audiovisual Library, all IAFP Members are encouraged to identify and refer relevant materials. Contact Lisa Hovey or Nancy Herselius with such information.

**New Videos**

**E3260 - Swabbing Techniques for Sampling the Environment and Equipment**
This training program is designed to assist in providing effective training to technicians that collect environmental samples for APC and *Listeria*. It will help assure that technicians understand the basic principles and best practices, and can demonstrate good sample collection techniques. (Silliker Labs - 2005)

**F2095 - Now You're Cooking….Using a Food Thermometer**
Using a food thermometer can improve the quality and safety of meat. This 15-minute video describes the why and how of using a food thermometer when cooking small cuts of meat like meat patties, chicken breasts, and pork chops. Topics include: why color is not a good indicator of doneness; how to choose an appropriate food thermometer for small cuts of meat; quick and easy steps for using an instant-read thermometer; how to calibrate an instant-read thermometer; and the most effective cooking methods for reducing *E. coli* O157:H7 in hamburger patties. (University of Idaho - 2005)

**F2600 - Food Industry Security Awareness: The First Line of Defense**
This video reinforces the importance of security awareness in all phases of product handling, from receiving ingredients to processing and shipping. With this program, you can have an immediate impact on plant security with very little time or resources, all while helping maximize the effectiveness of your overall security investment. Everything you need to turn your biggest security challenge into your biggest security asset is covered. (J.J. Keller - 2006)

**Most Requested Videos**

- **F2007** The Amazing World of Microorganisms
- **F2013** Control of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Small Meat and Poultry Establishments
- **F2014** Controlling Food Allergens in the Plant
- **F2136** GLP Basics: Safety in the Food Micro Lab
- **F2150** GMP: Personal Hygiene and Practices in Food Manufacturing
- **F2173** Inside HACCP: Principles, Practices and Results

**Attention!!**

The honorarium for the C.B. Shogren Memorial Award has been given a significant boost. The amount will be raised from $100 to $500 this year. Affiliates who submit an Annual Report are judged on their activities and meetings, communications, number of members, Web site, scholarships, awards supported, and membership promotions.

Keep this in mind when completing the Annual Report next year!
**IAFP Affiliate Council Meeting Agenda**

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Stephen AB  
August 13, 2006  
7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call to Order</th>
<th>New Business</th>
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<tr>
<td>Delegate Roll Call and Introduction of Guests</td>
<td>Affiliate Reception and Educational Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minutes of 2005 Meeting as Published in <em>FPT</em></td>
<td>Combining Best Affiliate Educational</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>Conference and Best Affiliate Annual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terry Peters, Affiliate Council Chair</td>
<td>Meeting Awards</td>
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<td>Jeff Farber, President</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Tharp, Executive Director</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Herselius, Association Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Election of Affiliate Council Secretary</td>
<td>Recommendations to the IAFP Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unfinished Business</td>
<td>Affiliate Reports (please limit your report to two minutes)</td>
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<td>Final Comments</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Passing of Gavel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Adjournment</td>
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**IAFP’s Second European Symposium on Food Safety**

30 November – 1 December 2006

Join with colleagues and the International Association for Food Protection in Barcelona to explore recent “Innovations in Food Safety Management.” After a successful first symposium (October 2005 ~ Prague), IAFP is back in Europe to provide sound, quality programming for Members and professional colleagues.

Watch for registration information in mid-July on the IAFP Web site.

Hotel reservations can be made now, using the form available on the IAFP Web site, [http://www.foodprotection.org/meetingsEducation/BarcelonaMain.asp](http://www.foodprotection.org/meetingsEducation/BarcelonaMain.asp). A preliminary program is also available on the Web site.

Information on Exhibiting and Sponsorship opportunities are accessible on the Web site.
The Georgia Association for Food Protection held its annual spring meeting on February 9, 2006 at the Center for Food Safety, University of Georgia, Griffin.

Several speakers shared information with the attendees.

- Controlling *Listeria* in Drains in Processing Plants - Mike Doyle, CFS-UGA
- Presence of *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* in Georgia Dairy Cattle, and Implications to Public Health - Ynes Ortega, CFS-UGA
- Security at Georgia Produce Operations - Mark Harrison, CFS-UGA
- *Alicyclobacillus*, An Endemic Spoilage Bacterium in the Beverage Industry - Larry Beuchat, CFS-UGA
- Evaluation of Media for Detecting and Enumerating Stressed *Enterobacter sakazakii* - Joshua Gurtier, CFS-UGA
- Survival and Growth of *Enterobacter sakazakii* in Infant Cereal - Lichun Lin, CFS-UGA
- Behavior and Control of *Enterobacter sakazakii* in Fresh Fruits and Vegetables - Hoikyung Kim, CFS-UGA
- Susceptibility of Persistent and Non-persistent *Listeria monocytogenes* to Quaternary Ammonium Compounds - Mohammad Obaidat, CFS-UGA

New officers were elected and other business was conducted. It was a very successful meeting!

IAFP Membership Rates

Questions concerning rates should be directed to Julie Cattanach, Membership Services, at jcattanach@foodprotection.org.

Any changes to personal demographics (address, phone number, E-mail, etc.) should also be sent to Julie’s attention.
Highlights of the Executive Board Meeting
April 24–25, 2006
Des Moines, Iowa

Following is an unofficial summary of actions from the Executive Board Meeting held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Des Moines, Iowa on April 24–25, 2006.

Approved the following:
- Minutes of February 19–20, 2006 Executive Board Meeting
- Minutes of February 19, 2006 Executive Board Meeting, Executive Session
- William Brewer and William LaGrange as Honorary Life Members
- Budget for Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2007

Discussed the following:
- Future planning for IAFP with Board and staff
- E-mail votes taken since the last meeting
- Committee appointments to begin at IAFP 2006
- Revision of the Procedures to Investigate Foodborne Illness
- Paper on Food Worker Hygiene
- Proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws
- IAFP 2006 preparations update
- Local Arrangements preparations
- Ivan Parkin and John Silliker lecturers
- ILSI status for IAFP symposia
- Foundation DVD project and review
- Foundation print materials
- Rapid response series
- White paper on Avian Influenza
- University Speaker Program
- Student Travel Scholarship Award Program
- Member dues restructure plan - target date of January 1, 2007
- E-Newsletter sample
- Affiliate activity
- Potential new Affiliate groups
- Non-compliant Affiliates
- European Symposium for fall of 2006
- Exhibit opportunities for 2006-2007
- Possible Foodsafe sponsorship
- Allergy Icon development
- WHO-NGO progress
- Electronic balloting-plan for 2008 Secretary election
- Partnership for Food Safety Education planning meeting
- Guiding principals for holding international meetings
- China delegation visit report
- Food Safety Summit - China - IAFP’s participation
- Retail Foodservice Conference - IAFP’s participation
- Sponsorship monies available for conferences in small amounts

Reports received:
- Food Protection Trends
- Journal of Food Protection
- IAFP Web Site
- Membership
- Financial statements - February 2006
- Board Members attending Affiliate meetings
- Affiliate Newsletter
- Future Annual Meeting schedule
- Exhibiting (IAFP on the Road)

Next Executive Board meeting:
August 11–17, 2006

Affiliate Educational Reception
Not Held This Year

The Affiliate Educational Reception will not be held this year. Attempts to raise funds for the reception were not successful.

This topic will be discussed during the Affiliate Council meeting on Sunday, August 13. Affiliate members are responsible for raising funds for the reception. It is suggested that a standing committee be formed to pursue raising funds for future years.

All Affiliate members are invited to attend the Welcome Reception at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 12. This reception will replace the New Member and Affiliate receptions. Please take advantage of this time to meet and greet friends and make new acquaintances.
Silent Auction Information

There is still a need for Silent Auctions items. Take advantage of this great opportunity to showcase products, traditions, or cultural treasures that represent your state, province, country, or local area. Donations are accepted from individuals, companies, and groups.

Proceeds from the Silent Auction benefit projects supported by the IAFP Foundation, including student travel scholarships, travel support for speakers to the Annual Meeting, the Ivan Parkin Lecture, the Developing Scientist Competition, the Audiovisual Library, and co-sponsorship of the Crumbine Award. The Foundation also provides surplus JFP and FPT journals to developing countries.

Last year’s auction raised over $5,000 and we again wish to present the Foundation with dollars that will help support their programs over the next year. Can we count on your support for another successful auction?

To make sure your local area or Affiliate is represented, contact the IAFP office for a form, complete it, and return it to the office. You may bring the items to the Annual Meeting or send them with an attending colleague.

Questions? Contact Nancy Herselius at 515.276.3344; 800.369.6337; or n herselius@foodprotection.org.

2006 Calendar of Affiliate Events

**September 19-21**  
**New York State Association for Food Protection**; Contact: Steve Murphy, 607.255.2893; scm4@cornell.edu

**September 26-29**  
**Washington Association for Food Protection**; Contact: Stephanie Olmsted, 425.455.8953; Stephanie.olmsted@safeway.com

**October 10-11**  
**Associated Illinois Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians**; Contact: Steve DiVincenzo, 217.785.2439; sdivince@idph.state.il.us

**November 1**  
**Ohio Association of Food and Environmental Sanitarians**; Contact: Gloria Swick-Brown, 614.466.7760; gloria.swick-brown@odh.ohio.gov

**November 8-9**  
**British Columbia Food Protection Association**; Contact: Terry Peters, 604.666.1080; terry_peters@telus.net

**November 9**  
**Ontario Food Protection Association**; Contact: Gail Seed, 519.463.5674; seed@golden.net

**November 9-11**  
**Mexico Association for Food Protection**; Contact: Alejandro Castillo, 979.845.3565; a-castillo@tamu.edu
Once again the BAFP Annual Meeting was outstanding! We could count on the presence of IAFP President Jeff Farber, IAFP President-Elect Frank Yiannas, Martin Cole, Mike van Schothorst, and Joaquin Martinez, together with Brazilian speakers, to deliver very interesting presentations.

Approximately 150 attendees were very interested in the presentations and had many questions. About 80% of the audience were from food companies. There were 30 posters presented and six exhibitors. Prizes were given, for the first time, to the three best posters.

BAFP would like to thank CNPq, Nestle, EMBARARAD, and Raisio for their financial support.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

Opening Session – 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
- Ivan Parkin Lecturer – "A Progress Paradox: If We Have the Safest Food Supply, Why am I Working so Hard?" – Arthur P. Liang, Ph.D., CDC, Atlanta, GA, USA

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

Morning – 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Symposium Topics
- Making Foods Safer: How Outbreaks Can Influence Change
- Bacterial Resistance to Antimicrobials: Current Trends and Future Perspectives
- The Canadian Approach to Food Safety
- Verification of Sanitary Design of Food Equipment
- Practical Risk Assessment in the Food Industry
Technical Session
- Applied Laboratory Methods and Meat and Poultry
Poster Session (9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)
- Food Toxicology, Education and General Microbiology
Afternoon – 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Symposium Topics
- Foodborne Viruses and Foodborne Viral Infections: Disease Burden, Epidemiology, Detection and Transmission
- Surrogate Microorganisms: Selection, Use and Validation
- Spores, Spores, and More Spores...What is Spoiling My Ready-to-Drink (RTD) Beverage? Is It Alicyclobacillus or Heat Resistant Mold?
- Biosecurity at Retail
Round-Table Topics
- Issues Regarding Raw Milk Sales and Consumption
- Refrigerated Ready-to-Eat (RTE) Foods: Microbiological Concerns and Control Measures
Technical Session
- Education and Dairy
Poster Session (2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
- Dairy, Meat and Poultry

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

Morning – 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Symposium Topics
- Disaster Preparedness and Response
- Symposium on Enterobacter sakazakii
- Campylobacter – From Gate to Plate
- Hygiene and Sanitation Solutions to Manage Evolving Risks
- International Food Law – A Global Overview
Technical Session
- Education and Dairy
Poster Session (2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
- Dairy, Meat and Poultry

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

Morning – 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Symposium Topics
- Public Health and Environmental Impact Assessments in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
- Assuring Microbiological Safety of Organic Products
- Symposium on Salmonella: The Saga Continues
Technical Sessions
- Education
- Pathogens and Antimicrobials–Listeria
Poster Session (9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)
- Risk Assessment and Antimicrobials
Afternoon – 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Symposium Topics
- How Risk Managers Decide on Risk from Different National Perspectives
- Symposium on Food Allergen Control at Retail and Foodservice
- Quality Control in Research Labs
- Hot Topics in Food Safety
Round-Table Topic
- Water Safety and Quality: Global Water – HACCP Issues
Technical Session
- Produce
Afternoon – 3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- John H. Silliker Lecturer – "Rising From the Ocean Bottom – The Evolution of Microbiology in the Food Industry" – William H. Sperber, Ph.D., Cargill, Wayzata, MN, USA

Subject to change
**IAFP 2006 Registration Form**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First name (as it will appear on your badge)</th>
<th>Last name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employer</td>
<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mailing Address (Please specify: □ Home □ Work)</td>
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<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>State/Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>Fax</td>
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</table>

Regarding the ADA, please attach a brief description of special requirements you may have.

IAFP occasionally provides Attendees’ addresses (excluding phone and E-mail) to vendors and exhibitors supplying products and services for the food safety industry. If you prefer NOT to be included in these lists, please check the box.

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**PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 12, 2006 TO AVOID LATE REGISTRATION FEES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGISTRATION FEES:</th>
<th>MEMBERS</th>
<th>NONMEMBERS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>$ 395</td>
<td>$ 597</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association Student Member</td>
<td>$ 80 ($ 90 late)</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Association Member</td>
<td>$ 80 ($ 90 late)</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Day Registration® □ Mon. □ Tues. □ Wed.</td>
<td>$ 215 ($ 240 late)</td>
<td>$ 330 ($355 late)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse/Companion® (Name):</td>
<td>$ 25 ($ 25 late)</td>
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<td>Children 15 &amp; Over® (Names):</td>
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<td>Children 14 &amp; Under® (Names):</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Awards Banquet not included</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Awards Banquet Ticket (Wednesday, 8/16)</td>
<td>$ 50 ($ 60 late)</td>
<td>$ 50 ($ 60 late)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Luncheon (Sunday, 8/13)</td>
<td>$ 5 ($ 15 late)</td>
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**NEW IAFP FOUNDATION FUNDRAISERS:**

**# OF TICKETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday, 8/15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder Mystery Dinner at the Deane House</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner at The Ranche</td>
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</table>

**DAYTIME EVENTS – Lunch included**

| Golf Tournament (Saturday, 8/12) | $ 135 ($145 late) |
| The Best of Lake Louise and Banff (Saturday, 8/12) | $ 130 ($140 late) |
| The Complete Calgary Tour (Sunday, 8/13) | $ 105 ($115 late) |
| Drumheller and the Badlands (Monday, 8/14) | $ 115 ($125 late) |
| Art Walk – Lunch not included (Tuesday, 8/15) | $ 42 ($ 52 late) |
| Yoga and Cooking Class (Wednesday, 8/16) | $ 90 ($100 late) |
| Outdoor Adventure in Kananaskis (Thursday, 8/17) | $ 82 ($ 92 late) |

Optional: Select one activity per person Qty.

- □ Biking $ 93 ($103 late)     □ Canoe Ride $ 56 ($ 66 late)
- □ Hiking $ 51 ($ 61 late)     □ Horseback Riding $ 57 ($ 67 late)
- □ Rafting $ 61 ($ 71 late)        

**PAYMENT OPTIONS:**

- □ Check Enclosed

Credit Card #__________________________
Expiration Date ____________________________
Name on Card ____________________________
Signature ____________________________

JOIN TODAY AND SAVE!!!
(Attach a completed Membership application)

EXHIBITORS DO NOT USE THIS FORM
Imagine that you have been an active volunteer in an association for the past 15 years. You've served on several committees during your time as a volunteer leader and have chaired two of those committees. Over the years, you've made your mark on the association: a volunteer who commits tirelessly to the industry, profession, or cause the organization represents. Clearly, you're an asset - and people notice it. Two years ago, you became a member of the board of directors.

On Monday morning, your phone rings. You answer, and on the other end of the phone is the chair of the association's nominating committee. He says he is calling on behalf of the association and hopes you will accept the committee's request that you make yourself available to become an officer of the association.

You're obviously flattered by such an offer, but there are other things in your life besides your volunteer work with the association. What about your own business? You work long hours and struggle to balance work and family life. Your volunteer role in the association has added to your workload, but you have been pleased with your involvement. You've learned a great deal from your peers in the industry, and the opportunities that the association affords you are worthwhile and fulfilling, both professionally and personally.

Like many people, time has become one of your most valuable assets, and you struggle to allocate that time in a productive and profitable manner. So you initially tell the chair of the nominating committee that, while you're likely to accept his invitation, you would like to discuss it with your family and with your employees to see if they would support what would undoubtedly be a greater expenditure of your time on association matters. You tell the chair you'll call him back by the end of the week, and you ask him to E-mail you a list of specifications for the officer position so you can better judge your additional commitment.

Sound familiar? For many of you, the fictional scenario may have rung exactly true. But I'll bet not many of us effected the sort of thoughtful consideration seen at the end of the story. Most of us, on receiving such a call, probably quickly accepted the opportunity to serve as an association officer without thinking it through. The first unspoken question we ask is, "Will this benefit my career and my sense of self-worth?" And the answer to that is an almost-automatic "yes." But what else do we need to consider before assuming a larger volunteer leadership role?

It is not always easy to find the right people to serve in leadership positions. All of use are busier than ever. Technology has made us subject to a virtual, 24/7 world. We are never out of touch, and the speed of communication seems to suggest that our work and volunteer efforts should be equally as speedy and numerous.

We also are deluged with continuing stories of board neglect and poor oversight in a number of corporate and nonprofit organizations. We are aware of the increased scrutiny that is being aimed at the governing bodies of all organizations. New legislation such as Sarbanes-Oxley highlights and brings to public attention the fiduciary and governance responsibilities that all boards, nonprofits included, have. So when the call comes for us to step up and provide increased service to our trade or professional associations, we often pause to consider what is being asked of us.

Simple Questions toward a Thoughtful Answer

There are many questions you must ask before assuming increased leadership responsibilities for a trade or professional association. Most important should be the realization that, as board members and officers of our organizations, we bear a great accountability to our trade or profession, to those who toil in that arena, to other nonprofit organizations, and to the public at large. Associations enjoy their tax-exempt status because of their commitment to the public good. When we are asked to step forward, we are clearly being asked to walk the talk of exceptional governance.

Let's take a look at some of the questions we should ask before accepting an officer position.

Can you afford it? In addition to what will clearly be a commitment of more time, there is also the likelihood of more out-of-pocket expenses as well. Board officers meet more frequently than directors do, and not all expenses are reimbursed by the association. In fact, some associations do not reimburse for anything, period. In addition, there will likely be the added expectation that you attend more of the organization's educational programs and regional conferences as a representative of the board.

Do you have the time? Are you willing to commit the additional time to participate - and at a level of output that befits a board officer? We have all seen the members who accept an officer position, often with the noblest of intentions, but who fail to fulfill its requirements. Do you want to be painted with that brush?
Will accepting the offer bring hardship to your business or profession? Are you willing to put in the extra time required to do both jobs - your “real” job as well as your board duties? We have all met the volunteer who works tirelessly for the association but who neglects his or her primary work or - worse still - family as a result. This is why it’s critically important to receive buy-in from your personal “stakeholders,” in particular your primary employer and your family.

Are there any real or perceived conflicts of interest that might arise with this position? If so, are you able to accommodate those conflicts in a way that is appropriate? Are there issues within the organization for which you have a vested interest? Are there decisions being made that would benefit your company more than the industry or profession? Are you willing to look at the well-being of the industry or profession over the immediate benefits to your business or profession? Will you support the advocacy policies of the association, even though the results may not bring direct benefit to your own business?

Do you understand the fiduciary obligations you are accepting? Do you appreciate the duties of care, loyalty, and obedience that come with this position? Do you recognize the need to act with the best interests of the association at all times? Do you appreciate the need for loyalty to the decisions that the board makes? Are you willing to operate within the constraints of the organization’s bylaws and articles of incorporation? If the answer to any of these questions is “no,” then “no thank you” should be your answer to the nominating committee’s chair.

Are you willing to actively contribute to the improvement of the organization’s ability to develop and sustain exceptional governance? Are you willing to operate within the framework of the organization’s culture and mores? Do you understand the uniqueness of the association? Are you willing to study and learn continually about methods and ways to improve the association and the way it delivers its experiences, products, and services? There is considerable literature available on board governance that all aspiring board members and officers should become familiar with.

Are you willing to work in partnership with the association’s chief staff executive, recognizing his or her responsibilities and authorities? Conflict between the board and the chief staff executive isn’t always a bad thing. Indeed, much good can come out of “creative tension,” which often serves as a catalyst for innovation and growth. But if you don’t have confidence in the chief staff executive, then your board service will be a waste, both for you and the organization.

Are you willing to help the board operate at a strategic level, always looking at the big picture for the organization? This goes hand in hand with the previous question. Will you recognize the responsibilities of the board and its officers to shape policy for the organization, while staying out of the day-to-day administrative activities? Will you respect the authority of the CEO to manage the staff? Will you accept that the CEO is an integral player in the governance of the organization as well?

Will you be open to providing thoughtful questions that probe the organization’s direction? Will you accept questions asked of you that challenge your ideas and thoughts while maintaining an open mind on issues of importance to the association?

Will you recognize your responsibility to help ensure the fiscal strength of the association? If board members and officers do not lead and assist in the fiscal health of an organization, who will? Will you aggressively help the organization grow in members and resources?

Will you encourage the board to be a “learning” board, devoting part of each meeting to some type of board improvement? Will you willingly and positively encourage the board to engage in thoughtful self-appraisal with the objective of providing continuous improvement to the governance efforts? Will you be honest and open as to your own performance on the board? Will you ensure that the chief staff executive has clear, understandable goals to accomplish, and will you participate in thoughtful and frank evaluations of his or her performance?

Will you assist in ensuring that there is a consistent effort to revitalize the board through the addition of new people to leadership roles? Are you willing to be a champion of new ideas, welcoming diverse, and sometimes counterintuitive, viewpoints that will ultimately aid innovation? Will you commit yourself to continually searching for new blood to bring in? And most important, will you know when it is time to let go and move on?

So, Should You Say Yes?

Hardly anyone is going to answer each of these questions - not to mention the questions within the questions - with an unqualified, ringing “yes.” But if you answered affirmatively to most of the questions, you’re truly, passionately committed to the organization that receives so much of your volunteer time, you should accept the honor, privilege, and responsibility that come with being nominated as a board officer. Even if you haven’t yet received that phone call from the nominating committee, asking and answering these questions will prepare you for that day if it comes. And if you’re thinking about these issues and acting in a way that shows it, that day will come.

Paul J. Greeley Jr., CAE, is president of the Association/Nonprofit Strategic Consulting Practice at The Signature Group, Vienna, Virginia. He is former chair of The Greater Washington Society of Association Executives and The Greater Washington Society of Association Executives Foundation and also is a presenter for ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership’s “Exceptional Governance” program.
Be sure to visit with the following exhibitors in Calgary at IAFP 2006!

3-A Sanitary Standards, Inc.
3M Microbiology
A2LA (American Association for Laboratory Accreditation)
Advanced Instruments, Inc.
AES - Chemunex, Inc.
Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development - Food Safety Division
American Proficiency Institute
AnzenBio, LLC
AOAC International
ASI Food Safety Consultants, Inc.
AssurX, Inc.
ATCC
BD Diagnostics
BioControl Systems, Inc.
Biolog, Inc.
bioMérieux, Inc.
Bio-Rad Laboratories
Biotrace International Inc.
Blackwell Publishing
Bodycote Testing Group
BSI Management Systems
BTF Precise Microbiology, Inc.
Canadian Meat Business
Canadian On-Farm Food Safety Working Group
COFFSWG - Canadian Federation of Agriculture
CANTEST Ltd.
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Charm Sciences, Inc.
Copan Diagnostics, Inc.
CRC Press - Taylor & Francie Group LLC
Dalynn Biologicals, Inc.
Decagon Devices, Inc.
Deibel Laboratories
Dil Shad Enterprises
DSM Food Specialties USA, Inc.
DuPont Qualicon
Ecolab Inc.
Elisa Systems
EMD Chemicals Inc.
Exponent
Fisher Scientific
Food Allergy Research and Resource Program, University of Nebraska
Food In Canada
Food Quality Magazine
Food Safety Magazine
Food Safety Net Services
Food Safety & Security Summit
FoodHandler, Inc.
FOSS North America
GOJO Industries
Guelph Food Technology Centre
HAACP Advantage
HiMedia Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.
Hygiena
Idaho Technology, Inc.
IEH-Warren Analytical Laboratories
Innovation Diagnostics
International Association for Food Protection
International Association for Food Protection - Student PDG
International Food Hygiene
International Food Information Council Foundation
Invitrogen
Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition Laboratory Services, University of Guelph
MATRIX MicroScience, Inc.
Medallion Laboratories
Med-Ox Diagnostics, Inc.
Meritech, Inc.
Michelson Laboratories, Inc.
Microbial-Vac Systems, Inc.
MicroBioLogics, Inc.
Microbiology International
The National Food Laboratory, Inc.
National Food Safety and Toxicology Center, Michigan State University
Nelson-Jameson, Inc.
Neogen Corporation
Neutec Group, Inc.
NSF International
Orkin Commercial Services
Oxoid Canada
PML Microbiologicals, Inc.
Polar-Tech Industries, Inc.
Procter & Gamble Professional
Q Laboratories, Inc.
QMI Management Systems Registration
Quality Assurance & Food Safety Magazine
Quality Flow Inc.
R&F Products
Randox Laboratories
R-Biopharm, Inc.
REMEL, Inc.
Rochester Midland Corporation
rtech™ laboratories
Safe Deals International
SGS-US Testing Company
Silliker, Inc.
Smithgns Detection
Society for Applied Microbiology
Springer
The Steritech Group, inc.
Strategic Diagnostics Inc.
Super Sohrab Center
Sword Diagnostics
Takara Mirus Bio
Thermor Ltd.
TrainCan, Inc.
Warnex Diagnostics
Weber Scientific
Zep Manufacturing Company
### IAFP Officer Speaker Program

#### Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Farber, Ph.D.</td>
<td>1) <em>L. monocytogenes</em>, a Foodborne Pathogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>2) <em>Enterobacter sakazakii</em> - Should We be Concerned?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Molecular Typing of Foodborne Pathogens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4) Microbial Food Safety Policy in Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Yiannas, M.P.H.</td>
<td>1) Food Safety is Magical, But It Doesn't Magically Happen - A Retail Safety Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>2) Key Trends Influencing the Future of Food Safety</td>
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<td>3) Using Information Technology to Manage Food Safety Risk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4) Innovations in Retail Food Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Acuff, Ph.D.</td>
<td>1) Microbiology of Meat Products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>2) HACCP Validation and Verification with Microbiological Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Food Safety Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Glass, Ph.D.</td>
<td>1) Formulating Foods for Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>2) <em>Clostridium botulinum</em>: Friend or Foe</td>
</tr>
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<td>3) Emerging Pathogens 101: What Lurks Around the Corner?</td>
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<td>4) Control of <em>Listeria</em> in Ready-to-Eat Foods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stan Bailey, Ph.D.</td>
<td>1) <em>Salmonella</em>, Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>2) <em>Salmonella</em>, Control in Chickens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Rapid and Automated Methods in Food Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Peters, M.Sc., P.Ag</td>
<td>1) Sprouts - The Canadian Perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliate Council Chair</td>
<td>2) An Introduction to Classification and Identification of Metal Can Defects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) The Canadian Food Inspection Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Teresa Destro, Ph.D.</td>
<td>1) ISO 17025: How to Implement It? The Vision of an Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliate Council Secretary</td>
<td>2) <em>Listeria monocytogenes</em></td>
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**International Association for Food Protection Executive Board Speaker Program Guidelines for Affiliates**

1. IAFP Board Members are available to speak at Affiliate meetings on numerous topics involving food safety.
2. Each Affiliate may request one Executive Board speaker for one Affiliate meeting within a 12-month calendar year.
3. A minimum of 15 minutes should be allowed for the Board Member to deliver information about the International Association for Food Protection in addition to their main subject(s) (see #1).
4. IAFP will pay the Board Member’s expense to travel to the Affiliate meeting location.
5. The Affiliate covers local expenses, including meals, lodging, and local transportation for the Board Member.
6. The Board Member makes their own travel reservations and will submit an expense report to the IAFP office within 10 days of completion of their travel to the Affiliate meeting. Any local expense (see #5) will be billed to the Affiliate.
7. A two-month advance notice is required.
8. To invite a Board Member to speak at your Affiliate meeting, contact Nancy Herselius, Affiliate Council Staff Liaison, for additional details (800.369.6337; 515.276.3344; nherselius@foodprotection.org).
Look for information on the following
IAFP 2006 Workshops and register!

Workshop 1
Saturday, August 12 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Developing and Improving Your Food Microbiology Laboratory

Workshop 2
Saturday, August 12 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Methods, Methods Everywhere but Which is Right for Me? Selection and Verification of Methods

Workshop 3
Friday, August 11 and Saturday, August 12 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Global Food Standards: Food Safety and Auditing

Register at www.foodprotection.org

Future IAFP Annual Meeting Sites...

August 13 - 16, 2006
   Calgary, Alberta, Canada
July 8 - 11, 2007
   Lake Buena Vista, Florida
August 3 - 6, 2008
   Columbus, Ohio
July 12 - 15, 2009
   Grapevine, Texas

Please forward articles, news items or comments to:

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