



Affiliate Annual Report for Calendar Year 2025

(Complete Attachment B to be considered for one or more 2026 Affiliate Awards.)

To maintain compliance with IAFP Constitution and Bylaws, Affiliates must return this completed report. Please send by email to Susan Smith at: ssmith@foodprotection.org.

Please return the following items **electronically** by **Tuesday, March 3, 2026** (late reports will not be considered for awards):

REQUIRED:

- ☐ This completed form (*in English*).
- ☐ Your Association's list of current term officers (complete Attachment A).

OPTIONAL:

- ☐ Attachment B: Completion required **only** if your Association requests to be considered for one or more Affiliate Awards.
- ☐ IAFP accepts **all** Affiliate Annual Reports electronically, including those vying for one or more of the Affiliate Awards. *Affiliates seeking to present the highest quality visual presentation are encouraged to present their Annual Report in the highest quality possible for review by the Selection Committee. To avoid errors and omissions, please limit your submission to ONE email with all attachments.*
- ☐ Digital photos (with names and descriptions) to appear in the *Affiliate View* quarterly newsletter.

Florida Association for Food Protection

1. Your Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council and Contact

Enter in the fields below the information requested for your Association's official Delegate to the IAFP Affiliate Council and your official Contact for IAFP correspondence. **Delegate must be an IAFP Member.**

Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council

Morgan Madison
1200 Duda Trail
Oviedo, FL 32765
407-693-1947
morgan.madison@duda.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Official Contact for IAFP Correspondence (indicate “same” if person also serves as Delegate)

Same

Morgan Madison
1200 Duda Trail
Oviedo, FL 32765
407-693-1947
morgan.madison@duda.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

2. Membership List

- a. Indicate the current total number of members in your Association: 190
- b. How many NEW members joined your Association in 2025? 38

3. Meetings: Annual Meeting/Conference, Educational, Workshops, Webinars, etc.

- a. On what date(s) was your most recent general membership or major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference) during the past year? Please list number of attendees.

May 20-22, 2025
73 registered attendees

- b. Please provide the date(s) and location of your next scheduled major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference):

May 19-21, 2026
Plantation Resort on Crystal River
9301 West Fort Island Trail
Crystal River, Florida 34429

- c. List all other general membership meetings held in 2025 (excluding board meetings). Include title, dates and attendance numbers.

Winter Educational Luncheon	March 13, 2025 27 attendees
FAFP Town Hall Meeting	August 25, 2025 40 attendees
Winter Educational Luncheon: Talks with Tacos	December 10, 2025 28 attendees

4. Awards and Scholarships

a. List members honored with an award from your Association and/or IAFP during 2025. Include name of award and qualification for award.

Jamie Irwin, Whole Foods Market	President's Award This award is selected by the current President of the Florida Association for Food Protection and is selected based on the contributions made to the Florida Association for Food Protection (FAFP), the State of Florida, its industries and/or educational institutions. The person selected must exhibit the highest level of commitment and dedication to accomplishing the goals of the Association and its members.
John Beckett, Publix Super Markets	Sanitarian of the Year Award Nominees for this award should exhibit the highest level of proficiency in the field of food safety, sanitation inspection, or quality assurance in the field of food service, food inspection, processing, manufacturing, distribution, wholesale and retail for all areas in industry, government, and academia.
Boce Zhang, University of Florida	Laboratorian of the Year Award The Laboratorian of the Year Award recognizes a FAFP member for their contributions to the ideals of FAFP through their endeavors in the laboratory. It recognizes outstanding commitment in utilizing and developing innovative and practical laboratory techniques to support food safety.
Adeel Manzoor, University of Florida	Special Recognition Award The Special Recognition Award is given for many years of service, untiring dedication, and loyalty as a member of the Board of Directors for FAFP.
Rachel McEgan, McEgan Food Safety LLC	Past-President Award Recognition for serving as the FAFP 2024 President.

b. List scholarships awarded during 2025; include recipient and qualification for scholarship.

Fall 2025 Ron Schmidt Scholarship / \$1,500	Sherry Bansal, University of Florida The following qualifications apply for both sets of scholarships awarded in the Fall term. Florida resident with an interest in, and commitment to, food safety and quality as a student (undergraduate or graduate level), enrolled full-time in a biological, chemical, food science, hospitality management or other food industry field during the previous six months. Students are limited to two FAFP scholarships in an academic career.
Fall 2025 Ron Schmidt Scholarship / \$1,500	Philip Yeboah, University of Florida
Fall 2025 Scholarship / \$1,000	Razieh Sadat Mirmahdi, University of Florida

State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida / \$1,400 total (\$350 for each recipient)	Four Florida students (minors, names withheld from report) Two \$350 awards were presented to students in both the Senior and Junior sections with research in the field of food safety, research, development, or related programs.
FAFP Annual Education Conference Student Sponsorships	Adeel Manzoor, University of Florida* Ashtyn Vandiver, University of Florida* Christina Kessler, University of Florida* Emma Holliday, University of Florida* LaTaunya Tillman, University of Florida* Nuradeen Yusuf, University of Florida* Razieh Sadat Mirmahdi, University of Florida* Tingting Gu, University of Florida* Victor Akao, Florida A&M University* Yaqi Zhao, Florida State University* Juan Gao, Florida State University Samantha Dicker, University of Florida Sherry Bansal, University of Florida Students are selected based on the submission of an abstract for presentation as a poster and rapid oral presentation at the FAFP Annual Education Conference. Some students receive a waiver of conference registration fee (as noted with an asterisk). All students receive a waiver for lodging (double occupancy) during the conference.
FAFP Student Travel Sponsorship for IAFP Attendance / (\$500 for each recipient)	Victor Akao, Florida A&M University Sherry Bansal, University of Florida LaTaunya Tillman, University of Florida Nuradeen Yusuf, University of Florida Florida resident with an interest in, and commitment to, food safety and quality as a student (undergraduate or graduate level) enrolled full-time in a biological, chemical, food science, hospitality management or other food industry field during the previous six months. Presenting at IAFP is a specific consideration for this award.

5. Web Communication

Please be sure to keep the IAFP office on your mailing list for newsletters, email, and other communications to your general membership.

Please provide your existing Affiliate's Web site address AND date last updated:

<https://fafp.net>

The site was last updated on February 26, 2026.

LinkedIn Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/florida-association-for-food-protection/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FLAssociationforFoodProtection>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fafp>

Did you launch a new Affiliate Web site in 2025? Y ☐ N ☒

Attachment A (completion required)

Association Officers List

*Provide the contact information requested below for all current officers of your Association. **Please indicate if each officer is an IAFP Member (reminder: Your President and Delegate are required to be IAFP Members).** The information you provide here is published on our website and in select membership materials. The information may be typed in the fields below or may be sent to our office by email, fax or regular mail.*

Indicate the term dates (e.g., 2025–2026) for your current Executive Board:
October 2025 - June 2026

President
Kelly Smekens
1625 Carter Oaks Dr
Valrico, FL 33596
(704) 287-8789
Kelly.smekens@chipotle.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Treasurer
Jamie Irwin
120 Timber Lane
Jupiter, FL 33458
(512) 800-3267
Irwijami@amazon.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

President-Elect
Kristina Schoen
590 NW 3rd Street
Mulberry, FL 33860
(813) 708- 3710
kschoen@coastalagsupply.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Vice President
Morgan Madison
1200 Duda Trail
Oviedo, FL 32765
(407) 693- 1947
Morgan.madison@duda.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Secretary
Stephanie Brown
2685 State Road 29 North
Immokalee, FL 34142
(239) 324-4805
stephaniebrown@ufl.edu
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Before continuing, please check one of the boxes below:

☒ **CHECK HERE and return electronically by 3/3/26 IF YOUR AFFILIATE REQUESTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ONE OR MORE 2026 AFFILIATE AWARDS. (You are required to complete Attachment B.)**

☐ **CHECK HERE IF YOUR AFFILIATE DOES NOT WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A 2026 AWARD. (You are done! It is not necessary to complete Attachment B.)**

Attachment B (optional)

Affiliate Award Considerations

*To be considered for one or more of the five Affiliate Awards to be presented at IAFP 2026, Affiliates are **required** to check the box next to the award(s) for which you wish to be considered and provide the related criteria (in English). (REMINDER: Please confirm IAFP Membership of your Affiliate President and Delegate **before** completing Attachment B to avoid award disqualification.)*

☒ Affiliate Membership Achievement Award

How did your Affiliate grow **AND** retain members during the past year? Please provide details on:

- how new members were recruited throughout the year;
- the number of new members joining the Affiliate;
- the percent of increase in membership from 2025 to 2026;
- specific efforts on how you retained existing members; and
- other methods related to helping grow and maintain your membership.

You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

In 2025, FAFP prioritized intentional membership growth and engagement to strengthen the value of affiliate participation and long-term member retention. Through a focused approach that combines expanded communications, peer-driven outreach, and increased visibility across digital platforms, the affiliate achieved measurable success. A total of 38 new members joined in 2025, representing a 21% increase in overall membership. This membership increase from 2024 to 2025 helps demonstrate FAFP's sustained year-over-year growth.

Growth efforts were supported by enhanced social media engagement, more consistent and targeted newsletters, and active recruitment by current members, leveraging professional networks and industry relationships. Board members and committee leaders were encouraged to personally invite prospective members to events and share the value of affiliation through direct outreach. Event registrations were also used as recruitment touchpoints, with non-member attendees receiving follow-up communication that highlighted membership benefits and pathways to join. These efforts were designed not only to increase membership numbers, but to reinforce a culture of connection and shared professional purpose.

To ensure continued engagement and retention, FAFP created structured opportunities for dialogue and relationship building. In August 2025, the affiliate hosted its first all-member Town Hall, providing an open forum for members and executive leadership to exchange ideas, share feedback, and discuss organizational priorities. Approximately 40 members attended, with strong participation from non-board members, demonstrating increased inclusivity and engagement beyond leadership circles. Feedback gathered during this session directly informed programming priorities and reassured members that their input directly shaped affiliate initiatives, which ultimately strengthened retention.

FAFP also hosted a Winter Luncheon at the business location of a new member, intentionally highlighting member organizations while creating space for both new and existing members to build relationships in a professional setting. This event further strengthened peer connections and reinforced the value of membership through shared visibility. By spotlighting member businesses and expertise, the affiliate increased member recognition and encouraged continued involvement.

The Annual Educational Conference in May 2025 served as another key engagement driver. In addition to formal learning opportunities, the conference incorporated structured networking activities designed to foster meaningful professional connections. Interactive elements encouraged collaboration and dialogue, helping members expand their networks while deepening their sense of community within FAFP. Member-exclusive pricing, early registration access, and continuing education opportunities further reinforced tangible benefits of maintaining active membership.

Ongoing communication strategies also supported retention, including regular newsletters highlighting member achievements, upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and leadership pathways. These consistent touchpoints helped members remain informed, connected, and engaged throughout the year.

Collectively, these efforts supported both measurable membership growth and stronger member engagement, positioning the affiliate for continued sustainability and participation.

☒ Affiliate Communication Award

How did your Affiliate communicate information to your Members during the past year? Please provide a description of the types of communication sent to your general membership and include samples with your Annual Report. Samples can be printed copies/screen shots of blast emails, website (include frequency of updating), electronic/print newsletters, brochures, etc., along with respective dates sent. If available, provide how effective specific communication was toward meeting your goals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

For the past year, FAFP has made a conscious effort to increase communication and measurable engagement with our membership and expand outreach to food protection professionals who are not yet association members. As an affiliate with an 80-year history of advancing food safety and food protection in Florida, we recognize the importance of evolving our communication strategies while honoring our longstanding commitment to our members. With the outstanding support of student liaisons, LaTauyna Tillman (University of Florida, UF) and Sherry Bansal (UF), along with our Communications Committee led by Gabriella Branco (Disney) and Morgan Smith (Publix), FAFP significantly expanded its communication reach using multiple platforms and strategies.

FAFP communications were distributed across multiple channels, including LinkedIn, monthly newsletters and targeted emails (through Constant Contact), Instagram, Facebook, and the FAFP website (<https://fafp.net>). Email communications were sent on a regular basis, with additional targeted messages promoting events, scholarships, and professional development opportunities, including our first interactive town hall meeting, which was designed to encourage open dialogue among members outside of in-person events. Examples of these communications and channel analytics are provided in Appendix 1 directly below.

LinkedIn saw an increase of 154 new followers and generated 14,527 impressions during the reporting period (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/florida-association-for-food-protection/>) (Figure 1). Our total LinkedIn following grew to 863 food protection professionals in 2025 (Figure 2). These metrics reflect increased visibility of FAFP programming and industry engagement across Florida and beyond. It was also exciting to see that our top six follower locations represent geographically diverse areas throughout the state of Florida, demonstrating broad statewide impact.

In addition to traditional communications, FAFP hosted an interactive virtual town hall meeting to provide members with opportunities to discuss proposed bylaw changes and ways to engage as a member. This town hall encouraged two-way communication, strengthened transparency, and improved member involvement. Feedback and participation in these sessions demonstrated increased engagement and provided valuable input to the Executive Board and committees.

A large initiative for 2025 was a comprehensive website refresh and content update, driven by Stephanie Brown (UF). The website was reviewed and updated regularly to ensure timely posting of meeting information, sponsorship opportunities, and scholarship and award announcements. This effort, combined with strategic email communications, drove increased traffic to the website. All key email performance metrics, including emails sent, delivery rate, and open rate, improved from 2024 to 2025, demonstrating stronger member engagement and message effectiveness (Figure 3).

The affiliate website also drew increased traffic because of these coordinated efforts, with a total of 4,604 website visitors recorded during the reporting period (March – December 2025) (Figure 4). Additionally, FAFP received multiple direct inquiries to the Executive Board through the “Contact Us” feature, indicating that these communications successfully prompted member interaction and engagement.

Overall, FAFP’s multi-channel communication strategy enhanced member connectivity, increased digital engagement, improved event visibility, fostered meaningful two-way dialogue through the virtual town hall, and expanded our professional network across Florida’s food protection community- continuing the legacy of communication excellence established over FAFP’s 80-year history.



Florida Association for
Food Protection

Appendix 1

Figure 1: LinkedIn Highlights from 2025: Reactions, Impressions, Comments, and Reposts.

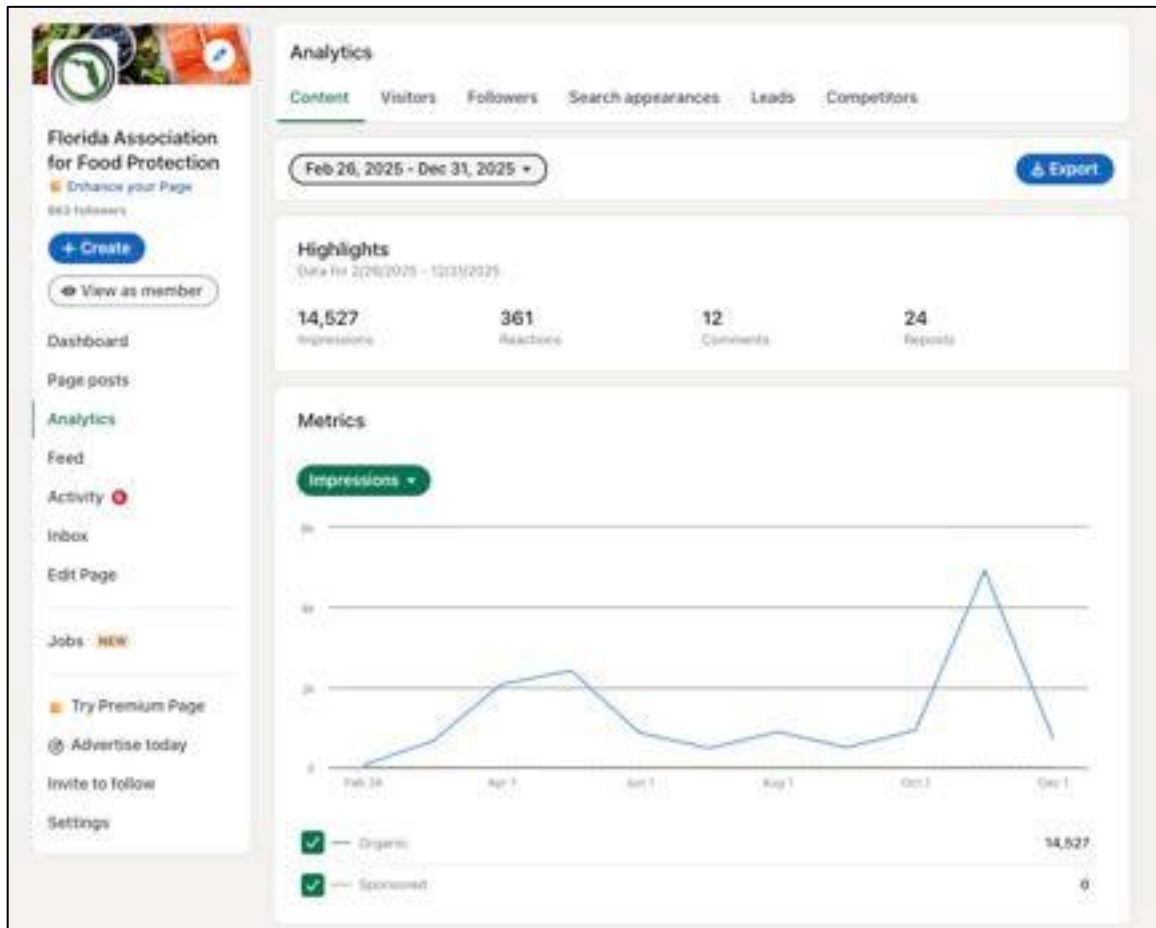


Figure 2: LinkedIn Follower Highlights from 2025: Follower Metrics and Demographics.

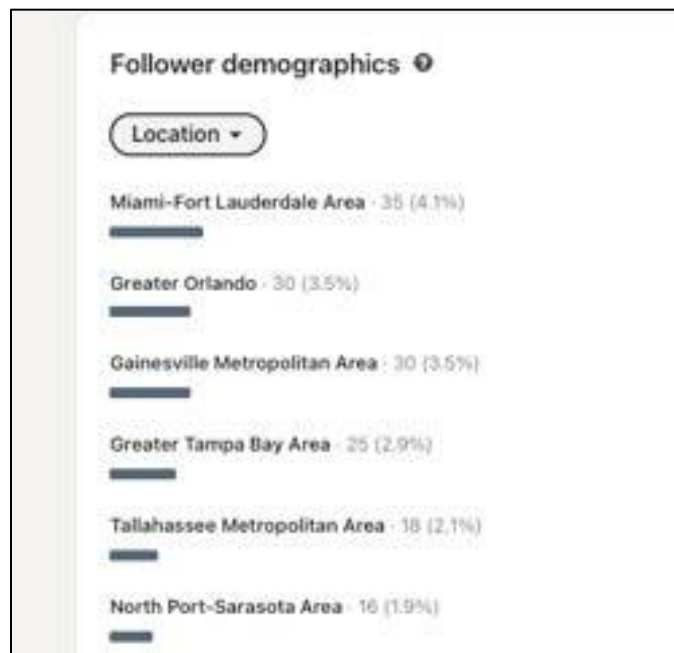
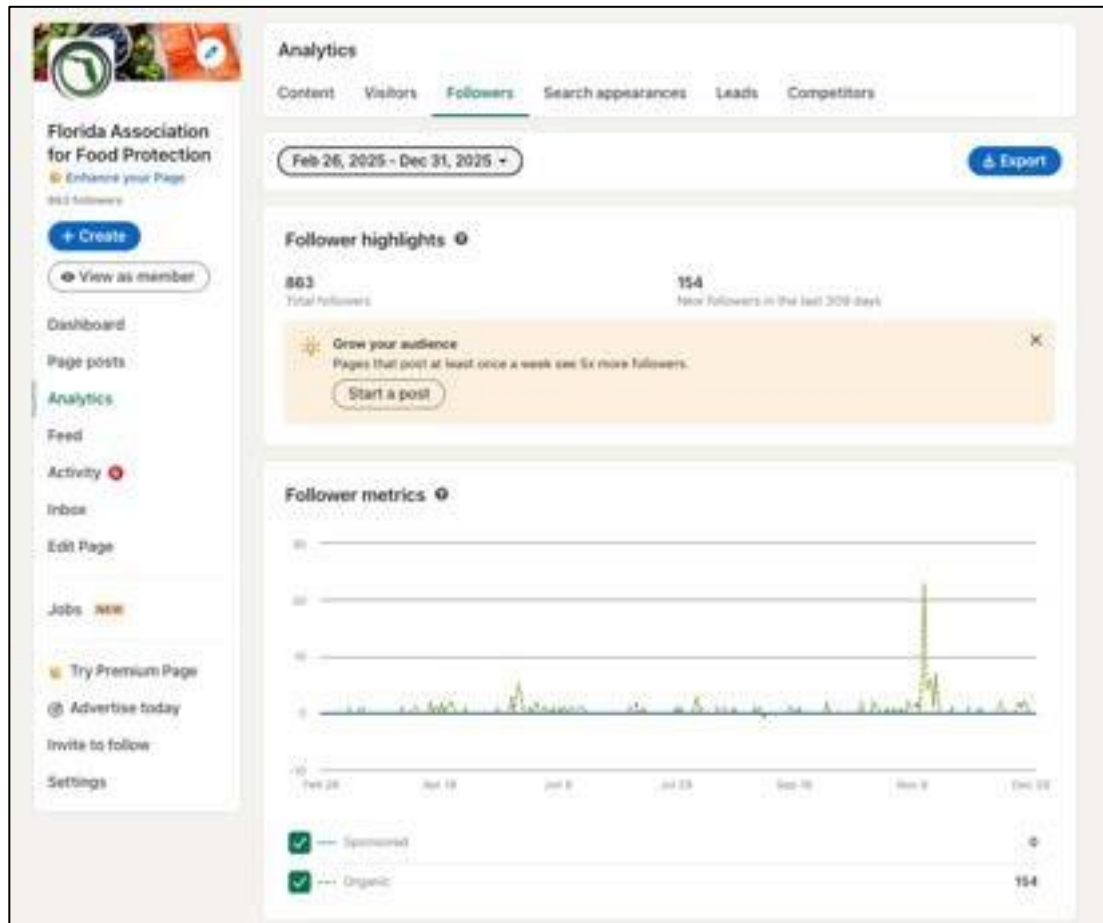


Figure 3: Email Analytics and Representative Newsletter from 2025.



Florida Association for Food Protection

Notice to Members- Board Nominations Now Open!

- FAFP Board Nominations Now Open-Submit your Nominations
- FAFP Leadership Office Hours for Leadership Interest

FAFP Board Nominations Now Open!

[Click to Submit an FAFP Board Nomination](#)

Due to the bylaw changes shifting the timeline of board member terms from July 1-June 30th, the transition period and new officer terms begin on October 1st. Nominations are now open from September 7th-September 12th. Please nominate a colleague who would be interested in a leadership position with the FAFP Board. 50/50 nominations are accepted.

Nominations are now open for the following positions:

- President-elect
- Vice President
- Student Representative (1 position)
- Board Members (8 positions)

Submit your nomination by September 12th at 11:59 pm, EST. Click the button above or the link [here](#).

Timeline to Implement Bylaw Changes

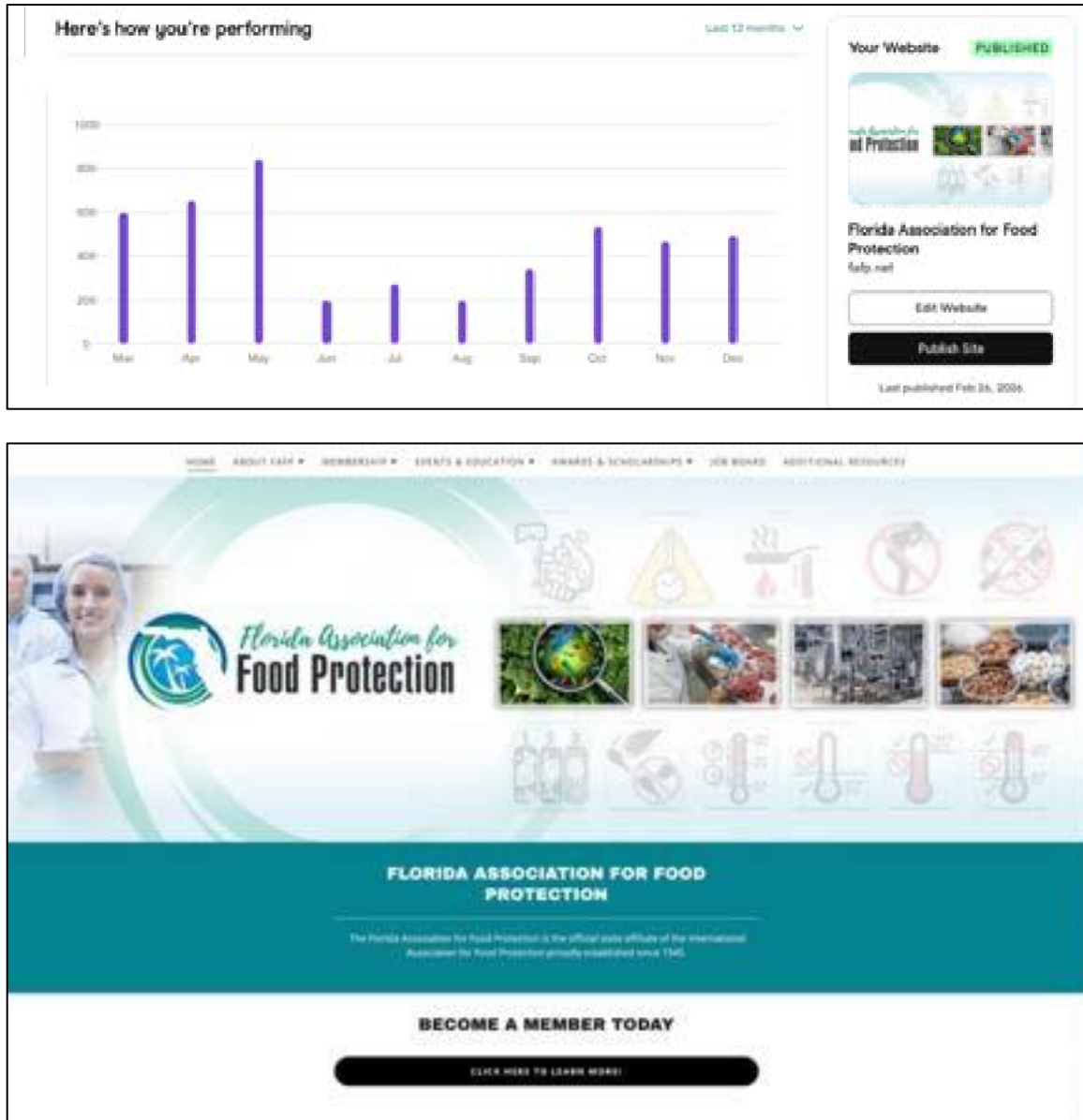
Deadline for Activities Date	Action
September 8th	Open nominations for FAFP Executive Board
September 10th	Close nominations
September 10th-12th	FAFP Executive Board Voting (Electronic Ballot)
September 12th	Announce 2025 Board
September 12th-30th	Board Transition Period
October 2024 - June 2025	Transition 6-month term for new officers
June 2025	New election held under updated bylaws
July 1, 2025	First full cycle begins under new annual term/year structure

FAFP Leadership Interest Office Hours

Members of the FAFP Executive Board and Board Members will be hosting an FAFP Leadership Office Hours on September 11 from 10-11 am, EST to discuss leadership opportunities with members interested in leadership roles. These roles include the current executive and board member positions and expanding committee roles. For additional questions or if you can't make the office hours, please reach out to Executive Board@fafp.net.

To register for the FAFP Leadership Office Hours click [here](#) or the button below.

Figure 4: Website Analytics and Representative Home Page Image from 2025.



☒ **Affiliate Education Award**

What types of food safety education program(s) did your Affiliate provide to its members during the past year? Provide the following details on all technical meetings, educational conferences, webinars, workshops, classes, and other methods pertinent to the interests of the membership:

- Background;
- Objectives;
- Agenda;
- Target audience;
- Dates held; and
- Numbers of attendees.

Describe any awards provided to students or young professionals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type. *(Do not submit copies of speaker Power Point slide presentations.)*

The Florida Association for Food Protection (FAFP) continued its commitment to advancing food safety education and professional development throughout Florida in 2025 by offering multiple in-person and virtual programs designed to address emerging issues, regulatory updates, scientific advancements, and leadership development within the food safety community.

Winter Educational Luncheon. March 13, 2025. Lake Alfred, FL

Background: FAFP hosted a four-hour educational luncheon at the University of Florida Citrus Research and Education Center to provide technical updates on current and emerging food safety concerns.

Objectives: Deliver science-based information on pathogen risks and regulatory topics; promote networking among professionals across sectors.

Agenda: Dr. Stephanie Brown presented a historical and scientific review of *Listeria* in ice cream and soft cheeses. Dr. Jason Scheffler provided an update on Avian Influenza. Debby Newslow discussed red dye No. 3 and food additives. A structured networking lunch was included.

Target Audience: Industry professionals, regulators, academics, students, and allied service providers.

Attendance: 27 participants.

Annual Educational Conference. May 20 - 22, 2025. Tampa, FL

Background: FAFP's flagship two-and-a-half-day conference provided comprehensive education across multiple food safety sectors.

Objectives: Deliver in-depth technical training, facilitate cross-sector collaboration, and support student research and professional development.

Agenda: Thirteen speakers from academia, government, and industry addressed diverse food safety topics. The program included two networking lunches, two evening receptions, a formal business meeting, and a student poster session featuring research from Florida universities and colleges.

Target Audience: Industry leaders, regulatory officials, academic researchers, students, and food safety practitioners.

Attendance: 73 registered attendees.

Virtual Town Hall Meeting, August 25, 2025

Background: A two-hour virtual forum focused on affiliate history, governance, and member engagement.

Objectives: Educate members on FAFP's 80-year history, review proposed bylaw updates, and encourage member participation and leadership involvement.

Agenda: Dr. Michelle Danyluk presented on FAFP's history. President Taylor O'Bannon reviewed proposed bylaw revisions and voting procedures. Incoming President Kelly Smekens facilitated discussion on member engagement strategies.

Target Audience: All FAFP members, including students and early-career professionals.

Attendance: Approximately 40 remote participants.

Winter Educational Luncheon: Talks with Tacos, December 10, 2025.

Mulberry, FL

Background: A four-hour technical and leadership-focused luncheon hosted at Coastal Ag Supply.

Objectives: Provide education on emerging contaminants, environmental monitoring programs, and leadership development; strengthen professional networking.

Agenda: Dr. Razieh Farzad presented on Microplastics in the Food System. Kristina Schoen discussed applying and revising Environmental Monitoring Programs. Natalie Dyenson delivered leadership lessons learned from more than three decades in the industry. A networking lunch was included.

Target Audience: Food industry professionals, quality assurance managers, consultants, regulators, academics, and students.

Attendance: 28 participants.

Student and Young Professional Recognition:

FAFP supported student engagement through the conference poster and oral lightning round sessions, providing formal recognition for outstanding student research presentations. Awards were presented to top student posters to encourage academic excellence and professional involvement in food safety. Reduced registration rates were also offered to students to promote accessibility and participation.

Collectively, these programs provided high-quality, relevant education while fostering professional networking, leadership development, and student engagement within Florida's food safety community.

☒ **Best Overall Affiliate Meeting Award**

Did your Affiliate hold an outstanding food protection meeting (not sponsored/co-sponsored by IAFP*) which you consider 'over and above' those normally held? If so, provide the following details, if applicable, on what led to a highly successful meeting:

- Type of meeting and the value it brought to Affiliate Members/attendees (does not need to be your Annual Meeting);
- Objective for the meeting (if relevant);
- Activities/Topics (e.g., poster competition, vendor tech talks; a printed copy of the agenda may be included with your award application);
- Numbers of attendees:
 - Number of and overall percentage of Affiliate Members (for example, 100 total attendees with 75 of them being Affiliate Members = 75%)
 - Number of Guests (non-dues-paying Affiliate Members) and their relationship to the Affiliate Chapter and/or meeting's topic(s);
- Audience participation (through roundtable discussions, exercises, etc.);
- Student involvement;
- Partners (e.g., other associations or affiliates);
- Speakers and their affiliations (if available);
- Sponsors;
- Engagement of attendees with exhibitors;
- Diversity of meeting participants (range of sectors represented, e.g., students, academia, extension, government, NGO, industry representatives, etc.), which can be broken down into services (e.g., retail, education, research, manufacturing, etc., if available); and
- Other information (e.g., whether the meeting included a celebration of a milestone Affiliate anniversary and related activities).

You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type. *(Do not submit copies of speaker Power Point slide presentations.)*

**Does not include funds provided under the IAFP Executive Board Speaker/Expanded Speaker Program*

The highlight of FAFP's 2025 year was its Annual Educational Conference, held from May 20 to 22 in Tampa, Florida. This meeting went above and beyond a typical annual gathering by combining advanced technical education, student engagement, industry collaboration, regulatory insight, and community service into a highly interactive event. This event also served as a celebration for the 80 years FAFP has championed food safety and protection in Florida.

Type of Meeting and Value:

This two-and-a-half-day educational conference brought together food safety professionals from industry, academia, government, and the student community to address emerging issues impacting Florida and the broader food safety sector. The value to members included direct access to subject matter experts, regulatory updates, practical application strategies, and expanded professional networking opportunities through receptions, networking lunches, and exhibitor engagement.

Objective:

The objective was to highlight food safety initiatives and challenges in Florida

while providing attendees with actionable knowledge across diverse sectors of the food system.

Activities and Topics:

The conference featured 13 expert speakers representing industry, academia, and regulatory agencies, including a speaker from the IAFP Speaker Program. Topics included foreign material detection, state regulatory agency updates, avian influenza, reputation management, pest control, food safety culture, sanitation in dry manufacturing environments, sanitation verification, produce safety, proposed SQF changes, sampling plans, *Listeria* survival mechanisms, and a root cause analysis of a local *Listeria* outbreak.

The student poster session featured 12 research posters, representing multiple universities and colleges across Florida. Students also delivered rapid oral presentations to encourage engagement during the poster session. Two evening receptions and two networking lunches enhanced attendee interaction.

Attendance:

Total attendees: 73

Affiliate Members: 58, representing approximately 79 percent of total attendance.

Guests (non-dues paying): 15, including students, invited speakers, regulatory partners, and prospective members with direct interest in food safety.

Audience Participation:

Engagement occurred through interactive question and answer sessions, networking receptions, poster discussions, exhibitor interactions, and a pre-conference community service activity.

Student Involvement:

Twelve students presented posters. Student participation was supported through sponsored hotel accommodations, with some receiving conference fee waivers. This support reduced financial barriers, thereby increasing student access and engagement at the conference.

Partners:

Collaboration included regulatory agencies, academic institutions, industry leaders, and participation in the IAFP Speaker Program.

Speakers and Affiliations:

Speakers represented FlexXray, Florida Department of Health, University of Florida, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, IFC, CQAFSS, Vikan, John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc., University of Arizona, and D.L. Newslow & Associates, Inc.

Sponsors and Exhibitors:

Fourteen corporate sponsors supported the event, including nine Gold, two Silver, and three Bronze sponsors. Gold sponsors were offered tabletop exhibits. Three additional organizations also exhibited. Attendees engaged extensively with exhibitors during scheduled networking breaks and meals.

Diversity of Participants:

Participants represented manufacturing, retail, produce operations, academia, regulatory agencies, consulting, sanitation services, and students.

Other Information:

A community volunteer event at Feeding Tampa Bay was held prior to the conference, strengthening professional connections while supporting the local community.

This conference exemplified FAFP's commitment to advancing food safety through education, collaboration, mentorship, and service.

☒ **C.B. Shogren Memorial Award**

NOTE: Applying for the Shogren Memorial Award does not automatically include your application for any of the other Affiliate awards. If applying for this award, you must apply separately for one or more of the other Affiliate awards which may have contributed toward meeting the criteria of the Shogren Award. (Note: Your Affiliate is not required to win one of the other Affiliate awards.)

How did your Affiliate demonstrate exceptional overall achievement during the past year in promoting the mission of IAFP (“To provide food safety professionals worldwide with a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply”)? The judges will also consider how the Affiliate has demonstrated its commitment to food safety over the years. “Overall achievement” should encompass at least several of the following activities/accomplishments of your Affiliate:

- Exceptional achievement in membership;
- Types and effectiveness of communication and education;
- Awards and scholarships presented;
- Attendance numbers at meetings;
- Collaboration with other professional organizations;
- Whether the Affiliate has been considered for and/or won other Affiliate awards in the past;
- Involvement in the IAFP Affiliate Council Meeting (e.g., participation at the Affiliate Council Meeting held during the IAFP Annual Meeting and in online Affiliate Council meetings throughout the year; submissions to the *Affiliate View* newsletter, sharing Affiliate Council information with Affiliate members); and
- Other pertinent information.

While not a requirement, strong consideration will be given to an Affiliate whose officers (beyond the requirement for the President and Delegate) are also IAFP Members. Provide a description and include any supporting documents. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use separate pages if necessary; please limit your explanation to 1,000 words or less in 12-point type.

Florida Association for Food Protection (FAFP)

In 2025, the Florida Association for Food Protection demonstrated exceptional overall achievement in advancing the mission of IAFP: to provide food safety professionals worldwide with a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply. Through measurable membership growth, expanded communications, robust educational programming, strong Affiliate Council engagement, and sustained leadership commitment, FAFP strengthened its impact across Florida’s food protection community while building long term sustainability for the affiliate.

Exceptional Achievement in Membership

FAFP prioritized intentional membership growth and engagement in 2025. Through expanded digital outreach, peer driven recruitment, and structured follow up with non-member event attendees, the affiliate achieved a 21% increase in overall membership by adding 38 new members this year. This growth reflects not only successful recruitment but also strengthened visibility and value perception within Florida’s food safety community.

Retention and engagement were reinforced through interactive programming such as an all-member Town Hall, structured networking events, and leadership development opportunities. Approximately 40 members participated in the Town

Hall, demonstrating increased engagement beyond board leadership and reinforcing a culture of inclusion and shared governance.

Notably, FAFP's leadership demonstrates strong commitment to IAFP. All Executive Board members, Directors, Directors at Large, and Student Liaisons are IAFP Members, exceeding the minimum leadership membership expectation and reinforcing alignment between the affiliate and the international organization.

Types and Effectiveness of Communication and Education

FAFP significantly expanded its communication strategy in 2025, utilizing LinkedIn, monthly Constant Contact newsletters and targeted email campaigns, Instagram, Facebook, and the FAFP website. LinkedIn gained 154 new followers and generated 14,527 impressions, bringing total followers to 863 professionals. Website traffic reached 4,604 visitors between March and December 2025, reflecting increased visibility and engagement.

Email performance metrics continues to improve year over year, demonstrating more effective message delivery and member engagement. Communications highlighted member achievements, regulatory updates, scholarships and awards, leadership pathways, and professional development opportunities, strengthening the exchange of information consistent with the IAFP mission.

A comprehensive website refresh ensured timely updates on meetings, sponsorship, scholarship and award opportunities, and regulatory information. Direct inquiries through the website's contact feature increased, indicating meaningful two-way engagement rather than passive communication.

Educational Programming and Attendance

FAFP delivered multiple high quality educational programs in 2025 including:

- Winter Educational Luncheon (March, Lake Alfred) – 27 attendees
- Annual Educational Conference (May, Tampa) – 73 attendees
- Virtual Town Hall (August) – approximately 40 participants
- Winter Luncheon: Talks with Tacos (December, Mulberry) – 28 attendees

The Annual Educational Conference served as the flagship event, featuring 13 speakers from academia, industry, and regulatory agencies. FAFP also participated in the IAFP Speaker Program. Some of the topics addressed included foreign material detection, avian influenza, sanitation verification, food safety culture, *Listeria* survival mechanisms, regulatory updates, SQF changes, and root cause analysis of an outbreak investigation.

The conference included two networking lunches, two evening receptions, a formal business meeting, a student poster session with 12 research presentations, and a community service event at Feeding Tampa Bay. These elements created multiple forums for professional exchange and collaboration across sectors.

Participants represented manufacturing, retail, produce operations, academia, Extension, regulatory agencies, consulting, sanitation services, and students, demonstrating broad sector diversity.

Student Engagement and Professional Development

Student involvement continued to remain one of FAFP's top priorities. Twelve students presented research posters at the Annual Education Conference (AEC) and participated in rapid oral presentations to promote dialogue. Students were supported through reduced registration fees and sponsored accommodations, improving accessibility and fostering the next generation of food safety professionals.

Student Liaisons actively contributed to communications and programming throughout the year, integrating emerging professionals into affiliate leadership and ensuring long term continuity.

Outside of student travel support to the AEC, FAFP awarded four student travel sponsorships to the IAFP Annual Meeting (\$500 each), two Ron Schmidt Scholarships (\$1,500 each), one Fall Scholarship (\$1,000), and four awards to Florida State Science Fair participants for their work in food science related fields (\$350 each). Five professionals were also awarded one of FAFP's prestigious awards in 2025 including the Sanitarian of the Year, Laboratorian of the Year, Special Recognition, President, and Past-President awards.

Collaboration and Partnerships

FAFP collaborates consistently with universities, regulatory agencies, and industry leaders throughout Florida. Educational programs featured speakers from the University of Florida, University of Arizona, Florida Department of Health, industry associations, consultants, and corporate food safety leaders.

Corporate engagement was also strong in 2025, with 14 sponsors supporting the Annual Education Conference, including nine gold sponsors. Exhibitor interaction was intentionally integrated into networking breaks and meals, encouraging meaningful engagement between solution providers and practitioners.

Involvement in IAFP Affiliate Council

FAFP maintained active participation in the IAFP Affiliate Council. The Delegate attended the Affiliate Council Meeting at the IAFP Annual Meeting and participated in online Affiliate Council meetings throughout the year. Affiliate Council updates and relevant information were shared with members to ensure alignment with international initiatives and governance.

Sustained Commitment to Food Safety

With an 80-year history of advancing food protection in Florida, FAFP has demonstrated enduring commitment to education, regulatory collaboration, student mentorship, and professional networking. Continuous annual programming, long standing partnerships with academic and regulatory

institutions, and consistent student support reflect institutional stability and leadership within the state.

As a testament to FAFP's commitment to excellence, FAFP has previously won the following IAFP awards: Best Overall Affiliate Meeting Award (2000, 2004, 2012, 2013), C.B. Shogren Memorial Award (2001, 2002, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020), Affiliate Member Education Award (2005, 2006, 2011), Affiliate Communication Materials Award (2011, 2017), and the Affiliate Membership Achievement Award (2008).

Collectively, FAFP's measurable membership growth, expanded communications reach, comprehensive educational programming, strong governance alignment with IAFP, active Affiliate Council participation, and sustained commitment to advancing food safety exemplify exceptional overall achievement in promoting the mission of IAFP.



Florida Association for
Food Protection

Appendix 2

State Science and Engineering of Florida – STEM Competition

On March 26, 2025, FAFP Board Members participated as judges in the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida – STEM Competition. FAFP provided a donation for four awards (two Junior and two Senior) at this competition.



Educational Luncheons and Town Hall Meeting

Two educational luncheons and one virtual town hall meeting were held in 2025 to engage with membership. The two in-person luncheons were held in Lake Alfred and Mulberry.

Winter Educational Luncheon, Lake Alfred

The March Winter Educational Luncheon was hosted at the University of Florida's Citrus Research and Education Center.





Florida Association for
Food Protection
Winter Luncheon

March 13th, 2025 | 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
Citrus Research and Education Center
700 Experiment Station Rd.
Lake Alfred, FL 33850

Presentations By:



Dr. Stephanie Brown, University of Florida
Listeria in Ice Cream and Soft Cheeses



Dr. Jason Scheffler, University of Florida
Update on Avian Influenza



Debby Newslow, D. L. Newslow & Associates, Inc.
Red Dye No. 3 and Food Additives

Winter Educational Luncheon: Talks with Tacos, Mulberry

The December Winter Educational Luncheon was hosted at Coastal Ag Supply.



Annual Education Conference

Scavenger hunt winners for engaging with exhibitors and student poster presenters!



Annual Education Conference booklet provided in the following pages.

FAFP



Annual Education Conference 2025



Tampa, FL

May 20-22, 2025

Embassy Suites - Near USF



President's Welcome Letter

Fellow FAFP Members and Friends,

Welcome to the 2025 Annual Education Conference (AEC)!

We're thrilled to bring together a fantastic group of speakers from across Florida and the U.S., representing academia, regulatory agencies, and industry. This year's sessions will explore timely research and practical strategies for implementing leading food safety systems.

During breaks and lunches, we encourage you to spend time in the exhibit area. Please visit our valued sponsors and exhibitors—they play a crucial role in supporting this event and the work we do as a community.

A vital part of the FAFP mission is fostering the next generation of food safety professionals. Be sure to check out the student posters and engage with students from Florida's universities as they share their latest research and insights.

We'll kick things off Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. with the President's Reception—an ideal time to catch up with colleagues and make new connections. Then on Wednesday evening, join us for our Networking Event featuring Food Safety Trivia and Bingo—a fun and relaxed way to mingle, test your knowledge, and win some great prizes!

I'd like to extend my sincere thanks to our Board members, officers, sponsors, exhibitors, and speakers for their dedication in bringing this event to life. Most importantly, thank you to our members and attendees for your continued support and, especially, for your flexibility as we adjusted locations in response to the hurricanes that impacted the Gulf Coast in 2024. Your resilience and commitment are truly appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the AEC!

Warm regards,

Taylor O'Bannon
2025 FAFP President



Conference Agenda

FAFP AEC 2025

TUESDAY | MAY 20 | 2025

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Volunteer Event
Feeding Tampa Bay

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Registration

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Exhibitor Set-Up

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
President's Reception

WEDNESDAY | MAY 21 | 2025

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Exhibitor Area Open

8:15 am
President's Welcome and
Opening Comments

Morning Session Moderator:
Morgan Madison, FFVA

8:25 am
Matt Friese
Solving the Foreign Material
Contamination Challenge Through
External Inspection

9:10 am

Robin Eychaner
Florida Department of Health
Jurisdiction and Highly Susceptible
Populations

9:55 am – 10:40 am
Networking Break

10:45 am
Dr. Gary Butcher
Avian Influenza H5N1: A Catastrophic
Animal and Human Disease or Media
Hype?

11:30 am
Student Rapid Presentations

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Lunch (included) – enjoyed in
Exhibit Area

Afternoon Session Moderator:
Jamie Irwin, Whole Foods Markets

1:05 pm
Christina Morton
Tales from the Field: Food Safety and
Reputation Management

1:50 pm
Mark Wadsworth
Pest Control- Technologies and
Strategies for the Food Environment
Management

WEDNESDAY | MAY 21 | 2025

2:35 pm

Nancy President

The Culture Code: What Spoiled the Soup?

3:30 pm – 3:55 pm

Networking Break

4:00 pm

Yvonne Masters

Beyond the Surface: Advanced Methods for Microbial and Allergen-Level Cleanliness in Low-Moisture Food Manufacturing

4:45 pm

FAFP Awards

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**Networking Event-
Celebrating 80 Years of FAFP!**

THURSDAY | MAY 22 | 2025

8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Exhibitor Area Open

8:15 am

Welcome

**Morning Session Moderator:
Stephanie Brown, UF**

8:20 am

Jack Burnett

Microbial Ecology of Listeria: Metabolic Interactions and Survival Mechanisms in Food Processing Facilities

9:05 am

**Michelle Danyluk
and Channah Rock**

How clean is clean? Tools for verifying your cleaning and sanitation programs

9:50 am – 10:25 am

Networking Break

10:30 am

Channah Rock

Collaboration in the Desert - A Research Model for Advancing Fresh Produce Safety

11:15 am

Debby Newslow

Overview of Proposed Changes to SQF10

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

**Lunch (included) – enjoyed in
Exhibit Area**

**Afternoon Session Moderator:
LaTaunya Tillman, UF**

1:00 pm

Mark Carter (IAFP Speaker)

Statistical Sampling Plans and Development

1:45 pm

Tess Gordon

Restaurant-Associated Listeria Outbreak in Lake County

2:30 pm

**Closing Remarks,
Silent Auction winners**

3:30pm – 4:30pm

**FAFP Business Meeting
(Open to All)**

CEUs are available for this conference. Please send request to executive.board@fafp.net if printable document is needed.



Board of Directors

Executive Board

Taylor O’Bannon, University of Florida
Kelly Smekens, Pepsi Co.
Jamie Irwin, Whole Foods Markets
Dayane Gossner, Publix Super Markets
Rachel McEgan, McEgan Food Safety LLC

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Ivy Dala, SGS
Naim Montazeri, University of Florida
Craig Overlock, Came Sweeney LLC
Stephanie Brown, University of Florida
Roy Briggs, Food Manager Testing, LLC
Clara Diekman, University of Florida
Boce Zhang, University of Florida
Morgan Madison, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association

IAFP Affiliate Representative

Morgan Madison, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association

Students Representatives

Adeel Manzoor, University of Florida
LaTaunya Tillman, University of Florida

Director at Large

Michelle Danyluk, University of Florida
Jason Scheffler, University of Florida
Lori Duckworth, Disney
Steve King, Chemstar

2025 AEC Speakers



MATT FRIESE
FlexXray



Matt Freise helps food and beverage customers resolve foreign material contamination events through accurate inspection. Prior to FlexXray Matt spent 9 years managing quality assurance, as well as microbiology labs between Brew Hub and PrimusLabs, bringing deep expertise in food safety and product quality.

2025 AEC Speakers



ROBIN EYCHANER

Florida Department of Health

Robin Eychaner is the Food and Group Care Program Supervisor for the Florida Department of Health in Tallahassee and has 31 years of experience in Environmental Public Health. She specializes in food safety and institutional sanitation. She is passionate about food safety and can be reached at email Robin.Eychaner@FLHealth.gov for inquiries.



GARY BUTCHER, DVM, PHD

University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine/IFAS

Dr. Gary Butcher is a professor at the University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine, and an expert in poultry diseases and management. He holds a B.S. in Biomedical Science, a DVM, and a PhD in Avian Virology from Texas A&M University, as well as an M.S. in Avian Pathology from Purdue University. A board-certified Diplomate of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians, his research focuses on recombinant poultry vaccines and transgenic chicken production. He also serves as the Honey Bee veterinarian for the University of Florida and has consulted for the commercial poultry industry in over 60 countries worldwide.



CHRISTINA MORTON

Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association

Christina Morton is the director of communications for the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association whose membership represents the vast majority of fruit and vegetable production in Florida. In this role, she serves as a voice for Florida agriculture; oversees strategic communications for the organization and some of its subsidiaries; and manages the planning and coordination of FFVA's annual convention. Specializing in media relations and crisis communication, she is nationally accredited in public relations. She also serves on the communications committee for the Alliance for Food & Farming and on the National Board of Directors for the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). Christina holds a bachelor's degree in public relations and political science from the University of Florida.

2025 AEC Speakers



MARK WADSWORTH
IFC

Mark is the Southeast Account Manager for the Industrial Fumigant Company (IFC), a company focused on Pest Management and Sanitation Solutions dedicated to the food industry and related businesses. Mark's ability to work with both well-known national brands and smaller, emerging ones across various product categories shows his versatility and expertise in addressing diverse pest-related challenges.



NANCY PRESIDENT
CQAFSS

Nancy Gail President is the Owner and CEO of Commercial Quality and Food Safety Solutions (CQAFSS) - a trusted consulting partner for the food, beverage, and personal care manufacturing industries. Based in Atlanta and serving clients globally, CQAFSS is powered by 50+ seasoned professionals known for their hands-on expertise in regulatory compliance, sanitation, operations, food safety and quality. Originally from Cross, South Carolina, and a proud University of South Carolina Gamecock, Nancy partners with companies that package products in bags, boxes, bottles, or cans - helping them produce safe, high- quality goods and build strong product safety cultures. Since acquiring the company in 2021, she's been committed to CQAFSS earning its place as the boots-on-the-ground go-to choice in the industry.



JACK BURNETT, PHD
Vikan

Dr. Jack Burnett serves as the North American Hygiene Specialist for Vikan North America, a manufacturer of hygienic cleaning tools. He earned both his Master's and PhD in Food Science from Purdue University, where his research contributed to advancing the understanding of persisting *Listeria* in food processing environments. His diverse background, from managing an apple orchard to studying pollination in bumblebees, informs his unique perspective on the intersection of ecology, microbiology, and food safety.

2025 AEC Speakers



YVONNE MASTERS, PHD

John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc.

Dr. Yvonne Masters is the Director of Food Safety and Quality Policy at John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc. in Elgin, Illinois. She leads strategic initiatives to enhance food safety culture, process validations, environmental monitoring, food defense, and foreign material reduction.

With nearly two decades of experience in food safety and microbiology, Dr. Masters has developed and overseen comprehensive food safety programs in the nut, dairy, and snack food industries. Previously, she worked at Kraft Foods as a Senior Microbiologist in Food Safety and as a Supplier & Co-Manufacturing Quality Leader in the Cheese & Dairy division. Dr. Masters holds a B.S. in Microbiology and an M.S. in Food Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a Ph.D. in Food Science from Cornell University. Her doctoral research focused on *Listeria monocytogenes* cold adaptation and growth. Dr. Masters received the 2022 Harold Barnum Industry Award for her exceptional service to the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP), the public, and the food industry. She was recently featured in Quality Assurance & Food Safety Magazine's "The Food Safety Set: 21 People Who Have Shaped the Last 30 Years of Food Safety." Dr. Masters continues to be a leading figure in food safety, contributing her expertise and passion to advancing industry standards and practices.



MICHELLE DANYLUK, PHD

University of Florida

Dr. Michelle Danyluk is a Professor and Extension Specialist of Food Safety and Microbiology at the University of Florida (UF). Michelle's research and extension programs focus on microbial food safety and quality, emphasizing the microbiology of fresh fruits and vegetables. Her primary

research focuses on bacterial pathogens in produce, including production, packing and processing environments, their movement and mitigation within these environments, and the subsequent implications for public health. Over her career, she has published more than 100 peer reviewed publications in scientific journals. Michelle's extension program includes teaching programs related to FSMA, HACCP, GAPs and other food safety programs. She is a Past President of the International Association for Food Protection, a member of the International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Food (ICMSF), and one of the leads of the Southern Center for FSMA training.

2025 AEC Speakers



CHANNAH ROCK, PHD

University of Arizona

Dr. Channah Rock is a Professor and Water Quality Specialist with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension in the department of Environmental Science. Her research-driven Extension program focuses on the intersection of water quality and sustainability, food safety and public health protection. Dr. Rock is PI on several projects relating to microbiological evaluation of water quality and the environment for the protection of public health. Dr. Rock supports the CA and AZ Leafy Greens Marketing Agreements' by providing science-based recommendations for agricultural water treatment and other best management practices for the fresh produce industry. She currently serves as a subject matter expert to the Western Growers Food Safety, Science and Technology Committee, the Desert Food Safety Coalition, and the Yuma Safe Produce Council. In addition to extension industry driven research, Dr. Rock also works alongside the Arizona Department of Agriculture as a Produce Safety Rule trainer to facilitate grower compliance with the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, Produce Safety Rule. She holds a BS in Microbiology from New Mexico State University and an MS and PhD in Environmental Engineering from Arizona State University.



DEBBY NEWSLOW

D.L. Newslow & Associates, Inc

Debby, President of D. L. Newslow & Associates, Inc. has over 40 years of experience in the food, chemical, and packaging industries. She has served and been a member of several food safety and quality organizations, currently being an active member of the Food Safety Tech Advisory Board. She is also a successful author of published articles and has authored two textbooks based on management systems. Her latest book, Food Safety Management Programs: Applications, Best Practices and Compliance has been identified as a best seller in the world of Food Safety and GFSI compliance guidance.

2025 AEC Speakers



MARK CARTER

MC Squared (IAFP President)

Mark is the Senior Product Manager for Software at Hygiena and currently serves as the President of the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP). He also owns MC Squared (MC2) an independent consulting firm with in-depth expertise in technology development, deployment and business. MC2 works with companies and organizations that are focused on improving public health. Mark has extensive international business and technical experience. He recently served as COO of Matrix Sciences as well as the Executive Vice President of Corporate Development where he was responsible for Matrix Sciences M&A activity. Mark previously held positions as CEO of QCL and Corporate Vice-President of R&D at Merieux Nutrisciences, a global life sciences company. Mark has experience in various technical, quality and business functions and is an active member of IAFP, AOAC and ASM (American Society for Microbiology). He serves on the AOAC Expert Review Panel for Food and Environmental Methods. Mark has served on the advisory boards of the food science and nutrition departments at both Cornell and Tuskegee University. He also spent time on the board of Safe Tables Our Priority (S.T.O.P.) an advocacy group dedicated to serving those affected by foodborne illness. Mark is a graduate of University of Georgia with a B.S. in Microbiology and also holds an M.S.A. from Columbus State University. He is also a registered clinical and public health microbiologist (RM AAM) with the American Academy of Microbiologists. He has extensive training in statistics, epidemiology, and diagnostic development.



TESS GORDON

Florida Department of Health

Tess Gordon is a Regional Environmental Epidemiologist with the Florida Department of Health. She assists the Central Florida county health departments with food and waterborne disease investigations. Prior to working with the Florida Department of Health, Tess was an Enteric Epidemiologist at the Indiana State Department of Health. She earned her Masters of Public Health from the University of Michigan and attended Ball State University for her undergraduate degree.

2025 FAFP Student Presenters

Full abstracts available: <https://bit.ly/4jPevU2>

Adeel Manzoor

Department of Animal Sciences,
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Professor: Dr. Jason Scheffler
“Control of Staphylococcus aureus
During Biltong Production”

Ashtyn Vandiver

Citrus Research and Education
Center-Department of Food Science
and Human Nutrition, University of
Florida, Lake Alfred, FL
Professor: Dr. Michelle Danyluk
“Reduction and cross-contamination
of norovirus on tomatoes in an
overhead spray and brush roller
system”

Emma Holliday

Department of Food Science and
Human Nutrition, University of
Florida, Gainesville, FL
Professor: Dr. Boce Zhang
“Nondestructive foodborne pathogen
detection using a colorimetric sensor
enabled by machine learning and
non-toxic dyes”

Juan Gao

Department of Health, Nutrition,
and Food Sciences, Florida State
University, Tallahassee, FL
Professor: Dr. Qinchun Rao
“In Vitro Assessment of Allergenic
Proteins in Almond Hull”

LaTaunya Tillman

Citrus Research and Education
Center-Department of Food Science
and Human Nutrition, University of
Florida, Lake Alfred, FL
Professor: Dr. Michelle Danyluk
“A Data-Focused Analysis of Leafy
Green Harvest Equipment Cleaning &
Sanitation Practices”

Nuradeen Yusuf

Department of Food Science and
Human Nutrition, University of
Florida, Gainesville, FL
Professor: Dr. Naim Montazeri
“Inactivation of norovirus and
Escherichia coli in soil and plant
decaying materials”

Razieh Sadat Mirmahdi

Department of Food Science and
Human Nutrition, University of
Florida, Gainesville, FL
Professor: Dr. Naim Montazeri
“Surveillance of oyster cooking
practices in the United States-based
restaurants”

Samantha Dicker

Department of Food Science and
Human Nutrition, University of
Florida, Gainesville, FL
Professor: Dr. Naim Montazeri
“Impact of Food Matrix on the
Inactivation of Norovirus During Heat
Treatment Using Tulane Virus as a
Surrogate”

Sherry Bansal

Department of Food Science and
Human Nutrition, University of
Florida, Gainesville, FL
Professor: Dr. Boce Zhang
“Implications of Nanoscale
Agrochemicals on Microbiome
Evolution in Agri-Food Systems”

2025 FAFP Student Presenters

TingTing Gu

Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Professor: Dr. Boce Zhang
“Implications of surface topography, substrate chemistry, and microbial symbiosis on *Listeria monocytogenes* biofilm on food contact substances”

Yaqi Zhao

Department of Health, Nutrition, and Food Sciences, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
Professor: Dr. Qinchun Rao
“Immunodetection of two shrimp allergens”

Victor Akao

College of Agriculture and Food Sciences, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL
Professor: Dr. Vijay Chhetri
“Survival and Persistence of *Escherichia coli* in NFT Hydroponic Systems Using Organic and Synthetic Fertilizers for Mint Cultivation”

2025 FAFP Award Winners

President's Award

Jamie Irwin, Whole Foods Markets

Sanitarian of the Year Award

John Beckett, Publix

Laboratorian of the Year Award

Boce Zhang, University of Florida

Special Recognition Award

Adeel Manzoor, University of Florida

Past President

Rachel McEgan, McEgan Food Safety





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announcements**

For more information, visit www.fafp.net

Or follow us on LinkedIn



FAFP Annual Education Conference 2025