Food Chemical Hazards and Food Allergy PDG


Number of Attendees: 67.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:15 p.m., Sunday, July 9, 2017. The Meeting called to order by Chair Tony Flood and Vice Chair Paul Hanlon.

Old Business: Upon opening the meeting with welcome and introductions, The Chair reviewed the 2016 PDG recommendations submitted to the IAFP Executive Board. With no changes, revisions and approval of the Board recommendations, the minutes of the 2016 Food Chemical Hazard and Allergy PDG meeting were approved.

Paul Hanlon, Vice Chair, led the meeting with Tony Flood serving as Chair. To fill the position of Vice Chair beginning at IAFP 2018, the Chair suggested a nomination and election process to take place following the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. The process will be conducted via SurveyMonkey. Once elected, the name of the Vice Chair will be sent to the IAFP Executive Board for approval. The Chair encouraged members to submit nominations at any time during the meeting.

Current Business: Paul began an open discussion to encourage dialogue and to assess member interest and the value of the PDG. Individuals discussed a desire to grow professionally and to enhance their level of knowledge from the sessions and networking opportunities that are put forth by the PDG and the food toxicology professionals. The Chair further suggested an online poll or discussion to take place after the meeting to better assess PDG member value. Once compiled and shared with the PDG, the Chair will address and consider any further recommendations for the Board.

IAFP President-Elect Tim Jackson attended the meeting, provided a warm welcome and meeting overview, and positively contributed to the PDG discussions. The discussion led into an overview of the 2017 PDG sponsored sessions. The PDG is 100% for session submissions and approvals for 2017. They include:

- S64: A Roadmap to Food Allergy Safety: A Consensus Report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. Co-sponsored with the National Academies of Sciences, Maria Oria.

Steve Taylor from the University of Nebraska and speaker on the S 64 session, provided a few comments about the importance of food allergens and encouraged everyone to attend.

New Business: A brainstorming session to identify topics for the 2018 Annual Meeting was moderated by the Chair. Key themes that were prominent during the discussion included:

- Risk assessment
- Hazard assessment along the supply chain
- Chemicals
- Allergens
- Transparency
- Consumer and public perceptions
- “Clean”
- Packaging as communications tool
- Hot Topics in Food Safety: Toxicology 101 (or 2.0)
- Pseudo-science
- Global regulations
- Pesticides, pesticide residues and consumers
- US/EU regulations for raw materials and food ingredients
- Antibiotics
- And several others that will be important for submission

Tony and Paul summarized the brainstorming session and solicited interest among attendees to flush out ideas in advance of the Chair, Vice Chair Breakfast scheduled for Tuesday morning. Volunteers will be coordinate among themselves and submit session ideas on or before the submission deadline of October 2, 2018. All submitters are encouraged to consider a collaborating PDG. Initial ideas and individuals will be shared with the PDG at the conclusion of the meeting.

Upon review of the proposed recommendations to the Board, the meeting was adjourned to small groups to flush out 2018 session submissions.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:
1. Recommend that Paul Hanlon will be installed as Chair of the PDG at the 2018 Annual Meeting.
2. Recommend that the Board approve the Vice Chair election to take place via SurveyMonkey after the Annual Meeting.
3. The Chair and Vice Chair would like to solicit input from the PDG to assess member value and expectations of being a member of the Food Chemical Hazard and Food Allergy PDG. The goal is to align sessions, webinars and PDG meetings that meet or exceed member expectations. This will take place via SurveyMonkey. The PDG Chair and Vice Chair will make results available to the PDG and to the Board upon request.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:15 p.m.
Next Meeting: July 8, 2018, Salt Lake City, UT.
Chairperson: Tony Flood.