Low Water Activity Foods PDG


Meeting Called to Order: 2:04 p.m., July 9, 2017.

Minutes Recording Secretary: N/A.

Old Business: Laurie Post’s election to Vice Chair was approved by the board and communicated to the membership. The PDG submissions for the 2017 program were reviewed.

New Business: An idea session was facilitated by Gary Acuff and James Dickson focusing on factors that impact validation of low water activity foods. Several subjects surfaced, some of which were already previously covered or currently on the 2017 program. However, a few topics were selected and will be presented to the PDG Chair/Vice Chair group. These are included in the addendum to these minutes.

As a way to bring some structure to internal workings of the PDG and to enhance membership involvement, the following changes are planned to be implemented:
1. A webinar organizing committee was proposed to provide some structure to the PDG’s developmental webinars. The following members volunteered to work on this committee: Josh Gurtler (lead), Elizabeth Grasso-Kelley, Edith Wilkin, and Laurie Post. If any other members would like to volunteer, please let Edith know.
2. Leverage our 3 Student Liaisons to work on technical facilitation of webinars and membership meetings.
3. Leverage Student Liaisons to help develop program topics and delivery as part of their professional development.

Four webinars are planned for the next year beginning with a discussion of the science behind use of chlorine dioxide gas for decontamination of food contact surfaces. We will invite the Food Hygiene & Sanitation PDG.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 8, 2018, Salt Lake City, UT.
Conference Call on August 23, 2017.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Edith Wilkin.