Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Disease PDG

Attendees: Efi Papafragkou (Chair), Alexandre Da Silva (Vice Chair), Michelle Acheson-MacLeod, Brienna Anderson, Kellie Burris, Yoriann Cabrera Bartolomei, Rachel Chalmers, Kow-Ching Chang, HaiFeng Chen, Shani Craighead, Sally Crowley, Carl Custer, Lise Duran, Mauricio Durigan, Kevin Edwards, Blanca Escudero-Abarca, Tracy Fink, Connie Freese, Balasubramanian Ganesan, Stephen Grove, Jesus Guzman, Diana Hao, Kirsten Hirniesen, Jessica Hofstetter, Emily Hovis, Tim Jackson, Hyein Jang, Lee-Ann Jaykus, Julie Jean, Ahyoon Kim, David Kingsley, Marla Leal Cervantes, Alvin Lee, Jeong-Eun Lee, Jieon Lee, Youyoung Lee, Kayla Liebman, Kory Longhurst, Beatriz Luz Martinez, Naim Montazeri, Alex Montgomery, Matthew Moore, Helen Murphy, Flavia Negrete, William Olson, Ynes Ortega, Angel Otero Franqui, Franck Pandiani, Jennifer Pierquet, Yvonne Qvarnstrom, Gary Richards, Rachel Rodriguez, JoAnn Sagaral, Lester Schonberger, Annette Shazer, Caroline Smith DeWaal, Marianne Solomitis, Anna Starobin, Jori Sweet, Michael Wendorf, Chris Whitehouse, Jacqueline Woods, and Zhihui Yang.

Number of Attendees: 52.

Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 a.m., Sunday, July 8, 2018.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Dave Kingsley.

Old Business: Minutes from IAFP 2017 approved.

New Business:
- Introduction of attendees including the Chair (Efi Papafragkou) and Vice Chair (Alex DaSilva).
- Accepted proposals and overall presentations/posters related to virus/parasites from this year’s program were highlighted.
- Invited speaker, Rachel Chalmers from the Cryptosporidium Reference Unit Public Health Wales, UK, gave a presentation on evaluating methods and identifying needs for parasites. COST Action EURO-FBP (FA1408) promotes collaboration between scientists working on foodborne parasites in Europe parasite ranking, analytical and diagnostic method availability, interventions and drivers that will promote the occurrence, transmission and risk of foodborne parasites in Europe.

Lee-Ann Jaykus gave an update on the Norovirus Collaborative for Outreach, Research, and Education (NoroCORE) project than ended in spring where more than 200 stakeholders were involved in the six different core disciplines of the project: Molecular Virology, Detection, Epidemiology and Risk Analysis, Prevention and Control, Extension and Outreach, and Capacity Building. She highlighted major success in development of a cell culture system (Baylor college), the Noroptimal risk model, the discovery of several ligands for virus capture, extended study of surface disinfection products, the advantage of having reagents to detect virus/parasites from this year’s program were highlighted. This workshop will promote the occurrence, transmission and risk of foodborne parasites in Europe.

- Lester Schonberger from the student PDG, talked about IAFP’s a Student Liaison program as well as ways to promote student development with this PDG in the future.

- Tim Jackson from the IAFP Executive Board highlighted that this year over 3800 attendees have registered, and The Exhibit Hall increased by 8 booths over last year. Only 90 symposia out of 200 proposals were accepted by the Program Committee due to space and time slot constraints, so PDGs are encouraged to engage with each other in developing new symposia proposals for 2019. Both Food Protection Trends and the Journal of Food Protection. Support student activities by purchasing the 2018 student shirt at the Student booth in the exhibition hall. Our 14th European Symposium on Food Safety was held at the end of April this year in Stockholm, Sweden while next year’s European Symposium will be held April 24–26 in Nantes, France. During the discussion for proposal topics for IAFP 2019 for development into symposium, roundtable and workshops, the following topics were discussed:
  - Include international speakers and coverage of issues of international interest.
  - Roundtable on traceback end to end: state of the art (early signals for outbreak investigation, block chain technology) in collaboration with other PDGs (fruit and vegetable, pre-harvest).
  - Hard to detect/culture viral/parasitic pathogens (with applied methods PDGs).
  - Roundtable on solutions for controlling the contamination of viruses and parasites in foods. Attendees from industry indicated that the control topic is of high interest to industry, especially when referring to emerging pathogens such as Cyclospora cayetanensis.
  - ILSI Europe is planning to hold a webinar on virus control in collaboration with the Risk Assessment PDG (Alvin Lee).
  - A workshop on methods for foodborne viruses and parasites to close visible gaps in detection of such pathogens in foods. This workshop could also focus on processes to enhance lab capabilities and capacity on national and international scale to test for viruses and parasites in foods.
  - Hepatitis E virus detection in “new” foods (milk, produce) around the world and what can be done to prevent this and communicate the risk.
  - Symposium on metagenomics applied to detection of viruses and parasites in environmental samples and foods.
  - The need to collaborate with other PDGs was highlighted to minimize competition (90/200 proposals were accepted this year).

Recommendations to the Executive Board:
1. Assist the PDGs to strengthen communication and collaboration to avoid overlap/duplication of proposals. If possible promote conference calls among PDG’s Chairs prior to submission of proposals.

Next Meeting Date: July 21–24, 2019, Louisville, KY.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:00 a.m.

Chairperson: Efi Papafragkou.