The switch to the PeerTrack manuscript submission system occurred on September 24, 2019. The new journal platform, Meridian, was launched February 2, 2020. The use of PeerTrack in conjunction with Meridian is expected to dramatically decrease the time from acceptance to publication as the publication date will be the date of online publication. Manuscripts can be published (online) about 3.5 months earlier due to the PeerTrack system.

There is a downward trend in the number of IAFP Members opting for print copies of the Journal. Overall, there are fewer subscription than in previous years. Subscriptions are renewed in the fall of the year; the impact of the current economic downturn on IAFP membership and subscription rates is uncertain.

New cover art for the Journal has been quite well received.

New Business: Matthew Moore, University of Massachusetts – Amherst, was elected as Vice Chair for the Committee.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The Committee requests help of the new Diversity Council to increase diversity and representation of underrepresented groups within JFP authorship.
2. The Committee asks the Board to reappoint Panos Skandamis to another term as Scientific Editor.
3. The Committee asks the Board to affirm the selection of Matthew Moore as Vice Chair of the Committee.
4. The Committee wishes to solicit support from the PDGs in encouraging members to submit ideas for review articles to be published in JFP.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:50 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Fred


Meeting Adjourned: 12:09 p.m. Eastern Time.
Old Business: Steven Sims gave a presentation about the role of 3-A Committee on Sanitary Procedures as it applies to IAFP and 3-A SSI.

New Business: A Board update was given by David Tharp. Discussion was held about combining 3-A CSP Special Committee with the Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG. Members were not in favor of the change. Discussion was held about renaming the 3-A CSP Committee to avoid confusion. Members were not in favor of the change. Members discussed holding a meeting at a time other than the IAFP Annual Meeting, which was not very popular. 3-A CSP will continue the course as a special stand-alone committee, keep the name, and continue to meet during IAFP Annual Meeting. A mission will need to be developed for the 3-A CSP Committee at a later date.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:40 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Carianne Endert-Klaasen.

Committee on Control of Foodborne Illness

Members Present: Ewen Todd (Chair), Mike Batz (Vice Chair), Kari Irvin (Secretary), Jaime Ragos (Student Liaison), Amarat (Amy) Simonne, Atif Idriis, Carl Custer, Yousef Alsaadi, Dima Faour-Klingbeil, Ernest Julian, Gale Prince, Jack Guzewich, Michael Bazaco, Michael Roberson, Pongpan Laksanalamai, and Phyllis Posy.

Board/Staff Present: Emilio Esteban, Ruth Petran, Didi Loyananchan, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 20.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:03 p.m. Eastern Time, September 23, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Kari Irvin (moved by Michael Roberson, seconded by Michael Batz, and approved).

Board Member Report: Emilio Esteban has an epidemiological background and was interested in the on-going work of the Committee. He said he would share if or when information pertinent to the Committee becomes available.

Old Business: The Committee on the Control of Foodborne Illness approved the minutes from the 2019 meeting held in Louisville, KY (moved by Phyllis Posy, seconded by Carl Custer). Recommendations made to the Board after the 2019 meeting were reviewed. Information concerning the income generated from the Foodborne and Waterborne IAFP manuals over the past 5 years was discussed. A decline in income generated from the sale of these manuals was noted with most income arising within two years of publication. Few eBook copies were sold but the download versions were the most frequently purchased. In the day of electronic format versions of documents, there was discussion whether or not such print manuals may be outdated resources for public health professionals.

The minutes of the August 31, 2020 CCFI conference call were approved (moved by Phyllis Posy, seconded by Jack Guzewich). Business arising was to move ahead with the new Vice Chair voting and generate symposia, etc., ideas for the Program Committee.

CCFI members discussed the need to update the “Procedures to Investigate Foodborne Illness” manual. Consensus was reached that the formation of a subcommittee could best address questions regarding usefulness due to competing resources and timeliness given past, current, and future changes in the foodborne illness outbreak investigation process. This is in agreement with last year’s minutes. In addition, the subcommittee should be aware of similar documents including printed and online published guidelines to avoid duplication or inserting conflicting information into circulation.

Volunteers present were Michael Batz, Kari Irvin, Michael Roberson, Michael Bazaco, and Yousef Alsaadi. Other previous volunteers not at the meeting need to be contacted. Suggest engaging with Emilio Julian (AFDO) concerning usefulness for the manual. Members of the subcommittee should be aware of new CIFOR guidelines released this year, FDA’s New Era for Smarter Food Safety efforts, and a pending Codex publication on outbreak investigation. Furthermore, updates should be in line with potential new investigational tools outlined in those documents. Usefulness and timing are critical factors to consider in deciding to move forward with this manual. There was also discussion whether the manuals should be exclusively online or printed as well. The original intention of these manuals was a resource for public health inspectors in the field. Specific lab analysis methods were not included, only sample collection.

For greatest distribution free downloads is the norm today especially from governments and WHO/FAO. Should IAFP go this route? Emilio Esteban was to take this to the Board for consideration. One suggestion was that perhaps it could be downloaded free from IAFP Connect for IAFP Members, but at a cost to non-members. ACTION: Michael Batz will set up the first meeting for the subcommittee to begin to address questions posed by the Committee.

There was also discussion about the Diseases Transmitted by Foods Manual (3rd edition). To update this, we need experts in plant toxins, chemicals and parasites for updates. Adam Kramer has provided links to other relevant publications to check on need for a revision from the 1982 2nd edition. The Manual subcommittee will also consider this possible revision. ACTION: Michael Batz and the subcommittee.

The vector-borne and rodent-borne manual was discussed. Since retiring Vice-Chair Judy Greig has no further contacts with her colleagues to revise this manual, the Committee agreed to defer any further action on this unless a champion is found.

CCFI addressed concerns raised at the 2019 in-person meeting about the all-day meeting format, and the impact on attendance given it is difficult for PDG members to meet and discuss issues relating to foodborne illness in the all-day format. It was proposed to formalize a 2-hour CCFI meeting open to all members, and subsequent smaller meetings can occur throughout the day to address specific Committee needs. This will allow all Committee members to receive an update on all agenda items while maintaining commitments to other PDGs.

A survey of IAFP Members to determine their food safety habits has been approved but will be deferred until spring of 2021 due to COVID-19 delays. Lead collaborators outside of CCFI are Ben Chapman (NCSU) and Ian Young (Ryerson).

Seven symposia and roundtables sponsored or co-sponsored by CCFI will be presented at the IAFP 2020 Annual Meeting.

Student member Jaime Ragos attended the CCFI meeting at the 2019 Annual Meeting but there had been no direct Committee involvement since then. Jamie described the mentor program managed by the Student PDG, and indicated that her mentor Michael Bazaco is a CCFI member. Michael Batz also participates in the mentor program and encouraged other CCFI members to participate. Jaime remains the Student PDG representative for CCFI. The link to sign-up to be a mentor is at: https://tinyurl.com/IAFP Mentor.

It was noted that fewer members were on the IAFP Connect meeting compared with the August 31, 2020, conference call and it may be that some members have yet to set up a regular connection for notifications. Some considered IAFP Connect useful as a library for document retention and liked notification reminders of relevant posts. However, other formats for Committee and subcommittee business may be considered.

New Business: CCFI recognized the long-term service and dedication of Judy Greig as the Vice Chair of CCFI for 15 years. Various CCFI members remarked on her professionalism, mentorship, and expertise on matters of foodborne illness and are incredibly grateful for her commitment to the Committee. The voting for two nominees (Michael Batz and Phyllis Posy) for Vice Chair occurred before the September 23rd meeting and Ewen Todd announced that Michael Batz was elected to replace Judy as the Vice Chair of CCFI. The Committee appreciated Phyllis Posy standing as a well-qualified nominee.

Dima Faour-Klingbeil, a research fellow at the University of Plymouth School of Biological and Marine Sciences, gave a presentation on the perception of risk, food shopping, and hygienic practices in Arab countries during a pandemic based on a survey of three Arab countries. This was well received and generated some discussion about perceptions on COVID-19 risks in different regions and where people in Arab countries received their information on such risks, which seems to be mainly social media.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of potential topics for symposia, roundtables and webinars.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend that Emilio Esteban find out about the possibility for electronic versions of futu1re manuals to be free downloads for members or even for wider distribution because of existing competition with other online manuals.

2. Recommend the Board approve Michael Batz as the new Vice Chair.
Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.
Meeting Adjourned: 5:15 p.m. Eastern Time.
Chairperson: Ewen C.D. Todd.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Members Present: Jennifer Quinlan (Chair), Bobby Krishna (Vice Chair), Kathy Glass, Jenny Scott, Bill Huntley, and Zeb Blanton.
New Members Present: Don Schaffner.
Board/Staff Present: Emilio Esteban, Dina Siedenburg, and David Tharp.
Number of Attendees: 23.
Meeting Called to Order: 1:04 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, September 25, 2020.
Minutes Recording Secretary: Bobby Krishna.

Old Business:

Wendy White and Chair of the Student PDG.

Number of Attendees: 10.
Meeting Called to Order: 1:04 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, September 25, 2020.
Minutes Recording Secretary: Bobby Krishna.

Old Business:

Zink, Alejandro Mazzotta, Gale Prince, Fred Weber, and Don Schaffner.

Members Present: Susan Linn (Chairperson), Leon Gorris (Vice Chairperson), William Huntley, Jenny Scott, and Stephanie R.B. Brown (2019 Student Liaison).
New Members Present: Sarah Jones (new Student Liaison).
Board/Staff Present: Ruth L. Petran (Board Liaison), Lisa Hovey (Staff Liaison), David Tharp and Dina Siedenburg.
Number of Attendees: 10.
Meeting Called to Order: 1:15 p.m., Thursday, September 17, 2020.
Minutes Recording Secretary: Leon Gorris (Vice Chairperson).

New Business:

Gary and David reviewed the 2020 and 2021 Foundation Budget. This year, we saw an estimated $258k increase in investment income from the last year. We also saw an estimated $90k decrease of contributions from this time, last year. This was attributed to lack of an in-person annual meeting; however, it is anticipated that we may see an increase in donations in October linked to the meeting. A few Foundation Committee members participated in the summer initiative to call larger donors and thank for past support. This effort was successful in generating donations for some of our larger donors. In addition, Fred Weber provided matching funds for some of the donors, which was extremely helpful and welcome. The current situation with travel award winners not being able to use their scholarships was discussed and it was decided that awarded scholarships will be allowed to be used next year for travel for the 2021 Phoenix Annual Meeting, pending IAFP Executive Board approval. In addition, we will make the usual travel scholarship awards for the 2021 Annual Meeting. This will likely double award expenses and is reflected in a revised 2021 budget.

Gary’s Foundation Report has been recorded and it will be aired during the Annual Meeting. There was discussion on having a visual depiction (thermometer) of our fundraising progress during the meeting; Dina and Lisa will work on something. The Committee agreed to move forward with quarterly calls for the future. Gary will send out proposed dates for future calls.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The Foundation Committee asks that we defer travel funds earmarked for the 2020 Student Travel Scholarship and other Travel Awards supported by the Foundation for one year to enable recipients to travel to the 2021 IAFP Annual Meeting.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.
Meeting Adjourned: 3:39 p.m. Eastern Time.
Chairperson: Gary Acuff

Membership Committee

Members Present: Jennifer Quinlan (Chairperson), Leon Gorris (Vice Chairperson), Bobby Krishna, Kathy Glass, Timothy Jackson, Vickie Lewandowski, Alejandro Mazzotta, Gale Prince, Fred Weber, and Don Zink.

Board/Staff Present: Kali Kniel, Maria Ma, Lisa Hovey, Dina Siedenburg, and David Tharp.

Number of Attendees: 23.
David and Gary welcomed attendees at 3:05 p.m. Eastern Time. He introduced Wendy as Vice Chair and Minh Duong as both the Student Liaison and Chair of the Student PDG.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Wendy White.
Old Business: The meeting minutes from the previous call were approved.

New Business:

Gary and David reviewed the 2020 and 2021 Foundation Budget. This year, we saw an estimated $258k increase in investment income from the last year. We also saw an estimated $90k decrease of contributions from this time, last year. This was attributed to lack of an in-person annual meeting; however, it is anticipated that we may see an increase in donations in October linked to the meeting. A few Foundation Committee members participated in the summer initiative to call larger donors and thank for past support. This effort was successful in generating donations for some of our larger donors. In addition, Fred Weber provided matching funds for some of the donors, which was extremely helpful and welcome. The current situation with travel award winners not being able to use their scholarships was discussed and it was decided that awarded scholarships will be allowed to be used next year for travel for the 2021 Phoenix Annual Meeting, pending IAFP Executive Board approval. In addition, we will make the usual travel scholarship awards for the 2021 Annual Meeting. This will likely double award expenses and is reflected in a revised 2021 budget.

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Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.
Meeting Adjourned: 3:39 p.m. Eastern Time.
Chairperson: Gary Acuff

Membership Committee

Members Present: Susan Linn (Chairperson), Leon Gorris (Vice Chairperson), William Huntley, Jenny Scott, and Stephanie R.B. Brown (2019 Student Liaison).
New Members Present: Sarah Jones (new Student Liaison).
Board/Staff Present: Ruth L. Petran (Board Liaison), Lisa Hovey (Staff Liaison), David Tharp and Dina Siedenburg.
Number of Attendees: 10.
Meeting Called to Order: 1:15 p.m., Thursday, September 17, 2020.
Minutes Recording Secretary: Leon Gorris (Vice Chairperson).

Old Business:

The committee felt last year that we should have a designated representative on the committee for LATAM. Such a representative could help with ideas for reaching out to potential members in LATAM, possibly also promote IAFP at regional meetings of other associations. Contact names would be welcome. MC members suggested some and will send contact details to Susan.

The committee continued discussions on the possibility to have a slide-deck or videoclip advertising IAFP membership benefits. Can be posted on IAFP website, IAFP on social media, used at PDG meetings and webinars, and affiliates can use it for their meetings/promotion. Lisa confirmed a slide-deck is available that staff and officers show at IAFP meetings and IAFP-supported events. A video was made some years ago of members underscoring their interest in IAFP and its benefits. The deck and recording could be used as starting points to create a videoclip or a slide-deck (maybe with voice over and subtitles). Lisa will circulate the materials and Leon offered to review it and come up with ideas.

The MC has now a designated representative on the Student organization, i.e. the MC student liaison, who currently is Sarah Jones.

New Business:

The chairperson noted the call of the editors of JFP for review articles on topics of interest.
The committee was presented the current membership statistics, which seemed to be fair considering business circumstances. Still, opportunities to boost membership from outside of the USA would need attention.

The committee discussed the possibility to have a single PPT slide showing the membership benefits our affiliates can use for their AECs and all IAFP Webinars.

**Next Meeting Date:** A meeting in December 2020 was proposed to pick up on outreach activities and media discussed.

**Recommendations to Executive Board:** None.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 2:15 p.m.

**Chairperson:** Susan Linn.

### Nominating Committee

- **Members Present:** Alejandro Mazzotta (Chair).
- **Board/Staff Members Present:** Roger Cook and David Tharp.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 3:09 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday, October 12, 2020.

**Recording Secretary of Minutes:** Alejandro Mazzotta.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Confidential consideration of candidates for Secretary of IAFP.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:** None.

**Next Meeting Date:** Teleconference scheduled for further deliberation on November 17, 2020.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:06 p.m.

**Chairperson:** Alejandro Mazzotta.

### Past Presidents’ Committee

- **Members Present:** Mickey Parish (Chair), Gary Acuff, Robert Brackett, Michael Brodsky, Jim Dickson, Jeff Farber, Kathleen Glass, Jack Guzewich, Linda Harris, Gale Prince, Don Schaffner, Jenny Scott, Katie Swanson, Isabel Walls, and Don Zink.

- **Board/Staff Present:** Kali Kniel, Dina Siedenburg, and David Tharp.

- **Regrets from:** Tim Jackson (Vice Chair), Mike Doyle, Bob Gravani, Alejandro Mazzotta, and Frank Yiannis.

**Number of Attendees:** 18.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 1:05 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Mickey Parish.

**2019 Minutes and Meeting Agenda:** Approved without revisions.

**Unfinished Business:** Black Pearl Article in *FPT* – Mickey reported that the activity to produce and publish an article in *FPT* regarding the Black Pearl Award history did not advance forward in the past year. He agreed to continue this effort with support from Linda Harris. Gale Prince and Katie Swanson volunteered to assist with edits.

**New Business:** David and Kali reported on the state of IAFP. The Board has been unusually active this year due to COVID-19 and the need to implement a virtual Annual Meeting. Details regarding these items were discussed.

Other issues brought up by committee members included IAFP staff health, staff ability to work from home if necessary due to COVID-19, types of future annual/other meetings (virtual, in person, hybrids), technology showcase for exhibitors, investigating foundation support for scholarships to attend virtual meetings.

### Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The Past Presidents’ Committee recommends approval of Kali Kniel as the new Vice Chair-Elect.
2. The Past Presidents’ Committee recommends the Board direct David to investigate necessary logistics required for staff to work from home if necessary due to COVID-19 restrictions.

3. The Past Presidents’ Committee recommends the Board conduct contingency planning in case the 2021 Annual Meeting must also be conducted virtually.

4. The Past Presidents’ Committee recommends the Board direct staff to survey exhibitors regarding a pilot program to develop a Technology Showcase to occur at a time other than the Annual Meeting.

5. The Past Presidents’ Committee recommends the Board investigate asking the Foundation to support scholarships for attendance at IAFP virtual annual meetings, including those individuals who are not allowed pay registration fees to participate in virtual meetings.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:57 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Chairperson:** Mickey Parish.

### Webinar Committee

- **Members Present:** Don Schaffner (Chair), Veronica Bryant (Vice Chair), Gary Acuff, Mike Batz, Kaitlyn Casulli, Bob Gravani, Doug Marshall, Manan Sharma, and Manpreet Singh.

- **New Members Present:** None.

- **Board/Staff Present:** Roger Cook, Tamara Ford, and Dina Siedenburg.

- **Number of Attendees:** 12.

- **Meeting Called to Order:** 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday, September 21, 2020.

- **Minutes Recording Secretary:** Donald Schaffner.

- **Approval of 2019 minutes:** Moved by Manpreet, seconded by Bob, and unanimously accepted.

- **Board Update:** Roger gave an update, mentioning the hard work everyone has been doing preparing for the Virtual Annual Meeting. He also mentioned the new diversity committee, and the financial fallout of going virtual that was minimized by David his team.

- **Review of spreadsheet:** The committee reviewed the Webinar Report provided by staff which summarized 2018, 2019 and 2020 webinar dates, titles, sponsors, PDGs, speakers, moderators, registrant numbers, attendee numbers, percent of registrants attending and views of recordings (as of July 22, 2020).

**Old Business:**

- Last year we discussed communicating with inactive members of the Committee to gauge their interest in continuing to remain involved. This item still needs follow up.

  Our discussion about an earlier starting time for the in-person meeting was moot due to the conference going virtual, but the Committee members indicate this is still our preference for the next in person conference.

  We need to follow up on having a checkbox on the symposium submission form to gauge interest in converting to a webinar in the event of an unfavorable response from the Program Committee. We also need to continue to actively engage with members whose symposium proposals were not accepted by the Program Committee.

  We still need to develop a short summary of the start-to-finish webinar process. Tamara developed a web-based form for submission and webinar proposals which is currently in use.

  We discussed the terms of service for the Committee Chair and Vice Chair. We resolved that each position is a two-year term with the Vice Chair taking over as Chair at the end of their term. This means Don’s term would end just prior to the 2021 Annual Meeting and Veronica will begin her term at the IAFP 2021 meeting.

**New Business:**

- Manpreet suggested that we offer webinar invitations to those who could not participate in the Virtual Annual Meeting due to COVID-19. Tamara responded that some roundtables could be converted to webinars, but that only 8-9 sessions were withdrawn.

  Mike cautioned that many people are feeling “Zoomed out” and that it might not be possible to do more webinars for this reason. Bob stressed that we should focus on quality not quantity when it comes to more webinars.
Recommendations to the Executive Board:

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:48 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Donald Schaffer.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GROUPS

Advanced Molecular Analytics PDG

Attendees: Xiangyu Deng (Chair), Jasna Kovac (Vice Chair), Amanda Manolis, Angie Nguyen, Bledar Bisha, Caleb Richter, Candace Barnes, Catharine Carlin, Celina To, Daniel Demarco, David Legan, Doug Marshall, Francisco Diez-Gonzalez, Govindaraj Dev Kumar, Hasan Nur, Jie Zheng, Joelle Salazar, John David, Jose Luis Rangel Gomes, Joseph Meyer, Kolawole Banwo, Laura Rolon, Luca Cocolin, Maria Hoffmann, Nada Alasiri, Naim Montazeri, Pina Fratamico, Puspinder Litt, Raj Rajagopal, Ramin Khakzar, Richard Higby, Shaohua Zhao, Sid Thakur, Siman Liu, Sophie Pierre, Ted Gatesy, and Tricia (no last name provided).

Board/Staff Present: Michelle D. Danyluk, Didil Lynamchan, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 40.

Meeting Called to Order: 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Laura Rolon.

Old Business: A motion was made and passed to accept the 2019 meeting minutes with no revisions.

Updates from the Chair: The previous recommendation to the Executive Board was accepted. A total of 19 proposals were submitted in 2019 by AMA PDG members and 9 were accepted (71.4% success rate with AMA PDG as the primary sponsor). Members were encouraged to update their contact information on IAFP Connect.

Technical updates from three speakers: 1. Controlling SARS-CoV-2 infections in food processing and retail settings, Govindaraj Dev Kumar, University of Georgia; 2. Functional genomics toward precision food safety, Jie Zheng, FDA; and 3. Getting to the source: real-time pathogen monitoring using next generation sequencing, Ramin Khakzar, Clear Labs.

New Business:

IAFP Symposium/Workshop/Roundtable proposals were discussed. The deadline for proposal submission is November 10, 2020. Attendees identified several topics of interest, including a 2-day WGS and metagenomics workshop (Maria Hoffmann), and symposia on the following topics: microbiome metadata standardization (Chris Grim), COVID-19 - lessons learned, the role of advanced molecular analytics, impact on the food security and food safety (potential for collaboration with Applied Laboratory Methods PDG) (David Legan, Doug Marshal, Ramin Khakzar), protecting food industry from impacts of future pandemic(s) (Ramin Khakzar), sampling techniques and testing of human touch surfaces or food contact surfaces for SARS-CoV-2 and the effect of organic food residues on virus persistence (potential for collaboration with the Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Disease PDG) (Naim Montazeri), NGS-based rapid detection, identification and characterization of SARS-CoV-2 virus from raw metagenomics, metatranscriptomics data (Hasan Nur), challenges with direct detection of pathogens using metagenomics, connection between environmental microbiota and pathogens, application of meta-omics to better understand behavior of pathogens in food (Lucca Cocolin), workshop on machine learning/data analytics and its application in food safety.

Other announcements included the (i) JFP request for invited review articles (interested individuals can contact JFP scientific co-editors for more information) and (ii) Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems special topic “Using genomics to inform food safety inspection” (submissions are welcomed until January 14, 2021).

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The Advanced Molecular Analytics PDG recommends Jasna Kovac as the PDG Vice Chair.

2. The members recommended increasing the number of PDG co-sponsors for proposal topics that are multidisciplinary and relevant to multiple PDGs.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:33 p.m. EST.

Chairperson: Xiangyu Deng and Jasna Kovac, Vice Chair.

Applied Laboratory Methods PDG


Board/Staff Present: Michelle D. Danyluk, Dina Siedenburg, and Didi Lynamchan.

Number of Attendees: 42.

Meeting Called to Order: 11:05 a.m. Eastern Time, September 15, 2020 by Chair Keith Lampel and with Vice Chair Joe Meyer.

Minutes Recorded by: Keith Lampel, Chair.

All members were reminded that they can update their PDG affiliations by logging into the IAFP website. The Antitrust Guidelines from the Association were presented on two slides.

Old Business: The minutes from the 2019 were made available prior to the meeting and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Atif Idrissi and seconded by Pam Wilger. There was no further discussion and the minutes were approved.

New Business:

Megan Brown (Eurofins) presented a short talk entitled “Validation, Verification, and Fit for Purpose: What’s the Difference.” Briefly, she provided an overview of validation methods as well as discussing the difference between validation and verification. She noted that with different food matrices, which should be applied-validation or verification studies. Also, she summarized work compiled with other colleagues as to an option to the aforementioned Fit for Purpose Test that incorporates a Risk Assessment model. This work is soon to be published.

Michelle Danyluk, IAFP Board Liaison, provided an overview of the upcoming meeting. She encouraged those in attendance to register for the first Virtual IAFP Annual Meeting. September 21 is the deadline to upload symposia and roundtable presentations.

Joe Meyer made an announcement on behalf of IAFP that a call for review articles for Journal of Food Protection is available to those interested in submitting such work.

Several proposal titles for roundtables and symposia proposals for 2021 were collected and sent to Joe Meyer. The ideas were reviewed and discussed. A spreadsheet summarizing the proposals and contacts for each will be posted in the ALM PDG Community Library on IAFP Connect.

Election of Vice Chair: An election will be conducted prior to the next IAFP meeting.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend more than one secondary PDG sponsor be allowed for program proposals.
Meeting Called to Order: 12:16 p.m. Eastern Time. Motion was made by David Logan and seconded by Jeff Komacki

Chairperson: Keith Lampel.

Beverages and Acid/Acidified Foods PDG

Attendees: Barbara Ingham (Chair), May Yeow (Vice Chair), April Bishop (Vice Chair-Elect), Adam Borger, Brian Himelblum, Courtney Parker, Erdogan Ceylan, Fred Breidt, James Cook, Jayne Stratton, Joseph Meyer, and Sean McMonigle.

Staff Present: Didi Loyachan.

Number of Attendees: 13.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:33 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, October 16, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: May Yeow, Vice Chair.

Old Business: Minutes of the 2019 PDG Meeting (July 1, 2019) were approved with no objections.

New Business:

Barbara Ingham, PDG Chair, announced that the Journal of Food Protection is soliciting invited mini and comprehensive review articles. An announcement was placed in the PDG Connect site on October 1, 2020. Individuals should submit ideas to the scientific co-editors for topics for review or to suggest authors.

Didi Loyachan, IAFP Staff, announced that registration for this year’s IAFP Virtual Annual Meeting is still open. She urged that there is still some time for those members who are interested and have not yet registered. She also shared with the PDG members that the recorded meeting will be available for 6 months after the Virtual Annual Meeting has ended in case PDG members are not able to attend the Virtual Annual Meeting October 26-28, 2020. Posters for the 2020 Annual Meeting are already available for viewing.

Barbara announced and welcomed April Bishop as the Vice Chair-Elect.

The PDG submitted 5 topics to the Program Committee for the 2020 Annual Meeting, but none were accepted. Members discussed previous symposia/roundtable/workshop ideas as well as new ideas for submission to the Program Committee for IAFP 2021. The deadline for idea submission is November 10, 2020.

Three ideas that were discussed and that will be developed for submission are: 1) The Forgotten Option: Formulation-based Preventive Controls for Human Foods (submitted for the IAFP 2020 Meeting) organized by Adam Borger and Erdogan Ceylan; 2) Who Moves My Acid? (submitted for the 2019 IAFP Meeting) – organized by April Bishop, May Yeow, and Fred Breidt; 3) Beverages/Wine Safety/Validation/Modeling (new idea and may partner with Dairy PDG) – organized by Sean McMonigle and Courtney Parker. It is also recommended that the organizers reach out to and partner with the other PDG(s) where they see fit. Details of the ideas will be finalized by these three small groups and will be submitted by the due date. PDG co-chairs volunteered to help with idea submission, as needed.

If ideas are not chosen for the IAFP 2021 program, Barbara urged work groups to consider the topics be considered for webinars; the PDG can help facilitate webinar development.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend approval of April Bishop as Vice Chair of the PDG beginning at IAFP 2021 as elected by the PDG.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Barbara Ingham.

Dairy Quality and Safety PDG


Staff Present: Didi Loyachan and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 27.

Meeting Called to Order: 11:00 a.m. EST, Thursday, September 17, 2020.

Chair Wendy McMahon welcomed members, the anti-trust guidelines were reviewed, and the 2019 meeting minutes were approved.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Sarah Murphy.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business: Ben Warren (Director, Product Safety & Regulatory Affairs, Land O’ Lakes) presented on “Dairy Safety in Dried Products” and Chad Galer provided an update on the innovation center guidance. Sarah Murphy provided Student PDG updates. Wendy McMahon reviewed solicitation of review articles for JFP; including sharing the list on IAFP Connect. Upcoming conference call dates and times were reviewed. The 2020 meeting programming with Dairy PDG sponsorship were shared. 2021 Dairy PDG program ideas were discussed and a shared document was provided to members to volunteer for working groups.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend the Board approve Josie Greve-Peterson as Vice Chair of the PDG.

Next Meeting Date: July 18–21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:50 p.m. EST.

Chairperson: Wendy McMahon.

Developing Food Safety Professionals PDG

Attendees: Matthew Moore (Chair), Amit Morey (Vice Chair), Andrea Etter, Brian Himelblum, and Byron Chaves.

Board/Staff Present: Didi Loyachan and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 7.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:03 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, October 2, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Matthew Moore.

Old Business: Matthew Moore started the meeting with a welcome and presented 3 sessions for which DFSP is either primary or secondary sponsor: “How to Meet the Food Safety Concerns Surrounding Meat-Alternatives” (Primary); “Creating Awareness within IAFP Regarding Food Safety in Africa” (Secondary); “Passport to Food Safety in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: Rationale, Results and Reflections for Recent Research Initiatives” (Secondary). Matt then introduced Dr. Byron Chaves-Elizondo, who then delivered a talk titled: “Building a Food Safety Program: Three Years Into My Assistant Professorship at Nebraska,” followed by a question and answer session.

New Business: After the presentation, Matt announced the results of the Vice Chair election, which resulted in the election of Dr. Amit Morey, who then introduced himself. This was followed by background about the 2021 call for proposals. The idea of developing a webinar series focused on a common topic that is then translated to a series of announcements/summar notes as publication in an IAFP-hosted journal were discussed. The webinar format was agreed to be the preferred format as it can provide long-term treatment of a topic. Byron noted Food Protection Trends would be a good host for such a series, possibly with different speakers/first authors from different areas of food safety both in topic and sector (industry, regulatory, academia). In terms of topic, an ideal topic would be a current challenge for which data exists and there is sufficient interest. One topic proposed was an update on analytical/detection methods, including sample preparation and/or collection prior to detection. Another possible topic would be an update on different inactivation/disinfection methods.

Next, potential session proposal guidelines and policies were reviewed and ideas solicited. Amit discussed a proposal in works with the meat and poultry safety PDG on safely operating in the time of COVID-19; it was agreed that the DFSP would be a good co-sponsor for it. Another idea discussed was on lessons learned from the disruption caused in the global food supply as a consequence of COVID-19 with respect to food security and safety. Another idea was a session on the economic impact/burden of food recalls and foodborne pathogens. Amit
also mentioned the idea of a session on food safety improvements in the value chain, balancing food safety, sustainability, and profitability. Amit also mentioned the idea of how international agencies are addressing the balance between maintaining a global food supply but also ensuring safety, which DFSP could reach out to the International PDG about.

Another idea was for a roundtable about food entrepreneurship; however, it was noted something similar had been done a few years ago. Another idea was training food safety professionals in evolving technological landscapes. Another idea mentioned was a session on interpersonal skills when managing and working with others, possibly with one invited speaker from a social science/psychological background.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. The DFSP recommends to appoint Amit Morey as the new Vice Chair of the PDG.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:23 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Chairperson:** Matthew Moore.

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**Food Chemical Hazards and Food Allergy PDG**

**Attendees:** Angela Anandappa (Chair), Sally Klinect (Vice Chair), Alexandriα Lau, Brent Kobiluch, Brian Himelblom, Cindy Jiang, Erika Estrada, Gerard Ruth, James Cook, Kimberly Anderson, Kimberly Yeager, Kolaowale Banwo, Melanie Downs, Michæl Rorierson, Mohamed Zyainah, Sefat E. Khudia, Shruthi Shankar, Steve Taylor, Tracie Sheehan, WanChin Lim, and Yovonne Masters.

**Staff Present:** Didi Lownachan and Dina Siedenburg.

**Number of Attendees:** 23.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 11:02 a.m. Eastern Time, Friday, October 2, 2020.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Erika Estrada (Student Representative).

**Old Business:** The IAFP antitrust guidelines were read by the Incoming Chair, Angela Anandappa. Angela thanked Paul Hanlon, the Outgoing Chair, for his service and contributions as the past PDG Chair. Angela introduced and welcomed Sally Klinect as the PDG Vice Chair and Sally spent a few minutes introducing herself.

The floor was opened for comments regarding the meeting minutes from the 2019 PDG meeting. Michael Roberson moved to approve the minutes and Sally Klinect seconded the motion.

Erika Estrada, the Student PDG Vice Chair served as the secretary and provided updates to the group including the liaison program, the 3-Minute Thesis Competition, the mentoring program and the 2020 sessions sponsored by the SPDG.

Symposia/Workshops sponsored by the PDG were discussed. Proposals that were declined for 2020 were discussed.

**New Business:**

Potential topics to be further developed into 2021 proposals were discussed and include the following topics: The creation of a standards for allergen free food, discussing industry practices and standards for allergen free food, the assessment of the supply chain of allergen free food, food safety threshold for allergen free foods, verification testing for allergen free foods, accurate definition for allergen free claims, public safety of allergen free food, and testing the final product vs. testing a products supply chain.

Definition of the UK- “Free from” means that all ingredients are free from that specific allergen and the value of testing, residue limits, and value of those limits to protecting consumer safety were discussed.

The discussion also brought up some concerns from industry member regarding: coming up with a definition for “allergen free food,” assuring that all ingredients in a food product are allergen free, and the gaps in regulatory guidelines regarding this issue.

At the end of the discussion, the Chair summarized the discussion’s 3 main topics: Allergen-free food risk assessment, the adoption of standard allergen free claim testing, and validation in the supply chain.

A potential need for industry was discussed for collaboration between industry and regulation to work towards standards in the use of terms such as “allergen free” and similar claims.

**Retail perspective topics.** Michael Roberson gave a brief overview about the addition of sesame to the list of allergens (without establishment of action limits), and FDA research around dark chocolate and the presence of milk allergen.

PDG survey results were showed that PDG members had a high level of interest in allergens, pesticides, trace back, food safety training and consumer awareness.

Kimberly Yeager proposed that the sustainable packaging session may be co-sponsored with the packaging PDG.

Other topics brought up included antiviral packaging, PFAs, mycotoxins, and the need for allergen awareness and food safety in parts of the African continent.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. Approve Angela Anandappa as new PDG Chair and Sally Klinect as PDG Vice Chair.

2. Make IAFP Connect more user friendly. Proposed IAFP invest in an App for IAFP Connect and provide/support a secondary means of communication outside of IAFP Connect.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 12:55 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Chairperson:** Angela Anandappa.

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**Food Defense PDG**

**Names of Attendees:** Mark Kazmierczak (Chair), Neal Fredrickson (Vice Chair), Amy Rhodes, Atef Idriss, Candace Barnes, Caroline Wang, Colin Barthel, David Guilhaum, Gina Reo, James O’Donnell, Jean Anderson, Jennifer Hughes, John Mwangi, Lorayla Ledenbach, Martin Ethy Ethy, Michael Roberson, Neil Bogart, Oscar Rodriguez-Gonzalez, Rachel Lang, Richard Jacobs, Roy Fenoff, Ryan Maus, Ryan Newkirk, Siman Liu, Tracey David, Vikas Gill, and Yovonne Masters.

**Board/Staff Present:** Ruth Petran, Didi Lownachan, and Dina Siedenburg.

**Number of Attendees:** 30.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday, September 14, 2020.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Neal Fredrickson.

**Old Business:**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. CDT. Mark Kazmierczak reviewed the agenda and moved to approve it (Neal Fredrickson seconded). The agenda was approved with no objections. Dr. Kazmierczak then reviewed the anti-trust guidelines. Ruth Petran, Board Liaison, addressed the attendees and provided an update from the Board. Dr. Fredrickson then provided an overview of the Food Defense PDG engagement strategy. Dr. Kazmierczak reviewed the minutes from the 2019 Food Defense PDG meeting. He moved to approve the minutes, and the minutes were approved.

**New Business:**

Dr. Kazmierczak explained that the Vice Chair election results were that Neal Fredrickson, as the only nominee, was selected by acclamation to be the Vice Chair of the Food Defense PDG. Dr. Kazmierczak moved to confirm him as Chair of the Food Defense PDG and to confirm Dr. Fredrickson as Vice Chair of the PDG, and the motion passed with no objections.

Neal Fredrickson described the Food Defense PDG-sponsored roundtable session “Synthesizing Food Defense Programs for FSMA and Third-party Audits” scheduled to occur virtually on October 27 at 3:30-5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Colin Barthel, U.S. FDA, delivered a brief presentation on updates to the Food Safety Modernization Act Intentional Adulteration Rule and regulatory compliance inspection procedures and schedules. The audience submitted questions to Colin and discussion ensued.

The members of the PDG discussed the process for submitting session proposal ideas for IAFP 2021, which are due November 10, 2020, and discussed submission topics and identified interested speakers for potential session submissions. The collected session ideas were:

1. “Food Defense Community and Culture: What does it take to get corporate-built plans transitioned into operations level?”

Suggested details include: How to teach/communicate facility leaders on food defense plan/creating a food defense culture; selling culture to smaller/midsized producers; supply chain;
2. “Post-Covid opportunities for integrating food supply chains and the associated risks;”
Suggested details include: Understanding global issues, international standards, agencies; Importing – ingredients vs. semi-finished vs. finished – resources available;
4. “Food defense plans for small and local suppliers: How to challenge/validate food defense plans?”;
5. “Food Defense Community and Culture” (combined with 1. above); and
6. “Establishing core principles in criminology,” Including: How to conduct an investigation (FDA Office of Criminal Investigation); Recent incidents; FDA training of law enforcement; Issues with cleaning and interference with investigations; Root cause analysis.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:
1. The Food Defense PDG recommends the Board approve Neal Fredrickson as the Vice Chair of the PDG.

Next Meeting Date: July 18, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.
Meeting Adjourned: 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time.
Chairperson: Mark Kazmierczak.

Food Fraud PDG

Attendees: Karen Everstine (Chair), Clare Menezes (Vice Chair), Andrew Clarke, Angela Valadez, April Bishop, Bert Pöpping, Brian Himelbloom, Courtney Parker, Gale Prince, Gina Clapper, Janitha Liyanage, Julian Graham, Karen Constable, Kevin Edwards, Matt Igo, Neal Fredrickson, Neil Bogart, Ricky Falkenberg, Rocelle Claveto, Rose Omari, Roy Fenoff, Stephanie Wilkins, Steven Gendel, Suzanne Froelich, Ted Gately, Tracie Sheehan, and Yvonne Masters.

Board/Staff Present: Ruth Petran, Didi Loyanchan, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 30.

Meeting Called to order: 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Matt Igo (Student Liaison).

Welcome remarks and introductions were given by Karen Everstine, Chair and Clare Menezes, Vice Chair. PDG members and attendees introduced themselves. Anti-trust guidelines were reviewed and announcements from the IAFP Board were given by Dr. Ruth Petran. Additions to the agenda were requested and the agenda was approved.

Old Business: The previous year’s minutes were displayed and approved and the mission statement was approved without edits. The prior year Board recommendations were reviewed.

Invited Presentations: Dr. Bert Pöpping, Managing Director of FOCOS – Food Consulting Strategically and Co-Chair of the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) Food Authenticity Task Force gave a presentation. He discussed the work of the ILSI Food Authenticity Task Force to review the vast amounts of data related to food authenticity, including terminology used, industry guidance, food fraud databases, available testing methods, and emerging methodologies. Dr. Steven Gendel, Senior Director for Food Science at Food Chemicals Codex USP led a discussion of a planned Journal of Food Protection review article on food fraud – “Food Fraud as a Safety Risk.” He solicited input and feedback on this proposed review article focused on the safety risk presented by food fraud. Attendees provided feedback and many ideas for areas of focus.

New Business: Food fraud-related symposia/roundtables for IAFP 2020 were reviewed. The group discussed ideas for symposia/roundtable proposals for 2021. These included the effects of COVID on in-person audits and economic adulteration, price trends/predictions, the logistics of how and when a testing program should be implemented, big data/low blockchain, organic fraud, new technology for sampling and new testing cools (and their cost effectiveness), and others. The “signposting” document for food fraud prevention resources was presented and reviewed; additional input will be solicited through IAFP Connect. Matt Igo presented an update from the Student PDG and Student Mentoring Program. Elections for the new PDG Vice Chair will be held next year.

Recommendaons to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.
Meeting Adjourned: 6:45 p.m. Eastern Time.
Chairperson: Karen Everstine.

Food Hygiene and Sanitation PDG


Board/Staff Present: Ruth Petran, Didi Loyanchan, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 76.

Meeting Called to Order: 11:05 a.m. Eastern Time, Monday, September 21, 2020.

The welcome was done by Nadia Narine, Chairperson. Comments were made from an IAFP Board Member. Nadia reviewed the Anti-Trust Guidelines, and the Agenda.

Meeting Recording Secretary: Evan Rosen (Vice Chair) and Richard Brouillette.

Old Business:
A discussion/adoption of the IAFP 2019 PDG Minutes and August 2020 Conference Call Minutes. Approved last year’s minutes. Neil Bogart (Move) and Evan Rosen (second)

New Business:
Sessions sponsored and co-sponsored by the PDG were read to the participants.

PDG 2020 Program: Topics developed through the PDG were read to the PDG by the Chair. Attendance was encouraged to support.

Session #6709 Symposia: S44 Identifying Tools to Predict Food Safety Failures and Financial Costs (Amy Scanlin, David Park, Mehrdad Tajkarimi – EAS Consulting Group, David Hatch – Corvium, Steven Simmons – Nationwide Insurance) Tuesday, October 27th 2:30-4:00 p.m.
Session # 6613 Symposia S66 Vive La Résistance: Biocide Resis-
tance Strategies among Foodborne Pathogens (Govindaraj Dev Kumar – Univ. of Georgia Center For Food Safety, Divya Jaroni – Oklahoma State University, Dimitri Macariss – U.S.-FDA CFSAN, Kaylan Haman – University of Georgia, Brenda Kroft – University of Maryland, Ikekukuw Oguadinma – University of Georgia, Maria Hoffmann – U.S.-FDA CFSAN, Byron Brehm-Stecher – Iowa State University, Yen-Con Hung – University of Georgia) Wednesday, October 28th 2:30-4:00 p.m.

PDG Co-supported Proposals: Program Committee Accepted for IAFP 2020:

Submitting Committee: Water Safety and Quality PDG.
Session # 6712 Symposia: S2 Food Safety Challenges and Benefits of Capturing and Reusing Water in Food Processing Facilities (Allen Sayler – EAS Consulting Group, Omar Oyarzabal – University of Vermont Extension, Melanie Ailey – USDA FSIS, Yulie Meneses – University of Nebraska Lincoln, Rick Molongoski – CDM Smith) Monday, October 26th 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Session #6323 Symposia: S31 Allergen Control – Challenges, Perspectives and Solutions (Deb Smith – Viken, Steve L. Taylor, University of Nebraska Lincoln, John Holah – Holchem Laboratories, Cardiff Metropolitran University and EHEDG) Tuesday, October 27th 10:00-11:30 a.m. Submitting PDG: Fruit and Vegetable Safety and Quality PDG. Session #6355 Symposia: S26 How Difficult is It to Wash Produce in Retail? (Anna Starobin – Ecolab, David McSwane – Conference for Food Protection, Jennifer McEntire – United Fresh Produce Association, Howard Popoola – The Kroger Company) Tuesday, October 27th 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Presentations by Deb Smith from Viken on “The impact of COVID-19 on Industry Sanitation & Food Safety” Industry comments: more focus on employee welfare areas; cleaning of production lines remained the same. Shift from using sanitizer to using disinfectant; may need education on disinfectant. Increased in potential fraudulent declara- tion of products as disinfectants.

Presentation by Sara Payne from Ecolab “Blended Learning in the Time of COVID and Beyond.” Presented how Ecolab transformed their in-person workshop to blended learning and discussed the different types of Activities and Watch Outs.

Presentation by Jeff Kornacki from Consulting on “Pseudomonas the Overlooked Contaminants.”

Symposia/Roundtables Submitted for 2021 Annual Meeting include the following:

Symposia on “If I Knew Then What I Know Now” by Jill Hollingsworth Reed. Co-sponsor with the Retail and Food Service PDG.

Roundtable proposal on “Fact or Fiction? How to Evaluate Antimicrobial Products for Your Sanitation Program” by Dale Grinstead.

Roundtable to be resubmitted for 2021: The Drive for Better Sanitation and Food Safety Compliance through Measurements, Management, and Culture.

Advanced Hygiene Workshop will be re-submitted by Richard Brouillette. Richard will contact the other trainers to confirm their availability and the agenda.

Reminder, the deadline to submit proposals is November 10.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend the Board consider web meetings in the future alternate with live meetings so people can attend PDGs that are conflicting (i.e., same time), this will also avoid overlapping meetings.

Next Meeting Date: October 14, 2020, 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time virtual.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:34 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Nadia Narine.

**Food Law PDG**

**Names of Attendees:** Rosetta Newsome (Chair), Ashley Eisenbeiser, Emily Forauer, Eric Edmunds, Jenny Scott, Nadia Narine, Robert Buchanan, Wendy Bedale, and Wendy McMahon.

**Board/Staff Present:** Ruth Petran, Didi Loynachan, and Dina Siedenburg.

**Number of Attendees:** 12.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 1:35 p.m. Eastern Time, Friday, September 18, 2020.

Participants were welcomed to the meeting, and they then introduced themselves. The tentative agenda was reviewed and approved. The anti-trust guidelines for association meetings were read.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Emily Forauer.

**Old Business:** With a motion made by Bob Buchanan and seconded by Jenny Scott and no objections to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2019 Food Law PDG meeting as posted in the PDG Community and published in Food Protection Trends, the minutes were approved.

**New Business:**

Student PDG Update: Emily Forauer provided an update on Student PDG activities. She mentioned several items: a new position for International and Affiliate representative, which for the first time will be part of the upcoming meeting; the Three-Minute Thesis Competition, which will be virtual; implementation in early November of the Mentor – Mentee Program; and interest in co-sponsoring IAFP Annual Meeting sessions relevant to the Student PDG.

**Update on the IAFP 2020 Annual Meeting Session with Food Law PDG Sponsorship:** One of the four proposals submitted that mentioned Food Law PDG sponsorship was accepted. It is a roundtable—What Don’t We Know? Cultured Meat Vs. Traditional Meat and Fish Food Safety Concerns—scheduled for October 27, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. CDT. It was mentioned that a factor in the decision on proposals submitted is the large number, and that proposals not able to be accepted could be considered for webinars.

**Discussion—Ideas for Symposia, Roundtables, Workshops, and Abstracts for IAFP 2021:** Ideas shared for consideration for the IAFP 2021 Annual Meeting are: FSMA update, given the 10 year anniversary; international policies and laws and harmonization in an era of trade wars; integrating food law subject matter into student university education; new strategies (e.g., workshop) for early-career professionals to gain knowledge of important concepts and practical information on food law; the role of Codex, what it is, what it does, and examples of different country aspects (e.g., of developing and developed economies); and lessons to be learned in serving as an expert witness (an idea for a 2 – 3 day workshop or a series). The thought was offered that some of these ideas could be suitable for a review article as well.

**Discussion—Ideas for Webinar(s) for Food Law PDG Development:** FSMA update, including implementation, difficulties, practical guidance (e.g., via one or a series of webinars); specific aspects of food law (e.g., regulations, liability, definitions) discussed in a series of webinars; and regulatory issues of novel antimicrobials.

**Update, Discussion—Collaboration Opportunity with the International Food Protection Issues (IFPI) PDG:** This opportunity stems from the IFPI PDG’s project to develop brief high-level overviews of the structure of government systems and key food safety laws in different countries. A sample, focused on Australia, and a template for overview development is posted in the IFPI PDG Community. There was an overall positive response to this collaborative opportunity, and it was suggested that the leaders of the two PDGs get together to determine how to work together.

**Update, Discussion of the Journal of Food Protection Review Article Project:** This project, which aims to invite development of mini and comprehensive review articles, was brought to the attention of the PDG. Lists of topics for which authors have been identified and topics for which authors have not yet been identified were shared. PDG members are invited to provide feedback on potential authors as well as additional topics. The topic of probiotics and prebiotics and diseases in the immunocompromised was suggested, which may also be suitable as a roundtable topic. Suggestions on topics and authors may be sent to Joshua Gurtler at USDA.

**Update from IAFP Board Liaison:** Ruth Petran provided several updates. She spoke to the IAFP 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting, mentioning early-bird registration rates through October 1; the Ivan Parker Lecture on Monday morning, October 26; the U.S. Regulatory Update on Food Safety on Tuesday morning, October 27; and the John H. Stiliker Lecture, which will be an interactive interview, on Wednesday morning, October 28. There will be some live as well as pre-recorded sessions (e.g., awards presentations). Posters will be available by mid-October. Much of the content will be accessible for six months. She also mentioned the formation of an IAFP Diversity Council, and a call for interest in exploring potential concerns and challenges regarding diversity, inclusion, and equity. A few questions about the IAFP 2020 posters were raised and addressed, including mention of the option for poster presenters to be available online at a certain time, and static Q&A boards with chat functionality for poster, symposia, and technical session presenters.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:** None.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 2:40 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Chairperson Name:** Rosetta Newsome.

**Food Packaging PDG**

**Names of Attendees:** Kimberly Yeager (Chair), Tony Jin (Vice Chair), Nicholas Forshee (Outgoing Chair), Brian Himeblom, Carolyn Trabert, Kathy Chan, S. Balamurugan, Xinshu Li, and K. H. (full name not provided).

**Staff Present:** Dina Siedenburg and Didi Loynachan.
Minutes Recording Secretary: Kimberly Yeager.

The Anti-trust Statement from the IAFP was read by Outgoing Chair Nick Forshee.

There were no Committee or PDG Announcements shared at the meeting this year.

Old Business:

Minutes from the last meeting (and all previous meetings) held on July 21, 2019 are available at Minutes from the last meeting (and all previous meetings) held on July 21, 2019 are available at https://www.foodprotection.org/get-involved/professional-development-groups/food-packaging-pdg/. No members objected to the acceptance of the meeting minutes from the meeting of July 21, 2019. IAFP Members were reminded that they can directly update their PDG affiliations online and that information would be in the minutes. (Log onto the IAFP Website; on the Member Dashboard click Edit Profile, then the Professional Info tab. They can then select any PDG to add or delete.)

This year’s Annual Meeting will be IAFP 2020, A Virtual Annual Meeting, October 26–28, 2020. The Food Packaging related program items are: (i) Microorganisms and Plastipheres – Effects of Plastic Pollution on Food Safety (Symposia), (ii) Novel Technologies for Extended Shelf Life (Symposia), and (iii) Plastics and the Environment: How Industry is Responding to the Need for Change (Roundtable Discussion).

New Business:

IAFP Connect Food Packaging PDG Community was mentioned again—and that IAFP Connect is the only means of communication among members of the PDG. The members were reminded that the group was given information last year by Kim about IAFP Connect and how to log in and access our community, and that this information would be shared again in the meeting minutes. (Link: https://connect.foodprotection.org/home; Food Packaging PDG Community, go to https://connect.foodprotection.org/communities/community-home/digestviewer?communitykey=246716c6-70bf-459e-bd79-93aef8c33987&tab=digestviewer). You must be logged into the IAFP website to access IAFP Connect.

For our annual PDG meeting, we welcomed Dr. Xinhui Li, Associate Professor of Microbiology at UW-La Crosse, who presented his work on development of antiviral edible films. This topic was considered to be particularly timely in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Interest in this topic and other potential antiviral topics for the 2021 meeting is obviously high this year.

New Symposium Topics Brainstorming and Development was the next item on the meeting agenda. The deadline for IAFP 2021 symposia, roundtable and workshop proposals is November 10, 2020 (No late submissions will be accepted). Due to time constraints and to low attendance numbers, a second meeting will be held to discuss new symposium topics for 2021 and to organize sub-teams to develop the submissions for the PDG. Kim Yeager will send out a meeting invite via IAFP Connect for that meeting shortly.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend the appointment of Tony Jin as Vice Chairperson of the Food Packaging PDG for a two-year term beginning at the 2020 meeting, and to then serve as Chairperson as a two-year term immediately following.

Next Meeting Date: July 18–21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:52 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Kimberly Yeager.

Food Safety Assessment, Audit and Inspection PDG

Attendees: Andrew Clarke (Chair), Tracie Sheehan (Vice Chair), Adeniyi Odugbemi, Erica Sheward, Hannah Bolinger, Kim Onett, Loralyn Ledenbach, Marie-Claude Quentin, Martin Fowell, Thomas Spoden, William Huntley, Yige Bina, and Yvonne Masters.

Staff Present: Didly Lohnachan and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 15.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:30 a.m. Eastern Time, Monday, September 14, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Tracie Sheehan.

Old Business: Approved the 2019 meeting minutes without dissention. Andrew Clarke was approved by the Board to take over as Chair of the Food Safety Assessment, Auditing and Inspection PDG.

New Business: Andrew Clarke opened the meeting, shared the mission and provided the Anti-TruK Forum announcements. Tracie Sheehan was nominated to take over as Vice Chair for the PDG pending Board approval and requested to take meeting minutes.

Andrew Clarke invited two guest speakers from GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative), Erica Sheward (GFSI Director) and Marie-Claude Quentin (GFSI Senior Technical Manager). They provided an introduction to GFSI, the current position on remote auditing, and the strategy for Race to the Top and key features. GFSI has been part of the Consumer Goods Forum for 20 years as a not-for-profit organization with a mission of safe food to consumers everywhere. The GFSI position on remote auditing supports the use of information and communication technologies (ICT), believes parts of the audit need to be onsite, continuously reviews this position and is seeking data and evidence of efficacy. They have a project working with academia to conduct literature reviews and review independent data on the efficacy of remote auditing. They believe ICT can be used for auditor qualification and other activities. The Race to the Top strategy started after the Board challenged GFSI that the quality of the audit outputs, the independence, and the lack of quality oversight may be failing. The Board stated that there is discrepancy between GFSI audits and company’s internal audits of suppliers. The Race to the Top has the following features:

1. Feature 1 – GFSI benchmarking requirements for food safety, auditor training, and Certification Program Owner (CPO) key performance indicators (KPIs). There is a need to professionalize the auditor training similar to a financial auditor. GFSI should set the requirements on CPOs to monitor technical competence.
2. Feature 2 – CPOs need to be responsible for continuous self-monitoring and improvement of standards with GFSI monitoring CPO performance.
3. Feature 3 – Certification Body (CB) collaborative management platform – there is oversight of CBs by the CPOs, the ABs (Accreditation Bodies) and GFSI.

Feature 4 – GFSI recognized certificate repository for certifications from all CPOs through an electronic transfer so that CBs don’t have to load directly to GFSI. This will create one source of GFSI Certificates for companies to check their suppliers.

Stakeholder groups can be involved in the process. A question was asked about the CPOs issuing new fully remote audits and GFSI stated that fully remote audits are not considered benchmarked. They agreed that it needs to be very clear to customers if the certificate is GFSI benchmarked or not. The CPO contract with GFSI is clear that communication of the differences to customers is required. A question was asked about timelines for the plan and GFSI stated that Feature 1 will be Q1 2021, Feature 2 will be end of 2020 for KPIs for CPOs, Feature 3 is working with the IAF task force by end of Jan. 2021, and Feature 4 the database should be live in 2021. GFSI will be engaging at the annual IAFP conference 2020 with a virtual booth. A question was asked if ASQ certification should be a requirement for auditors. They acknowledged this was a good training program but is not available or known globally. Andrew shared that he had posted the Race to the Top on the Audit PDG site and perhaps our PDG could share the GFSI training proposal with the student PDG group for feedback.

Andrew thanked GFSI for sharing the presentation and they left the meeting.

Andrew shared the following three proposals with brief summaries:


Other possible sessions were proposed on either auditor fatigue or celebrating auditor successes. Andrew suggested reviewing the 2019 minutes for topics. A suggestion was made for a workshop prior to the 2021 IAFP on auditor training with GFSI. It was noted that the attendance on this call was low and should we reach out to the auditing community to bring more auditors and regulatory inspectors to the committee.
will set up a follow up call to discuss the proposals submitted after the submission deadline of November 10. He also suggested that some IAFP sponsored auditing webinars might generate more interest in the commit-tee and to aid progressing the mission of the group.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:
1. Recommend the Board approve Tracie Sheehan as incoming Vice Chair for the Food Safety Assessment, Auditing and Inspection PDG.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Andrew Clarke.

Food Safety Culture

Attendees (September 23, 2020): Lone Jespersen (Chair), Laura Dunn Nelson (Vice Chair), Adam Kramer, Alexis Hamilton, Alison Cousins, Angela Bemowski, Bertrand Emond, Bill Huntley, Brenda Hallbrook, Brian Himelblum, Briana Burke, Brita Ball, Carol Wallace, Caroline Wang, Carolyn Trabert, Conrad Choiniere, David Buckley, Dina Scott, Donald Prater, Elizabeth Demmings, Elizabeth Williams, Ellen Evans, Ellen Shumaker, Emma Samuel, Eric Moore, Ethan Reggia, Gale Prince, Greta Tessman, Hannah Bolinger, Jack Burnett, Jennifer Hughes, Jill Hollingsworth, Jill Stubber, Jose A Bolanos, Joyce Wert, Julian Graham, Kara Baldus, Kasey Ward, Kety Kadlec, Kolawole Banwo, Kory Anderson, Larry Steenson, Laurie Burke, Laurel Burke, Lidia Vidal, Margarita Gomez, Mary Gillespie, Megan Jensen, Megan Kenjora, Melody Ge, MiKayla Mentzer, Michael Johnston, Michael Roberson, Nathan Libbey, Neil Bogart, Patrick Pimentel, Paula Herald, Peter Hibbard, Rounaq Nayak, Rupal Chouffhary, Ryan Maus, Sarah Azineiro, Sara Mortimore, Sharon Birkett, Shaygai Nayarugu, Tayo Irawo, Vanessa Bussiere, Vikas Gill, Yvonne Masters, Zeblantion, and Chris (no last name provided).

Attendees (September 24, 2020): Lone Jespersen (Chair), Laura Dunn Nelson (Vice Chair), Adam Kramer, Alexis Hamilton, Alison Cousins, Andrew Clarke, Angela Bemowski, April Bishop, Austin Welsh, Bertrand Emond, Bill Cunningham, Bill Huntley, Brian Himelblum, Briana Burke, Brita Ball, Caroline Wang, David Buckley, Elizabeth Demmings, Ellen Evans, Ellison Cunningham, Emma Samuel, Eric Moore, Jack Burnett, Jason White, Jennifer Hughes, Jill Hollingsworth, Jose A Bolanos, Julian Graham, Kasey Ward, Kety Kadlec, Larry Steenson, Laurel Burke, Loryl Jen Ledenbach, Margarita Gomez, Marie Tanner, Megan Jensen, Megan Kenjora, Melody Ge, Michael Johnston, Mike Batz, Neil Bogart, Neil Coole, Nicola Sharman, Patrick Pimentel, Peter Hibbard, Romina Zanabria Eyzaguirre, Sallie Klinefelter, Sharon Birkett, Shaygai Nayarugu, Tayo Irawo, Tim Stubbs, Vanessa Bussiere, and Vikas Gill.

Board/Staff Present: Ruth Petran, Didi Loydnachan, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 74 (September 23), 56 (September 24).


Minutes Recording Secretary: Alexis Hamilton.

Old Business: Lone Jespersen, PDG Chair, welcomed all attendees, introduced the agenda and speakers for the meetings, disclosed recording and accessibility information, thanked all who attended and worked on the webinars as part of the Food Safety Culture webinar series, mentioned progress on a trends paper related to content discussed throughout the webinar series, and congratulated Andrew Clarke on his industry award.

Ruth Petran, IAFP Vice President, gave an update to PDG members from the IAFP executive board. Ruth thanked all members for their work to promote food safety, protection, culture throughout the industry, encouraged all to register for IAFP 2020, and asked that members join IAFP in its ongoing conversations on diversity and inclusion within the organization.

Laura Nelson, PDG Vice Chair, discussed the purpose of the PDG and its use and application within and across industries, encouraged involvement in the development of content for 2020-2021, and asked that members communicate with the leadership team through the PDG through the IAFP FSC PDG Connect page if members’ interests or needs were not being met.

Alexis Hamilton, Student PDG Liaison to the PDG, thanked all who participated in the recent food safety culture materials repository survey. Alexis reported the current results, which were organized into three main content areas (print materials, in-house operations, and outside or shared resources), and asked that members please submit additional materials, suggestions, or other relevant material through the second survey which will be opened after the PDG meetings and closed after IAFP 2020, after which the full repository will be compiled and posted on the PDG’s Connect page.

New Business:
Conrad Choiniere, with support from Donald Prater, gave an update about the FDA’s Center for Food Safety and Nutrition’s initiative to (1) promote food safety culture throughout the food safety system, (2) promote food safety within and across the FDA’s own agency, and (3) develop and promote smarter food safety among consumers. Donald emphasized that it would be helpful to assess and measure food safety culture from a risk mitigation perspective to incorporate into oversight work. Jose Bolanos asked what progress had been made in this initiative to date? Conrad confirmed that work on this initiative has begun and asked that members reach out with suggestions or preferences for engage-ment in this endeavor. Lastly, an invitation was extended to all PDG members to join the FDA and USDA on October 6th for a public meeting on consumer education entitled “Food Safety: Consumer Outreach and Education Today and for the Future” go to https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/08/25/2020-18589/food-safety-consumer-outreach-and-education-today-and-for-the-future. Carole Wallace introduced the PDG to what the Salus Research Network is, the activities it has conducted, and its future aspirations. This science group is actively researching food safety culture and related fields, founded upon trust, honesty, and respect of shared materials, and focused on achieving consensus in understanding based on science to give rigor to the field. Members have collaborat-ed on research papers, worked on a framework to describe food safety culture and its interaction within food businesses, supported the work of graduate students, and funding proposals across the globe to widen the food safety culture network of academic, business, and food chain stakeholders. Carol, with support from Sara Mortimore, shared that Salus is looking for new members who are researching in the field or interested in participating in research to reach out to be connected.
Rouaqa Nayak discussed his research, with Lone Jespersen, focused on the regulatory perspective of food safety culture and the use of technology to make culture more consistent. A review of regulations and regulatory agencies is underway to create a globally applicable frame-work for comparing food safety regulations between and within countries. The study is expected to be completed and available for view by January 2021. Neil Bogart asked if this project was addressing the inconsistencies between maturity and implementation because differences in regulations will not make a difference in enhancing food safety culture within the industry if these businesses cannot be held accountable. Lone responded that this project attempted to increase proficiency across industry and how to improve culture consistently.

Andrew Clarke, with support from Neil Coole, explained the BRCGS START program to aid small businesses in developing their food safety culture through a stepped audit approach to full certification. The certifi-cation process includes four steps: (1) learn and review content related to a strong food safety culture, (2) preparation through training, (3) planning for the company’s future through a gap analysis of existing practices, and (4) an audit relevant to the step chosen. Nicola Sharman asked if smaller businesses can remain on START or if they are expected to progress to the full standard. Andrew said that BRCGS did not mandate that participants complete the program to full certification, but that BRCGS supported participants make progress that support their own business needs and priorities. Patrick Pimentel asked when the next version of the document would be available. Andrew confirmed there was uncertainty about an exact date, but that it would occur after version 9 of the current standard was released and the new document would reflect those changes.

Neil Coole informed the PDG about work to develop Publicly Available Specification 320: “A Culture of Food Safety.” A steering group has been developed to help create a practical guide to creating a culture of food safety within the industry. Neil mentioned that there were two ways to be involved in this group: (1) as a member of the steering group to shape the development of PAS 320 or (2) as a part of the review panel which will be detached from the steering group to effectively evaluate its progress while remaining close to the content presented with the docu-
ments. The group is looking to work on a scope for the document next year and encouraged interested parties to reach out to Neil or Lone Jespersen for involvement.

Marie Tanner shared the process to enhance food safety culture, as utilized by the Dairy Farmers of America. Marie said expressly emphasizing the importance and commitment to food safety-positive messages and behaviors were imperative to a company’s success, suggested that companies with low employee engagement implement engagement surveys to better understand gaps in commitment, and described the elements that should be present in a behavior-based food safety culture and steps that should be taken to effectuate a cultural change.

Laura Nelson led the discussion of ideas for content for next year’s PDG activities and IAFP 2021 symposia. Neil Bogart suggested that content be developed around effectively auditing an organization’s food safety culture, for which Lone Jespersen and Eric Moore volunteered to help. Jill Hollingsworth shared that Sima Hussein submitted an idea to look at the implications of having a food safety culture in quick-sale and full-service restaurant establishments and its impact on regulatory compliance and third-party food safety audits, for which Sara Mortimore, Jack Burnett, and Sophie Wu expressed interest and/or relevance in assisting and the Food Safety Culture PDG could be interested in co-sponsoring. Bill Cunningham suggested that content be developed around enhancing employee retention as a function of trust in the workplace, for which Julian Graham and Eric Moore suggested collaboration with or co-sponsoring existing content with the Retail and Food Service PDG and Bertrand Emond suggested incorporating content from relevant GFSI benchmarking documents which address this or similar issues. Alison Cousins suggested that a roundtable proposal be developed around novel and unusual training delivery in engaging new and temporary employees. Lone ended this discussion by asking for continued submission of ideas and volunteers to work on turning these ideas into activities either directly (by emailing Lone, Laura Nelson, or Alexis Hamilton) or indirectly (through the Food Safety Culture PDG’s Connect page through the IAFP portal) before wrapping up the meeting by thanking all participants for their attendance and participation.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:50 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Francie Buck.

Food and Vegetable Safety and Quality PDG


Staff Present: Didi Lonyachan and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 45.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:06 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Wenqing (Wennie) Xu.

Old Business: Carl Custer motioned to approve 2019 meeting minutes. David Crownover second the motion.

New Business:

The PDG invited three guest speakers to give food safety education updates from academia, industry and non-profit organization perspectives. The first speaker, Dr. Yaohua (Betty) Feng from Purdue University, presented her five-year effort on development of a food safety curriculum for youth and teachers. The second speaker, Chris Jordan from Diversity, shared his experience on virtual food safety certification training. The third speaker, Tim Stubbs from Nation Dairy Council, presented on guidance documents, workshops, and resources to help teach food safety best practices to processors of all sizes.

PDG Chair Francie Buck highlighted the four symposia or roundtables that were primarily sponsored by the PDG and selected for IAFP 2020. The topics and times were announced to encourage attending. Proposals submitted but not selected were also listed. Revamping was encouraged for the ideation session.

Partnership for Food Safety Education (Partnership for short) made an announcement on the 2021 virtual conference. The call for abstract is live and all abstracts are due on Oct 14, 2020. The PDG and Partnership have a longstanding collaboration due to shared interests in food safety education.

The Student PDG representative made an announcement on the IAFP mentor/mentee program and the symposia or roundtables sponsored by Student PDG. Co-sponsorship has been proposed for topics that fit.

The PDG Chair announced the upcoming Vice Chair election for 2021. There are five candidates (Brad Taylor, Shauna Henley, Allison Cousins, WanChin Lim, and Brittany Saunier). Candidates bios will be shared with PDG members and the election will be through Survey Monkey.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend the Board consider including elements of online/virtual contributors for the conference next year, for those that still might not be able to attend in person. For example: a symposium where the convener and speakers are all at the conference in the USA, yet there may be one virtual contributor giving a live presentation online or a pre-recorded presentation and being present virtually to answer questions, etc.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:50 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Francie Buck.

Fruit and Vegetable Safety and Quality PDG


Board/Staff Present: Michelle D. Daniyulik, Emilio Esteban, Didi Lonyachan, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 75.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, October 1, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Gretchen Wall.

Old Business: Minutes from the 2019 meeting were adopted without changes. PDG members were reminded that IAFP Connect is the primary mechanism for communication and collaboration and that on Oct. 2, 2020, registration rates for the 2020 Annual Meeting will increase.

New Business: Outgoing Chair, Humberto Maldonado, thanked the PDG for the opportunity to serve as Chair and welcomed Gretchen Wall as incoming Chair and Kristin Esch as incoming Vice Chair. Emilio Esteban provided the IAFP Executive Board Report.

Historically, the FVSQ PDG provides a series of presentations and updates to the members, which are outlined below.
Produce Safety Consequences of COVID – Dr. Jennifer McEntire, Senior Vice President Food Safety & Technology, United Fresh Produce Association

Through a survey sent prior to the meeting, PDG members indicated interest in learning more about how the pandemic has impacted the produce industry and how they might contribute to efforts to assist the produce industry as a whole. Dr. McEntire discussed a wide array of impacts to the produce industry, including consumer confidence and misperceptions, farm labor challenges, produce safety implications, research needs, unintended consequences of the pandemic (such as a shift to more home food delivery and home cooking), and future regulatory influence. Her informative presentation led to an open discussion amongst PDG members. Topics brought forth by members included traceability initiatives, e-commerce, and reaction to pathogen detection on food products and packaging.

FDA Updates – Dr. Samir Assar, Dr. Kurt Noelet, and Dr. Karen Killinger

Dr. Assar opened the presentation by discussing the 2020 Leafy Greens STEC Action Plan which was issued last March. He highlighted three outbreaks in romaine (2018 – Yuma, Santa Maria; 2019 – Salinas) and discussed FDA key focus areas on prevention, response, and addressing knowledge gaps after these outbreaks. Prevention efforts have focused on agricultural water safety, enhanced inspection, auditing, and certification programs, microbial surveys and STEC detection, increased awareness to address concerns around adjacent land use, and strengthening communication and outreach. FDA also has responded by publishing the Salinas outbreak investigation report and is conducting follow up surveillance during the fall 2020 growing and harvest season. More broadly, FDA is pursuing activities to promote technology, enhanced traceability, utilization of data, advanced root cause analysis, and outbreak/recall communications. Knowledge gaps are being filled by conducting longitudinal studies, data mining on previous outbreaks, and compost sampling assignments in California. Dr. Kurt Noelet and Dr. Karen Killinger discussed FDA’s activities surrounding adjacent and nearby land use issues which have been implicated in historical observations from on-farm investigations going back to 2009. PDG members were encouraged to reach out to Dr. Killinger and Dr. Noelet if there is information to share or opportunities to discuss related to adjacent land use. Contact information was provided during the presentation (see 1:09:53 of the meeting recording), go to https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/dbd54778399a42ab-3c29a85b0743326ba459e1da7a9c3014d4091f252fa5f5.

Sprout Safety Alliance, Dr. Kaiping Deng, IFSSH/IL Institute of Technology

Dr. Kaiping Deng, IFSSH/IL Institute of Technology, provided the update. Her presentation started by reporting on Sprout Safety Alliance go to https://www.ifssh.it/ssa training activities. 104 sprout operations have attended the training, including 158 individuals. In addition, 61 federal regulators (federal, state, and international), and 3 supermarket chain managers have attended the training. The SSA has approved 34 trainers across the U.S. 11 are from universities, 8 are state regulators, 10 are consultants (domestic and international), and 5 are sprout growers. Trainees are available to conduct trainings in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean. New this year is the SSA Virtual Training due to the pandemic. This training is now broken in to 2 four-hour sessions delivered on Zoom with group exercises and knowledge checks. Pre- and post-training assessments were discussed. Other outreach activities included 2 webinars (Listeria concerns and testing requirements). SSA is also developing a video series, though progress has halted due to the pandemic. SSA continues to provide updates via their newsletters and technical support through the SSA TAN.

Produce Safety Alliance, Dr. Betsy Bihn, Cornell University

Dr. Betsy Bihn provided the update for the Produce Safety Alliance and began by discussing COVID-19 priorities and impacts. This included keeping the PSA Grower Training accessible through online and remote courses, supporting trainers by offering extra office hours and mentoring for remote trainings, and sharing COVID-19 facts through industry office hours, FAQs, and guidance documents. Dr. Bihn noted for attendees that course terminology is important as each of the course types are very different (in-person, remote, or online). The PSA is hosting a series of refresher webinars for PSA Trainees starting on Oct. 1 through the end of November. Each session is one hour long and hosted on Thursdays at 12 p.m. ET. More information about the series can be found on the PSA website go to, https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/training/trainer-updates/. The first pilot remote Train-the-Trainer Course was hosted on Sept. 21-24, 2020 and the Spanish pilot remote course will be hosted on Oct. 5-8, 2020. The PSA plans to evaluate these programs and release additional dates for PSA Train-the-Trainer Courses in the near future. The PSA collaborated with the FSMA Southern Center to deliver two Advanced PSA Trainer Workshops in 2019 and 2020. They are moving forward in revising content, but the pandemic has prevented the scheduling of future courses due to the hands-on nature of activities built into the course. Dr. Bihn shared training metrics, go to https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/training/training-reports/ and highlighted that some changes may be made in the next reporting cycle. There was also a reminder to trainers to update their contact https://producesafetyalliance. cornell.edu/content/update-my-entry-trainers-only/ information. The PSA continues to move forward with international outreach activities, development of new education and extension materials, and supporting diverse learning opportunities (i.e., translations, adaptations of the curriculum).

Overview of Foodborne Outbreaks since last IAFP meeting – Dr. Tami Cloyd, Team Lead FDA CORE Outbreak Evaluation Team

Dr. Tami Cloyd provided an update of produce related outbreaks from July 2019 – present day. Dr. Cloyd reviewed the goals and activities of CORE team including surveillance, response, communications, and outbreak evaluation. In the presentation, Dr. Cloyd highlighted that CORE has responded to 33 outbreaks since the last meeting, 24 of which were produce related (19 currently closed), 6 had vehicles confirmed, 13 had vehicles suspect. The majority of outbreaks were associated with Romaine lettuce (5); other outbreaks involved blackberries, a combination of raspberries and blackberries, strawberries, herbs, mushrooms, mango, cut fruit, diced tomatoes, and sprouts. The products originated from both domestic and international sources. Produce-related outbreak pathogens included Listeria monocytogenes, E. coli, Salmonella, Cyclospora, and Hepatitis A. Three outbreaks were still in response during the last annual meeting including melons, vegetable trays, and papayas – all which were caused by Salmonella. One outbreak of interest associated with enoki mushrooms was reviewed. FDA is also actively investigating another multi-state outbreak associated with Salmonella infections and wood ear mushrooms. Additional outbreaks currently in response include pre-packaged salad mix (Cyclospora), red onions (Salmonella Newport), and peaches (Salmonella Enteritidis).

Student PDG Updates – Dr. Cameron Bardsley

Dr. Cameron Bardsley provided the update on behalf of the IAFP Student PDG. There is a 3-minute thesis competition that is happening – including two rounds. Finalists will be selected to present in a webinar held in November (date TBD). Submissions will be accepted until Oct. 4, 2020. If PDG members have any opportunities for students, feel free to reach out to the Student PDG leadership. Dr. Bardsley also acknowledged the upcoming symposia and roundtables organized by the Student PDG, and encourages all PDG members to attend the 2020 sessions or work towards co-sponsorship of sessions for 2021. There are also changes in leadership that have occurred. The new Chair is Minh Duong. Vice Chair is Erika Estrada. Dr. Bardsley encourages all PDG members to become active in the Mentor/Mentee program. Last year, there were 36 mentoring matches between student and professional members.

PDG Updates – 2020 Meeting & Planning for 2021

The FVSQ PDG session schedule for the 2020 Annual Meeting was shared with meeting attendees. The PDG sponsored 2 roundtables and 10 symposia for the 2020 meeting. Proposals for 2021 are due on Nov. 10, 2020. There is a discussion post set up on IAFP Connect for FVSQ PDG members to discuss and collaborate on potential proposals. Please contact the FVSQ Chairs no later than October 30, 2020 for review and approval prior to your submission. There is also opportunity to host webinars and additional educational opportunities in 2021. If you have ideas, please share them with Gretchen or Kristin.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend to the Board that Kristin Esch, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, be approved as Vice Chair of the PDG.
2. Continue to offer free webinars sponsored by the IAFP Foundation to increase PDG accessibility to learning opportunities.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:10 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Gretchen Wall.
HACCP Utilization and Food Safety Systems PDG


Staff Present: Didi Loyaichan, Dina Siedenburg, and David Tharp.

Number of Attendees: 38.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, September 24, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Fatemeh Ataei.

Old Business: The meeting minutes from last year were approved. Reviewed and shared this year’s sessions that were approved by PDG. Thirteen proposals were submitted, and 4 were approved and are on the schedule for the October meeting (two roundtables and two symposia).

New Business: The meeting started with reviewing last year’s meeting minutes and approved by PDG members. Dr. Baia Kottapalli was invited as guest speaker and talked about the HACCP utilization using mathematical modeling for risk assessment. The PDG members decided to propose the following topics for next year’s Annual Meeting: We have until November 10 to submit topics for next year’s IAFP Meeting.

Bob Buchanan: Dealing with residual risks: Modeling PDG will be sponsor as well. What do you with residual risk and verification approach? How do you manage, measure, and prevent it? Reach to Modeling PDG and ask if they are interested.

Webinar topic: Pandemic and dealing with the new norm, and how to manage HACCP / FSP re-assessment and audits (virtual, online)? How to manage it? How people have dealt with this situation to manage audits and visits safely – Loralyn – work with audit PDG and best practices – Shahbaz, Peter K. Ben Embarek, Raj Rajagopal, Robert Buchanan, Rosetta Newsome, Samuel Godefroy, and Andrea Etter, Anne-Marie Perchec, Ashley Peterson, DeAnn Benesh, Vice Chairperson.

International Foods Protection Issues PDG

Attendees: Ian Jenson (Chair), DeAnn Benesh (Vice Chair), Amarat (Amy) Simonne, Andrea Etter, Anne-Marie Perchec, Ashley Peterson, Bob Brackett, Brad Taylor, Caroline Smith DeWaal, Don Schaffner, Elisabetta Lambertini, Elizabeth Williams, Ewen Todd, James Cook, Jeff Farber, Jin Jung, Jung Kim, Kevin Edwards, Les Bourquin, Lisa Benjamin, Lisa Weddig, Mariza Landgraf, Mary Anne Amalarajou, Mohammad Shahbaz, Peter K. Ben Embarek, Raj Rajagopal, Robert Buchanan, Rosetta Newsome, Samuel Godefroy, and Sarah Cahill.

Board/Staff Present: Emilio Esteban, Didi Loyaichan, Dina Siedenburg, and David Tharp.

Number of Attendees: 34.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:04 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: DeAnn Benesh, Vice Chairperson.

Ian opened the meeting, welcoming PDG members and guests and made general introductions of himself and the Vice Chair, DeAnn Benesh. Ian reminded the participants of the purpose of the meeting and reviewed the anti-trust guidelines and the proposed agenda. Old Business: 2019 PDG Meeting Minutes. The minutes of the 2019 PDG meeting were accepted as printed in FPT and posted on IAFP Connect July 2019.

New Business:

Update from the IAFP Board: David Tharp welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting, saying he hopes these virtual meetings will benefit the group. The Board looks forward to the Annual Meeting and hopes to “see” everyone there. The Program is now available on the Annual Meeting page. All sessions will be recorded and posted on the IAFP website for 6 months for viewing.

Review of Symposia / Roundtables submitted for the 2020 Annual Meeting by the PDG. Twelve proposals were submitted with the IFPI PDG as the primary sponsor for 6 of these. Nine submissions were accepted: 2 full symposia, 6 short symposia and 1 roundtable. The 1 roundtable has since been cancelled (decision of speakers) and will be resubmitted for next year’s meeting.

Activities between meetings:

IAFP Connect – All members are encouraged to get themselves set up to use this communication platform. Ian mentioned that he has received more response when he uses the site to send information via direct email vs listing directly on the IFPI PDG Connect page. He suggested setting your “Preferences” to receive emails, so you don’t have to go to the IAFP Connect page to check for communications. It will be critical to use IAFP Connect this year so we can work at development of ideas for roundtable/symposium submissions for the 2021 program. Using this format allows for response and discussion among members.

Food Safety Systems – high-level 2-page summary by country: Ian reiterated what he had suggested on this topic at last year’s meeting, and asked for a response from the PDG to complete and collect 2-page high-level overviews of the structure of the government agency system(s) and key laws for food safety in your country. The objective would be to create a small library of these and house them on the IFPI PDG IAFP Connect site. Ian had posted one such summary last year that he had created in collaboration with a few other Australians; and in addition, someone in the PDG had posted a link on IAFP Connect to FAO and food laws within countries (which was a bit more detailed than preferred). Sarah Cahill said this FAO version is FAOLEX, go to http://fao.org/faolex. en/. She also provided a link in the chat for CODEX, suggesting to check under each member country to get a regulatory overviews/per country, go to http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/about-codex/members/en/. Ian asked if there were members of the PDG who would be willing to take this project on for their countries.

Muhammad Shahbaz from Pakistan, currently working in Riyadh Saudi Arabia said he would like to participate to represent Pakistan and/ or Saudi Arabia. Jeff Farber thought this was a good idea for the PDG to take on to get to know each other and work with each other, and he would be willing to take this on for Canada. Amarat (Amy) Simonne said she would be willing to help to create one for Thailand and some selected Asian countries. Bob Buchanan suggested we work with the Food Law PDG on this project and said International Product Liability Laws – Journal Days provide a really good website. Caroline Smith DeWaal suggested this might also be a good thing to turn into a series of articles for Food Protection Trends, such as was done by the Food Law PDG a few years ago with the introduction of the FSMA Rules. Ian suggested this might also be an idea for creation of future symposia.

Ian will update and re-post the 2-pager he created for Australia so members can use as an example to get started.

Proposal suggestions for 2021:

Ian reminded everyone that proposals can originate either in our PDG or we can support those originating from other PDGs. He again encouraged members to use IAFP Connect to work to work together to develop submissions. The deadline for submission is 10 November 2020 – just a couple of weeks post completion of the 2020 Annual Meeting.

Ian received email from several members on topics under development: Marcel Zwiertering and Arie Havelaar (also members of the Microbial Modeling and Risk Assessment PDG) sent in their suggestion for a symposium and an associated roundtable on quantitative microbial risk assessment in low- and middle-income countries; and Kevin Edwards and other members of the Seafoods PDG will be developing a symposium with an international view and will likely come to the PDG for support.

During the meeting, Ewen Todd suggested that since a survey is being published on the change of Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) in food purchases and food preparation for Middle Eastern North Africa (MENA) countries, a symposium or round table could be created to share this information and include other countries or regions. Don Schaffner
suggested that perhaps the roundtable that was pulled from this year’s meeting, could be “repurposed” as a webinar, sponsored by our PDG – to which the organizer Amy Simonne said she would take the idea back to the team to consider.

Election of new PDG Vice Chair will need to take place before next PDG meeting. PDG members were asked to please send in your nominations to Ian or DeAnn for consideration (self-nomination is acceptable). Ian will post the request for nominations and closing date for submission on IAFP Connect site AFTER the 10 November (the 2021 proposals submission due date), and a poll will be initiated shortly thereafter.

Journal of Food Protection wants to publish more regular reviews and has produced a list of topics. Some of these planned reviews have been assigned and are in preparation and some are still potential reviews. Two questions were posed by Ian to the PDG: Do we have any other suggestions for review topics? Do we know of someone who would be willing to prepare the reviews that are currently listed as potential reviews? Ian will post this request on IAFP Connect to gather response.

Five presenters provided different perspectives on the topic of Covid-19 & safe food supplies around the world:

* Peter Ben Embarek – Who and Food Safety: In April, WHO/FAO developed and published guidance documents (available online) for food businesses and for food safety authorities, to address the concerns being experienced. These guidance documents focused on risk-based food inspection, stress and changes for food laboratories and risk to the integrity of the food chain (food fraud). More guidance documents are underway to address management of traditional food markets during the COVID-19 pandemic and reducing public health risks associated with the sale of live wild animals in traditional food markets. Peter provided a high-level overview of a project between WHO/FAO/OIE to develop a joint research and development project (R&DBlueprint), go to https://www.who.int/teams/blueprint/covid-19 on a series of topics around COVID-19 and the impact on public health (vaccine) and the animal-human interface and issues around transmission.

* Don Schaffner – Science and Risk of COVID-19: Don has spent much of the last 6 months speaking with the media (TV, print media, radio, podcast, social media, etc.) about COVID-19, discussing risks and risk mitigations. He narrated discussions he has had with people via Twitter – which mirror the discussions he has experienced in all media outlets covering: Soap – it will not “pop” viruses. Lysol your takeout food – if it makes you “feel” better, do it, but there is no science that supports doing this (and there have been spikes at poison control centers due to toxic reactions). Use soap to wash your produce – no! The material safety data sheets for these soaps say no, they can make you sick. Groceries: There was a YouTube video of aspecitic technique for sanitizing groceries by a doctor wearing scrubs (so it must be true?). No wash your hands when you get home, but other precautions aren’t scientifically warranted. Don suggested this website for good information about food risk, go to https://mia.co.nz/covid-19-response/effectiveness-of-ppe-nzfrsc/products/potential-for-foodborne-transmission-covid-19. There is very little supportive evidence regarding contacting COVID-19 from formines (inanimate objects).

* Ashley Peterson – Keep Poultry Plants Operating: Beginning in March a change in food habits occurred when people began eating more foods (raw meats and protein) at home versus outside the home. Products that was packaged and labelled for retail, was rerouted and sold for home use to try meet demand. There was a lot of hoarding at first, with “truck sales” selling meat out of trucks with people waiting in line for hours to be able to get access to poultry product. The number of employees working per 1000 sq ft of space in meat-processing facilities is MUCH higher than most other manufacturing industries. The meat industry collaborated on ideas to keep employees safe. CDC and OSHA interim guidance for Meat & Poultry Processing Workers & Employees released in April was very helpful and the industry is now planning discussions to update this guidance based on all that has been learned since. Ashley shared a National Chicken Council video, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9X-LFLY2-k&feature=youtu.be outlining how the chicken industry has enhanced safety measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

* Sammy Godfrey – Activities in MEA: MEA relies heavily on import of foods and regulatory agencies are very stringent, but not necessarily risk based. Some of the main food regulatory functions during the pandemic included: addressing emerging risks; determining the risk is not a food safety risk, but rather a food security risk; and maintaining the integrity of food regulatory functions. Three key concerns/actions were identified:

1. Risk communication: to review scientific information and issue scientific opinions tailored to audiences and deliver in the several languages (FAO/WHO INFOSAN guidance was helpful – Arabic, English and French).
2. Maintain food safety and supply by creating guidance (based on WHO/FAO guidance) to help the food production sector adapt and prevent/mitigate interruption in food production.
3. Maintain integrity of Food regulatory functions. Countries maintaining things as usual, were now forced to focus on risk-based thinking, interventions and learned how to use and rely on technology (distance inspection, digitalization).

* Tim Ryan – International Trade Implications: The meat trade market was already complicated pre-COVID-19, with a sharp rise in China meat imports in 2019, disruptions in trade policies and trade wars. Disruption to supply chains, channel and trade occurred as COVID hit and work forces were impacted. causing production of U.S. beef to drop drastically. Animal meat “life cycles” that define their use for food production, so many animals had to be euthanized. Marketing channels were also strongly affected: hotel/restaurant use of meat drastically dropped as meat sales shifted to retail meat purchases. Disruption to trade via extra inspection services due to COVID-19, and when a COVID case is found in an employee in a plant, shipments are suspended for export. Tim provided some comments about how COVID will shape trade policy: recession leading to reduced budgets to drive policies; global multilateralism becoming weaker as a result; evaluation of global supply chains, with global air and sea freight in a state of flux; and countries beginning to promote more self-sufficiency vs relying on imports (leading to food security issues for some countries).

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 17, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:13 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Ian Jenson.

Low Water Activity Foods PDG


Board/Staff Present: Michelle D. Danyluk, Didi Loynachan, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 65.

Meeting Called to Order: 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Bradley Marks, Vice Chair.

Old Business: Minutes of the 2019 PDG Meeting (July 1, 2019) were approved (Motion: Pam Wilger. Second: Edith Wilkins) by unanimous consent.

New Business: Brief updates were provided by Matt Igo from the Student PDG and Michelle Danyluk of the Executive Board.

Presentations were provided by student member Matt Igo (Rutgers University) on Understanding the Survival of Foodborne Pathogens in Low Water Activity Foods Using Mathematical Modeling and by Chad Gaier (Dairy Management, Inc.) on Best Practices to Manage Pathogens in a Dry Dairy Food Facility.

Symposia/Roundtable/Workshop ideas were discussed in the whole group meeting, based on input that was collected in advance of the meeting (14 initial ideas). The ideas were distilled down into four topics for further work at the end of this meeting, which occurred in topic-specific breakout Zoom meetings. Details of the ideas refined during those small-group discussions were collected real-time via a shared Google Sheet for collective coordination across the PDG, in advance of submission to the IAFP system. Broad topics included sanitation and the environment including clean breaks; process validation, surrogates, and emerging topics.
Recommendations to the Executive Board:
1. Recommend approval of Dr. Bradley Marks as Vice Chair of the PDG as elected by the PDG.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.
Meeting Adjourned: 2:45 p.m. Eastern Time
Chairperson: Wendy White.

Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality PDG

Attendees: Wendy White (Chair), Matt Taylor (Vice Chair), Amanda Rials, Amit Morey, Andrea Etter, Audrey Krese, Betsy Booren, Bledar Bisha, Brian Himebloblo, Byron Chaves, Carl Custer, Melvin Carter, Cindy Austin, Dennis Burson, Dianna Bourassa, Doug Marshall, Emefa Monu, Emilio Esteban, Garth Hoffmann, Gina Geornaras, Gireesh Rajashekar, Hanyile Cotin-Karaca, James Dickson, Jason M. Scheffer, Jennifer Raspaldo, Joe Holt, John Jarosh, Keirleeanad's, Brian Himebloblo. 

Chairperson: Wendy White.

Meeting Called to Order: 11:03 a.m. Eastern Time, October 1, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Wendy White.

Wendy White welcomed attendees and introduced Dr. Matt Taylor as the PDG’s Vice Chair and the PDG’s new Student Liaison, Sam Annor, a Ph.D student at Texas A&M. Dr. Emilio Esteban gave the IAFP Executive Board Update. He welcomed all attendees and reminded everyone that the deadline for early registration is today, Oct. 1, 2020, although registration will be available after this time.

Old Business:
Wendy entered the link to the 2019 Meat and Poultry PDG Meeting Minutes in the chat. Attendees voted to accept these minutes after the motion was raised by Carl Custer and seconded by Matt Taylor.

New Business:

Matt led the attendees in a brainstorming for session ideas for the 2021 IAFP Annual Meeting. The complete proposal list will be distributed to the members after the call. There were 11 proposal ideas discussed: Atmospheric cold plasma, WGS with big data and BlockChain, using elevated hydrostatic pressure, fresh meat shelf life, virtual auditing; egg inspection modernization, animal feed food safety, meat & poultry industry’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, preharvest controls of Salmonella, cell grown meat, and the swine inspection modernization.

Please remember that the deadline for session proposals is Nov. 10, 2020. The submission portal can be accessed on the IAFP website https://iafp.confex.com/iafp/2021/cfp.cgi.

Matt gave the members an update on Food Protection Trends, which is free for all members of IAFP. He urged everyone to enable updates from FPT via IAFP Connect as new issues come every two months. The FPT Management Committee is requesting ideas from all IAFP PDGs. Any IAFP sessions and posters can be incorporated into a FPT article. Please reach out to Matt or Cathy Cutter for any article ideas.

Anyone that is interested in nominating someone or self-nominating for the Vice Chair position, should reach out to Matt (matt_taylor@tamu.edu) and Wendy (wwwhite@gatech.edu). This position will be elected in the next few months and will take effect at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.
Meeting Adjourned: 12:32 p.m. Eastern Time.
Chairperson: Wendy White.

Microbial Modelling and Risk Analysis PDG

Attendees: Panagiotis Skandamis (Chair), Sofia Santillana Farakos (Vice Chair), Jean-Christophe Augustin, Alda Pires, Alex Kalbasenka, Amarni Babekir, April Bishop, Virginia Barrera, Bala Kottapalli, Beatriz Silva, Bradley Marks, Brendan Ring, Brian Himebloblo, Chase Golden, David Legan, Dennis Seman, Don Schaffner, Doug Marshall, Erica Zuroski, Francisco Garces-Vega, Fred Cook, Gale Prince, Andy Hwang, Ian Hildebrandt, James Dickson, Jim Jung, John Bassett, Larry Steenerson, Leon Gorris, Lisa Lucore, Maarten Nautel, Marcel Zwietering, Matt Igo, Mike Batz, Narinderandriamarisoor, Nar Hasan, Phil Steinbrunner, Quarry Suehr, Raj Rajagopal, Richard Whiting, Ricky Falkenberg, Robert Buchanan, Romina Zanabria, S. Balamurugan, Sarah Murphy, Sarna Nielsen-Manurung, Subash Shrestha, Vikas Gill, and Yuhuan Chen.

Staff Present: Didi Loyochnan and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 51.

Meeting Called to Order 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Friday, September 25, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Sofia Santillana Farakos.

Old Business: No matters arising from the 2019 PDG Meeting.

New Business: We thanked Bala Kottapalli, Past Chair of the PDG and welcomed Sofia Santillana Farakos, new Vice Chair of the PDG. Panagiotis Skandamis is the current Chair of the PDG.

We read the SRA mission statement (no further updates this year) and provided the ICPMF update, based on slides provided by Fernando Perez-Rodriguez. These include that there are two new members who joined ICPMF committee: Dr. Heidy Don Besten University of Wageneringen, The Netherlands and Dr. Shingue Koseki, Hokaido University, Japan. We provided the updates on student training and dissemination of predictive modelling activities in social media. We also announced that Agrostal 2021 symposium – Software tools, Predictive Microbiology and Risk assessment and Meta-analysis will take place 8-11 June 2021 in Portugal.

We had Dr. Donald Schaffner as our guest speaker who discussed: “Virus risk in the food industry – food supply chain past and future.” Don provided a great presentation and also discussed a new area of research on his team which relates to FoodCoVNET managing SARS CoV2 within the food industry filling data gaps and impacting behavior.

We presented two student “best abstracts” in the MMRA area of the year and showed the certificates online. The 2nd place was for Quincy Suehr, Michigan State University: Poster # 24689: Integration of Pathogen Reduction Models within Computational Fluid Dynamics Simulations of the Spray Drying Process. Quincy gave a flash presentation (10 min.) based on slides that he had also shared in advance. The 1st place was for Xiabing Cheng, University of Illinois: Poster #23621: Simulating Shelled Corn Sampling to Improve Sampling Plans for Mycotoxin Detection. Xiabing sent his apologies for not attending the meeting.

We then discussed the symposia/roundtables accepted/rejected for 2020 and indicated that there is an Excel posted on IAFP Connect library of the community. We provided the webinars that the PDG has organized since 2012 and encouraged members to come up with ideas. We then had a discussion of ideas for future symposia/roundtables/workshops. These included: 1) Webinar on management of SARS CoV2 within the food industry; 2) Software fair session and Webinar, 3) Communicating risk to upper management in a company, 4) Risk ranking for multiple foods and multiple hazards, 5) QMRA in LMI countries (with the International committee), and 6) Lack of understanding of residual risk (Potential collaboration with the HACCP and Food Law PDG).

The Chair then drew everyone’s attention to another announcement that was shared through IAFP Connect library of the community. We provided the webinars that the PDG has organized since 2012 and encouraged members to come up with ideas. We then had a discussion of ideas for future symposia/roundtables/workshops. These included: 1) Webinar on management of SARS CoV2 within the food industry; 2) Software fair session and Webinar, 3) Communicating risk to upper management in a company, 4) Risk ranking for multiple foods and multiple hazards, 5) QMRA in LMI countries (with the International committee), and 6) Lack of understanding of residual risk (Potential collaboration with the HACCP and Food Law PDG).

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Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona. Plan to organize a PDG meeting prior to IAFP 2021. Next meeting is officially for IAFP 2021.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:45 a.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Panagiotis Skandamis.

Pre Harvest Food Safety PDG

Meeting not held.

Retail and Foodservice PDG

Attendees: Eric Moore (Chair), Tia Glave (Vice Chair), Adam Kramer, Amani Babekir, Ann Marie McNamara, Anna Starobin, Ashley Eisenbeiser, Atallah Al Baroudi, Audrey Kreske, Bassam Anous, Ben Chapman, Ben Tarkington, Brian Himelbloom, Brian Turner, Chuck Seamann, Chip Atallah Al Baroudi, Audrey Kreske, Bassam Annous, Ben Chapman, Amani Babekir, Ann Marie McNamara, Anna Starobin, Ashley Eisenbeiser, Attendees:

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

Names of Attendees: John Merenick (Chair), Rick Stokes (Vice Chair), Bill Huntley, David Buckley, David Shelep, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Duane Grassmann, Elizabeth Demmings, Fred Cook, James Zeiger, Jason White, Jill Hollingsworth, Joe Stout, Joel Cook, John Holah, Josie Greve-Peterson, Michelle Smith, Nathan Mirdamadi, Phyllis Posy, Robert Roe, Roger Brown, Steve Sims, Tom England, and Yvonne Masters.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

New Business:

Adjacent Chair Tom Ford provided the PDG with a call to order and his thoughts as Chair. Tom Ford thanked Jay Neal, Suzie Hammons, Francie Buck, Eric Moore, and Minh Duong. Eric, Minh, and Tia shared introductions of their backgrounds and how they got involved with the PDG. Eric provided a breakdown of the anti-trust guidelines before guest speakers Don Schaffner and Ben Chapman shared the recently funded research projects on COVID-19. Don and Ben are developing a “network” that will allow for industry, academia, and government to share materials and resources with one another. The project will feature a microbiological aspect looking at SARS-CoV-2 survival starting with a bacteriophage at the BSL1 level and working up to the BSL3 with SARS-CoV-2. Eric provided an overview of minutes from last year and the group approved them. Approved symposia and roundtables were shared with the PDG and the times of the upcoming sessions at the Annual Meeting.

Old Business:

Minutes Recording Secretary: Minh Duong.

Old Business:

Outgoing Chair Tom Ford provided the PDG with a call to order and his thoughts as Chair. Tom Ford thanked Jay Neal, Suzie Hammons, Francie Buck, Eric Moore, and Minh Duong. Eric, Minh, and Tia shared introductions of their backgrounds and how they got involved with the PDG. Eric provided a breakdown of the anti-trust guidelines before guest speakers Don Schaffner and Ben Chapman shared the recently funded research projects on COVID-19. Don and Ben are developing a “network” that will allow for industry, academia, and government to share materials and resources with one another. The project will feature a microbiological aspect looking at SARS-CoV-2 survival starting with a bacteriophage at the BSL1 level and working up to the BSL3 with SARS-CoV-2. Eric provided an overview of minutes from last year and the group approved them. Approved symposia and roundtables were shared with the PDG and the times of the upcoming sessions at the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

Minh provided an update on student activities mainly focusing on the Mentor-Mentee program. IAFP Connect was discussed as a method of contact. Many concerns were voiced about participation levels not being as high as when using Connect compared to email. Similar PDG leaders in during this meeting voice similar issues. One suggestion shared and agreed on by many was a way to link emails directly to the Connect reply. The ability to reply directly through email instead of signing in.

Tia provided an update on Journal of Food Protection’s call for specific topics. Jill Hollingsworth shared that she and a group were working on the “Food Safety Strategies for Supermarkets” one and they were planning on reaching out to the JFP group. No additional feedback on article titles or ideas were made during the meeting.

Eric shared a list of rejected proposals from IAFP 2020 and asked the group if any were interested in resubmitting and the availability of the IAFP webinar program in place of symposium/roundtable submission for the Annual Meeting. Then, proposal ideas submitted before the PDG meeting were shared. Glenda and Chris (from FDA), on behalf of Laurie, provided the proposal idea of the New Era of Food Safety for Retail. John encouraged the group to attend upcoming meeting online.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

New Business:

John opened the floor for nominations for a Vice Chair-Elect. Their term as Vice Chair would start on July 18, 2021. We will use IAFP Connect within the next couple of weeks for voting when we have some names.

John asked people calling in by telephone only to provide their names to be recorded. Steven Sims and Elizabeth Demmings were two names that may not have been captured.

John reviewed symposia ideas from the previous year’s meeting. Discussion was given on each of the topics with some members offering help on the topics.

Several topics were discussed and asked for possible help from the Food Hygiene and Sanitation PDG group in order to create a full symposium. A full list of topics and speaker suggestions will be emailed in the coming weeks.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

Names of Attendees: John Merenick (Chair), Rick Stokes (Vice Chair), Bill Huntley, David Buckley, David Shelep, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Duane Grassmann, Elizabeth Demmings, Fred Cook, James Zeiger, Jason White, Jill Hollingsworth, Joe Stout, Joel Cook, John Holah, Josie Greve-Peterson, Michelle Smith, Nathan Mirdamadi, Phyllis Posy, Robert Roe, Roger Brown, Steve Sims, Tom England, and Yvonne Masters.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

Names of Attendees: John Merenick (Chair), Rick Stokes (Vice Chair), Bill Huntley, David Buckley, David Shelep, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Duane Grassmann, Elizabeth Demmings, Fred Cook, James Zeiger, Jason White, Jill Hollingsworth, Joe Stout, Joel Cook, John Holah, Josie Greve-Peterson, Michelle Smith, Nathan Mirdamadi, Phyllis Posy, Robert Roe, Roger Brown, Steve Sims, Tom England, and Yvonne Masters.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

Names of Attendees: John Merenick (Chair), Rick Stokes (Vice Chair), Bill Huntley, David Buckley, David Shelep, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Duane Grassmann, Elizabeth Demmings, Fred Cook, James Zeiger, Jason White, Jill Hollingsworth, Joe Stout, Joel Cook, John Holah, Josie Greve-Peterson, Michelle Smith, Nathan Mirdamadi, Phyllis Posy, Robert Roe, Roger Brown, Steve Sims, Tom England, and Yvonne Masters.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

Names of Attendees: John Merenick (Chair), Rick Stokes (Vice Chair), Bill Huntley, David Buckley, David Shelep, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Duane Grassmann, Elizabeth Demmings, Fred Cook, James Zeiger, Jason White, Jill Hollingsworth, Joe Stout, Joel Cook, John Holah, Josie Greve-Peterson, Michelle Smith, Nathan Mirdamadi, Phyllis Posy, Robert Roe, Roger Brown, Steve Sims, Tom England, and Yvonne Masters.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

Names of Attendees: John Merenick (Chair), Rick Stokes (Vice Chair), Bill Huntley, David Buckley, David Shelep, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Duane Grassmann, Elizabeth Demmings, Fred Cook, James Zeiger, Jason White, Jill Hollingsworth, Joe Stout, Joel Cook, John Holah, Josie Greve-Peterson, Michelle Smith, Nathan Mirdamadi, Phyllis Posy, Robert Roe, Roger Brown, Steve Sims, Tom England, and Yvonne Masters.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

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Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.

Sanitary Equipment and Facility Design PDG

Names of Attendees: John Merenick (Chair), Rick Stokes (Vice Chair), Bill Huntley, David Buckley, David Shelep, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Duane Grassmann, Elizabeth Demmings, Fred Cook, James Zeiger, Jason White, Jill Hollingsworth, Joe Stout, Joel Cook, John Holah, Josie Greve-Peterson, Michelle Smith, Nathan Mirdamadi, Phyllis Posy, Robert Roe, Roger Brown, Steve Sims, Tom England, and Yvonne Masters.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Eric Moore.
A large discussion was held on the topic of possible design changes to current facilities due to the COVID restrictions. John started to wrap the meeting by confirming that Dimitri is interested in the Vice Chairperson position, if available. We will put out an online vote for our next Vice Chairperson in the next week. The group was reminded of the upcoming IAFP Annual Meeting October 26 – 28. A final reminder for next year’s Annual Meeting was given for July 18 – 21, 2021 in Phoenix, Arizona. Roundtable or symposia proposals are due by November 10 to be accepted.

A synopsis will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 18, 2020, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:15 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: John Merenick.

**Seafood Safety and Quality PDG**

**Attendees:** Kevin Edwards (Chair), Brian Himelbloom, Doug Marshall, Evelyn Watts, Hope Eseose, Jackie Woods, James O’Donnell, Katheryn Parraga, Ken Boyer, Lisa Weddig, Lorraine McIntyre, Naim Montazeri, Patricia Rabideau, Peter Hibbard, Rocelle Clavero, Salina Parveen, Simon Liu, Tori Stivers, and Tricia Rabideau.

**Staff Present:** Didi Loyanchan and Dina Siedenburg.

**Number of Attendees:** 21.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Katheryn Parraga.

Welcome and introduction was made by Kevin Edwards. Katheryn Parraga provided an update regarding the Student PDG needs and announcements. The Rules of Order & Anti-trust Guidelines were read by Kevin Edwards and Katheryn Parraga.

**Old Business:** A motion was made by Lisa Weddig to approve the 2019 Minutes, seconded by Rocelle Clavero and passed by majority vote. Thereafter, we reviewed the Seafood Symposia and Roundtable to be presented at the 2020 Meeting.

**New Business:** Members of the Seafood PDG must present and submit all ideas for the 2021 Annual Meeting Symposia Submissions by November 10, 2020. Kevin Edwards discussed how to communicate in a better way with the PDG. Also, he announced that “After the September PDG meeting, the IAFP will not be sending additional announcements by email. Members should set their IAFP Connect notification preferences to at least weekly digests.” Rocelle expressed that IAFP Connect is a very good tool because it is very informative and useful for announcements. However, she recommended to better schedule calls, this would benefit members that are outside of USA. Selina agreed with Rocelle. Tori recommended to have a virtual meeting with sub-committees to arrange other topics.

**2021 Topic Nominations:**

Seafood processors reacting to the Pandemic: what are they doing and how to provide them information? Format: Roundtable. Proposed by: Tori Stivers. Contributor: Evelyn Watts.

Reviewing food safety concerns with food fraud and traceability. Short Symposium.


How consumers are changing their eating behaviors during the pandemic, eating more seafood? Proposed by: Tori Stivers.

Preventive control and Seafood HACCP (no named organizer).

Food Safety Culture in the Seafood Processing sector, proposed by Kevin Edwards, could be combined with the International Food Safety PDG.

**Guest Speakers:**

Lisa Weddig, National Fisheries Institute, “CoVid-19 and the Seafood Sector.” Is COVID-19 linked to seafood? At the beginning of January, the NFI started getting news about the virus. The media stories stated that many of the infected patients were vendors or dealers at a seafood market, or were linked to animal markets. People started to avoid eating seafood. The first question from an NFI member was “Does the FDA or any other agency have a concern about incoming seafood or any food product coming from China due to coronavirus?” The NFI provided perspective on what was happening, and that coronavirus was not related to seafood or at least that no evidence for this had been reported. The NFI created a portal, go to (https://seafoodsafetycovid19.wordpress.com/) to offer the latest research and facts, provided by scientists and public health professionals from the U.S. and around the world.

Thereafter, the NFI developed a daily facts report, and webinars based on content relevant to its industry members, including training and guidance for hygienic practices (posters) for their facilities.

Lisa provided two case studies: One study described a newspaper story “In Alaska town, calls to shut down fishing season amid coronavirus fears.” Mitigation strategies were put in place: quarantine for 14 days in a hotel without leave, and private transportation to the company installation. Using these strategies no one was exposed. This case revealed that it was possible to minimize the exposure; though it was very expensive to implement.

Lisa closed out the presentation with the assessment of whether SARS-CoV-2 was transmitted via seafood. Beginning with a new outbreak of COVID-19, some cases were traced back to seafood markets in which the virus was present in cutting boards (salmon). In another report from China, in 1000 packages of Ecuadorian shrimp, the Chinese labs found 5 positives for the virus. Questions arose: can it be transmitted from a food package? Several studies were cited. However, the scientific experts and regulators at the USDA and FDA said there was no evidence that the virus was transmitted by seafood. Frank Yiannas said, “True then. True still today. There was no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with the transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19.”

Katheryn Parraga and Hope Eseose, Louisiana State University Students, presented their “Students’ voice on CoVid-19.”

Katheryn explained how the pandemic had affected LSU students’ management of their research projects. Working with seafood was difficult because of the seasonality of some products. When the pandemic started, she and her lab mates were forced to stop the crawfish study. By the time the university reopened, the season for crawfish was about to be over, forcing them to change the seafood product for the study. In addition, there were many challenges with sensory studies due to concerns for work in crowded spaces or contact with surfaces that were touched by someone else. Sensory studies (200 panelists) used to be done in one day and now could take from three to five days to conduct the study. At last, graduate students are getting used to this new modality and trying their best to obtain results for their projects.

Hope shared his experience before and after COVID-19. When the pandemic started, professors had only two weeks to find a new means to teach. The classes that he was taking had laboratory practices, yet the lab work was done by someone else who just uploaded the videos for them to learn. This limited the students from having the hands-on experience. Ironically, the simple task of asking questions was complicated. In some instances, they “just asked Google!” Fortunately, he now has access to the professors and can learn and practice during the laboratory sections.

Meeting adjourned thereafter.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. Recommend the Board approve Jessica Jones as Vice Chair of the PDG.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Chairperson:** Kevin Edwards.
Student PDG

Attendees: Minh Duong (Chair), Erika Estrada (Vice Chair), Aishwarya Vengatesan, Alex Ham, Andrea Etter, Cameron Bardsley, Catherine Gensler, Claire Marik, Emily Forauer, Hope Eoseoe, Jennifer Acuff, Jiyouon Yi, Karuna Kharel, Katherynn Parraga, Katie Overbey, Kory Anderson, Matt Igo, Meg Kirchner, Ramin Khaksar, Sarah Jones, Savana Everhart Nunn, and Marina Girbal Gonzalez.

Board/Staff Present: Kali Kniel, Tamara Ford, Didi Loy anchan, Dina Siedenburg, and David Tharp.

Number of Attendees: 27.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:01 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, September 2, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Emily Forauer.

Old Business:
Student-targeted programming this year was very successful, including the mentoring program, student liaison program, and affiliate initiatives. The mentoring program pairs a student with an IAFP member with an established career; they meet monthly to discuss topic sheets, current events, and offer guidance to students. The 2019-2020 program had 1/5 international participants and 4/5 U.S.-based. A survey administered to participants had a 69% response rate, with 80% of respondents rating the program as “very enjoyable.” The student liaison program pairs an IAFP student PDG member with a different PDG, responsibilities of the student are primarily at the in-person annual meeting and many PDGs have given positive feedback about this program. For the affiliate initiative from 2019-2020, we have added a new board position to serve as a contact point for IAFP affiliates looking for increased student engagement. Surveys have been administered to affiliates worldwide to determine current activity and student involvement; more active groups offer opportunities such as poster competitions and scholarships.

Last year at the Annual Meeting, the t-shirt fundraising sale was very successful with 150 shirts sold. In light of circumstances surrounding COVID-19 and the shift to an online meeting, a t-shirt sale for this year has not been possible logistically and will not be occurring. We urge members of the PDG who would have purchased a shirt to consider making a donation to the Foundation.

Communication with members of the SPDG occurs primarily through an email listserv, and over the 2019-2020 year has been transitioning to a greater presence on IAFP Connect.

This year we were able to provide fee waivers to 20 students to attend the COVID-19 and Food Safety Global Summit.

New Business:
We hosted two speakers, Dr. Andrea Etter and Dr. Ramin Khaksar.
Dr. Etter spoke about the challenges of finding a job and forging a career path as a young food safety professional, highlighting her successes and setbacks in both academia and industry. Dr. Khaksar spoke about how next generation sequencing technologies are shifting food safety, and also mentioned some tips for success in networking. Association President Dr. Kali Kniel encouraged students to continue to participate in IAFP and events.

The upcoming 3-Minute Thesis competition sponsored by Merck will be held virtually via webinar, deadline for video submissions: 9-20-2020.
There are surveys available to fill out if student members are interested in participating in the mentorship program, the liaison program, or being connected to a local affiliate.

We are looking to transition a majority of communication with PDG members to IAFP Connect in the upcoming year. IAFP Connect is also where we will be hosting a virtual job board for students to access new with the loss of an in-person job board.

The Student PDG will be hosting virtual networking events including coffee hours, a social hour in November 2020 to present the 3-Minute Thesis winner, small group networking events to meet prominent food scientists, and a student presentation and discussion series.

At the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting, the Student PDG is sponsoring and co-sponsoring a number of sessions. We encourage members to participate in other PDG meetings before the virtual conference and attend these sessions. Ideas for session proposals were discussed for the IAFP 2021 Annual Meeting. T-shirt sales will resume at the 2021 Annual Meeting, with the intention of also marketing special-edition merchandise to commemorate the Virtual Annual Meeting of 2020.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:
1. Recommend Erika Estrada for Vice Chair of the Student PDG.
2. Recommend continuation of two-hour PDG meeting length for student group for next year’s meeting.
3. Although we did not sell t-shirts this year, we had a successful pre-sale two years ago. Once again, we would like to recommend the Board order a larger quantity of t-shirts for the 2021 Annual Meeting sale.
4. We were grateful for the opportunity for students to attend the IAFP COVID-19 Food Safety Global Summit free-of-charge through a fee-waiver. We would like to recommend similar fee-waivers/scholarship opportunities for students to attend workshops, webinars, or other similar events.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:04 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Minh Duong.

Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Disease PDG

Names of Attendees: Alexandre DaSilva (Chair), Julie Jean (Vice Chair), Adrienne E. Shearer, Alison Lacombe, Angela Nguyen, Anna Starobin, Candace Barnes, Carl Custer, Doug Marshall, Enrico Buenaventura, Hedieye Cinar, Jack Guzewich, Jackie Woods, James O’Donnell, Jill Hollingsworth, Kaiping Deng, Larry R. Beuchat, Laura Ewing, Lucy Robertson, Mauricio Durigan, Mona Kumar, Mustafa Yesil, Naim Montazeri, Siman Liu, Sonia Almeria, Tamara Ford, Ted Gatesy, and Phyllis Posy.

Staff Present: Didi Loy anchan and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 30.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, September 28, 2020.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Julie Jean.

The meeting was called to order by Alex da Silva (Chair). Alex introduced himself and welcomed everyone. All attendees were invited to introduce themselves and after that Alex gave an overview of the agenda.

Old Business: The minutes from IAFP 2019 was approved with no modifications.


New Business: Two main topics were on the agenda:

Update on viral foodborne diseases:
Douglas Marshall brought out the topic of the SARS-CoV2 virus (or viral RNA) on food surfaces and food packages. The impact on export and import of food commodities was briefly discussed as well as the public health issues vs the trade issues. Questions were asked on the traceability and blockchain for this viral target.

Update on foodborne parasitic diseases (Cyclosporiasis outbreaks):
Alex da Silva shared his screen showing the CDC website with the data about 2020 cyclosporiasis outbreaks, including the number of cases, recalls, type of commodities involved, epicurve and traceback data which led to the collection of canal water that was tested positive for the parasite. Mauricio Durigan added that the method used in this investigation method was published in the FDA BAM. Several other participants (among them Jack Guzewich, Kaiping Deng, Phyllis Posy, Nese Cinar) discussed about the origin of the contamination, the reuse of water for irrigation, importation of products and traceback and sequencing of the environmental compared to clinical samples.

In preparation for IAFP 2021 in Phoenix, Arizona, July 18-21, 2021, roundtable, and symposia topics were suggested and discussed:
Challenges to link clinical to environmental samples with genetics matching of Cyclospora was suggested by Mauricio Durigan as a potential symposium or roundtable proposal.
Frozen berries: A symposium on The Challenges of Viral Contamination of Fresh and Frozen Berries was already accepted for IAFP 2020 but had to be canceled for non-availability of the 2/3 speakers. Julie Jean suggested to resubmit the same proposal for next year since the subject is still very actual.

Symposium on SARS-CoV-2 on surfaces was suggested as it was mentioned in the new business by Kaiping Deng. Douglas Marshall offered to work also on the proposal on this important topic.

New or improving detection methods on virus and parasites was brought up by Alex as a potential good subject for a symposium. The idea from sampling to genetic identification was briefly discussed.

The discussion moved on the challenges of exchange of foods on the international market in the context of the pandemic of COVID-19 as a new normal and a roundtable was suggested as an excellent topic. Jackie Woods was interested in working on such proposal which could be cosponsored with GMA PDG. Jack Guzewich suggested that this could also be a great idea for a webinar and should be discussed sooner that waiting just for the next IAFP Annual Meeting. Laura Ewing brought up the changing of eating habits in this context and that there is an increase of home gardening and also other kind of possible food safety challenges such as canning.

Future communications for the proposals to be submitted will be done via IAFP Connect. Deadline for symposia, roundtable and workshop proposals is November 10, 2020. Also, it was highlighted that webinars are sponsored by the IAFP Foundation and are free for participants. Its was also mentioned that elections for a PDG co-chair will be held next year. The goal is to have the elections in April 2021.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 18-21, Phoenix, Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:37 a.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Alexandre da Silva.