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 Galer (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: Larry Steenson.