Food Fraud PDG

Attendees: Karen Everstine (Chair), Clare Menezes (Vice Chair), Andrew Clarke, Angela Valadez, April Bishop, Bert Pöpping, Brian Himelblum, 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 Gatesy, Tracie Sheehan, and Yvonne Masters.

Board/Staff Present: Ruth Petran, Didi Loynachan, 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/IoT/blockchain, organic fraud, new technology for sampling and new testing coolers (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.

Recommendations 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.