

Food Protection Trends Management Committee

Attendees: Angela Anandappa, Adam Baker, Christine Bruhn, Byron Chaves, Cathy Cutter, Peyman Fatemi, Connie Fisk, Stephen Grove, Ian Jenson, Jovana Kovacevic, Bobby Krishna, Judy Luther, Adeel Manzoor, Martin Martinez, Matthew Moore, Amrit Pal, Ruth Petran, Joy Saha, Jason Scheffler, Cangliang Shen, Manpreet Singh, Laura Strawn, Purnendu Vasavada, Surabhi Wason.

Total Number of Attendees: 24.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, 3:01 p.m., July 16, 2023.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Surabhi Wason, Student Liaison.

Old Business: Connie Fisk was elected as the Committee's Vice-Chair by all attendees. 2022 minutes were discussed and approved. Executive Board report was discussed; opening the webinar series to all in June (world food safety month) had great success. Guidelines to access *FPT* were described. Catherine Cutter has reviewed the statistics of publications in *FPT*.

New Business: Laura Strawn took over as chair of the Committee.

Elsevier's AI policy was discussed, and the summary of this policy (including its main advantages) was described by Dr. Matt Moore. The failure and success of AI technology and its use in publications were discussed. The adoption of an AI policy (similar to Elsevier's) was supported by the committee in the meeting. This policy will be modified by our Scientific Editor, Dr. Cathy Cutter, and shared with the committee. This policy will be discussed and re-evaluated at the IAFP 2024 Annual Meeting (inclusion on the agenda for feedback on how it worked from the Scientific Editor/IAFP staff associated with *FPT*).

Adoption of "Equitable Practices for Publishing in *FPT*" was discussed (avoidance of slang, etc. in journal article titles). Dr. Cathy Cutter would discuss this with the editorial board. Slang is confusing so the adoption of this policy was preferred.

Book reviews in *FPT* were discussed, and Dr. Cathy Cutter explained this could be included in the general interest section with guidelines and approval by the Scientific Editor. Many members of the committee believed this type of book review would add value to the journal and scientific community. Maybe a book review editor could be appointed, or different *FPT* editorial reviewers for each category of food science area including microbiology, molecular, nutrition and allergen, etc. Suggestions were given to focus this type of general interest paper on lay audience (less technical).

It was discussed that *FPT* articles could be made open-access after 6 months of publishing date. IAFP webinars were viewed 9,000 times in just one month after making them open access and thus, making *FPT* articles open access would benefit non-IAFP members by giving access to science.

Accessibility was discussed as being an important initiative of *FPT*/IAFP. The committee also felt strongly this could be a benefit to authors submitting to *FPT*, as many funding sources, or authors are required to publish in open-access journals. This idea was strongly supported, and discussed as a game-changer.

An associate director was recommended to be appointed to assist the Scientific Editor, Dr. Cathy Cutter. This associate Scientific Editor would help to create a sustainable path to excellence in the journal by ensuring Dr. Cutter's institutional, and cardinal knowledge of *FPT* could be transferred to the new Editor. Also, the committee has plans to grow *FPT*, and this would help with the workload, and foster a similar structure to *JFP*.

There is a need for new ideas and strategic planning for long-term plans for *FPT*. It was discussed a consultant could help the *FPT* committee facilitate and work on these long-term goals. A discussion was had about how positive the collaboration was for *JFP* bringing in Judy Luther. A few points were discussed such as encouraging people to click on the *FPT* website to access *FPT* and how we can do this – what would be draw for members. Apart from fantastic science, it was discussed to include a portion for affiliates “awesome affiliates.” Updating “Beyond the Bio,” and maybe even including a section on past IAFP traditions including ice sculpture, crazy hats at banquets, Weber microscopes, among other things that would be generated by members (this could be neat to engage new members or members who aren't as familiar with some of these things like the Weber microscope prize for the Laboratorian Award. Affiliates play an important role so they could be highlighted.

There was a comment on an issue with the *FPT* website. Sometimes, there is an issue with advertisements showing up on the website which makes it challenging to read the paper digitally. It was discussed that IAFP staff/management committee would look into accessibility issues with reading *FPT* online and links working.

Last, quarterly meetings were suggested and Laura Strawn will schedule a meeting being cognizant of the time zones for people around the world.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Appoint Connie Fisk as Vice-Chair.
2. Make *FPT* open-access six months after the publication date.
3. Appoint an associate editor for *FPT*.
4. Appoint a consultant to support *FPT* in its strategic planning initiative.
5. Honor outstanding reviewer(s); selected by the Scientific Editor/IAFP team to highlight at the Editorial Board Reception.
6. Modify and adopt a similar policy to Elsevier's language for the AI policy in *FPT* (that is used by *JFP*).
7. Allow book reviews in *FPT* under the general interest category: with approval by the Scientific Editor in advance.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, July 14, 2024, Long Beach, California.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:32 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson Laura Strawn.