

Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality PDG

Names of Attendees: Alexandra Calle (Chairperson), Emilio Esteban (Vice Chairperson), Alejandra Abrego Gavidia, Alejandro Echeverry, Alex Brandt, Alex Tudor, Alexia Joana Lopez Gachuzo, Allisson Guevara Milla, Amber Richards, Amit Morey, Andrea Etter, Andres Martinez, Angela Fraser, Anru Shen, Anthony Zoropogui, Anuradha Punchihewage Don, Annie Iniya John Benedict Ashok, April Schumacher, Aryany Peña Gomez, Ashley Rosanske, Babak Faraji Gougerdchi, Bonolo Mathekga, Brandon Gartman, Carlos Jemio Flores, Casey Gallimore, Charles Bency Appolon, Chi-An Lee, Chuck Bird, Claudio Gallottini, Cynthia Austin, Daniela Chavez, Dan Vassar, David Ayala Velastegui, David Luedeke, David Mugabo, Deborah Sattely, Denise Eblen, Elisabetta Lambertini, Eniola Betiku, Eric Schweitzer, Erin Dreyling, Evan Chaney, Felix Dietz, Frederic Pastori, Gabriela Mendez Villacorta, Gina Cullerton, Greg Vallee, Gry Terrell, Hany Anany, Heath LaFevers, Ian Hildebrandt, Ian Jenson, Irma Janania, Iris Sloten, Isaac Romero, Janice Ball, Jeremy Adler, Jens H. Kjaer, Jinqun Wang, John Jarosh, John LoPorto, Jun Nam, Justyce Jedlicka Schweppe, Jyoti Aryal, Kathleen Glass, KatieRose McCullough, Katherine Sierra, Kevin Atkins, Kristen Shoemake, Krishnar Suntharesan, Larry Kohl, Lei Zhang, Leslie Thompson-Strehlow, Lily Yang, Luvie Sturghill, Lynette Schroeder, Mai Lan Tran, Maria Camila Duarte, Maria Salazar, Mark Salter, Marsha Sayre, Mary-Grace Danao, Melissa Moore, Micah Black, Michael Rybolt, Mike Clark, Morgan Welch, Napatsawan Pharino, Nicola Dermer, Nikki Shariat, Patrick Fach, Patrick Mies, Peg Coleman, Pierre-Luc Longchamps, Prashant Dahal, Prashant Dahal, Preetha Biswas, Rafael Martinez, Reagan Brashears, Ricardo Martinez, Rob Halstead, Robert Salter, Rob True, Sabrina Bandon, Sam Hadden, Scott Moosekian, Sean Foster, Shabarinath Srikumar, Sheetal Jha, Sheetal Jha, Siroj Pokharel, Sophie Pierre, Stan Bailey, Subash Shrestha, Suzanne Finstad, Tamra Tolen, Tiffany LaLonde, Tomi Obe, Vianca Tashiguano, Vanessa Whitmore, Vik Dutta, Woubit Abebe, Yasha Mitrotti, Yhuliana Nino, Youngmin Park.

Total Number of Attendees: 127.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, July 27, 2025, 3:00 P.M.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Maria Camila Duarte.

Old Business: The minutes from last year's meeting were read by Dr. Alexandra Calle and reviewed by all Members. No questions or corrections were raised, and the minutes were approved as presented.

New Business: Dr. Alexandra Calle, the PDG Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. She introduced the PDG Vice Chair and Chair-Elect, Dr. Emilio Esteban, along with the two elected student liaisons, Camila Duarte and Shaelyn Xu. Dr. Calle and Dr. Esteban provided an IAFP Executive Board update, noting that the *Journal of Food Protection's* Impact Factor has increased to 2.8 and that the editorial team has a list of 58 potential invited review topics. They encouraged Members to propose new webinar and symposium ideas for the next year.

Dr. Denise Eblen from USDA FSIS presented a regulatory update on the "Five-Star Plan," which focuses on enhanced microbiological testing, equipping inspectors with training, refining the approach to *Salmonella*, strengthening state partnerships, and empowering inspectors.

Dr. Isabel Walls, Acting Chief Scientist at USDA FSIS, then provided an overview of the agency's research priorities, which include short-term data gaps, laboratory methods, and long-term research needs related to biological and chemical hazards, as well as foodborne illness source attribution.

Following these presentations, there was a public Q&A session where questions were asked about the use of data from weekly RTE *Listeria* control questionnaires, the definition of “small” and “very small” establishments, and the sharing of internal FSIS data with external groups.

Dr. Katie Rose McCullough gave an industry update from the Foundation for Meat and Poultry Research and Education, highlighting its new mission and key resources such as the Process Legality Spreadsheet and Validation Databases.

A final discussion was held regarding symposia and webinars for the 2026 IAFP Annual Meeting, with suggested topics including predictive microbiology tools, Salmonella quantification, pre-harvest and post-harvest integration, use of genomics, and advancing control programs through surveillance and rapid testing.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend to approve Emilio Esteban as incoming Vice Chair.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, July 26, 2026, New Orleans, LA.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:21 P.M.

Chairperson Name: Dr. Alexandra Calle