Developing Food Safety Professionals PDG

Members Present: Sean Leighton (Chair), Hyun-Gyun Yuk, Wendy Maduff, Lacey Guillen, Brenda Stahl, Christopher Conway, Wendy White and Jason Richardson.


Board/Staff Liaisons Present: Katie Swanson.

Visitor/Guest: Bob Brackett.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, July 31, 2011.

Old Business: Welcome was given from the Chair, Sean Leighton. Reviewed inception of the PDG and the name change from Young professionals to Developing Food Safety Professionals, reviewed the PDG mission, reviewed personal observations and gave introductions of attendees.

Year in Review:

- 4 conference calls, 1 with student PDG
- Identified speaker Dr. Bob Brackett to address the PDG
- Circulated several job opportunities
- Member numbers increased by 9+ this session

New Business:

Discussion of scheduling conflicts with other PDGs:

- Does every PDG need 2 hours for their meeting?
- A motion was made by Wendy Maduff to recommend to the committee to shorten the PDG time to 1 hour 15 minutes or 1 hour 30 minutes to prevent overlap of PDGs.
- Someone did second the motion.
- All approved.
- No one opposed.

Discussion of Objectives of PDG:

- Student networking initiatives.
- Last year we nominated a candidate, Joshua Gurtler for a Board position. The feedback from the Board was that he did not have enough experience.
- Discussed recommending to the Board that someone from our PDG be in an advisory role to the Board so that we can learn the processes and procedures. This was recommended by Katie Swanson. This position could rotate someone new in every year to gain experience with the Board. We should make a list of what value this position will add to IAFP and make a recommendation to the Board.
- A motion was made by Melissa Gwinn to create this list and make a recommendation to the Board.
- Motion seconded by Wendy White.
- All approved.
- No one opposed.
- List of values added by the position.

Discuss Ideas for the PDG:

- Develop an App for networking/social networking
- PDG collaboration
• Board seat  
• Group Representative  
• Workshop/webinars on career development, networking, take assessments to evaluate skills  
• Gap analysis—graduation—next steps?  
• Example food safety auditors training/certificate

PDG Collaboration/networking

• Speed networking, 2 minutes with each person  
Dr. Bob Bracket gave his presentation, followed by a discussion and question session.

Recommendation to the Executive Board:

1. We have voted and, with unanimous approval, propose that the IAFP Executive Board develop an “Advisory” seat at the board. This Advisor would be a representative, elected by the “Developing Food Safety Professionals” PDG. The objectives of this advisory position are to:
   – Support board discussions and initiatives regarding the adoption of new technologies for the advancement of IAFP.
   – Provide unique, “bottom-up”, new (relatively) member perspective to the board on IAFP and its annual meetings.
   – Provide an integral, critical piece to the succession plan of the board and therefore, the sustainability of IAFP.
   – Offer invaluable experience to a younger IAFP member regarding the executive board and its processes, culture, and strategy.

Thank you for taking the time to properly consider this recommendation. The future of IAFP relies on initiatives such as this.

Meeting Adjourned.

Chairperson: Sean Leighton.