Developing Food Safety Professionals PDG

Members Present: Wendy White (Chair), Yousef Alsaadi, Richelle Beverly, Tumnoon Charaslertrangsi, Alma-Sue Haiduk, Lynette Johnston, Sun Kim, Keith Lampel, Sean Leighton and Sara Mortimore.

Board/Staff Members Present: Mickey Parish.


Meeting Called to Order: 9:10 a.m., Sunday, August 3, 2014.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Katie Satchwell.

Old Business: None.

New Business: IAFP Board Update:

Mickey Parish, our Executive Board Liaison, gave a Board update; provided information about state of the organization (growth, new members, and record attendance at the 2013 meeting); New affiliates SE Asia, China, Minnesota, and Indian AFP in North America; challenges with congruent meetings; social media push for members to follow on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and future meeting in Brazil with Brazil affiliate. The 2015 IAFP Annual Meeting dates will shift forward by one day; the PDG meetings next year will be on Saturday.

Guest Speakers:

• Jolyda Swaim, Principal lawyer for Olsson Frank Weeda Terman Matz PC, gave a short talk about her career trajectory after finishing her B.Sc. and working in the food industry to obtaining a law degree and working with the FDA/USDA. Key messages: get your hands dirty and get to work, no matter if it is within your job description.

• Sean Leighton, Director of Quality, Health, Safety and Environmental for the Coca-Cola Company, talked about his experience as an ex-patriot working in Europe. Key messages from Sean’s presentation included contract necessities to negotiate prior to making the move and cultural necessities when working abroad. Sean has graciously opted to share his slides with the PDG.

Vice Chair Elections:

Jessica Chen, Postdoc Fellow at University of British Columbia, was unanimously elected as incoming Vice Chair by the membership in attendance. Jessica has accepted and will serve pending Board approval.
2015 Symposia Discussion (prioritized list):

1. *Sustaining Our Legacy through the Food Safety Professionals of Tomorrow* – Lone Jespersen, Sara Mortimore, Lynette Johnston and Wendy White. Global skills gap in the industry; how can industry come into the classroom; what skills will they need; how to recruit/train Millennials. Possible collaboration with Student PDG.

2. *Supporting the Small Business Niche* (working title) – Dina Scott and Amit Morey. How do we help small businesses comply with new regulations and develop impactful training? Possible collaboration with Education PDG.

3. Rapid Pathogen Detection Methods (title hasn’t yet been determined) – Yousef Alsaadi and Amit Morey. Possible collaboration with the Applied Laboratory Methods PDG.

These ideas will be discussed with other PDGs for collaboration opportunities, further developed, and submitted via the IAFP Web site by October 14th for consideration by the Program Committee.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. It’s our recommendation for the Board to approve the appointment of Jessica Chen as Vice Chair of the Developing Food Safety Professionals PDG.

2. It’s our recommendation for the Board to approve the appointment of Katie Satchwell as Student Liaison of the Developing Food Safety Professionals PDG to facilitate collaboration and communication with the Student PDG.

**Next Meeting Date:** Saturday, July 25, 2015.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:10 a.m.

**Chairperson:** Wendy White.