Food Protection Trends Management Committee

Members Present: Julian Cox (Chairperson), Michelle Danyluk (Vice Chairperson), David Golden (Scientific Editor), Margaret Hardin (JFP Chairperson), Gary Acuff, Kristie Barlow, Mark Berrang, Ben Chapman, Beth Ann Crozier-Dodson, Denise Eblen, Andy Hwang, Susan McKnight, Michael Musgrove, Pat Rule, Manpreet Singh, Michelle Smith and Kelly Stevens.

Outgoing Members: Montserrat Hernandez Ituriagga, Kathleen Rajkowski and Peter Taormina.

Board and Staff Present: Vickie Lewandowsi, Katie Swanson (Board Liaison), Donna Bahun (Staff Liaison), Lisa Hovey and David Tharp.

Visitors/Guests Present: Christine Bruhn, Jinru Chen, and Amy Simonne.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:05 p.m., Sunday, August 1, 2010.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Michelle Danyluk.

Introductory Items of Business: Julian Cox welcomed everyone to the meeting and all persons in attendance. All persons in attendance at the commencement of the meeting introduced themselves, their affiliation, and their role on the committee. Thanks were given to those leaving the committee and new members of the committee were welcomed. Congratulations were given to Michelle Danyluk and David Golden, as the winners of the Young Researcher and Educator Awards, respectively.

Additions/Modifications to the Agenda: Confirmation of David Golden’s term (confirmed as Scientific Editor through 2011) and Katie Swanson – report on IAFP strategic planning.

Minutes from the 2009 Committee Meeting:
The 2009 minutes were approved by the Committee without amendments or corrections. Motion by Katie Swanson; second by Susan McKnight.

Executive Board Report: Vickie Lewandowski gave a report indicating the success of the opening reception, the fact that IAFP membership is at an all-time high and that international membership has almost tripled since 2004. The 2010 Annual Meeting currently had over 2,000 registrations, and is poised to have the largest numbers of attendees and exhibitors ever. Vickie also spoke to the success of the two European symposia held in the past year, and the planned international symposia for 2010–2011.

Executive Director Report: David Tharp gave a report including the financial standing of the organization.

Scientific Editors Report: David Golden presenting information related to the numbers, authorship and sources of manuscripts received to FPT. In 2009, 39 manuscripts were submitted, 30 were accepted, 7 rejected, one withdrawn and one under revision. The majority (20) were from US academic sources, however an increasing number from international, and non-academic institutions were submitted. Eight special/general interest non-peer reviewed were also published. To date in 2010, 23 manuscripts have been received of which 10 have been accepted. It was brought to the Board’s attention that one manuscript was submitted and not yet sent for review due to formatting issues. This author has received in excess of 20 E-mail communication from IAFP staff and the scientific editor, and has been uncooperative in correctly formatting his manuscript, and disrespectful to staff and the scientific editor. Discussion followed on what to do to prevent this problem in the future. Denise motioned to recommend to the IAFP Board a change to the instructions to authors (see below), Katie seconded, all were in favor.

IAFP Long-range and Strategic Plan: Katie Swanson presented a brief overview of the implications for FPT from the planning session. As the Committee attempts to modernize FPT, the Board suggests we focus on the following four areas: (1) Increasing scientific submissions; (2) Review/revisiting content; (3) More visually appealing and (4) Increase circulation.

Old Business:
(1) FPT Subcommittee for determining the future directions of the journal:
The subcommittee distributed a survey in late 2009 that received ca. 700 (20–25%) responses. A summary was submitted for discussion at the April Board meeting. The responses confirm the identity crisis FPT is experiencing. Consensus among the responses and the subcommittee is a desire for more technical, opinion and
position papers and less membership info and news content, which could be moved to an online format. A finalized report will be submitted from the committee by the end of 2010. Discussion of how to increase submissions and indexing of the journal resulted in discussions of how to complement the Journal of Food Protection and not be considered “JFP light”. It is thought the journal is the ideal location for “technology transfer” and “human based” research studies targeted for industry readership. In addition the committee would like to continue to encourage publications from PDGs.

In celebration of the centennial of IAFP, the committee is considering celebrating seminal historic manuscripts in food safety by republishing them in FPT accompanied with a ca. 800 word commentary as to how the work was influential and applicable today. The next steps of this committee are to evaluate the mission, objectives and current title and tagline of the journal, and to evaluate whether changes are required in these to move the journal forward.

(2) Part-time “managing editor” appointment: The Board has shelved this item in 2010 given IAFP’s financial position and because the image and needs of FPT continue to evolve. It is likely that this will be done on a contract basis only in the short term.

**New Business:**

(1) FPT Article Online Accessibility

The committee expressed concern as to the perceived difficulties of finding online FPT articles. A recommendation to the Board (see below) related to the accessibility of current (motion by Gary, second by Ben) and old DFES articles (motion by Mike, seconded by Mike) and for this online content to be updated monthly. There was some discussion of Open Access, following on from similar discussions at the JFP Management Committee.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. Revise FPT Instructions to Authors to include the statement “manuscripts not formatted correctly may be rejected without review at the discretion of the Scientific Editor.”

2. Restructure the online indexing [Table of Contents] of FPT articles to increase accessibility and link directly to article PDFs. Additionally, provide RSS feeds and E-mail alerts to notify FPT publication and make these alerts/abstracts publically accessible.

3. Upload historic DFES publications as searchable PDFs by keyword and author to the FPT Web site.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 31, 2011.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:45 p.m.

**Chairperson:** Julian Cox