

Journal of Food Protection Management Committee

Members Present: Margaret Hardin (Chair), Kendra Nightingale (Vice Chair), Michael Davidson, Joseph Frank, Elliot Ryser, John Sofos, Michelle Danyluk, Andrew Benson, Peter Bodnaruk, Doris D'Souza, Tong-Jen Fu, Gordon Hayburn, Fumiko Kasuga, Sherri McGarry, Maria Nazarowec-White and Siddhartha Thakur.

Board/Staff Present: Donald Schaffner, Isabel Walls, Didi Loynachan, David Tharp and Lisa Hovey.

Visitors/Guests: Julian Cox, Manan Sharma, Amy Simonne, Elaine Berry, Santos Garcia, Atin Datta, Barakat Mahmoud, Peter Taormina and Larry Beuchat.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:05 a.m., Sunday, July 31, 2011.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Manan Sharma.

Old Business: Committee reviewed minutes from the 2010 *JFP* Management Committee meeting. A motion passed to approve the minutes (1st by Santos Garcia, 2nd by Atin Datta).

New Business:

The committee reviewed the agenda and approved a motion to approve the agenda (1st – Kendra Nightingale, 2nd – Julian Cox).

The meeting opened with a report by Lee-Ann Jaykus, President of IAFP, on the activities of the Association during the past year. In the past year IAFP sponsored international meetings were held in Dubai, Bogota, Turkey, and China. Upcoming international meetings IAFP is sponsoring are in Australia, China, Turkey, Dubai, and Poland. Currently there are 3,600 members of IAFP and 24 gold, 14 silver, and 120 sustaining members. There are 48 affiliates, and 12 are outside of North America. IAFP Foundation is close to reaching its \$1 million goal. David Tharp reported that the international meetings seemed to be a driver in increasing attendance to the IAFP Annual Meeting.

Lee-Ann also informed the committee that the Association is working on a long-term strategic plan. A discussion followed her report which included inquiries into if and when the plan would be made available to the members and what role of the Journal in the strategic plan.

There was also a discussion related to the impact factor of the Journal and the importance and relevance of impact factor to *JFP*. The Journal aims to accept papers that impact food safety. For example, the research reported in the Journal may often be of a more practical nature with findings more often cited and used by the industry and regulatory agencies so that a paper may not be highly cited in literature and thus not contribute to the impact factor rating of the journal. Overall, the impact factor may only contribute to about one-third in a true evaluation of the Journal's reach and overall impact on food safety. A higher impact factor may be achieved if papers with only an academic interest would be accepted; however, that is not the mission of the Association. It was also mentioned that that agreements with aggregating services for the Journal had been signed (see Report from Editorial Assistant), and this may contribute to Journal impact factor. While the focus of the Journal is narrow, when compared to some other publications, it does serve as a recognized repository for publications which address food safety issues, regardless of how wide the audience.

Joe Frank gave the Journal's Scientific Editors' Report. Highlights include that Vol. 73. (2010) included 2,352 pages, 287 articles (267 research articles). Vol. 72 (published in 2009) contained 2,688 pages and 375 articles (365 research articles), while the average length of time between receipt of manuscripts and their publication was reduced in 2010 compared to 2009 (less than 8 months). A majority of authors (57%) were from outside of the U.S. in 2010, which was slightly decreased from the previous year (61%). Currently the Editorial Board has 149 members with 49 of those being international outside of the U.S. In 2010, 39 more manuscripts

were submitted compared to 2009. In 2011, 337 manuscripts have been submitted up to July, compared to 286 from July 2010. Volume 74 (2011) has had seven issues so far, including 1,220 pages with 167 papers. Compared to the first seven issues of Vol. 73 (2010), 172 papers had been published in the first seven issues. The estimated number of issues waiting to be published is 2.01, compared to 3.69 in 2010. While there was a slight decrease in the number of articles submitted for 2010, this change was attributed to the cyclic nature of article submission and no specific cause was identified.

The pricing structure for page charges for the Journal, which have not changed in the past eight years, is continuously being reviewed and was mentioned, along with methods of electronic dissemination and circulation. However no changes were recommended during this meeting. The era of free journals may be over as some other free scientific peer review journals are beginning to charge authors for publication.

There was a discussion about the possibility of categorizing papers in the Journal by subject matter, however it was also discussed that this may be challenging due to the overlap and cross-over of papers into multiple subject areas. The ISI Web of Science may have an option to come up with categories or the topic areas by IAFP Professional Development Groups (PDGs; e.g., Food Allergens, Packaging). Or, there could be a food microbiology/non-microbiology split in the Journal. IAFP staff and the editors will look into this possibility.

Didi Loynachan reported the *JFP* Instructions for Authors were updated to address the deposition of microarray data and gene sequences and to revise the abstract size from 250 words to 2,000 characters. DOI numbers are now assigned to all articles and contracts were signed this year with both Allen Press for *JFP* print services and Allentrack, and with Ingenta for online publishing to 2014. An aggregations contact was signed with Allen Press for the 2011 volume. The journal was included in the Allen Press Display Program which added market exposure at four annual conferences for librarians in the United States. Uniform color pricing was set for the journal this year and, of the 16,200 titles hosted at Ingenta Connect, Didi reported *JFP* has ranked in the top 10 titles for the number of full-text downloads for the past 15 months. *JFP* print for member and institutional subscriptions have decreased since July 2010 while *JFP* online subscriptions have increased. The 2010 Impact Factor is 1.720.

In unfinished business from 2010, the IAFP Board decided that no "raw" manuscripts will be posted online. Last year it was recommended to the Board and approved that the Journal would provide open access to some general interest papers chosen by the Editors. The first one is due out in November 2011. However, the need for the option of open access for all authors was discussed because some federal funding agencies, such as NIH and possibly later NSF and USDA have requirements that publications resulting from certain grants must be made available widely to everyone. The cost to authors will be further investigated by IAFP.

This year, the awards for the top three cited research articles published in the Journal in 2006 will be presented at the Editorial Board Reception. No review articles were selected for the similar time period, but there will be an award for review articles in the future. The number of citations was based on the ISI Web of Science rankings since 2006.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The Committee recommends that when the Strategic Plan is completed, it be made available to the entire IAFP membership.

Next Meeting Date: July 22, 2012.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:47 a.m.

Chairperson: Margaret Hardin