

Program Committee

Members Present: Mindy Brashears, Jinru Chen, Paula Fedorka-Cray, Joshua Gurtler, Ian Jenson, Alejandro Mazzotta, Mickey Parish, Mary Lou Tortorello and P. C. Vasavada.

Board/Staff Members Present: Katie Swanson, Don Schaffner, David Tharp, Lisa Hovey and Terri Huffman.

New Members: Dan Erickson, Alvin Lee, Bradley Marks and Michael Roberson.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:15 a.m., Wednesday, July 25, 2012.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Terri Huffman.

Old Business: Review of 2012 Meeting: There have been many good comments about the program. Produce sessions seem to be getting more popular – technical sessions were packed and there were a lot of produce posters. It was mentioned that there were more commodity group representatives this year and IAFP should consider reaching out to them. FSMA offered no new information this year due to delays in publishing proposed rules; hopefully more will go on next year with the topic. One committee member mentioned that the roundtables went great. They had good attendance. Recommendation for future roundtables – bring an issue, not a topic (something controversial, to promote interaction and participation by audience). It was mentioned that some people were taking photos of posters. There should be some signage prohibiting this next year. Let authors know that it is our policy, but we cannot control it. It would have been really nice if people could upload presentations after the session started.

There was a problem with non-responsiveness from a couple of symposium organizers this year, leading to some “TBDs” instead of presenter names in the program. The Committee decided that if this happens again, the Program Chair will contact the organizer and tell them that if they don’t meet deadlines for finding presenters, they will be removed from the program and replaced with a different session.

There was a discussion concerning a session that had a speaker deliver their presentation remotely. The Program Committee will not allow this in the future.

It was suggested that workshop descriptions be better written for promotional purposes.

Recording – A discussion ensued concerning the recording of presentations. The service was free this year. Once we know how much it will cost for next year, we can decide how to structure future access (free to attendees, charge for others?). The New media task force may have some recommendations. The software was very easy to use.

New Business: 2013 Silliker and Parkin Lectures – Committee members were asked to pass recommendations for speakers to David Tharp by September 1.

2013 Program Development Process – Lou discussed the process for developing the program (submissions, reviews, etc.), including establishing the pre-deadline conference call with PDG chairs to identify common ideas and connections between symposium proposals. Paula is planning to put together a tutorial for new committee members, which will take place in mid-October or early November.

It was suggested that Program Committee member visit each PDG meeting to talk about what the Program Committee expects and is looking for. Develop a set of guidelines for members to present to the PDGs.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: February 22–23, 2013.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 a.m.

Chairperson: Mary Lou Tortorello.