

2023–2024 IAFP President-Elect Election

This information is provided to help you make your selection of the next IAFP President-Elect. Due to the resignation of Jose Emilio Esteban from the IAFP Executive Board, two candidates were selected by the Nominating Committee to fill the vacated position and remaining term.

Roger Cook was appointed as President-Elect, pro tem, by the Executive Board as a temporary appointment until such time that this election could be held. The elected candidate will join the IAFP Executive Board on April 3, 2023 and will become IAFP President at the conclusion of IAFP 2023.

IAFP Members have until Tuesday, March 7 to cast their vote. The link and passcode will be emailed to non-student Members on February 1.

Click here to access the voting platform.



Dr. Tim Jackson is a Senior Science Advisor for Food Safety with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, joining in 2022. In this role, Dr. Jackson supports programs in outbreak investigations, root cause analysis, and prevention strategies.

From 2017–2021, Dr. Jackson served as Vice President of Food Safety, Regulatory, and Social Compliance for Driscoll's team in North America and South America. He was responsible for food safety, regulatory (including organic) compliance, and compliance in worker welfare. Driscoll's is the global market leader in fresh strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, and blackberries.

Dr. Jackson previously served as the Director of Food Safety for Nestlé US and Nestlé Canada from 2009–2017, with responsibility for thermal processing and food safety programs in hygiene, microbiology, allergens, and chemical contaminants. He joined Nestlé in 1995 as a research and industrial microbiologist. From 1998–2003, Dr. Jackson headed the Microbiology Laboratories at the Nestlé Quality Assurance Laboratory for the U.S. and Canada in Dublin, Ohio. In 2003, he joined the Nestlé Research Center in Lausanne, Switzerland, supporting Nestlé markets in the identification and validation of alternative methods. From 2004–2008, Dr. Jackson served as Chief Industrial Microbiologist for Nestlé's global operations in Vevey, Switzerland.

Dr. Jackson has been actively involved in IAFP since joining in 1990 as a graduate student. He has participated and led several Professional Development Groups (PDGs), and has organized, convened, and presented at IAFP's Annual Meeting, IAFP's European Symposium on Food Safety, and other international and Affiliate meetings. He served as IAFP President from 2019–2020.

Dr. Jackson received his B.S. in Biology from Abilene Christian University and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Food Microbiology from Texas A&M University. While at the university, he led its administered training program for the USDA-FSIS inspectors at the Agency's newly established training center.

Dr. Jackson currently serves on the Technical Committee of the Center for Produce Safety.



Dr. Isabel Walls is a leading food safety expert with more than 20 years' experience in food safety and food defense issues. Dr. Walls currently serves as a Senior Advisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), where she oversees FSIS' research program and manages FSIS' Food Safety Fellows program to educate the next generation of food safety scientists. Dr. Walls also serves as a subject matter expert in food safety and food defense, being recognized both nationally and internationally as an expert in microbial food safety to inform policy making.

Prior to her current position, Dr. Walls served as the National Program Leader for Food Safety at USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), providing scientific leadership to its food safety programs.

She supported the development of new pathogen detection methods and intervention strategies to reduce food contamination, while supporting the careers of many young food safety scientists.

Dr. Walls also worked for USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, where she addressed Sanitary and Phytosanitary issues that may impact U.S. exports or imports of animal products. Dr. Walls previously worked for the International Life Sciences Institute, where she developed expert panel reports and organized symposia for presentation at IAFP meetings. Before that, she worked for the National Food Processors Association where she undertook laboratory research in predictive microbiology to inform risk assessments.

An active IAFP Member since 1992, Dr. Walls served as IAFP President (2011–2012) and is a member of IAFP's Affiliate, the Capital Area Food Protection Association. She currently serves on the Nominating Committee, the Foundation Committee, and the Past Presidents Committee. She chaired the *Journal of Food Protection* Management Committee (2002–2004) and was a member of the *Journal of Food Protection* Editorial Board (1996–2014). She has organized and convened symposia at 16 of the past IAFP Annual Meetings. Many of these symposia focused on international food safety issues, including "Food Safety in Latin America," "Food Safety Issues in Southeast Asia," and "Food Safety in Africa." This last symposium was instrumental in establishing IAFP's Affiliate, the African Continental Association for Food Protection, in 2012.

Dr. Walls has participated in many Professional Development Groups (PDGs) and is a founding member of the International Food Protection Issues PDG. She is an active member of the Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality PDG and has participated on the Microbial Modelling and Risk Analysis PDG, Food Chemical Hazards and Food Allergy PDG, and the Beverages and Acid/Acidified Foods PDG, organizing symposia with their support.

Dr. Walls received her B.S. in Medical Laboratory Science and Ph.D. in Food Microbiology from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland and completed post-doctoral research at USDA's Agricultural Research Service.