Spring has sprung here in Merryland, and the cherry blossoms are abloom both here and in DC. But—let me whine here—poking out the words for this article is painful, because I could be frolicking outside in the sun or at least hunting down dandelions. So, I’m going to make this article short; not for me, but for you, dear readers. Thus, in a few weeks from now when the weather is even better, you won’t be burdened to read my blather when you could be cavorting around a May pole or, for you folks “down under,” enjoying a harvest festival.

The subject of this View is “Robert’s Rules of Order Are So Simple, Even a Texas Aggie Can Understand Them.” This is in response to last July’s Affiliate Council, where Robert’s Rules for Dummies was requested as a topic. So, here is my version.

Like some of you, Robert’s Rules and parliamentary procedure seemed to me to be an arcane art. I reasoned that that’s why organizations had parliamentarians—to make rulings when someone hollered “point of order.” The parliamentarian would proclaim something and the meeting would move on. I was actually thrown out of a Democratic caucus in the 1968 Texas primaries because of a parliamentary ruling. So, thinking it would be useful knowledge, I picked up Robert’s Rules and began reading... but... my... eyelids... became... he-avvy...and I stopped. Oh well, that’s why we have parliamentarians.

About 30 years ago, our toastmasters club (3039 Beltsville, Maryland) had a session on parliamentary procedure and Robert’s Rules of Order. The speaker was (Continued on page 2)
A summary of Robert’s Rules:

Point of Privilege. Pertains to noise, personal comfort, etc.—may interrupt only if necessary!

Parliamentary Inquiry. Inquire as to the correct motion - to accomplish a desired result, or raise a point of order.

Point of Information. Generally applies to information desired from the speaker: “I should like to ask the (speaker) a question.”

Orders of the Day (Agenda). A call to adhere to the agenda (a deviation from the agenda requires Suspending the Rules).

Point of Order. Infraction of the rules, or improper decorum in speaking. Must be raised immediately after the error is made.

Main Motion. Brings new business (the next item on the agenda) before the assembly.

Divide the Question. Divides a motion into two or more separate motions (must be able to stand on their own).

Consider by Paragraph. Adoption of paper is held until all paragraphs are debated and amended and entire paper is satisfactory; after all paragraphs are considered, the entire paper is then open to amendment, and paragraphs may be further amended. Any Preamble can not be considered until debate on the body of the paper has ceased.

Amend. Inserting or striking out words or paragraphs, or substituting whole paragraphs or resolutions.

Withdraw/Modify Motion. Applies only after question is stated; mover can accept an amendment without obtaining the floor.

Commit /Refer/Recommit to Committee. State the committee to receive the question or resolution; if no committee exists, include size of committee desired and method of selecting the members (election or appointment).

Extend Debate. Applies only to the immediately pending question; extends until a certain time or for a certain period of time.

Limit Debate. Closing debate at a certain time, or limiting to a certain period of time.

Postpone to a Certain Time. State the time the motion or agenda item will be resumed.

Object to Consideration. Objection must be stated before discussion or another motion is stated.

Lay on the Table. Temporarily suspends further consideration/action on pending question; may be made after motion to close debate has carried or is pending.

Take from the Table. Resumes consideration of item previously "laid on the table"—state the motion to take from the table.

Reconsider. Can be made only by one on the prevailing side who has changed position or view.

Postpone Indefinitely. Kills the question/resolution for this session—exception: the motion to reconsider can be made this session

Previous Question. Closes debate if successful; may be moved to "Close Debate," if preferred.

Informal Consideration. Move that the assembly go into "Committee of the Whole"—informal debate as if in committee; this committee may limit number or length of speeches or close debate by other means by a 2/3 vote. All votes, however, are formal.

Appeal Decision of the Chair. Appeal for the assembly to decide. Must be made before other business is resumed; NOT debatable if relates to decorum, violation of rules, or order of business.

Suspend the Rules. Allows a violation of the assembly’s own rules (except Constitution); the object of the suspension must be specified.

(Continued from page 1)

Lucid and made the rules less murky. This is what I remember:

♦ One fundamental rule is everyone has a chance to speak.
♦ Another fundamental rule is “the majority rules”—unless the organization has other rules in its bylaws.
♦ Motions, amendments, seconding, voting, point of order, etc. can seem confusing. But try looking at motions and amendments like stacking blocks. You unstack the blocks in the reverse order that you stacked them. The other motions are simpler; see the list to your left.

Here’s an example of stacking and unstacking motions, with a few wrenches thrown in the machinery:

Al is recognized by the chair and says, “I move that we donate $100 to Cousins of Charity.” Bob seconds it. The chair repeats the motion (to donate $100 to the Cousins of Charity) and asks, “Are you ready for the question?”

Chet is recognized and makes a motion to amend the motion to also donate $100 to the Uncles of Charity. Doris seconds the amendment. The chair now must state the amended motion (to donate $100 each to the Cousins of Charity and the Uncles of Charity) and asks, “Are you ready for the question?”

Eli is recognized and states, “I don’t believe we should donate to the Uncles of Charity unless we also donate to the Aunts of Charity.” Bob seconds it.

Eli replies, “No, I’m just saying.”

Doris is recognized and opines, “The Aunts of Charity were involved with a scandal last year and do not deserve our largess.”

Eli shouts, “That was just a rumor.”

The chair says, “You are out of order, Eli. You did not ask for recognition.”

(Continued on page 3)
Eli rises and asks for recognition. The chair grants it.

Fred calls for “point of order.”

Recognized by the chair, Fred says, “Eli has spoken and cannot speak again until everyone else has had a chance to speak.” Parliamentarian Zed agrees.

OK, dear reader, before your eyelids begin to droop—let’s assume Eli had naught else to say and starts unstacking the blocks:

The chair restates the current motion (to donate $100 each to the Cousins of Charity and the Uncles of Charity) and asks, “Are you ready for the question?”

No one asks for recognition, so the chair asks for votes. Let’s say the “nays” have it. Therefore, the current motion is now, “To donate $100 to the Cousins of Charity,” and the chair asks, “Are you ready for the question?”

Let’s say the “yeas” have it and the motion passes.

So, in review: first, everyone has a chance to speak; second, the majority rules; and third, motions and amendments are unstacked in the reverse order that they were stacked.


Here’s also a bit of history from Wikipedia: The first edition of the book, whose full title was Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies, was published in February 1876 by then US Army Major Henry Martyn Robert (1837–1923) with the short title Robert’s Rules of Order placed on its cover. The procedures prescribed by the book were loosely modeled after those used in the United States House of Representatives, with such adaptations as Robert saw fit for use in ordinary societies.


Being parsimonious, I hot-footed to my local library and checked out The Guerrilla Guide to Robert’s Rules. It has a cute camouflage cover and was written by Nancy Sylvester, a professional parliamentarian. This 2006 book is lucidly written, explains Robert’s Rules well, and has several chapters on how to thwart parliamentarian bullies.

Another book at the library was the 2006 Breaking Robert’s Rules by Susskind and Cruikshank. Well written, with a focus (other than Robert’s rules) on building a consensus and avoiding the “tyranny of the majority.” A more erudite review can be found at www.pon.harvard.edu/news/2006/book_susskind_Roberts_rules.php.

And, naturally, the library had both Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised and a handy pocket-sized Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised in Brief. The latter has a good index and handy tables at the end.

So, by August, with a few visits to your local library, book store, or even the internet, each of you can be a parliamentary expert. Just please don’t make me cry with “points of order” at my misteaks.
Terry Peters  
Delegate & President, British Columbia Food Protection Association

**OCCUPATION** | Microbiology Program Specialist and Acting Program Manager (last two years) for the Food Safety and Consumer Protection Division, Western Area of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

**EDUCATION** | Bachelor of Science, Chemistry, University of British Columbia (BC), 1968; BC Teacher Certification, University of BC, 1970; Master of Science, Food Science, University of Manitoba, 1994

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS** | Mr. Peters’s career began in the laboratory as a research assistant at the University of British Columbia. Two years later he joined Health Canada, working 11 years as a chemist. Acting on a desire to work more closely with people and industry, Mr. Peters decided that his future lay outside the laboratory setting and moved to the food safety inspection division of the Department, working first as a field inspector and later as a technical specialist. Canada’s move to combine the food inspection functions of four federal departments into a single food agency resulted in him joining the CFIA in 1997.

Mr. Peters’s work focuses on minimizing the risk to Canadians associated with many different food commodities. He is involved in CFIA’s national microbiological programs and sits as a member of its Microbiology Science Committee and Microbiology Planning Committee. He is responsible for policy design, development, and delivery and assessment standards for food safety issues. Mr. Peters provides leadership and expert technical support and advice to a wide array of stakeholders, both within and outside government.

**PORTFOLIO** | A key component of Mr. Peters’s work is the development and delivery of national training courses in food safety. He is currently a national trainer on metal can defects, the safe production of sprouts, and ready-to-eat meats. Mr. Peters has been part of two educational projects that have been awarded by the industry: he was a member of a team that won a gold award at the Aurora Film Festival; and another that received an award from the Association for Media and Technology in Education in Canada.

Mr. Peters has been a member of IAFP since 1990. A six-year Delegate to the Affiliate Council, he has also served as its Secretary and Chair. His vision for IAFP is an increase in international membership beyond the North American continent. Mr. Peters was one of the founders of the British Columbia Food Protection Association (BCFPA), which received its IAFP Affiliate charter in 1999. Serving first as BCFPA’s vice president, he remains on the board of directors as president, working to educate and promote food safety in British Columbia and elsewhere. Mr. Peters continues to be very active managing the affairs of BCFPA through leading meetings, giving talks, acting as liaison between industry and students, and promoting both IAFP and BCFPA. Under Mr. Peters’s leadership, the BCFPA has won four Affiliate Achievement Awards.

Mr. Peters articulated and qualified as a Professional Agrologist in 1999 under the British Columbia Institute of Agrologists. His professional affiliations, beyond IAFP, are with the Pacific Fisheries Technologists and the BC Institute of Agrologists. He is a member of the Technical Review Board for the International Sprout Growers Association, a member of the British Columbia FOODSAFE Steering Committee, and member of the British Columbia Food Quality and Safety Advisory Committee. He has also held executive positions in the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, serving as president of their Scientific Regulation Group for ten years, for which he received a Citation Award for personal efforts and dedicated service.

**PERSONAL ENDEAVOURS** | Mr. Peters was born in England and emigrated with his family as a young child to Alberta, Canada. It did not take long for his family to move to British Columbia and settle in Richmond, where he grew up and graduated from Richmond High School. He and his wife, Lyn, have one son named Luke. Mr. Peters enjoys traveling to foreign countries and spending leisure time curling in the winter at his cabin on one of British Columbia’s gulf islands. In addition to BCFPA, he volunteers for the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, negotiating improved working conditions for his fellow employees. He looks forward to a two-week sailing cruise this summer with Lyn and two long-time friends.
British Columbia Food Protection Association
January 2008

Reported by Terry Peters, BCFPA President & Delegate

January 14 was a magical evening in British Columbia as Frank Yiannas, IAFP Past President, brought to the British Columbia Food Protection Association (BCFPA) some of the Disney magic left over from IAFP 2007 last July in Florida. We only wished that he had brought some sunshine, too.

As the keynote speaker following a short BCFPA business meeting, Frank was able to charm an audience of 70-plus BCFPA members with his presentation on “Food Safety is Magical, But It Doesn’t Magically Happen.” The success of the business meeting and Frank’s talk was evident in the many questions he fielded following his presentation, and the length of time that the discussions went beyond the anticipated schedule.

The meeting gave BCFPA the opportunity to report on another successful year, as well as thank our membership for their continued support and contributions.

We were exceptionally pleased to be able to present a scholarship to one of our student members, Shaheen Jivanjee. This is the second year BCFPA has been fortunate enough to have funds for scholarship granting. We do our best to support our student members, whom we consider to be the future of food safety in British Columbia.

Attendees enjoyed a great evening with lots of delicious food, door prizes, and opportunities to socialize, network, and learn more about BCFPA and IAFP.

Many thanks go out to Frank and those in BCFPA who helped make the meeting a great success.

Editor’s note: Terry Peters also shared that the February 2008 issue of Country Life in BC reported on Frank Yiannas’ presentation at the BCFPA meeting. The article title is “Industry needs to step up safe food strategies: Creating ‘culture’ is key to preventing foodborne illness.”

Portugal Association for Food Protection
February 2008

Reported by Laurentina Pedroso, PAFP President and Delegate

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Lusofona University, in cooperation with the Portuguese Meat Industry Association, the Portugal Association for Food Protection, and IAFP hosted the First Congress of the

(Continued on page 6)
Portuguese Meat Industry February 21–22 at Lusofona University (ULHT) in Lisbon, Portugal. More than 280 participants from different parts of Portugal and Spain were present.

The Congress featured insights from 20 experts from industry, academia, and government on meat and food safety-related issues. Drs. Fernando Bernardo, Kathleen Glynn, Andreia Porto, and John Sofos were among those presenting on the themes of economics of the meat industry in Portugal, Spain, and Europe; food safety, quality, and nutrition; legislation; and laboratory methodology updates.

Professor Laurentina Pedroso, Dean of the Veterinary Faculty and Executive Director of the Meat Industry Association, congratulated attendees and speakers, emphasizing the importance of food safety issues for the meat industry and industry in general, and IAFP’s worldwide work toward improving the knowledge of food related issues.

The food safety session started with an “Overview of Food Safety in Europe” by Professor Patrick Wall, President of the European Food Safety Authority agency (EFSA).

IAFP Vice President Dr. Stan Bailey ended the last session of the Congress, highlighting the mission of IAFP in “Advancing Food Safety Worldwide”, and presented information on IAFP’s Fourth European Symposium on Food Safety to be held in Lisbon in November.

Georgia Association for Food Protection February 2008

Reported by Pam Metheny, GAFP Secretary

In spite of the stormy weather in Georgia, the Georgia Association for Food Protection held its spring meeting with 64 attendees at H.C. Brill Company in Tucker on February 26.

Speaking on the topic of produce safety were: Harlan Clemmons, President and COO of Sadex Corporation, on “Irradiation and Produce Safety”; Dr. Joe Frank, Professor of Food Science and Microbiology at the University of Georgia, on “Attachment and Survival of Pathogens on Fresh Produce”; Donna Garren, Ph.D., Vice President of Health and Safety Regulatory Af-

fairs for the National Restaurant Association, on foodservice perspectives; Jack Guzewich, Acting Director of the FDA’s Division of Public Health and Biostatistics, on US produce safety; Ruth Petran, Corporate Scientist for Ecolab, on “Improving the Microbial Safety of Fresh Produce”; and Brian Zomorodi, Vice President of Quality and Technology for Ready Pack Foods, Inc., on field-to-market safety.

We are also in the process of accepting papers for the Dr. Jim Ayres Young Investigator Award from any student who is a member of GAFP. This will also be the first year for GAFP to award the David Fry Regulatory Food Safety Professional IAFP Meeting Stipend to attend the IAFP Annual Meeting. Deadlines for both of these submissions are May 31. Additional details may be found on our website at www.gaafp.org, along with information on our upcoming meeting in September!

Affiliate Clips

Highlights of your communications with the IAFP office

Indiana Environmental Health Association (IEHA) held its Spring Meeting on April 10 in Indianapolis. Five morning sessions and two afternoon sessions were followed by
NIMS/ICS training for environmental health specialists and a business meeting. Session themes included “A Case Study in Reduced Oxygen Packaging (ROP) at the Retail Level” and “Indianapolis Public Works Water Quality and Haz. Mat. Response.”

Steven Crawford, Immediate Past President of Missouri Milk, Food and Environmental Health Association (MMFEHA), found some interesting historical trivia while planning the association’s 19th Annual Educational Conference (AEC). As the descendant organization of the Missouri Milk Control Short Course, MMFEHA was actually celebrating its 76th AEC. Longtime member Wilbur Feagan recalls attending the Short Course conferences at Missouri State University in Columbia in 1937, and possibly attended the same in 1932.

Ohio Association of Food and Environmental Sanitarians (OAFES), whose members will play an integral role as the Local Arrangements Committee for IAFP 2008 in August, held its Spring Meeting on March 17 at The Ohio State University (OSU). Presentations were “Rapid Detection of Target Microbes and Hazardous Genes in Foods” by Dr. Hua Wang of OSU; “History of Microbiological Testing and Role in HACCP” by Dr. Gary Acuff of Texas A&M University; and “Novel Approaches for Sanitizing Fresh Produce” by Dr. Ahmed Yousef of OSU. In attendance to discuss planning for IAFP 2008 was David Tharp, IAFP Executive Director.

The 49th Annual Meeting of Ontario Food Protection Association (OFPA) was held November 8, 2007, and garnered record attendance. The morning session, “Try to Find Us—Traceability and Food Recall,” featured Maureen Howes of CFIA, Claude Gravel of Costco, and Janice Galvez of Associated Brands. The afternoon theme of “We Found You, Now What Do We Do?—Foodborne Surveillance and Preparing for the Unexpected” was presented by Dr. Ewen Todd of Michigan State University, Dr. David Pearl of the University of Guelph, and Margaret Burton of Jack in the Box.

We know that IAFP Affiliates are making things happen—and we want to share it here in the Affiliate View! We welcome your meeting articles & photos; events on your calendar; tips for Affiliate growth & networking; and recognition of your members who have received an award or made a notable achievement. To be featured in the next issue, send your news and photos by June 19 to:

Leilani McDonald
lmcdonald@foodprotection.org
May
2: Carolinas Association for Food Protection, Spring Meeting featuring speaker Frank Yiannas, Madren Conference Center, Clemson University, Clemson, SC. Contact Steve Tracey at 704.633.8250 or smtracey@foodlion.com

8: Metropolitan Association for Food Protection, Spring Seminar featuring speaker Lee-Ann Jaykus, Rutgers University, Cook College Campus Center, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Carol Schwar at 908.475.7960 or cschwar@co.warren.nj.us

13–15: Florida Association for Food Protection, Annual Education Conference, St. Peteursburg Hilton-Bayfront, St. Petersburg, FL. Contact Zeb Blanton at 407.618.4893, or visit www.fafp.net

14–15: Pennsylvania Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians, Annual Meeting, Nittany Lion Inn, Penn State University, State College, PA. Contact Gene Fry at 717.397.0719 or erfrey@landolakes.com

June
2–4: Texas Association for Food Protection, Annual Meeting, Omni Austin Southpark Hotel, Austin, TX. Contact Toby Breland at 903.752.9459 or tobybreland@brookshires.com

10: Ontario Food Protection Association, Professional Development Day & Golf Tournament, Springfield Golf Course, Guelph, Ontario. Contact Gail Seed at 519.463.5674 or seed@golden.net, or visit www.ofpa.on.ca,

18: United Kingdom Association for Food Protection, 4th Annual Meeting, The Village Hotel, Cardiff. Contact Louise Knight at 02920.416306 or lknight@uwic.ac.uk

24–26: New Zealand Association for Food Protection, Listeria Workshop in association with New Zealand Institute of Food Science and Technology (NZIFST) Annual Meeting, Rotorua, New Zealand. Contact Lynn McIntyre at 64.3.351.0015 or lynn.mcintyre@esr.cri.nz

July
21–25: Australian Association for Food Protection, featuring speaker Frank Yiannas. For further details, contact Trish Desmarchelier at patricia.desmarchelier@csiro.au

September
16–17: Upper Midwest Dairy Industry Association, Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN. Contact Janene Lucia at 607.255.2892 or jgg3@cornell.edu

16–18: New York State Association for Food Protection, 85th Annual Conference, Doubletree Hotel, East Syracuse, NY. Contact Gene Watnaas at saantaw@prtel.om


29–Oct 1: Indiana Environmental Health Association, Fall Educational Conference, Belterra Hotel and Conference Center, Belterra, IN. Contact Kelli Whiting at 317.221.2256 or kwhiting@hhcorp.org

Let IAFP help advertise your meeting in this newsletter and in our journals. Keep IAFP on your mailing list, or send event details to lmcdonald@foodprotection.org
Affiliate Council Activity

Affiliate Council Secretary: Nominations Requested

Forty-three IAFP Affiliate organizations. One voice on the IAFP Executive Board. Whom do you recommend to represent the interests and goals of your organization’s relationship to the International Association of Food Protection?

Nominations are now being accepted for the vital position of Affiliate Council Secretary for the 2008–2009 term, which begins at IAFP 2008.

This individual will serve a one-year term as Affiliate Council Secretary, followed by a one-year term as Affiliate Council Chair on the IAFP 2008–2009 Executive Board.

The Affiliate Council Secretary will:
- Keep an accurate record of the proceedings and activities of the Council;
- Assume the duties of the Affiliate Council Chair in the absence of the Chair;
- Keep an up-to-date record of authorized representatives to the Council; and
- Serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the IAFP Executive Board.

Please submit inquiries and nominations to Carl Custer, Affiliate Council Chair, or to Leilani McDonald, Affiliate Liaison, at the IAFP office.

Eugene Fry (Pennsylvania) expresses an opinion to fellow Delegates of the 2007 Affiliate Council.
2008 Affiliate Council Meeting: Delegates Asked to Confirm Attendance

As we prepare for the 2008 Affiliate Council Meeting in Columbus, we ask that all 43 Affiliates review this list of the Delegates expected to represent their Affiliate. To report changes or an anticipated absence, please notify Leilani McDonald at the IAFP office.

Alabama | Lynn McMullen
Alberta | Thomas McCaskey
Arizona | Mohammed Heydari
Australia | Patricia Desmarchelier
Brazil | Maria Teresa Destro
British Columbia | Terry Peters
California | John Bruhn
California/Southern | Margaret Burton
Capital Area | Carl Custer
Carolinas | Xiuping Jiang
Connecticut | Frank Greene
Florida | Peter Hibbard
Georgia | Sid Camp
Iowa | Lisa Pool
Idaho | Dale King*
Illinois | Rebecca Thomas
Indiana | Helene Uhlman
Kansas | Scott Selee*
Kentucky | Tony Hall
Korea | Sang-Do Ha
Metropolitan | Donald Schaffner
Mexico | Montserrat Hernandez Iturriaga
Michigan | Janet Phelps
Minnesota/Upper Midwest | Dan Erickson
Missouri | Dayle Reynolds
Mississippi | Tim Butts*
North Dakota | Allen McKay*
Nebraska | Harshavardhan Thippareddi
New York | Steven Murphy
New Zealand | Roger Cook
Ohio | Gloria Swick-Brown
Ontario | Joseph Odumeru
Pennsylvania | Eugene Fry
Portugal | Laurentina Pedroso
Quebec | Julie Jean
South Dakota | Darwin Kurtenbach
Tennessee | Ann Draughon
Texas | Fred Reimers
Turkey | Nezih Mutfugil
United Kingdom | David Lloyd
Washington | Stephanie Olmsted
Wisconsin | Randall Daggs
Wyoming | Doug Evans*

*Delegate not currently an IAFP Member.
Resources for Meeting Planners

IAFP Executive Board Speaker Program

Gary Acuff, Ph.D., President
♦ Evolving Food Safety Issues
♦ Effective Validation of Critical Control Points
♦ History of Microbiological Testing and Role in HACCP

Stan Bailey, Ph.D., President-Elect
♦ Salmonella, Methods
♦ Salmonella, Control in Chickens
♦ Rapid and Automated Methods in Food Microbiology

Vickie Lewandowski, M.S., Vice President
♦ HACCP (all aspects)
♦ Safety of Dairy Products
♦ Applied Molecular Methods for the Food Industry

Lee-Ann Jaykus, Ph.D., Secretary
♦ Foodborne Viruses
♦ Molecular Detection of Foodborne Pathogens
♦ Microbial Food Safety Risk Assessment

Frank Yiannas, M.P.H., Past President, Ex-Officio
♦ Food Safety is Magical, But It Doesn’t Magically Happen: A Retail Safety Overview
♦ Key Trends Influencing the Future of Food Safety
♦ Using Information Technology to Manage Food Safety Risk
♦ Innovations in Retail Food Safety

Carl Custer, Affiliate Council Chair
♦ Microbiology and Critical Steps in Manufacturing Jerky and Dried Meat Products
♦ HACCP and Fermented Sausages

Roger Cook, Affiliate Council Secretary
♦ Campylobacter: Thorn in the Side of Risk Managers; Wonderful Challenge to Risk Assessors
♦ Molecular Typing: Today’s Primary Tool for Attributing Source to Foodborne Diseases
♦ National Microbiological Monitoring Programs and Databases in Meat Production

Program Guidelines

1. I AFP Board Members are available to speak at Affiliate meetings on numerous topics involving food safety.
2. Each Affiliate may request one Executive Board speaker for one Affiliate meeting within a 12-month calendar year.
3. A minimum of 15 minutes should be allowed for the Board Member to deliver information about the International Association for Food Protection in addition to their main subject(s) (see #1).
4. I AFP will pay the Board Member’s expense to travel to the Affiliate meeting location.
5. The Affiliate covers local expenses, including meals, lodging, and local transportation for the Board Member.
6. The Board Member makes their own travel reservations and will submit an expense report to the I AFP office within 10 days of completion of their travel to the Affiliate meeting. Any local expense (see #5) will be billed to the Affiliate.
7. A two-month advance notice is required.
8. To invite a Board Member to speak at your Affiliate meeting, contact Leilani McDonald, I AFP Affiliate Services, at 800.369.6337 or 515.276.3344; or E-mail lmcdonald@foodprotection.org
Conversation That Counts
Engaging in the right dialogue at the board table

By Jon Hockman

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One of your core responsibilities as a member of the board of an association or other nonprofit organization is engaging in and promoting healthy board dialogue. Without the right kind of discussion, debate, and dialogue, neither the board nor the organization is likely to fully deliver against mission. But let’s face it. We’ve all been in situations where it can be uncomfortable to push back on someone else’s point—because you don’t want to offend your fellow board member—or where you truly don’t understand an issue but fear looking foolish in front of your peers were you to seek clarification. And yet, as Charles Steinmetz, the inventor of alternating current, once said, “No man really becomes a fool until he stops asking questions.”

Thus, your challenge: how to build within your board what BoardSource founding president Nancy Axelrod terms “a culture of inquiry” in which leadership conversations feed true fulfillment of the organization’s mission. Four practices, continually and collectively embraced by board members, are critical parts of such a culture: asking powerful questions, listening for understanding, gauging what and when to probe, and appreciating conversation versus conflict.

Asking Powerful Questions
Asking powerful questions is not about who can shout the loudest; nor is it about who holds power on the organization chart. Rather, it is about a shared board goal for a relentless pursuit of the information, perspectives, and possibilities needed to make informed leadership decisions. To get there, you will need to build questions that are simple and clear and that:

♦ Provoke thought
♦ Generate energy
♦ Focus inquiry
♦ Surface unconscious assumptions
♦ Open new possibilities

Here are some examples:

♦ How does this proposal align with our mission?
♦ What do our members—both the involved and the uninvolved—think of this proposal?
♦ I heard you repeatedly state that “people are saying...”. Who, specifically, are these “people”?

(Continued on page 13)
I’m hearing pushback on this. My gut tells me that the pushback is not really about the issue on the table but something else. So, let’s explore that. What is your core concern here?

Many statements have been made about why this won’t work. I respect that view, and at the same time find myself curious. Of the many reasons given for why this won’t work, which ones are based on opinions and which ones are based on facts that could be objectively proven true or false?

Some people have been pretty quiet about this. Does that mean you agree or that you have questions?

Listening for Understanding

Asking questions is a good start, but listening to what is truly being said, or not being said, is equally important. Members of association boards serve because they care about the organization’s mission. While that commitment is an organizational strength, it also can cause board members to talk and talk and talk. Yet effective board service means spending far more time listening than speaking. That’s often easier said than done (pun intended!). We develop habits for how we listen—or do not listen—early in life, and recognizing your patterns requires careful concentration and practice. It is worth the effort because you cannot have effective conversation without listening.

Here are several keys to effectively listening for understanding:

• Don’t develop your answer while the other person is still speaking. Spend that time listening, and then consider your response.

• Recognize that you listen less carefully when you assume that the conversation is less important. Check that assumption.

• Nonverbal communication counts as much as what is being said. “Listen” to both.

• Suspend your own opinions, beliefs, and ideas while others are speaking. There is time to check for alignment with your thoughts after you absorb what others are saying.

Gauging What and When to Probe

Knowing when and how deep to probe is a third piece of promoting and engaging in healthy board dialogue. The reality is, not every leadership decision requires the same level of conversation and debate. So how do you know when to push for a robust conversation, and when do you keep it concise? There is no simple answer, though these guidelines should help you decide:

• Are we discussing a mission-critical matter?

• Have the critical questions been put on the table, and have full answers been given?

• Is this the most important conversation we’ll have during this meeting? Are we leaving sufficient time for the things that are most critical?

• Do I need to ask my question now, or will it be more appropriate once the agreed-upon follow-up actions take place?

• Am I speaking for my benefit (to be right or to show what I know) or for the organization’s benefit?

Conversation Versus Conflict

Gaining comfort with tension and vigorous debate is the next critical
practice to understand. A culture of inquiry within a board can and should include healthy debate. That means diverse views, experiences, and perspective are sought out to fully inform the conversation. This must happen in an atmosphere of respect and appreciation that recognizes that the process is going to go more slowly than it would otherwise; that progress typically arrives at the intersection of diverse view points; and that nobody is as smart as everybody and, therefore, collective wisdom is more powerful than any lone voice.

Another reason that vigorous conversation is necessary is to avoid what Irving Janis called “groupthink.” This is a tendency for established groups, like boards, to place a higher priority on unanimous agreement rather than on pursuing alternative courses of action. This is a natural response because, as humans, we like to get along. The risk of groupthink, however, is that you may miss key issues that are in your organization’s best interest.

Janis’ work is the basis for these board-specific tips to avoid group-think:

♦ The board chair should create an environment in which each member has the role of “critical evaluator.” This allows each member to freely air objections and doubts.
♦ Board leaders should not express an opinion when assigning a task to a group.
♦ The organization should set up several independent groups that are working on the same problem.
♦ All effective alternatives should be examined.
♦ Each member should discuss the board’s ideas with trusted people outside the board.
♦ The board should invite outside experts into meetings. Board members should be allowed to discuss with and question the outside experts.

♦ At least one board member should be assigned the role of devil’s advocate. This should be a different person for each meeting.

As a board member, engaging in constructive conversation may sound simple. And intellectually, it is. The challenge comes in actually doing it: asking powerful questions, listening for understanding, knowing when and what to probe, and embracing difference. The best way forward: practice, practice, practice. Your board and your organization will be better for it.

Jon Hockman is the principal of The d3 Group, an Arlington, Virginia-based firm providing facilitation and executive coaching to associations and their leadership. Previously, he served as executive director of Delta Sigma Phi, Indianapolis, Indiana. E-mail jhockman@thed3group.com

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Affiliates Strengthen Ties to IAFP through Annual Reports

We are pleased to report that a record number of our 43 Affiliates met the March 4 deadline for filing their Annual Report to IAFP. By filing their association’s report of 2007 activities, these 30 Affiliates ensured that their accomplishments will be reviewed by the Affiliate Awards Selection Committee for recognition at the IAFP 2008 Awards Banquet in Ohio:

- Alabama Association for Food Protection
- Alberta Association for Food Protection
- Arizona Environmental Health Association
- Associated Illinois Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians
- Brazil Association for Food Protection
- British Columbia Food Protection Association
- Carolinas Association for Food Protection
- Connecticut Association for Food Protection
- Florida Association for Food Protection
- Georgia Association for Food Protection
- Indiana Environmental Health Association
- Iowa Association for Food Protection
- Kansas Environmental Health Association
- Kentucky Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians
- Korea Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Specialists
- Michigan Environmental Health Association
- Missouri Milk, Food and Environmental Health Association
- New York State Association for Food Protection
- New Zealand Association for Food Protection
- North Dakota Environmental Health Association
- Ohio Association of Food and Environmental Sanitarians
- Ontario Food Protection Association
- Quebec Food Protection Association
- South Dakota Environmental Health Association
- Southern California Association for Food Protection
- Texas Association for Food Protection
- Turkish Food Safety Association
- United Kingdom Association for Food Protection
- Upper Midwest Dairy Industry Association
- Washington Association for Food Protection
- Wisconsin Association for Food Protection
- Wyoming Environmental Health Association

Regardless of the March 4 deadline, we encourage all Affiliates to complete and submit their Annual Reports to the IAFP office at any time. We truly appreciate the opportunity to share in the goals and progress of your organization.

Symposium Examines Safety of PNRTE Foods

More than 115 attendees converged in Arlington, Virginia, on January 24 to hear leading experts from industry, academia, and government present “Prepared, But Not Ready-To-Eat Foods—What You Need to Know,” IAFP’s first Timely Topics Symposium.

Developed in cooperation with the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) and the American Frozen Food Institute (AFFI), the symposium addressed the food safety issues associated with products that are partially cooked or contain partially cooked or raw ingredients, which have been linked to recent foodborne illness outbreaks.

Ian Williams of the CDC and Michael Davidson of the University of Tennessee were among the experts speaking on the regulatory efforts, consumer perceptions, and epidemiology of outbreaks surrounding these foods. Other topics addressed through presentations and a roundtable discussion were microwave

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ovens, microwavable foods, product labeling, and cooking instructions.

Post-meeting highlights are available by selecting the Symposium link on the home page of our Web site at www.foodprotection.org.

Palumbo Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

On January 15, IAFP President Gary Acuff presented Dr. Samuel A. Palumbo with the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Center for Food Safety and Technology in Chicago.

Retired from the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), Dr. Palumbo’s prominent research focused on the microbiology of food processing operations; growth of foodborne pathogens at low temperatures; interventions to reduce or eliminate pathogens from red meats and meat products; and laboratory and pilot plant detection and enumeration of Listeria monocytogenes, E. coli O157:H7, Salmonella, Campylobacter jejuni, and various other pathogens.

The Award is given at the discretion of the Association President, to recognize an individual who has made a lasting impact on “Advancing Food Safety Worldwide” through a lifetime of professional achievements in food protection.

Where in the World is IAFP?

Being a catalyst in the mission of protecting the worldwide food supply means that the Association’s work and event planning goes on year round.

Next up on the international front is our May 26–28 Latin American Symposium in Campinas, Brazil, in cooperation with Brazil Association for Food Protection and the International Commission on the Microbiological Specification of Foods (ICMSF). Prospective attendees can find information and registration available in three languages at iafplatnamerica.org.

Registration for IAFP 2008, to be held August 3–6 in Columbus, Ohio, opened in March. Extensive information and the link to our new online registration for our 95th Annual Meeting is available at our Web site.

IAFP returns to China September 24–25 as a major partner and supporter of the second China International Food Safety Quality Conference & Expo (CIFSQ).

Still in the planning stage, the Fourth European Symposium on Food Safety has been scheduled for November 19–21 in Lisbon, Portugal.

Watch our Web site regularly for updates on these and other activities of the Association.

Executive Board Welcomes Incoming Secretary

In March, Association Members elected Isabel Walls as Secretary of the IAFP Executive Board. Dr. Walls begins her five-year commitment following IAFP 2008 in August, and will serve as President for the 2011–2012 term.

A Senior Advisor with USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service, Dr. Walls joined IAFP in 1992 and has served on the Journal of Food Protection Editorial Board since 1996. While serving as vice chair and chair of the Journal of Food Protection Management Committee, she oversaw the development of JFP Online. Dr. Walls is a founding member of the Microbial Risk Analysis PDG, and is active in the Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality and Food Law PDGs.

At IAFP 2004, as part of her work with the Water Quality and Safety PDG, Dr. Walls co-convened a symposium on “Water’s Role in Food Contamination.” She also served on the Local Arrangements Committee for IAFP 2005.

Enjoy 5-star Benefits, 2-star Dues with IAFP Membership

Since January 2007, IAFP has been a pioneer among associations committed to providing the best value and services to its diverse membership base.

Throughout the world, aspiring and established food safety professionals in industry, academia, and government are finding in IAFP the people, resources, and opportunities they need to make a lasting impact in their profession.

And it all starts with just $50 per year. Advancing Food Safety Worldwide is our goal. We invite you to make it yours by reviewing IAFP Membership options at www.foodprotection.org.
Highlights of the Executive Board Meeting
February 17–18, 2008 | Columbus, OH
an unofficial summary of actions

Approved the following:
♦ Minutes of November 13–14, 2007 Executive Board Meeting
♦ Minutes of November 13, 2007 Executive Board Executive Session
♦ Minutes of December 31, 2007 Executive Board Teleconference
♦ Minutes of January 12, 2008 Executive Board Teleconference
♦ Increase of spending to 75% of incoming monies for the Speaker Travel Fund
♦ New Award to recognize young researchers in the first seven years of their career

Discussed the following:
♦ E-mail votes taken since the last meeting
♦ Committee appointments for 2008–2009
♦ Report from the Program Committee meeting for IAFP 2008
♦ Ivan Parkin and John H. Silliker Lecturers for IAFP 2008
♦ Planning update for IAFP 2008
♦ New registration system for Annual Meeting and Workshops
♦ Committee meeting schedule for IAFP 2008
♦ Marketing of IAFP to 5,000 potential new members
♦ Journal of Food Protection author survey
♦ Planning session scheduled for April Board meeting
♦ 2008 European Symposium planning – tentative for Lisbon, Portugal – November 19–21, 2008
♦ Latin America Symposium on Food Safety, Campinas, SP, Brazil – May 26–28, 2008
♦ China International Food Safety & Quality, Beijing, China September 24–26, 2008
♦ IAFP’s International meeting for 2009 – location
♦ Workshop participation – outside organizers
♦ Staff pay procedures
♦ Symposia, workshop and technical abstract submission systems
♦ Retail process and product innovation conference
♦ FMRC Foundation contribution
♦ Non O157 E. coli white paper
♦ WHO-NGO update
♦ 3-A Sanitary Standards, Inc.
♦ Timely Topics Symposium on Prepared, But Not Ready-to-Eat Foods review
♦ Prepare a policy on Program Committee attendance
♦ Consideration of a leafy greens follow up in California

Reports received:
♦ IAFP Report
♦ Food Protection Trends
♦ Journal of Food Protection
♦ IAFP Web site
♦ Membership
♦ Advertising and sponsorship update
♦ Board Members attending Affiliate meetings
♦ Affiliate View newsletter
♦ Future Annual Meeting schedule
♦ Exhibiting (IAFP On the Road)

Highlights from the April 23–25 session will be featured in the summer issue
IAFP 2008: Join Your Colleagues!

Over 500 technical papers, posters and symposia will be presented, with more than 100 companies showcasing the latest innovations and technologies in food science and safety. Preview and register at www.foodprotection.org.

Workshops | August 1–2
♦ Better Process Cheese Control School—Processing Controls for Shelf-Stable Pasteurized Process Cheese Manufacture
♦ The Art of Fungal Characterization and Identification: A Hands-on Workshop
♦ Hands-on Workshop on Microbial Risk Assessment Modeling and Interpretation

Networking | August 2–6
♦ IAFP Job Fair
♦ Welcome Reception
♦ Committees & PDG Meetings
♦ Student Luncheon
♦ Editorial Board Reception
♦ Opening Session & Ivan Parkin Lecture
♦ Cheese & Wine Reception
♦ Exhibit Hall Luncheons & Receptions
♦ Business Meeting
♦ President’s Reception (by invitation)
♦ John H. Silliker Lecture
♦ Awards Banquet

Program | August 3–6
The IAFP 2008 Program kicks off August 3 with the Ivan Parkin Lecture, and concludes following the John H. Silliker Lecture and Awards Banquet on August 6.

Each day features a variety of symposium and roundtable topics, and technical and poster sessions. A sampling of diverse topics includes:

♦ Coming Out of the Campylobacter Closet: International Strategies for Reducing Human Campylobacteriosis
♦ New and Innovative Ways to Derive Risk-based Management Options
♦ Occurrence and Control of Norovirus: Is Public Vomiting Public Enemy #1?
♦ The Sequel to the Mystery Outbreak—What to Do When It Happens to You!
♦ Global Perspectives and Novel Approaches for Effective Food Safety Communication within Culturally Diverse Audiences
♦ Innovative Applications of Bacteriophages in Rapid Enrichment, Detection and Identification of Foodborne Pathogens
♦ The Greening of Food Packaging: Safety of Biodegradable, Reused, and Recycled Food Packaging

Network | August 2–6
♦ IAFP Job Fair
♦ Welcome Reception
♦ Committees & PDG Meetings
♦ Student Luncheon
♦ Editorial Board Reception
♦ Opening Session & Ivan Parkin Lecture
♦ Cheese & Wine Reception
♦ Exhibit Hall Luncheons & Receptions
♦ Business Meeting
♦ President’s Reception (by invitation)
♦ John H. Silliker Lecture
♦ Awards Banquet

Dr. Michael Doyle is a Regents Professor of Food Microbiology and Director of the Center for Food Safety at the University of Georgia. He is an active researcher in food safety and security, working closely with the food industry on issues related to the microbiological safety of foods.

The author of more than 400 scientific publications, Dr. Doyle has given more than 600 invited presentations at national and international scientific meetings, and has received several research awards from academic and national scientific organizations. He is a Fellow of IAFP, the American Academy of Microbiology, and the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences—Institute of Medicine (IOM).

In addition to current service on the food safety committees of several scientific organizations, Dr. Doyle has also served as a scientific advisor to many of them, including WHO; the National Academy of Sciences—IOM and National Research Council; ILSI—North America; FDA; USDA; the US Department of Defense; and the EPA.
95th Annual Meeting
IAFP 2008
Columbus, Ohio • August 3–6

Contribute to the Eleventh Foundation Silent Auction Today!

Proceeds from the Silent Auction Benefit the Foundation

Support the Foundation by donating an item today. A sample of items donated last year included:

- iPod
- Georgia Gift Basket
- Mickey Mouse Wrist Watch
- Oscar Mayer Hot Dog Golf Club, Towel and Balls
- Margaritaville Frozen Concoction Maker
- Half Gallon New York State Pure Maple Syrup
- New Zealand All Blacks vs. France Rugby Souvenir Pack
- Listeria, Listeriosis and Food Safety
- MP3 Player
- Cuisine and Culture: A History of Food
- Natural Freshwater Pearl Doubles
- 1966–2000 JFP Archives
- “Lucky Cow” Cow Figurine
- New York State Cheddar Cheese
- Kentucky Fun Pack

To donate an item go to our Web site at www.foodprotection.org and complete the Silent Auction Donation Form or contact Donna Gronstal at dgronstal@foodprotection.org 515.276.3344; 800.369.6337.
IAFP 2008

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Get ahead and stay ahead with three days
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and networking with the world’s leaders
in food safety research and technology.

Explore, participate, exhibit
at IAFP 2008.

www.foodprotection.org
Register today

Future Annual Meetings | Save the Dates!
IAFP 2009, July 12–15, Grapevine, TX
IAFP 2010, August 1–4, Anaheim, CA

Affiliate View is a quarterly
publication for Affiliates of the
International Association for Food
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photos, news items, or comments
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