

## **Food Law PDG**

**Attendees:** Mohammad Alam, Jennifer Anders, Ruby Apilado, Fatemeh Ataei, Stephanie Barnes, Sharon Beals, Wendy Bedale, DeAnn Benesh, Robert Buchanan, Thomas Burke, Brigitte Cadieux, Mark Carkhuff, Stella Chen, David Cook, James Cook, Meghan Cox, Carl Custer, Caroline DeWaal, Minh Duong, Ruth Eden, Eric Edmunds, Blanca Escudero-Abarca, Lei Fang, Faye Feldstein, Katie Fernandez, Helen Fong, Elise Forward, Jayanthi Gangiredla, Steven Gendel, Christie Gray, Xiaowen Guo, Myriam Gutierrez, Margaret Hardin, Jane Hayford, Craig Henry, Sunee Himathongkham, Kirsten Hirneisen, Atef Idriss, Timothy Jackson, Tim Jenkins, Maputa Kamulete, Shaun Kennedy, Jason Khoo, Peggy Kleine, Elisabetta Lambertini, Susan Linn, Deon Mahoney, Emeфа Monu, Melanie Neumann, Suyapa Padilla Antunez, Donna Pahl, Regina Petrasch, Kimberly Rice, Tanya Roberts, Arlette Shazer, Jennifer Sinatra, Steven Sklare, Marianna Solorio, Chalinee Srinimnuan, Gloria Swick-Brown, Koi Techathuvanan, Malcond Valladares, Jennifer Van de Ligt, Dave Wankowski, Lisa Weddig, Christina Wilson, and Lily Yang. **Number of Attendees:** 68

**Meeting Called to Order:** 3:15 p.m., Sunday, July 31, 2107. Chair Christie Gray opened the meeting, welcomed members, gave an overview of the agenda, and asked members to introduce themselves. There were several attendees new to the Food Law PDG.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Tim Jenkins.

### **Old Business:**

- Christie referenced the meeting minutes from 2015 and opened the floor for discussion. There was none. She let people know that the minutes are housed on the IAFP website (<https://www.foodprotection.org/get-involved/professional-development-groups/food-law-professional-development-group/>). There were no questions regarding the minutes. Christie asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Carl Custer motioned to approve. Craig Henry seconded the motion.

Christie called for a vote. There was a majority of affirmative votes and no dissensions (nays). Christie approved the minutes.

- Christie recapped symposia the Food Law PDG sponsored and/or collaborated on in 2015/2016 and webinars since the 2015 Annual Meeting, thanked and congratulated those involved. Great work, collaboration, and contributions Food Law PDG!!

#### Symposia

- Is *Salmonella* an Adulterant in Raw Meat and Poultry? – Carl Custer, Rachel Miller, Denis Stearns.
- How Do We Measure the Effectiveness of Regulatory Food Safety Programs? – Donald Zink, Ernest Julian, Roger Cook, Beth Cannon.
- Information and the Creation of Positive Economic Incentives for Food Safety Performance – Robert Scharff, Patricia Griffin, Clare Narrod, Mark Miller, Denis Stearns.
- Integrating Food Safety into Food Security – Mary Kenny, David Crean, Ruth Oniango.
- Approaches to Safe Use of Irrigation and Wash Water in the Face of Increased Global Water Shortages – Suresh D. Pillai, Manan Sharma, Ewen Todd, Osama El-Tawil.

#### Webinars

- The Global Burden of Foodborne Disease – Results and perspectives of WHO's Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG). Arie Hendrik Havelaar, Emerging Pathogens Institute, University of Florida; Marcel Zwietering, Moderator, Wageningen University (February 9, 2016).
- The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act: Discussion of the Final Rules on Preventive Controls for Human Food and Produce Safety. (November 18, 2015).

#### **New Business:**

- Ruth Eden is now involved with the development of ask-bioexpert.com, which is an interactive forum for the discussion of topics facing the food safety community – Ruth invited members of the Food Law PDG to get involved to learn from the expert panel and get access to their knowledge.
- Christie provided updates/insights from the Committee/PDG Chair/Vice Chair Meeting held on July 30, 2016.
  - Chairs/Vice Chairs requested of the Program committee that approved symposia are shared with the PDG chairs and vice-chairs so they can more easily suggest opportunities of coordination and collaboration among PDGs.
  - IAFP members can now directly update their PDG affiliations by logging into the IAFP web site; click Edit Profile on the Member Dashboard, then the Professional Info tab, then select any PDG to add or delete.
  - The deadline for IAFP 2017 symposia, roundtable and workshop proposals is October 4, 2016.
- Tim Jenkins gave a presentation on the **Healthy Food Safe Food Project** that is happening in the State of Minnesota. Tim works for Minnesota Department of Health as food access coordinator, working statewide to increase availability and access to healthy, safe food and assist MDH and University of Minnesota Extension to integrate food safety in food systems, healthy eating, and nutrition efforts among staff engaged in these activities statewide through research effort called the Healthy Food Safe Food project, the Minnesota Food Charter Network, the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP), and Extension SNAP-Ed.
- Tim worked also with IAFP colleagues, Atef Idris, Betsy Bihn, Nathan Anderson, and Mary Lou Tortorello to organize a round table symposium “Food Safety vs. Food Availability: Do we have to choose?” which had panelist Shaun Kennedy, Bob Buchanan, Michelle Smith and Mieke Uyttendaele and Atina Diffley, a farmer, writer, and trainer for farmer and growers. The roundtable generated a rich dialogue that led to the publication of a paper in *Food Protection Trends*, with the same title as the round table. (*Food Protection Trends*, vol. 36, no. 1, pp. 72-78, Jan 2016, Volume 36, Issue 1: Pages 72–78)

- Efforts to address the obesity epidemic, reduce chronic diseases (now appearing more and more in children) and eliminate health disparities are focusing on improving access to healthier, fresher, foods such as whole grains, fruits, vegetables, and lean protein sources and so the importance of food safety is heightened at all points of the food production system at which foodborne illness risks can be controlled or minimized. Both food access and food safety also encompass economics, policy, system and environmental factors, social and cultural issues that go far beyond the food supply alone. Safe and nutritious food is a basic individual need and both food safety and food access/availability/security are needed to protect and improve human health. If they are better integrated in a systems approach the food system, globally to locally, as a whole is improved.
- Tim invited members to collaborate on a symposium in 2017 that would explore the intersecting and sometimes conflicting objectives of the various sectors and disciplines that interface with the food system.

Christie introduced IAFP Board Liaison, Tim Jackson who provided updates:

- *JFP* online will be up and running by December 31, 2016.
- The program committee feels that symposia with a maximum of three to four speakers are more effective and allow for a more thorough coverage of content. There will be approximately only 79 slots available in 2017 for sessions. Tim stressed to look for opportunities to collaborate with other PDGs on sessions.
- Workshops and webinars are other great options that have been successful and can be done throughout the year. They are a good way to educate and communicate with a broader audience.
- Tim requested that members start a list of award candidates so that they have a head start if moved to nominate a colleague when the call for awards arrives.

Tim thanked members and expressed that PDGs are the life-blood of IAFP!

## **Food Law PDG 2017 Symposia Ideas Discussion and Ideas**

- New Member. Prosecution of food safety negligence. Case studies, i.e., Peanut Corporation of America.
- Faye Feldstein: My New FSMA Inspection is Coming: Expectations on Both Sides. New regulatory paradigms under FSMA “Where the rubber meets the road” A conversation about how regulators are partnering with industry on implementing FSMA a year later. FDA and industry sharing lessons learned nationally and internationally.
- Tim Jenkins, Atef Idris, with Produce PDG: Healthy Food, Safe Food, Sustainable Food System. Examine the intersections between nutrition, food protection, and food system sustainability and discuss actions that IAFFP and respective fields could take to advance collaborations and solve problems created by conflicting objectives.
- Atef Idris, Elise Forward: How to better implement food law in developing nations with FSMA now in place. Building the regulatory infrastructure needed from regulators, to trainers, lawyers, laboratories, traceability, surveillance, etc. Creating food Safety agencies that can succeed in the developing world.  
Considerations/suggestions from members:
  - Outreach to people in other parts of the world who can't travel to IAFFP.
  - Collaborate with the pre-harvest group in the interest of increasing the quality and safety of produce from global sources.
  - Explore the process of going from global rules to FSMA standards.
  - Compare developing nations to the U.S. regarding implementation of standards.
  - Collaborate with international affiliates.
  - Cover each government's right to establish food law. Codex is used the absence of food law as the minimum standard. FAO helps the countries that need assistance establishing food law.
  - Cover the resources and organizations to which nations have access to establish a food safety system and standards.

- Bob Buchanan: Agricultural Law, University of Maryland law school is developing programming in agricultural law with the issuance of produce safety rules. Introduce the agriculture lawyers who are used to working with farmers to the food lawyers who are not used to working with farmers.
- Request from the Dairy PDG for Food Law to sponsor a session on trends in Dairy Regulations. Vice Chair of the student PDG would like to collaborate. Student PDG is interested in artisan cheese safety/regulations.
- New member: Explore Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) & Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) (<https://www.brookings.edu/2015/05/20/tpp-ttip-key-trade-deal-terms-explained/>) in regard to the harmonization of food regulations between trading partners. Examine European standards vs. U.S. standards.
- Caroline DeWaal, Brigitte Cadieux, Atef Idris and other members: Development of New Frameworks for International Alignment national food safety/control systems. Safe Food for Canadians Act, Australia, Mexico, etc. Members suggestions/feedback:
  - Responsibility for FMSA compliance is with the importer. Foreign supplier verification is a business-to-business relationship but alignment of foreign governments is important to consider.
  - Compare multiple nations that have done or are in the process of food safety modernization.
  - IAFP is ideal to facilitate the dialog and discussion.
  - International PDG is a suggested partner.

**Additional idea for education and outreach from Caroline DeWaal:** Food Law PDG members published a series of seven articles on FSMA in 2014 and now that we have FSMA in place, the articles could be updated. IAFP has a web page specifically for the articles that break FSMA down for professionals.

**Food Safety Modernization Act: A Series on What is Essential for a Food Professional to Know.** The U.S. Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) is a significant

and far reaching update of the laws and subsequent regulations that affect the safety of domestically produced and imported foods regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Through FSMA, the U.S. Congress provides the FDA with greater powers and direct it to develop regulations that will focus the food industry on the prevention of foodborne illness. This series of articles will describe the legal “basics” for the readers of *Food Protection Trends*. <https://www.foodprotection.org/resources/food-safety-modernization-act/>.

Christie Gray and Caroline are the lead contacts for those interested in joining a team to advance this effort.

**Numbered Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. Recommend approval of Tim Jenkins as Chair beginning at the IAFFP 2017 annual meeting.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 9, 2017, Tampa Florida.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 5:00 p.m.

**Chairperson:** Christie Gray.