

Fruit & Vegetable Safety & Quality PDG

Attendees: Gretchen Wall, Enrique Garcia (Vice Chair), Abigail Aba Mensah, Tiffany Greenlee, Samir Assar, Yuqiao Jin, Jason Wan, Betsy Bihn, Steve Mandernach.

Number of Attendees: NA.

Meeting Called to Order: 1:02 p.m. Eastern Time, July 31, 2022.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Gretchen Wall.

Old Business: Meeting minutes from the virtual 2021 Meeting were adopted. PDG members were reminded to utilize *IAFP Connect* to communicate with the PDG, exchange ideas, and sign up for other PDG participation. In April 2022, a webinar was hosted by the PDG with speaker Sean Fogarty of University of Vermont and the Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety titled 'Foundations of Produce Safety in Hydroponic and Aquaponic Operations'. A recording is available on the IAFP website. If you have suggestions for webinars for 2022/2023 please contact Kristin or Enrique.

New Business: Welcome new Vice Chair, Enrique Garcia of Hazel Technologies, Inc. based in the Pacific Northwest. He will join incoming Chair, Kristin Esch of the FDA Produce Safety Network to lead the PDG. The next cycle for Vice Chair will be in 2024 and open to a colleague in academia.

Executive Board updates included that this year's Annual Meeting is about 75-80% of pre-pandemic attendance (close to 3,000). Exhibitors are at about 80%, so all attendees were encouraged to visit the exhibit floor and participate in the floor passport. A special thanks to Giant Eagle for their support with local arrangements.

Reminders were provided about the use of *IAFP Connect* for PDG communications and sharing of professional development opportunities. Symposia/workshop/roundtable proposals are due to IAFP by Oct. 4, 2022 with a pre-screening date if seeking PDG support no later than Sept. 23, 2022. This process allows the Chair/Vice Chair to review proposals for scientific accuracy, novelty, and connect individuals pursuing similar topics. A review of the 13 FV SQ sponsored

sessions for the 2022 meeting were shared. PDG members are advised to send any suggestions for webinars for 2022/2023 to Enrique or Kristin.

Thank you to all who stayed to participate in the produce safety and quality think tank. We will be summarizing the information we received and sharing this with the PDG after the Annual Meeting concludes to create objectives for the upcoming year.

Presentations were provided by several colleagues to cover updates on behalf of the following organizations. The presentation slides will be shared via *IAFP Connect*.

Abigail Aba Mensah – Student PDG

Tiffany Greenlee – FDA CORE – Produce-related outbreaks

Samir Assar – FDA Division of Produce Safety

Yuqiao Jin – Sprout Safety Alliance

Jason Wan – Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance

Betsy Bihn – Produce Safety Alliance

Steve Mandernach – Association of Food & Drug Officials

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend Enrique Garcia of Hazel Technologies, Inc. be approved as incoming Vice Chair for the Fruit & Vegetable Safety & Quality PDG.
2. Consider organizing a local tour (with registration cap) to showcase a food facility, farm, or business that provides food safety services in each host city during the Annual Meeting.
3. Provide more development opportunities for Chairs & Vice Chairs to engage with PDGs, share what has worked/what hasn't worked, and examples of PDG activities and output that IAFP feels aligns with its mission and purpose of the PDGs. Limited information has been provided to new chairs/Vice Chairs, and the Saturday pre-meeting does not provide much actionable information to prepare for leadership within these roles.

Next Meeting Date: July 16-18, 2023, Toronto, Canada.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Gretchen Wall.