

## **Low-Water Activity Foods PDG**

**Attendees:** Bradley Marks (Chair), Laure Pujol (Vice-Chair), Jennifer Acuff, Manita Adhikari, John Allan, Nathan Anderson, John Bassett, Marianne Bellot, Teresa Bergholz, Larry Beuchat, Patrick Bird, Preetha Biswas, Micah Black, Jared Bock, Montgomery Bohanan, Ariel Buehler, Greg Burnham, Juliany Rivera Calo, Austin Cary, Michaela Cash, Erdogan Ceylan, Yuhuan Chen, Shihyu (Andrew) Chuang, Catherine Chubb, Polly Courtney, Ashley Cunningham, Devin Daeschel, Sofia Santillana Farakos, Jeff Farber, Ben Graves, Luis Guzman, Matthew Hahs, Nicolette Hall, Lauren Hamilton, Ian Hildebrandt, Kristen Hunt, Keith Ito, Pete Kennedy, Arshpreet Kaur Khattra, Jordan Kiefer, Ian Klug, Jeffrey Kornacki, Shige Koseki, Katherine Kotrola, Hoi Mei Lau, Xiyang Liu, Shaunti Luce, Michele Manuzon, Christopher McNamara, Alma Perez-Mendez, Gerardo Morantes, Amit Morey, Steven Murphy, Nanje Gowda Na, Kasey Nelson, Michael O'Rourke, Scott Osborne, Kavita Patil, Laurie Post, Shivaprasad Doddabematti Prakash, Cat Quick, Andreja Rajkovic, Kaylee Rumbaugh, Deepti Salvi, Buddhi Sapkota, Michele Sayles, Scott Sayles, Ahnna Schulte, Frank Segers, Tomasz Seliwiorstow, Chris Sharps, Anru Shen, Katherine Sierra, Manpreet Singh, Larry Steenson, Kyle Stoutenberg, Leslie Thompson-Strehlow, Rico Suhalm, Dushyanth Kumar Tammineni, Vianca Tashilguano, Abdullatif Tay, Deepa Thiagarajan, Aljosa Trmcic, Jennifer Turpin, Aaron Uesugi, Francisco Garces-Vega, Benjamin Warren, Julie Weller, Anett Winkler, Wenqing (Wennie) Xu, Shuopeng Yang, Kris Young, Chee Zheng.

**Total Number of Attendees:** 92.

**Meeting Called to Order:** Sunday, 1:00 p.m., July 16, 2023.

**Minutes Recording Secretary:** Laure Pujol.

**Old Business:** Minutes of the July 31, 2022 meeting were approved by unanimous consent. Sessions supported by the PDG this year were reviewed.

**New Business:** Kavita Shripati Patil, student liaison, presented Student PDG activity. Manpreet Singh did some IAFP announcements, and AntiTrust Guidelines were reviewed with the whole group. Presentation of our guest speaker Monty Bohanan; Associate Director, Sanitation, Leprino Foods talking about "*Dry Clean ONLY: Philosophy, Methodology, and Techniques.*" Two students from University of Arkansas presented their work: Arshpreet Kaur Khattra, Masters student in Food Science, presented "*Use of gaseous ozone to improve the microbial Safety of spices, seeds, and nuts*" and Manita Adhikari, Ph.D. student in Food Science, presented "*Characterization of low-moisture food persistent bacterial populations (LMF PBP) and impacts of nutrient type, moisture ratio and relative humidity.*" Symposia/Roundtable/Workshop ideas were discussed in the whole group meeting, based on input that was collected in advance of the meeting via an online survey (4 ideas initially). Other ideas came out from the audience and were integrated in the list of ideas. Then, 4 work groups were formed and engaged in further discussion on each topic. Broad topics include: (1) Outbreak prevention for

LWAF, (2) Surrogate acceptability, (3) Methods for conducting low water activity studies, (4) “How to”... for low moisture system improvement (workshop).

**Recommendations to the Executive Board:** None.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 14, 2024, Long Beach, California.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:00 p.m.

**Chairperson:** Bradley Marks.