



IAFP

Applied Laboratory Methods PDG

TELECONFERENCE MINUTES – February 18th 2009

Mission: To provide a forum for the exchange and sharing of information related to the development and use of Laboratory methods for the analysis of food and related commodities.

“Don’t Be a Benefiter. Be a Contributor!” Pat Rule

MEETING ATTENDEES:

Members Present: Pam Wilger, Patricia Rule, Christine Hilbert, Leslie Thompson, Molly Mills, Bryon Smidth, Sally Cunningham, Vanessa Cranford

AGENDA

- Discuss Vice Chair position for PDG
- 2009 Updates:
 - Symposium
 - Educational Calls
 - Board Recommendations
 - Logo
- Symposium Topics for 2010.
- Sample Prep Working Group Update
- Other Business

Vice Chair:

Pam indicated that a Vice Chair is needed for the new term and if you are interested in the position please notify Pam Wilger or Vanessa Cranford. Leslie Thompson expressed an interest for the position.

2009 Updates:

Symposium for the 2009 Meeting:

A short symposium **Shiga Toxin *E.coli*, the Bad, Worse and the Pathogenic** was in the final stage of acceptance for the 2009 IAFP meeting. The speakers include Mohommed Kumari, Dr Peter Garner Smidth and Jeremy Scott.

A full symposium **Round Up Your Pathogen Plan: Enrichment, Sample Preparation & the Legal and Social Perspectives** was accepted for Tuesday afternoon at the IAFP 2009 conference which is a joint effort between the Food Law PDG and the Applied Lab Methods PDG. Originally three symposiums were submitted and IAFP program committee requested that they be combined to form one full symposium. The following symposiums were combined to become the approved symposium:

-Round up Your Bug for Improved Pathogen Detection submitted by Pam Wilger and Charles Young.

-Enrichment Media and Protocols: giving detection methods the leg to stand on submitted by Jingkun Li and Patricia Rile.

- A Legal Perspective on Microbial Pathogen Testing submitted by Craig Harris, Molly Mills and Vanessa Cranford. This symposium was a joint effort between the Food Law and Applied Lab Methods PDG.

"Fungi, Food and Public Health: Where Are We and Where We Need to Be" which was to be a joint submission from the Applied Laboratory methods PDG and the Beverage PDG. The program committee requested that the join symposium be combined with "CSI Beverage Plant: Case Studies in Yeast & Mold Spoilage" submitted by Jeff Semanchek, Mangesh Palekar and Julie Kuruc from the Beverage PDG. Instead of combining the two symposiums, it was decided that the Case Studies symposium as submitted by the Beverage committee would be submitted as the final symposium. The Beverage PDG would be sure to build the presentation for where the technologies are currently and need to be during the introduction presentation.

Educational Calls:

Dec 2nd 2008 Robert Miller from Auburn University gave a presentation on Different Molecular Techniques for subtyping *Campylobacter spp*

Jan 29th 2009 there was an education call on Equipment Validation and Liquid Sterilization with speakers Guy Snelling from InterCal and Russ Nyberg from Raven Labs. They discussed validation methods for autoclaves, balances, refrigerators, incubators, centrifuges as well as the volume capacity and sterility of liquid media.

Recommendation to Executive Board that were Accepted at IAFP 2008:

1. Periodically change the PDG Committee Meeting schedule so people can get to different PDG meetings starting next year, 2009.
2. We would like a projector and screen to help improve our Applied Laboratory Methods PDG Committee Meeting next year.
3. We would like IAFP to host a discussion board an electronic communication tool for our Applied Laboratory Methods PDG to help improve member communication.
4. Continued support for yearly teleconference and web-based presentations to be determined.
5. Support our taping of our Educational Series calls and webinars by posting them on our Applied Laboratory Methods PDG IAFP Web site.
6. Reserve a one day meeting room on Saturday at the IAFP 2009 Annual Meeting for purpose of the Sample Prep Working Group.

Although the board agreed to support our educational series and webinars we have had to continue using Pat Rule and bioMerieux since that service is capable of recording, providing international call numbers, roll taking and having multiple host presenters during a call.

We have not yet heard the time of our PDG session scheduled for the IAFP 2009 meeting.

Logo Design:

The letter head design used at the header of the minutes will be used to on documents. The design below is the final design of the logo for the Applied Laboratory Methods PDG.

**Symposium 2010 Topics:**

Pam discussed the need to have ideas as symposium topics ready for discussion at the IAFP meeting. Two years ago four ideas were submitted and not approved then they were submitted the following year and were approved. It is important to become involved and submit symposium ideas since this is how topics that we are interested in understanding become developed. IAFP wants topics not focused around commercial applications. Please continue to email ideas to Vanessa Cranford or Pam Wilger for discussion at IAFP 2009.

Pat mentioned the need to have effective Time Management in the laboratory. Vanessa discussed the possibility of having a symposium on Lean and Six Sigma efficiency for laboratory applications.

Sample Prep Working Group Update:

Byron indicated that Lou, Chuck and Charles Young wrote a paper that is currently in JFP review. The topic of the paper is Sample Prep- the forgotten beginning call to arms to look for finding new ways to address sample prep. It is not necessarily the solution to sample prep but a paper highlighting the need to address sample prep.

Other Business:

IAFP 2009 July 12-15, registration is open. The Committee meeting will be on Sunday July 12th the time has not been determined.