

Applied Laboratory Methods PDG

Members Present: Leslie Thompson, Don Schaffner, Christine Aleski, Bassam Annous, Patrice Arbault, Reginald Bennett, Preetha Biswas, Elaine Black, Michael Brodsky, Vanessa Cranford, William Cray, Jr., Erin Dreyling, Hari Prakash Dwivedi, Elena Enache, Emilio Esteban, Ted Gatesy, Jennifer Green, Hongsheng Huang, Sun Kim, Keith Lampel, Wendy Lauer, Alvin Lee, Claire Lee, Jennifer Lee, Pancita Manalili, Joseph Meyer, Nandini Natrajan, Omar Oyarzabal, Randall Phebus, Patricia Rule, Brooke Schwartz, Marta Diana Segarra, Christopher Snabes, Thierry Sofia, Ben Tall, Sandra Tallent, Mary Lou Tortorello, Erdal Tuncan, P.C. Vasavada, Wendy Warren, Pamela Wilger, George Wilson and Tamara Wood.

Board/Staff Members Present: Don Schaffner.

New Members: Deepika Suresh, Zuoxing Zheng, Barb Adler, Linda Peng, Debra Cherney, Kevin Morrissey, Modesto Olanya, Morgan Wallace, Pheakdey Ith, Hua Yang, Miguel Gutierrez, Vishnu Patel, Jean-Philippe Tourniaire, Ting Chen, Dan Anderson, Jason Richardson, Leen Baert, Felicitas Duker, Amir H.P. Anvarian, En Huang, Jiemin Cormier, Peter Bodnaruk, Brian Sauders, Denise Becker, Sonja Van Holland, Melissa Schlabs, Jay Kocharunchitt and Jacqueline Harris.

Visitors/Guests: Reginald Benitez and Fania Yangarber.

Meeting Called to Order: 1:00 p.m., Sunday, July 22, 2012.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Leslie Thompson.

Old Business:

2011 Annual Meeting minutes were accepted with no revisions.

Reviewed 2012 Symposia:

S1 – FSMA from Legislation to Implementation. George Wilson, Keith Lampel and Purnendu Vasavada.

S17 – Toxoplasma: Detection and Risks Associated with Other Diseases and Latent Infection – Prevalence, Methods, Detection in Meat and Poultry, and Burden of Foodborne Illness. Kalmia Kniel and Nathan Bauer.

S22 – China: Food Safety in an Emerging Market Economy. Vanessa Cranford, Zhinong Yan and Ram Rao.

RT3 – China: Food Safety for an Integrated World. Zhinong Yan, Vanessa Cranford, Peter Ben Embarek, Xiumei Liu and Leon Gorris.

S31 – Harmonization of Methods to Evaluate and Validate Preventative Controls. Alvin Lee, Purnendu Vasavada and Zhinong Yan.

S29 – STEC in Food: It's Time for Action! Patrice Arbault and Guy H. Loneragan.

S30 – Drivers for Global Food Safety: Aligning Public, Private, and Government Resources. Pamela Wilger, Keith Lampel and Andrew Benson.

Drivers for Global Food Safety: Aligning Public, Private, and Government Resources symposium has very last minute speaker cancellations and others have been found to step in to present information.

New Business:

1. Compendium of Methods for the Microbiological Examination of Foods – Call for authors and reviewers: Mary Lou Tortorello.
 - a. Need authors for chapter on lipolytic bacteria and methods for sweeteners.
 - b. Need reviewers for all chapters.
 - c. If there is any interest in helping or know of an expert on a subject, please contact Mary Lou Tortorello.
2. Articles for *Food Protection Trends*
 - a. Discussed the opportunity to submit articles for *Food Protection Trends*.
 - b. Discussed the difference between *JFP* and *FPT*.
3. Symposia/Roundtable 2013 Submission due October 16, 2012.
 - a. (Suggestions on June 19th call)
 - b. Michael Brodsky: Suggested presenting a symposia topic centered around our inability to promote/develop a food safety culture in the general public. Despite millions of dollars being spent on food safety awareness programs, outbreaks continue to occur due to poor food handling practices. Why are we failing to get the message across and what can we do to improve to change this metric?
 - i. At a previous meeting, it was suggested that there might be a tie-in with the survey work that Andy Benson was considering presenting concerning consumer perceptions of food safety.
 - ii. There was no further discussion.
 - b. Pam Wilger: Suggested re-submission of Global Lab Capacity idea from last year as a short symposium.
 - i. Was suggested that they work with Food Defense and the International PDG on submission.
 - c. George Wilson: Suggestion of a symposium harmonization of method validation.
 - i. Work currently being done between ISO and AOAC.
 - ii. Was suggested to bring in speakers from some of the ISO, AOAC, MicroVal, Norval organizations to discuss the harmonization work that is being done.
 - d. Patrice Arbault brought up the idea of non-cultural detection methods or not having an isolate.
 - i. Was brought up by Paula Cray in Meat and Poultry PDG.
 - ii. Possibility of collaboration with Committee for Food Safety.
 - iii. Brooke Swartz and Har-Prakash Dwivedi.
 - e. Leslie Thompson: Brought up that Meat and Poultry PDG are interested in collaborating on a STEC symposia submission.

- i. Patrice Arbault warned to be careful not to revisit the information that will be presented at his symposia this year.
 - ii. Was suggested that would be good to cover what the USDA testing data looks like after 10-12 months of testing.
 - f. Jeff Kornacki (through Joe Meyer): STEC paradigms.
 - i. Idea already pretty well-developed.
 - ii. Was suggested that a speaker from a test kit manufacturer be added as they are having to deal with chasing the moving target.
 - iii. Was also suggested to look at the difference in characteristics of the organisms in a meat versus produce matrix.
 - g. Brooke Swartz and Brian Sauders: Antimicrobial resistance.
 - i. Suggested to address antibiotics and the ability of organisms to transfer drug resistance.
 - ii. Suggested to speak with Paula Cray about NARM and how USDA is addressing antimicrobials in our food; Pat McDermott suggested speaker.
 - iii. Suggested to add metagenomics of flora and breakdown that occurs.
- 4. Educational Webinars
 - a. Laboratory accreditation may be good topic to address.
 - i. Potentially address the impact of the accreditation worldwide.
 - ii. Address what “or equivalent” means when it comes to laboratory accreditation bodies in the eyes of USDA or customers or SQF.
 - iii. Wendy Warren agreed to help in development.
 - iv. Suggested to make this a paying webinar so it can be presented to larger audience than just the PDG.
- 5. Additional Business
 - b. Patrice Arbault suggested the PDG consider having a speaker at the Annual Meeting similar to other PDGs.
 - i. Was requested that if we do implement that the speaker present after the PDG business has been addressed as some people are there for the business part of the meeting.
 - c. We need to recruit new members to have new ideas.
 - d. When people are asked to volunteer, please try to provide an idea of the time commitment involved.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Provide a webinar on the uses and advantages of Google groups so that PDGs have a better idea if it is a tool they would like to use.
2. Investigate the ability of the organization to add podcasts as an alternative to webinars so that can gain wider audience.

3. IAFP staff provide data on the number of times a webinar is accessed from the Web site.

Next Meeting Date: Around September 17, 2012.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Leslie K. Thompson.