



Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality PDG

The Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality Professional Development Group's (PDG) *Mission* is to provide a forum to discuss items of interest for the safe production of meat and poultry products and to develop program topics and symposia for presentation at the IAFP Annual Meetings. The PDG comprises over 500 members from 35 differing nations, spanning almost all the continents (Antarctica is the last hold-out). The PDG is truly global in its membership and diverse in not only the backgrounds of its members, but also the professional interests, activities, and efforts in promoting safety of fresh and further-processed meat and poultry products.

The PDG's annual meeting, held in conjunction with the IAFP Annual Meeting, serves as the primary opportunity for members to come together in a collaborative atmosphere to suggest and debate the current needs for presentations, research, symposia, and food safety advancements faced by industry members. In addition to industry professionals and regulatory agency members, academics and students attend and provide feedback on suggested symposia and session topics. In recent years, the PDG has sought to go beyond an annual report by

the USDA-FSIS and FDA on the status of food safety regulatory processes impacting the U.S. and nations exporting to the U.S., and seek regulatory updates from other nations or geographic areas, so as to enhance members' awareness of global food safety trends and needs.

The PDG routinely co-sponsors technical sessions and symposia with other PDGs, including the Food Hygiene and Sanitation PDG, Low Water Activity, and others, for purposes of supporting other areas of food safety protection, collaborating with other industry professionals to provide useful knowledge on food safety protection, and expanding our vision of proactive food safety.

You are welcome to join us at our PDG meeting, prior to the start of IAFP 2020 in Cleveland! Come and listen, learn about food safety in the meat and poultry sectors, hear regulatory updates, meet food safety professionals you don't know, and renew friendships and working relationships with those you do!

Wendy White, Chairperson
Matt Taylor, Vice Chairperson