Data Management and Analytics PDG

Attendees: Barbara Kowalcyk (Chair), Sarah Murphy (Vice Chair), Daniel Weller (Secretary), Laure Pujol, Bradley Marks, Aftab Siddique, May Yeow, Ganyu Gu, Michala Krakowski, Devin LaPolt, Janet Buffer, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Sarita Raengpradub, Brendan Ring, Gregor Matian, Alda Pires, Tim Lott, Sriya Sunil, Ruixi Chen, Luke Qian, Aljosa Trmcic, Chris Jordan, Dave Hill, Austin Welch, Michelle Keener, Alex Puerta-Gomez, Ian Hildebrandt, Hardik Vyas, Devin Daeschel, Yanyan Huang, Hiroki Abe, Jiyoon Yi, Clare Narrod, Tanesia Cole, Claire Murphy, Ryan Mills, Nanje Gowda, Kali Siliveru, Thierry Sofia, Claire Zoellner, Abigail Snyder, Long Chen, Amarat Simonne, Jesse Miller, James Barkley, Charles Bakin, Ruth Timme, Padmini Ramachandran, Ariel Garsow, Harmeen Prasher, Hui-Erh Chai, Akhila Vasan, Madison Goforth.

Board Member Present: Mark Carter.

Number of Attendees: 54.

Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Sunday, July 31, 2022.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Daniel Weller.

Old Business: Not applicable as this is the first in-person meeting of the PDG.

New Business: We started the first annual, in-person PDG with an introduction of the PDG's mission and history (Barbara Kowalcyk). We then moved forward with brief introductions. After introductions, we reviewed the antitrust guidelines before moving on to IAFP executive board announcements (from Mark Carter). Key updates centered on the importance of *IAFP Connect*, and reminders about 2023 in Toronto (e.g., to check passport and visa requirements, that COVID19 vaccines are mandated for entry to Canada). The student liaison then provided updates from the Student PDG (Claire Murphy); if members are interested in getting involved with the Student PDG activities (e.g., mentoring programs contact Claire Murphy at cmarik@vt.edu). We then reviewed the events at IAFP 2022 that the DMA PDG co-sponsored (there were four total).

Attendees were engaged in a discussion, through break-out groups, on data management and analytic needs for the IAFP community. Each break-out group then shared their ideas with the PDG. Most ideas focused on data integration; working with and addressing messy and dirty data; data sharing and ownership; and/or data translation and communication (e.g., storytelling). Other common themes included how to generate practicable outputs (visualizations and models) that can be used by companies with limited and/or by companies with ample resources, and how to identify data business needs and capabilities.

Afterwards we discussed how to best structure the PDG moving forward to best meet the PDG and wider IAFP needs. We first discussed how frequently we would like to meet. Suggestions were made for monthly, bimonthly, and quarterly. We settled on meeting bimonthly but recognized that this frequency could be increased or decreased as needed. We then discussed in break-out groups how and when to organize webinars (e.g., as part of the bimonthly meetings) and potential webinar ideas; these ideas were recorded in the Google sheet (https://bit.ly/3zM7OxE). One point of discussion was if the webinars were to support analytical skill development of the PDG members, or to support data management and use within the wider IAFP community. We determined that the webinars could support both aims.

We then moved forward with idea generation for symposium and roundtable for IAFP 2023. We started with a Word Cloud which will be posted in *IAFP Connect*. Top words included data standardization, management, and literacy as well as predictive modelling, spoilage, successes, digital decision management, data communication and translation. We then split into small break groups and reported back with these symposium ideas. We discussed ideas on how to best establish collaborations with other PDGs or with speakers. Ways discussed to do this included sharing your ideas in other PDG meetings and reaching out to the speakers from or leadership of the other PDG in-person while at the conference. Ideas and submission progress will be recorded in https://bit.ly/3zM7OxE.

We also discussed recommendations to the IAFP Executive Board and reminded attendees about symposium proposals and abstracts. Finally, it was announced that an election will be held for a new Secretary in spring 2023; at IAFP 2023 Barbara Kowalcyk will become Chair Emeritus, Sarah Murphy will become the new Chair and Daniel Weller will become the new Vice Chair.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Would it be possible to ensure that the time for this PDG meeting does not overlap the time of several related PDGs, such as the Advanced Molecular Analytics, Food Safety Assessment and Audit, Microbial Modelling and Risk Analysis.
2. Would it be possible for PDG Chairs to meet several times throughout the year (e.g., quarterly)?

Next Meeting Date: July 16, 2023, Toronto (In-person); TBD (Online).

Meeting Adjourned: 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Sunday, July 31, 2022.

Chairperson: Barbara Kowalcyk.