

Advanced Molecular Analytics PDG

Names of Attendees: Joelle Salazar (Chairperson), Mu Ye (Vice Chairperson), Adrienne Klijn, Alexia Joana Lopez Gachuzo, Amanda Tabb, Amy Siceloff, Andrew Appiah Darkwah, Anna Schumann, Antonio De Jesus, Baback Gharizadeh, Bastian Barthabure, Bonnie Oh, Brad Stawick, Brandon Gartman, Brooke Schwartz, Brooke Whitney, Catherine Stewart, Chantal Nde, Chun Wang, Daniel Smieszek, David Ayala Velastegui, David Legan, Diana Stewart, Edith Zambrana, Emilio Esteban, Esther Palmer, Francisco Diez-Gonzalez, Frederic Pastori, Gabriel Sanglay, Govindaraj Dev Kumar, Grace Akumu, Hany Anany, Hilal Samut, Irshad Sulaiman, Jesse Miller, Jennifer Miller, Jerome Combrisson, Joel Riemer, Julie Haendiges, Kailyn Hanke, Karen Pietrzen, Kellie Burris, Krzysztof Brzezinka, Laurel Burall, Laura Rolon, Lauren Hamilton, Lei Zhang, Luann Schafer, Luvie Sturghill, Mai Lan Tran, Margaret Kirchner, Matthew Stasiewicz, Megan Jensen, Micah Black, Minji Hur, Niam Abeysiriwardena, Nadia Le Den, Narjol Gonzalez-Escalona, Nirmal Thirunavookarasu Sankaranarayanan, Nisha Corrigan, Nikki Shariat, Nora Marshall, Nuradeen Yusuf, Patrick Fach, Patrick Mies, Peyman Fatemi, Pierre-Luc Longchamps, Pratik Banerjee, Ray Elementi, Robert Salter, Rocelle Grabarek, Ryan Blaustein, Sanjay Gummalla, Shuang Wu, Steve Nason, Steven Foley, Tyler Chandross-Cohen, Veronica Kays, William Robertson, Morgan Welch, Woubit Abebe, Xueyan Hu.

Total Number of Attendees: 82.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, July 27, 2025, 1:04 P.M.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Tyler Chandross-Cohen.

Old Business: The AMA leadership reviewed the antitrust guidelines for the IAFP meetings and Members approved the 2024 AMA meeting minutes.

New Business: The Leadership was introduced: Joelle Salazar was introduced as the Chair (this is her last year), Mu Ye was introduced as the AMA PDG Vice Chair (who will move into the Chair position at the next annual meeting). The election for the next Vice Chair-Elect will take place early next year. Tyler Chandross-Cohen was introduced as the Student Liaison for the AMA PDG. The antitrust guidelines were presented for the IAFP meetings. The 2024 AMA-sponsored symposia were discussed. At last year's meeting 18 symposia/roundtable proposals were sponsored by the AMA PDG, where AMA was the primary sponsor for 7 of them and 6 were accepted (33% success rate). The AMA PDG was the primary sponsor for 4 of the 6 symposia/roundtables. Co-sponsors included the Applied Laboratory Methods PDG, Microbial Modeling and Risk Analysis PDG, and International Food Protection Issues PDG. The 6 accepted proposals for the 2024 annual meeting were then discussed. The new business was shared, which included the 2025 annual meeting app and program. The 2025 AMA-sponsored symposia/roundtables were discussed, which included 21 submissions where AMA was primary for 12/21; 11 were accepted (52% acceptance rate), of which 5/11 were primary sponsored by the AMA. Co-sponsors included the Applied Laboratory Methods PDG, Modeling and Risk Analysis PDG, Animal and Pet Food Safety PDG, Dairy Quality and Safety PDG, Plant-based Alternative Products and Quality and Safety PDG, and the Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Disease PDG. The symposia/roundtables for each day (Monday–Wednesday) were discussed to inform the PDG. The meeting updates from the Executive Board were shared, including the number of attendees for IAFP 2025 (more than 2,900), a discussion about the tiered system for IAFP Membership, and the new podcast that will be coming soon. This year, there will be AI-generated closed captioning for all sessions, and the exhibit hall will be open to discuss with the exhibitors. The Executive Board also suggested that the PDGs should consider a webinar as a

deliverable for the PDG, as there were over 16,000 views on the IAFP webinars in June 2025.

An update from the *Journal of Food Protection* was discussed, including the fact that the impact factor has risen to 2.8, and *JFP* editors developed a list of 58 potential invited reviews that can be found online and were presented. An update from the DEI council, Student PDG, and Mentor Match program was discussed. Lawrence Goodridge and Margaret Kirchner both gave short presentations about Nanopore sequencing in water and *Listeria monocytogenes* illnesses in stone fruit, respectively. The next IAFP Annual Meeting was introduced, which will be held from July 26–29, 2026, in New Orleans, LA. The guidelines for the IAFP

Symposia/Workshop/Roundtable Proposal development were presented. The deadline for submission of 2026 proposals is September 30, 2025. Additionally, abstracts are due January 13, 2026 for technical talks and posters. It was encouraged that the DEI principles would be considered during the webinar development and webinar series. It was noted that each proposal needed to be sponsored by 2 PDGs, and interested Members should email Joelle (Joelle.Salazar@fda.hhs.gov) or Mu (Mu.Ye@KraftHeinz.com). The PDG then discussed ideas for the 2026 IAFP symposia/workshops/roundtable proposals. Topics included: (i) Genomics 101 workshop for 2026, (ii) More rapid molecular methods for detection of pathogens, possibly working with viral and parasitic foodborne disease PDG, (iii) Detection compared to the infectious levels of pathogens, maybe novel viability sequencing. (iv) What can we get from large data collection (plasmids, functional genomics, etc.). (v) How can we speed up confirmations when you have detection of a pathogen, do we need a confirmation? (vi) How can we link molecular methods to industry standard, how do these methods compare to traditional methods with practical outcomes? More ideas will be shared with the leadership during the next meeting.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, July 26, 2026, New Orleans, LA.

Meeting Adjourned at: 2:30 P.M.

Chairperson Name: Joelle Salazar.