

Retail & Foodservice PDG

Names of Attendees: Briana Lorenzo (Chairperson), Sarah Kozak-Weaver (Vice Chairperson), Adrienne Shearer, Allison Howell, Amy Wise, Angela Fraser, Betsy Craig, Beth Wittenauer, Betsy Craig, Carrie Rigdon, Dan DeBee, Dan Vassar, Eric Martin, Elizabeth Epps, Elizabeth Epps, Fernando Avelleyra, Francisco Diez-Gonzalez, Gale Prince, Giddy Zipori, Ian Jenson, James Doyle, John Allan, Jonathan Basha, Javier Atencia, Kathleen O'Donnell, Kristen Gibson, Kristin Sanders, Kristen Saniga, Larry Kohl, Larry Kohl, Mark Lebednick, Mandy Sedlak, Michael Roberson, Michael Wood, Natalie Seymour, Nicolas Vivanco, Quincy Lissaur, Roger Hancock, Sabahnur Demirci, Sabahnur Demirci, Savana Everhart Nunn, Sean Martinos, Sharon Humphries, Sharmeen Khan, Sima Hussein, T.J. Fu, Tom Ford, Todd Frantz, Tracie Sheehan, Vianca Tashiguano, Yinqing Ma, Zhinong Yan.

Total Number of Attendees: 51.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:30 A.M.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business: The meeting was welcomed by Chair Briana Lorenzo and Vice Chair Sarah Kozak-Weaver. Announcements from the IAFP Executive Board included that over 2,900 people were registered for IAFP 2025, thanks were given to the Ohio Affiliate and Local Arrangements Committee, and members were encouraged to recruit students and colleagues. New initiatives were announced, including the launch of an IAFP podcast, the piloting of AI-generated closed captioning, and the availability of a Quiet Room.

It was noted that PDGs are critical to symposia, roundtables, and workshops, and that the 2025 acceptance rate for sessions was 36%. Members were encouraged to focus on the quality of submissions over volume. It was also announced that webinars are free when live but are behind a paywall after they are recorded, and that IAFP webinars were made public for Food Safety Month in June 2025, with over 16,000 views. Submissions for IAFP Latino 2026 and European Symposium 2027 were encouraged, and members were reminded to engage with exhibitors. A list of accepted roundtables and symposia was provided.

The submission deadline for IAFP 2026 is September 30, 2025, and late submissions will not be accepted. The PDG's goal for 2025 is to have at least four webinars, and volunteers were encouraged to propose topics or present.

Six breakout sessions were held to explore food safety challenges and brainstorm ideas, and the ideas generated will be posted on IAFP Connect. The topics for the breakout sessions included Class I recalls, Food Code compliance, brand audit schemes, data analysis, underserved sectors, and FSMA 204.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 12:00 P.M.

Chairperson Name: Briana Lorenzo.