

## **Food Defense PDG**

**Members Present:** Charles Young and Stan Bailey.

**New Members:** Pat Curtis, LeeAnne Jackson, Stephen Lumor, Francisco Diez, Emilo Esteban, Henry Nahmad, Melissa Gwinn, John Wendell, William Chaney, Craig Henry, Randall Phebus, Frank Busta, Robert Brackett, Maria Nazarowec-White, Gale Prince, Gordon Hayburn, Yale Lary, Vishnu Patel, Nigel Harper, Shaun Kennedy, Nate Bauer and Ronald Jech.

**Visitors/Guests:** Michael Dixon, David Luedeke, Staci DeGeer, Roxanne Von Tayson, Tejas Bhatt, William Northeimer, Kathy Gomas, Rekha Holtry and Jeff Mitchell.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 2:01 p.m., Sunday, August 1, 2010.

**Recording Secretary of Minutes:** Charles Young.

**Old Business:** N/A

### **New Business:**

1. A discussion was held concerning whether or not there was a need for a Food Defense PDG and whether or not the topic would fit better into existing PDGs. During the discussion the following points were made in favor of creating a separate Food Defense PDG:

a. The thinking behind food defense can, in many instances, differ considerably from Food Safety.

b. Based on the number of individuals in attendance at the organizational meeting, there is clearly a number of different individuals interested in contributing to the effort.

c. Many other efforts in food safety have dwindled to the point that IAFFP, if it steps up, can become a major contributor to efforts in food defense and can emerge as a leader in this area.

d. While there are clearly differences between food safety and food defense, there is clearly synergy between food defense and efforts in food safety that would allow collaboration between a Food Defense PDG and other, already established PDGs.

e. The Food Defense PDG will encourage collaboration between government agencies, industry and academics as evidenced by the broad representation of interests at this first organizational meeting.

f. Additionally, a Food Defense PDG would include additional members from academics, industry and government organizations that are not very well represented currently within IAFP. The formation of the Food Defense PDG will help expand IAFP membership by addressing the issues important to these underrepresented groups.

g. The issue of food defense is not specific to the U.S. Therefore, we envision a significant International emphasis within the PDG, if formed.

Based on this discussion, there was a unanimous sense from those present that forming a Food Defense PDG separate from the PDGs that are already in existence would contribute to a stronger IAFP. Therefore, the individuals present voted to make a recommendation to the IAFP Executive Board to form a Food Defense PDG.

2. A discussion was held concerning the development of a mission statement. We were unable to reach a specific agreement on the wording of a mission statement, there was unanimous agreement that it should contain some or all of the following concepts:

- a. Education
- b. Sharing of knowledge
- c. Building a community
- d. Communication
- e. A forum
- f. Identifying concerns and gaps/unknowns in food defense
- g. Standard development and consistency
- h. Informational activities

It was agreed by those present that current mission statements of other PDGs should be used as a benchmark for the Food Defense PDG while incorporating the above themes. It was further agreed that a mission statement will be drafted by the elected Chair of the PDG and E-mailed to the membership for additional discussion at the September conference call.

3. A unanimous consensus was reached by those present that Charles Young should assume the role of Chair for the Food Defense PDG and that Shaun Kennedy be Vice-Chair.

The following ideas were generated by those 4. present concerning what the Food Defense PDG should focus on:

- a. Investigate the potential for offering a Webinar series on food defense topics. Take advantage of other Webinars in Food Defense by informing members of upcoming Webinars available through other venues such as NCFPD.
- b. Build relationships with other PDGs.
- c. Review where current food defense research and activities are ongoing and try and identify gaps that can be filled.
- d. Build existing definitions of food defense such as FDA and WHO into our efforts to leverage other activities.
- e. List information sources and resources that are available.
- f. Define the food defense expertise that already exists with IAFFP.

5. A discussion was held concerning potential food defense symposia and workshops for next year's IAFFP Meeting.

We would like to put together a full a. symposium focusing on what food defense is and how it differs from food safety and other areas. What is food defense all about? The lead for putting together this area is Gordon Hayburn.

An international food defense exercise b. that could be presented as a workshop proposal. Shaun Kennedy to lead.

Harnessing food defense tools at the c. local, state, federal and international levels. To include fusion centers. Craig Henry to take the lead with support from other members.

#### **Recommendations to the Executive Board:**

1. The individuals present at the Food Defense PDG Organizational meeting recommend formation of a Food Defense PDG within IAFFP by unanimous vote.
2. The individuals present at the Food Defense PDG Organizational Meeting recommend that Charles Young be approved as the elected Chair of the Food Defense PDG by unanimous vote.
3. The individuals present at the Food Defense PDG Organizational Meeting recommend that Shaun Kennedy be approved as Vice Chair of the Food Defense PDG by unanimous vote.
4. The individuals present at the Food Defense PDG Organizational Meeting recommend that the Executive Board consider making PDG programs such as Webinars available to the membership free of charge approximately 30 days after the

date the event occurs to support students and scientists in developing countries who might not otherwise be able to afford these programs.

**Next Meeting Date:** On or about September 18th by phone conference.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:32 p.m.

**Chairperson:** Charles Young.