

AFFILIATE VIEW

To provide food safety professionals worldwide with a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR:

A Busy Year Ahead



Hello Friends –

I am looking forward to a busy year in food protection, connecting with colleagues virtually, in person, and via this publication. I'm very excited to be writing my first

column for *Affiliate View*! I must confess that when I started my studies in Applied Biological Sciences in Bristol, UK, I had no idea I would be part of the food system or be a member of such a prominent global organization in food protection.

My food safety journey started as a graduate with Cargill in 1989, working on the turkey evisceration line in a UK poultry plant. I became “hooked” on the manufacturing sector, and I have been fortunate to work in industry across multiple product categories in senior technical roles with like-minded food safety professionals. I moved into the academic sector in 2006 and now reside as Technical Director of ZERO2FIVE, an “extension specialist” at Cardiff Metropolitan University, supporting the manufacturing sector in the UK. As a chartered scientist, I am an active member

of many food safety-related organizations that operate to underpin the sector. I have been an IAFP Member since IAFP 2009 was held in Grapevine, Texas, and my participation in the Association has grown. I have served on many PDGs, committees (e.g., European Organizing, Scientific, and Nominating), and have represented the UK Affiliate for more than 10 years. Today, I have the privilege of being part of the Executive Board, having assumed the position as Affiliate Council Chairperson at this year's Affiliate Council Meeting (official after completion of IAFP 2025).

I want to thank Caio Carvalho for your positive, collaborative work during the past year. We will miss you; keep up the good work in Brazil! We welcome Takiyah Ball, Wisconsin's Delegate, who was elected as Affiliate Council Secretary. It's very important to IAFP that Members engage with the Association and apply for the various positions that become available.

In this edition of *Affiliate View*, I want to take advantage of my first column to share my initial plans during my term as Affiliate

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59 AFFILIATES ACROSS THE GLOBE

African Continental	Southeast Asia
Argentina	Spain
Australia	Taiwan
Brazil	Turkey
Canada	United Arab Emirates
Alberta British Columbia	United Kingdom
Ontario Quebec	United States
Bangladesh in	Alabama Arizona
North America	Arkansas California
Chile	Capital Area Carolinas
China	Colorado Connecticut
Chinese in North America	Florida Georgia
Colombia	Idaho Illinois Indiana
Hong Kong	Iowa Kansas Kentucky
Hungary	Michigan Minnesota
Indian in North America	Upper Midwest
Japan	Missouri Nebraska
Korea	New Jersey New York
Lebanon	Ohio Oklahoma
Mexico	Pennsylvania
Nepal	South Dakota
New Zealand	Washington Wisconsin
Portugal	

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Council Chair. I want to continue Caio's work, giving voice to and promoting integration between Affiliates by sharing and learning from challenges and opportunities. I believe the main forum for our integration will be continuation of our quarterly Affiliate Council Virtual Meetings (see schedule on page 8). Following a lively discussion at the July 27 meeting in Cleveland, know that we have acted and begun to review the Affiliate Awards process and criteria. Thanks to all those who have contributed to the discussion so far.

Susan Smith, Affiliate Liaison, will send out virtual meeting invitations with details prior to each meeting. I will also be inviting members from other Affiliates to share their views on relevant food safety issues that are being discussed in general or in specialized media at the time so I can share them in my *Affiliate View* columns. I want to take advantage of this opportunity to invite you to suggest topics you believe will be interesting to cover in these columns.

Last, but not least, it's always important to call attention to IAFP's Executive Board Speaker Program, including the Expanded Speaker listing. This program is available for all Affiliates to utilize for upcoming meetings. IAFP speakers are an affordable way to obtain knowledgeable food safety professionals with expertise in specific topics. Travel expenses to and from Affiliate meetings are covered by IAFP; Affiliates cover onsite expenses (transportation, meals, lodging). All speakers are listed on the Affiliates tab on the IAFP website (and on pages 14–15). If you would like to schedule an IAFP speaker, contact Susan for availability.

Finally, I'm looking forward to autumn, my favorite season in the UK as the summer heat gives way to crisp, cool mornings. Gold, orange, and red foliage appears on the trees and hedgerows, and I get to "cwtch up" in my boots and woolies!

See you online soon!

Helen Taylor

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AFFILIATES IN THE SPOTLIGHT

FEATURING YOUR COMMUNICATIONS WITH IAFP

CONTRIBUTORS

New Zealand Association for Food Protection: Remarkable Year of Impacts

Reported by Aswathi Soni, Delegate

The New Zealand Association for Food Protection (NZAFP) has had a remarkable year, marked by international engagement, scientific outreach, and recognition of long-standing contributions to food safety. From a productive Annual General Meeting in Palmerston North to global representation with IAFP, the Affiliate continues to grow its impact across borders and disciplines.

The NZAFP Annual General Meeting took place on June 24, 2025, at the Palmerston North Conference Centre, bringing together ten committed members for a focused and forward-looking session.

Dr. Craig Billington, NZAFP President, opened the meeting with updates, including the successful funding of a travel grant for Dr. Kali Kniel, on behalf of the IAFP Executive Board Expanded Speaker Program. Her visit would become a highlight of the year. Key outcomes from the meeting included re-elections, where Dr. Billington was re-appointed as President; Prof. Phil Bremer retained his role as Past President; and Dr. Aswathi Soni was re-appointed as Secretary and newly appointed as 2025–2026 Delegate. Members expressed heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Roger Cook for his



Left: Craig Billington, Roger Cook, Aswathi Soni, Phil Bremer, and Kali Kniel pose at the joint NZIFST and NZFSSRC Annual Conference held on June 25–28.



Participants are shown at a plenary session during the joint NZIFST and NZFSSRC Annual Conference held June 25–28.

long-standing service as Delegate. NZAFP will continue its mid-year video catch-up, which has proven valuable in maintaining momentum between meetings.

Dr. Kniel delivered her keynote presentation at the joint New Zealand Institute of Food Science and Technology (NZIFST) and the New Zealand Food Safety Science and Research Centre (NZFSSRC) Annual Conference held in Palmerston North June 25–28. Her talk on foodborne viruses was both timely and thought-provoking, drawing attention to emerging risks and control strategies in the global food landscape.

Following her presentation, Dr. Kniel joined forces with New Zealand virology expert Dr. Anne-Marie Perchec Merien for a webinar—hosted by Dr. Billington on behalf of NZAFP that expanded on the same theme. The session attracted 114 participants from industry, academia, and education, reflecting strong interest in viral foodborne pathogens and the value of international collaboration. The webinar's format allowed for broader reach and deeper engagement, reinforcing NZAFP's commitment to accessible scientific dialogue.

In recognition of his decades-long contributions to food safety science in New Zealand, Mr. Roy Biggs was awarded Lifetime Membership by NZAFP. This honor celebrates his leadership, mentorship, and enduring impact on the field. The award reflects the Affiliate's dedication to acknowledging those who have

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shaped the food safety landscape in Aotearoa. After 25 years in factory and technical management in the UK's dairy and salmon industries, Roy brought his expertise to New Zealand in 1997, embarking on a new chapter in the poultry sector. His hands-on approach to microbiological controls played a pivotal role in improving the management of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, and *Listeria* across raw and ready-to-eat food production. His influence extended beyond operations. Roy championed collaboration between industry, regulators, and researchers. His openness, technical insight, and collegial spirit helped foster a culture of trust and shared learning—setting the tone for how New Zealand's food safety community continues to work together today. In 2018, IAFP also recognized Roy's commitment to excellence in food safety with the International Leadership Award, presented at IAFP 2018 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

New Zealand's presence at IAFP 2025 in Cleveland, Ohio, was strong and multifaceted. Dr. Soni attended the Affiliate Council Meeting as NZAFP's newly-appointed Delegate. Ms. Nicola Dermer, who led the *Campylobacter* Action Plan at NZFS, presented a poster showcasing New Zealand's efforts in *Campylobacter* control. Dr. Soni served as session chair, contributing to the smooth facilitation of scientific discussions. In addition, members actively engaged in PDG

meetings and were involved in the development of sessions for IAFP 2026.

Indian Association for Food Protection in North America: Annual Meeting Held During IAFP 2025

Reported by Kavita Patil, Vice President

The Indian Association for Food Protection in North America (IAFPNA) held its 2025 Annual Meeting on July 28 in Cleveland, Ohio, during IAFP 2025. Thirty-eight attendees were present.

Vijay Krishna, IAFPNA President, welcomed attendees before introducing the Affiliate's leadership team for 2024–2025. They included Student Liaisons Harsimran Kaur Kapoor, Amrit Pal, and Trushenkumar Shah; Secretary and Delegate Arshpreet Kaur Khattri; Vice President Kavita Patil; President Vijay Krishna; and Past President Manreet Bhullar.

The 2024 Annual Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Dr. Manan Sharma, IAFP Vice President, shared the history and mission of IAFPNA before highlighting the significance of the Affiliate receiving the 2025 C.B. Shogren Memorial Award, encouraging continued membership engagement.

A recap of 2024/2025 events held included Career Talk; Immigration Insights; IAFPNA Logo Competition; and 3MT Thesis Competition.

Sahaana Chandran, Ph.D. candidate, University of Arkansas, was the winner of the IAFPNA Logo Competition. Twenty entries were received for the 3MT Thesis Competition, with 11 in the final round. Dr. Manpreet Singh presented awards to:
First Place: Swara Bhatt, University of Connecticut



The Indian Association for Food Protection in North America held its Annual Meeting on July 29 during IAFP 2025.

Second Place: Praveen Kosuri, University of Connecticut

People's Choice: Sheetal Jha, Louisiana State University

Judges for the competition were Dr. Sadhana Ravishankar, Dr. Ravi Jadeja, and Dr. Tricia Jenkins.

A total of six IAFP student member certificates have been awarded throughout the year, with an additional certificate donated by IAFP to the Affiliate for its meeting.

The Affiliate opened its own bank account with Chase Bank in 2025. Donations/membership payments are accepted via Zelle or QR code. Governance ensures transparency; access is shared among the Affiliate's Past President, President, and Vice President. Out of more than 300 members, less than 10% are currently paid, dictating that increased support is needed.

2025/2026 goals and aspirations include continued support for membership; finance; student competitions; and networking and collaboration.

Future ideas/suggestions for the Leadership Team include a T-shirt fundraiser with the IAFPNA logo, as suggested by Manan; a joint symposia in Dubai with the UAE Affiliate and its Delegate, Bobby Krishna; exploring partnerships with Indian conferences (AFSTI, IDA, ICFSN, etc.) to grow the Affiliate chapter; hosting an IAFP conference in India by 2028 (as a long-term vision); and launching the IAFPNA Mentorship Program in 2026, open only to IAFPNA members.

Manan provided updates from the IAFP Executive Board, including upcoming webinars and new podcasts. He discussed IAFP's tiered membership for members and students.

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Harsimran Kaur Kapoor was elected as incoming 2025–2026 Secretary.

Action items included continuing outreach to increase paid membership; initiating discussions for IAFP India chapter partnerships; and filling three Student Liaison open positions.

Southeast Asia Association for Food Protection: Annual Meeting Held During IAFP 2025

Reported by Alvin Lee, Delegate

The **Southeast Asia Association for Food Protection (SAAFP)** held its Annual Meeting during IAFP 2025 in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 28, with seven members attending, including international members from Thailand and Malaysia, along with other Affiliate members based in the U.S.

Topics discussed included potential webinars and workshops on food safety and processing, frequency of Affiliate meetings, and networking opportunities.

SAAFP is a unique Affiliate comprised of members from across several Southeast Asia countries, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, and Brunei. The Affiliate does not collect membership dues due to country compliance rules, but welcomes members to join with its activities. (Note that SAAFP members do not automatically qualify as IAFP Members.)

SAAFP is active in their respective countries and with other countries regarding collaborative activities in meetings, seminars, workshops, and webinars on Microbiological Risk Assessment, Predictive Modelling, and other

food safety topics. Affiliate members have also been involved with leadership roles in the ASEAN Risk Assessment Center. SAAFP previously hosted the 4th Asia-Pacific International Food Safety Conference in conjunction with the 7th Asian Conference on Food and Nutrition Safety in Penang, Malaysia, in 2016.

Prof. Ratih Dewanti-Hariyadi serves as the Affiliate President, and Prof. Lay Ching Chai serves as its Vice President. Both have been active within the International Commission on Microbiological Specification for Foods (ICMSF) and the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, respectively. Prof. Kitiya Vongkamjan, SAAFP Secretary, has conducted research focused on phage technology to replace the use of antibiotics and to improve safety and sustainability in food production and animal health. Prof. Alvin Lee serves as the Affiliate's Delegate.

African Continental Association for Food Protection: Annual Meeting Held During IAFP 2025

Reported by Joseph Odumeru, President

The **African Continental Association for Food Protection (ACAFFP)** held its Annual Meeting on July 29, with 44 participants attending.

President Joseph Odumeru presented the agenda and noted that many of the Affiliate's board could not attend IAFP 2025 for various reasons. After welcoming attendees, Dr. Odumeru invited Dr. Tim Jackson, IAFP Past President, to present on behalf of IAFP. Dr. Jackson stated appreciation for ACAFFP's mission and vision and the continued partner-

ship of the two associations in advancing global food safety initiatives.

Susan Smith, IAFP's Affiliate Liaison, reaffirmed continuous support for ACAFP and, as a courtesy of IAFP, presented the Affiliate with a one-year complimentary membership for a student who is not a current member. Winner of the certificate was Mr. Andrew Darkwah, a student from Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, Texas.

Dr. Odumeru presented on the status report from IAFP for the Affiliate, highlighting some of the accomplishments of the Association from the current year or previous years, and the overall objectives, as a reminder to all.

It was noted that this year, the ACAFP Food Safety Conference will be held November 25–27, 2025, in Nigeria under the theme “Enhancing Food Safety Systems for Improved Public Health, Trade Competitiveness, and Economic Growth in Africa.” Additional information regarding the conference can be found on ACAFP's website at: acafoodprotection.org. Meeting participants were also reminded to submit abstracts for this meeting.

Participants were encouraged to disseminate ACAFP's mission and sign up for membership. The importance of membership was highlighted by Dr. Odumeru, including professional networking/mentorship; free webinars and workshops on various food safety topics in Africa; free access to ACAFP webinar recordings; and group email for communication with ACAFP members.

Current challenges for the Affiliate were discussed, including scheduling meetings for members living in different time zones around the world and obtaining sponsorship for the ACAFP Food Safety Conference in Africa.



Members of the Southeast Asia Association for Food Protection met on July 28 during IAFP 2025.



The African Continental Association for Food Protection held its Annual Meeting on July 29 during IAFP 2025.

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IAFP HEADLINES

JOIN US IN NEW ORLEANS FOR IAFP 2026!



IAFP 2026 is well into the planning stages. Held in various locations throughout North America, our Annual Meeting has grown over the years to become the leading food safety conference worldwide. IAFP 2026 will be held July 26–29 in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the New Orleans Ernest M. Morial Convention Center.

Submissions for symposia and roundtables for IAFP 2026 are due Tuesday, September 30, 2025. Workshop proposals for IAFP 2026 are also due on that date. Abstract proposals are due Tuesday, January 13, 2026. Visit the IAFP website for information on all submissions.

Registration and hotel information for IAFP 2026 will be open and posted on the IAFP website early next year.

MAKE A NOTE: IAFP 2026 AWARD NOMINATION AND APPLICATION DEADLINES

IAFP welcomes your nominations for our Association awards. Criteria and forms for 2026 will be posted soon on the IAFP



website. All applications and nominations will be submitted through an electronic submission system. You are not required to be an IAFP Member to nominate a deserving professional or colleague for one of our awards. We also encourage Members to apply for the IAFP Travel Award for

State or Provincial Health or Agricultural Department Employees in North America and for the IAFP Travel Award for Food Safety Professionals in a Country with a Developing Economy. The deadline for most IAFP awards is Tuesday, February 10, 2026. The deadline for IAFP's Student Travel Scholarship is Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Full-time graduate and undergraduate Student Members enrolled in a food safety program are encouraged to apply for the Student Travel Scholarship. Recipients will receive registration and travel funds to attend IAFP 2026 in New Orleans, Louisiana.



UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

IAFP is proud to support/sponsor two upcoming international food safety meetings, bringing together hundreds of people from around the world to learn, share, and network.

The 18th Annual China International Food Safety & Quality (CIFSQ) Conference will take place November 5–6, 2025, in Beijing, China. Attendees from across China and around the globe will spend two intensive days learning, sharing, and networking. IAFP is proud to be a global host of this meeting.

The 18th Dubai International Food Safety Conference will be held November 17–19, 2025, in Dubai, UAE. The conference is organized by the Food Control Department of Dubai Municipality and supported by IAFP.

These international meetings are listed on the IAFP website.

IAFP 2025 RECORDED SESSIONS AND PHOTOS AVAILABLE

Recorded sessions presented at IAFP 2025 (from presenters granting permission) are available for viewing on the IAFP website (go to the Annual Meeting page and click on IAFP 2025 in the archived section at the top right-hand side of the page). Attendees can view sessions they missed or sessions for a second time at their leisure. Those who couldn't attend can view sessions, for a fee, for the latest in food safety topics and discussions.

Hundreds of photos from IAFP 2025 are posted for viewing and downloading. Relive this year's Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, through our photo gallery at: [flickr.com/photos/iafp/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/iafp/albums). Photos are categorized in albums by day of the week.

Photos of Pre-Meeting Workshops, Affiliates, and Exhibitors are in separate albums labeled accordingly.

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IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE TO THE IAFP FOUNDATION!



IAFP is pleased to announce that nearly **\$77,000** was donated to the IAFP Foundation throughout IAFP 2025. This includes more than \$14,000 raised through our

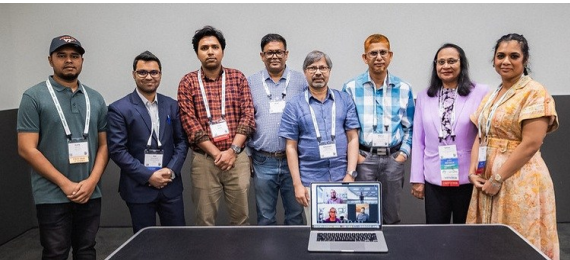
popular Silent Auction, our highest total since pre-pandemic—all of which helped exceed our goal of \$60,000 for the Foundation

during this year's Annual Meeting. Thank you to all who contributed—including **Fred Weber** and **Tori and David Stivers**, who generously challenged our donors through their two \$10,000 matching funds—and to those who donated on our website. Know that your contributions will continue to provide educational opportunities through Travel Awards, webinars, speaker support, and other programs. If you didn't get a chance to donate, please visit the IAFP Foundation page on our website.



Affiliate Chronicles: IAFP 2025

These IAFP Affiliates held Affiliate Meetings on July 29 during IAFP 2025 in Cleveland, Ohio.



Top left: Bangladesh Association for Food Protection in North America

Top right: Nepalese Association for Food Protection

Left: Korea Association for Food Protection

Below: China Association for Food Protection/Chinese Association for Food Protection in North America



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2025 Affiliate Awards

Congratulations to the 2025 Affiliate Award recipients for their hard work during the past year! Five Affiliates were recognized with awards during the Affiliate Council Meeting held on July 27, 2025. The C.B. Shogren Memorial Award was formally presented at the IAFP 2025 Awards Banquet on July 30 in Cleveland, Ohio.



C.B. Shogren Memorial Award

Indian Association for Food Protection in North America



Best Overall Affiliate Meeting

Hong Kong Food Safety Consortium



Affiliate Communications Materials

Ontario Food Protection Association



Affiliate Membership Achievement

Brazil Association for Food Protection

Affiliate Member Education: Turkish Food Safety Association

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AFFILIATE COUNCIL ELECTS 2025–2026 SECRETARY: TAKIYAH BALL



Dr. Takiyah Ball was elected by acclamation of the IAFP Affiliate Council as Secretary for the 2025–2026 term on July 27, 2025. Takiyah's term commenced at the close of IAFP 2025 in Cleveland, Ohio. She will succeed Helen Taylor as Chairperson.

Takiyah is a Food Safety Microbiologist for Sargento Foods, Inc., where she supports the Supply Quality Department through comprehensive risk assessments and cheese products entering the company's facilities.

She also serves as the food safety representative for two of Sargento's manufacturing sites, ensuring consistent safety standards and regulatory compliance.

Takiyah's responsibilities extend to educating employees on food safety practices; monitoring national and international recalls; reporting emerging trends to leadership; and building strategic partnerships across industry, government, and academia. She is a founding member of one of Sargento's Organizational Engagement Employee Business Groups (EBG) and currently chairs the Multicultural Alliance EBG, reflecting her commitment to fostering inclusive and equitable workplace environments.

Before joining Sargento, Takiyah was an ORISE Fellow at the FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), where she researched culturing methods for *Acinetobacter* spp. in leafy green outbreaks and conducted genetic comparisons to clinical strains. She previously spent 15 years at the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) in the Bacterial Epidemiology

and Antimicrobial Resistance Unit, managing the *Salmonella* and *E. coli* laboratory—the animal arm of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS).

Takiyah holds dual B.Sc. degrees in Microbiology and Cellular Biology and an M.Sc. in Animal and Dairy Science, all from the University of Georgia; and a Ph.D. in Comparative and Biomedical Sciences with a focus on Population Medicine from North Carolina State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. She also earned a Master of Public Health in Prevention Science from Emory University, where she was selected as a James Ferguson Fellow by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Kennedy Krieger Institute. In recognition of her impactful contributions to public health during her time at Emory, she received the prestigious Edith Hambie Excellence in Public Health Award. She will begin her MBA with a focus on Food Safety and Quality in the fall of 2025.

Takiyah is certified in Better Process Cheese School, Dairy Processing, HACCP, PCQI, and Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace, among other professional credentials. She is an active Member of IAFP and the American Society for Microbiology (ASM). She represents Sargento at the Food Research Institute at the University of Wisconsin and the Center for Food Safety at the University of Georgia, and serves as a mentor through both UGA and IAFP.

Takiyah's leadership within IAFP includes judging the 3-Minute Thesis Competition; moderating webinars for the Applied Laboratory Methods PDG; and serving on the Travel Award and Nomination committees. She chaired the James M. Jay Diversity in Food Safety Award Committee and was honored with the IAFP Student Travel Scholarship in 2016. Takiyah is also the current President and Delegate for the Wisconsin Association for Food Protection, where she has served for four years on its board. Most recently, she was appointed to the IAFP Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council for the 2025–2026 term.

Welcome!

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Mr. Rob Kooijmans, Safety Experts in Holten, Netherlands, proposed that ACAFP can partner with organizations such as Partners in Food Solutions that serve the same purpose: enhancing food safety in Africa.

Comments and questions from participants included: Can non-IAFP Members become ACAFP members? The answer was yes; however, because ACAFP is an IAFP Affiliate, IAFP membership is strongly encouraged. A comment was made that ACAFP should approach the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) for sponsorship. Another comment stated that a possible reason ACAFP is not getting sponsors for food safety conferences may be insufficient linkages between academia and food industries in Africa. Can industries or NGOs be ACAFP members? The answer was yes. Can the ACAFP website have a profile of some members for possible connections with others (e.g., those in diaspora with Africa-based people or institutions)? This final question will be discussed further by the Affiliate board members.

UPCOMING QUARTERLY AFFILIATE COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETINGS NOW SCHEDULED FOR 2025–2026

To retain interaction with our worldwide Affiliates throughout the year, Affiliate Council Virtual Meetings are scheduled on a quarterly basis, helping to better streamline and shorten the Affiliate Council Meeting held during IAFP's Annual Meeting. Plan now to attend one or more of the following scheduled meetings:

- ◆ **Friday, November 14, 2025, 8:00 a.m. (Central Time)**
- ◆ **Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 11:00 a.m. (Central Time)**
- ◆ **Monday, May 18, 2026, 8:00 a.m. (Central Time)**

Invitations and agendas will be sent in advance to those who are on *IAFP Connect*. All virtual meetings are recorded and made available shortly after on *IAFP Connect*. If you have a topic of discussion you'd like included on a meeting's agenda, contact Susan Smith in the IAFP office.

2025 AFFILIATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Affiliate Council met on July 27 in Cleveland, Ohio, during IAFP 2025. Following are the official minutes that will be published in the November–December 2025 issue of *Food Protection Trends*.

Affiliate Delegates Present:

Africa	Joseph Odumeru
Alabama	Neil Bogart
Argentina	Fabiana Guglielmonne
Arkansas	Jennifer Acuff
Bangladesh in NA	Salina Parveen
Brazil	Caio Carvalho
Capital Area	Jenny Scott
Florida	Morgan Madison
Georgia	Dina Scott
Hong Kong	Terence Lau
Indian in NA	Arshpreet Kaur Khattrra
Indiana	Amanda Deering
Japan	Shige Koseki
Kentucky	Eric Martin
Mexico	Maria-Teresa Jimenez Munguia
Minnesota	Ruth Petran
Nepalese	Kharuna Kharel
New York	Steve Murphy
New Zealand	Aswathi Soni
Ohio	Connie Freese
Ontario	Ellen Gravi
Quebec	Julie Jean
Southeast Asia	Alvin Lee
Taiwan	Shihyu Chuang
United Arab Emirates	Bobby Krishna
United Kingdom	Helen Taylor
Upper Midwest	Dan Erickson
Washington	Kent Dowding
Wisconsin	Takiyah Ball

IAFP Board/Staff Present: Mark Carter, Tim Jackson, Manpreet Singh, Manan Sharma, Lisa Garcia, Susan Smith.

Visitors/Guests: Achyut Adhikari (Nepalese), Pranam Adhikari (Student), David Blomquist (Minnesota), Jessica Burke (Ontario), Faith Critzer (Georgia), Nicola Dermer (New Zealand), Aakankshya Dhakal (Student), Julia Fukaba (Student), Kristen Gibson (Arkansas), Erin Headley (Wisconsin), Derek Hladki (Michigan), Kristen Houck (Wisconsin), Aaron Huckabee (Florida), Sharon Humphries (Kentucky), Snehal Jadhav (Australia), Ian Jenson (Australia), Govindaraj Dev Kumar (Indian in NA), Kunihiro Kubota (Japan), Nelly Lam (Hong Kong), Quanhong Li (New Jersey), Yuqi Luo (Ohio), Nathan Mirdamadi (Missouri), Juan Moreira (Colorado), Luis Augusto Nero (Brazil), Tania Nur (Ohio), Kavita Patil (Indian in NA), Gale Prince (Ohio), Carrie Rigdon (Minnesota), Diego Romulo (Argentina), Kristin Sanders (Kentucky),



Neelam Sharma (Student), Pratiksha Shrestha (Student), Kristin Schill (Wisconsin), Dikshya Shilpakar (Student), Francisco Garces-Vega (Colombia), Nathaniel Wilson (Kentucky).

Meeting Called to Order: 7:37 a.m. (U.S. Eastern Time), Sunday, July 27, 2025.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Helen Taylor.

Agenda: The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Delegate Roll Call: Captured by badge scanning.

Approval of 2024 Minutes: A motion was made to approve (Jennifer Acuff) and seconded (Joseph Odumeru).

Report from Affiliate Chairperson: Caio Carvalho provided the following updates:

- Attendees were reminded to get badges scanned.
- Affiliate 2025 milestone anniversaries: Florida (80 years); Colombia (50 years); Argentina (10 years). Caio thanked the Affiliates for their continued contributions to food safety.
- The Kentucky Association for Food Protection and the Nepalese Association for Food Protection both joined IAFP in late 2024 and will formally receive their Charters at the Opening Session. The Nepalese Affiliate met earlier in 2025 with 85 attendees; the Affiliate is planning an online symposium for later in 2025 which can be accessed worldwide. Both Affiliates were welcomed.
- Webinar suggestions are welcomed. Affiliates are encouraged to share their webinar proposals at the PDGs taking place today or email the IAFP office to ensure suggested subjects are relevant to IAFP Membership. It is a great way to share updated technical information.
- There were three Affiliate Council Virtual Meetings held during the past year. Participation of Affiliates and Affiliate members



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has been active with invitations for the three meetings sent in advance from Susan Smith. The attendees were reminded that meeting recordings are available on *IAFP Connect* for those who are unable to attend. Also, they were encouraged to send agenda topics in advance to be discussed in upcoming meetings.

6. A brief overview of IAFP's Latin American Symposium 2024 was given. Organized by the Brazil Association for Food Protection, the meeting had 600 attendees. The next Latin American Symposium will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 28–29, 2026.
7. The first FoodMicro Latino conference will take place October 25–28, 2025, in Aracaju, Brazil.



Report from IAFP President: Mark Carter, IAFP President, thanked attendees for being active in their Affiliates and IAFP. He announced that more than 3,000 attendees were registered for IAFP 2025. He thanked the Ohio Association for Food Protection volunteers for serving as this year's Local

Arrangements Committee. He reminded attendees to download the App and visit with this year's exhibitors and stop by the Welcome Booth organized by the DEI Council. He noted that IAFP webinars are important and contribute to engagement.



Report from IAFP Executive Director: Lisa Garcia commented that IAFP is still recovering post-Covid, and expenses have increased to run a meeting. We want to keep meeting costs low, but attendees have seen small increases year after year. Affiliate meetings have continued throughout the year. Webinars are reaching our Membership and beyond, with open access to non-Members during the month of June.

Report from IAFP Staff Liaison: Susan Smith commented that 40 of 55 active Annual Reports were submitted for 2024 activities, an increase of 9% from last year's submissions. According to the IAFP Bylaws, Affiliates must submit an Annual Report, regardless of activities. Susan sends monthly reminders to all Affiliate Officers. All reports are electronically submitted. Affiliates should read the description to choose the most appropriate award(s) for their activities. This year we had many strong applications, which made it difficult for the Award Selection Committee to determine the winners. Affiliates should apply for as many awards as they think they qualify. The Affiliate Awards application process will be discussed later during this meeting to better define the criteria. She reminded attendees that the Affiliate President and Delegate must be active IAFP Members at the time of application. A few Affiliate websites aren't being updated on a regular basis, so she encouraged them to keep websites updated to access upcoming meetings, Affiliate officers, etc.

Forty-two Affiliates held meetings in 2024 but not all of them requested speaker support from IAFP. The IAFP Executive Board Speaker and Expanded Speaker Programs are available, and 19 Affiliates benefited from using it in 2024. IAFP pays the speaker's travel to and from the meeting; Affiliates only pay onsite expenses. This is a great resource to schedule high-level speakers for Affiliate meetings. Speakers can also present remotely at no cost for the Affiliate or the Association. Those Affiliates that collect dues through IAFP should inform the Association if dues are increased. Affiliate members were encouraged to register on *IAFP Connect* to receive communications from IAFP. Two new charters will be presented at the Opening Session on Sunday night.

Discussions: The New Zealand Affiliate greatly benefited with Kali Kniel speaking as part of the IAFP Executive Board Speaker Program.

The question was asked if Roy Betts' (UK Affiliate) retirement has been recognized.



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The question was asked about how Affiliates determine their dues. Susan answered that Affiliate dues are determined by the individual Affiliate.

A suggestion was made that the Affiliate Annual Report submission form be updated for ease of use by Affiliates. This led to a discussion by attendees regarding the application process for some of the Affiliate awards, particularly the C.B. Shogren Memorial Award. The question came up, "Should an Affiliate applying for the Shogren be required to apply for and receive one of the other awards as part of the Shogren criteria?" The following discussion took place on the floor:



Jenny Scott: The Best Overall Affiliate Meeting description including the criteria, "a wide range of topics is required," needs to be better defined.



Jennifer Acuff: The Best Overall Affiliate Meeting should meet the needs of Affiliate Members and not just one company. If an Affiliate wishes to receive the Shogren Award and is required to receive at least one other award, it is seen as unfortunate to give two awards to one Affiliate. Does winning one other award qualify them to receive the Shogren Award?



Questions: What are the criteria/rationale behind these awards? What is stopping Affiliates from applying for multiple awards?

Caio Carvalho: The Shogren Award is presented for outstanding Affiliate performance throughout the previous year. The criteria stating an Affiliate needs to contribute to the Foundation should be removed. Should an increase in membership be considered? Should the top three Affiliates applying for awards be considered for the Shogren? The scope of the meeting should be considered—can a lunch meeting qualify vs. a two-day meeting? Will an Affiliate hesitate to apply for one or more awards if they don't meet the current criteria? The Shogren's eligibility paragraph and selection criteria need more clarification and should be better defined. Review the criteria where "Affiliate Officers need to be IAFP Members."



Manpreet Singh: Task the Awards Committee to review and better define the awards criteria.

Caio: To be considered for the Shogren Award, the Affiliate must be ranked first in at least one of the other award categories.

Ruth Petran: I thought you had to be a previous award winner to be considered for the Shogren.

Jennifer: Longevity is considered as an aspect for the Shogren Award.

Jenny: Affiliates often don't have time to apply for multiple awards. If you want to be considered for the Shogren Award, do you have to apply for one other award and then indicate if the Affiliate wants to be considered for the Shogren?

Ellen Gravi: As the Communication Award recipient, the Ontario Affiliate can offer suggestions about using photos; summarizing information with photos within it. Ontario is a more active Affiliate, and we are happy to help other Affiliates apply for awards.



Alvin Lee: If an Affiliate wants to be considered for the Shogren, check the box on the form.

Manpreet: We need to firm up the language, using correct language, and circulate it to the Affiliates for input.

Mark Carter: Perhaps process something visual, like a flowchart.

Susan Smith: No decisions can be made today, but let us know what you think about awards and the criteria so we can redefine the criteria over the next few months before Annual Reports are submitted for 2025. There is a table of Affiliate Annual Reports from 2024 submissions that is outside the meeting room for all Affiliate officers to review.

Election of Affiliate Secretary: Caio called for nominees from the floor. Potential candidates were reminded they need to serve as their Affiliate Delegate for the next two years, and be an active IAFP Member. One candidate volunteered to stand for election: Takiyah Ball, Wisconsin Affiliate Delegate. Caio asked her to introduce herself and provide a brief summary that included number of years with her respective Affiliate and as Affiliate Delegate, and the number of IAFP Annual Meetings she has attended.

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Takiyah summarized that she works for Sargento Foods as a Food Safety Microbiologist; was awarded the 2016 Student Travel Scholarship; has chaired the Diversity Committee and the Nomination Committee; and has mentored several students. She has been a Wisconsin Affiliate Member for five years and has attended most Annual Meetings during the past 10 years.

The candidate left the room while Delegates voted. Takiyah Ball was elected by a majority vote.

2025 Affiliate Awards Presentation: Caio highlighted the achievements of the award recipients and presented the 2025 Affiliate Awards as follows:

Affiliate Membership Achievement: *Brazil Association for Food Protection*—The Affiliate had a 47% increase in membership throughout 2024, in part due to a defined campaign and participation of a newly-hired communication expert.

Affiliate Communications Materials: *Ontario Food Protection Association*—The Affiliate demonstrated a strong communication campaign based on monthly webinars and its monthly newsletters; several e-blasts; LinkedIn activity with 7,852 followers; posts on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, X, and TikTok platforms; and a very active website.

Affiliate Member Education: *Turkish Food Safety Association*—The Affiliate organized monthly webinars with a total of 571 attendees; sent monthly e-blasts and an annual newsletter; and held an annual conference with 168 attendees.

Best Overall Affiliate Meeting: *Hong Kong Food Safety Consortium*—The Affiliate held a relevant two-day meeting with a “Food as Medicine” theme. It included 35 speakers, an Exhibition Hall, and a strong number of sponsors and organizations to support the meeting.

C.B. Shogren Memorial: *Indian Association for Food Protection in North America*—The Affiliate met most of the criteria requirements for this award with a 33% increase in Membership (84 new members); established a student competition with prizes for winners; improved communications through emails and newsletter to members; updated its website monthly, with more than 1,400 visits; held two virtual and one in-person meetings; and had relevant activity on social media, including Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram. The Affiliate will formally receive the award at the Awards Banquet on Wednesday night.

Old Business: The Executive Board approved Helen Taylor as Affiliate Council Secretary for 2024–2025.

New Business: A new collaboration was initiated between the Brazil Affiliate and the African Affiliate. Joseph Odumeru commented that the

objective was to establish a partnership and collaboration with others to hold joint educational sessions in Africa. Many scientists from Brazil worked on food safety projects in Africa. June 1 saw the first session take place, which was a webinar on aflatoxin in nuts. It was a very special session with Mark Carter, IAFP President, in attendance. The presentations can be accessed on YouTube. Both Affiliates are enthusiastic and happy to progress with this partnership. Caio asked attendees to notify the IAFP staff if they are interested in partnerships and/or collaborations.



Representatives from the Student PDG spoke to attendees and look forward to continue working with Affiliates. Please connect with them (as they’ve received few responses when reaching out). They can be contacted via LinkedIn.

Numbered List of Recommendations to the Executive Board:

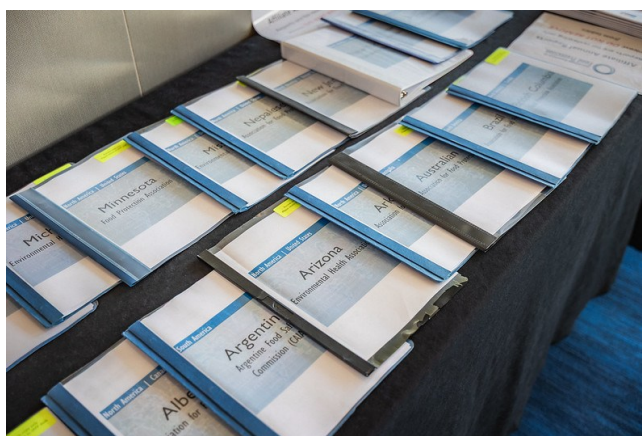
1. The Affiliate Council recommends that Takiyah Ball, Delegate for the Wisconsin Association for Food Protection, be appointed as the next Affiliate Council Secretary.
2. The Affiliate Awards Committee will create a flow chart to help Affiliates with the award application process and better define the criteria for some of the awards.

Passing of gavel: Chairperson Caio Carvalho passed the gavel to Helen Taylor, Secretary, signifying the beginning of Helen’s term as Affiliate Council Chairperson, official after the completion of IAFP 2025.

Next Meeting Date: Virtual meetings will continue with dates and times scheduled well in advance to allow attendees to get them on their calendars. The next in-person meeting is Sunday, July 26, 2026, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 a.m. (U.S. Eastern Time)

Chairperson Name: Helen Taylor.



AFFILIATE CALENDAR

PROMOTE YOUR MEETINGS THROUGH IAFP

Affiliates in Action Third Quarter 2025

July

- ◆ Japan Association for Food Protection
- ◆ African Continental Association for Food Protection
- ◆ Bangladesh Association for Food Protection in North America
- ◆ China Association for Food Protection and Chinese Association for Food Protection in North America
- ◆ Indian Association for Food Protection in North America
- ◆ Korea Association for Food Protection
- ◆ Nepalese Association for Food Protection
- ◆ Southeast Asia Association for Food Protection

September

- ◆ Arkansas Association for Food Protection
- ◆ Associated Illinois Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians
- ◆ New York State Association for Food Protection
- ◆ Washington Association for Food Protection
- ◆ Quebec Food Protection Association
- ◆ Upper Midwest Dairy Industry Association
- ◆ Mexico Association for Food Protection
- ◆ Indiana Environmental Health Association
- ◆ Ontario Food Protection Association

October 2025

7–9: Kansas Environmental Health Association, 2025 Fall Conference, Salina, Kansas. Visit kansasenvironmentalhealthassociation.org.

15: Iowa Association for Food Protection, 2025 Annual Meeting, Hudson, Iowa. Contact Lynne Melchert at lmelchert@prairiefarms.com.

26–28: FoodMicro Latino 2025 Conference (Brazil Association for Food Protection), Aracaju, Brazil. Visit foodmicrolatino2025.icfmh.org.

November 2025

5: Georgia Association for Food Protection, 2025 Fall Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia. Visit gafoodprotection.org.

19–20: Argentine Food Safety Commission, 2025 Annual Meeting, Entre Rios, Argentina. Contact Fabiana Guglielmone at fabiana.guglielmone@unilever.com.

25–27: African Continental Association for Food Protection, 3rd Food Safety Conference for Africa, Abuja, Nigeria. Visit acafoodprotection.org.

December 2025

2–3: Wisconsin Association for Food Protection, 2025 Fall Workshop, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Visit wifoodprotection.org.

To be featured in the next issue of *Affiliate View*, send your news and photos by December 5, 2025, to Susan Smith at ssmith@foodprotection.org.

IAFP Support for Affiliate Meetings

Whether to complement the mission and promotional materials of your Affiliate, or to show your relationship with the International Association for Food Protection, we offer the following supplies for use or distribution at your meetings:

- ◆ IAFP pop-up display. This updated and attractive pop-up display shows attendees that you are affiliated with IAFP.
- ◆ IAFP 2025–2026 Presentation. A PowerPoint slide show with a suggested 15-minute script. This is the same presentation used by members of the IAFP Executive Board when invited to speak at Affiliate meetings.
- ◆ Promotional materials box. Contents include a complimentary IAFP Membership certificate and brochures, current issues of *FPT* and *Affiliate View*, and IAFP Annual Meeting flyers. Additional complimentary resources are available upon your request.

To request these items for your next meeting, call or email Susan Smith at the IAFP Office.

IAFP EXECUTIVE BOARD SPEAKER PROGRAM

FOR AFFILIATES



Manpreet Singh, Ph.D., University of Georgia
President

- Managing Risks in Meat & Poultry Processing
- Food Safety Management Systems in Food Processing
- Antimicrobial Resistance of Foodborne Pathogens



Manan Sharma, Ph.D., U.S. Department of Agriculture/ARS
President-Elect

- Produce Safety (Irrigation Water, Soil Amendment)
- Bacteriophages and Food Safety
- Detection Methods of Pathogens in Water/Water Filtration



Pam Wilger, Post Consumer Brands
Vice President

- Environmental Monitoring
- Dry Industry Microbiology and HACCP
- Sampling, Micro Testing Methods and Lab Management



Wendy White, Georgia Institute of Technology
Secretary

- Sanitation Troubleshooting
- Third-Party Auditing
- Recall and/or Crisis Management



Mark Carter, MC Squared
Past President

- Method Development and Validation
- Statistical Sampling Plans and Development



Helen Taylor, Cardiff Metropolitan University
Affiliate Council Chair

- Food Safety & Quality Management Systems
- HACCP – Food Safety – Auditing
- Food Manufacturing – Small & Medium Enterprises – Auditing



Takiyah Ball, Ph.D., Sargento Foods, Inc.
Affiliate Council Secretary

- Food Microbiology
- Tools for Monitoring Emerging Risks
- Career Development for Young Professionals in Industry, Academia, and Government

How It Works

1. IAFP Board Members are available to speak at Affiliate meetings on numerous topics involving food safety.
2. Each Affiliate may request one Executive Board speaker for one Affiliate meeting within a 12-month calendar year.
3. A minimum of 15 minutes should be allowed for the Board Member to deliver information about the International Association for Food Protection in addition to their main subject(s) (see #1).
4. IAFP will pay the Board Member's expense to travel to the Affiliate meeting location.
5. The Affiliate covers local expenses, including meals, lodging, and local transportation for the Board Member.
6. The Board Member makes their own travel reservations and will submit an expense report to the IAFP office within 10 days of completion of their travel to the Affiliate meeting. Any local expense (see #5) will be billed to the Affiliate.
7. A two-month advance notice is required.
8. To invite a Board Member to speak at your Affiliate meeting, contact Susan Smith, IAFP Affiliate Liaison, at +1 515.276.3344; or email ssmith@foodprotection.org. (Please do not contact Board Members directly until approved by IAFP.)

IAFP SPEAKER PROGRAM (EXPANDED)

Jim Dickson, Ph.D.
Iowa State University

- Foodborne Pathogens in Meat: Progress and Challenges
- Interventions to Control Foodborne Pathogens in Meat
- Food Safety Issues with Pet Food
- Process Validation for Food Safety



Kathy Glass, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin – Madison (retired)

- Opportunities and Limitations of Clean Label Antimicrobials
- Validating Formulation Safe RTE Foods
- Intervention Strategies to Control *Listeria monocytogenes* in Ready-to-Eat Foods
- Control of Sporeforming Bacteria During Extended Cooling and Refrigerated Storage
- Efficacy of Nitrate Alternatives to Inhibit the Growth of Bacteria



Kali Kniel, Ph.D.
University of Delaware

- One Health
- Foodborne Viruses
- Foodborne Parasites
- Produce Food Safety Issues



Alejandro Mazzotta, Ph.D.
Chobani, LLC

- Dairy Food Safety and Spoilage
- FSMA and Regulatory Compliance
- Food Safety and Quality Systems



Ruth Petran Ph.D.
Ruth Petran Consulting, LLC

- Sanitation Preventive Controls
- Norovirus Management
- Hazard Analysis



Gale Prince
Consultant

- Human Factor Considerations for Achieving Food Safety Compliance
- Driving Forces for Hygienic Design of Food Equipment
- The Cost of a Product Recall – Should You Budget for It?
- Food Allergens
- A Fifty-Year Food Safety Career Based on a Bar Napkin



Don Schaffner, Ph.D.
Rutgers University

- Understanding and Managing Food Safety Risks
- Quantitative Microbial Risk Assessment of Foods
- Development and Application of Predictive Models for Food Microbiology
- Handwashing, Hand Sanitizers, and Cross-Contamination



Don Zink, Ph.D.
IEH Laboratories & Consulting Group

- Environmental Pathogen Monitoring
- FSMA Implementation – Foreign Supplier Verification and Preventive Controls
- Controlling *Listeria* and *Salmonella*



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Explore, learn, participate at the
IAFP 2026 Annual Meeting.
July 26-29, 2026
foodprotection.org

Future Annual Meetings | Save the Dates!

IAFP 2027, July 18-21, Kansas City, Missouri
IAFP 2028, July 23-26, Charlotte, North Carolina
IAFP 2029, July 22-25, Denver, Colorado

Affiliate View is a quarterly publication for Affiliates of the International Association for Food Protection. Please submit articles, photos, news items, or comments to:

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