

Conference for Food Protection Executive Board Meeting Committee Report

This report must be submitted to your Council Chair for review so that it can be approved and submitted to the Executive Board via the Executive Director 30 days before each Executive Board Meeting (held in April and August of each year). The report must be accompanied by an updated committee roster on the Excel spreadsheet provided.

COMMITTEE NAME: _Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee Report

COUNCIL (I, II, or III): II

DATE OF REPORT: March 12, 2009

SUBMITTED BY: Michéle Samarya-Timm, Chair
Elizabeth Bugden, Co-Chair

COMMITTEE CHARGE(S): To work with the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR) and investigate establishing standards for foodborne illness training programs and report back to the 2010 Biennial Meeting.

PROGRESS REPORT / COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES WITH ACTIVITY DATES:

NOTE: A list of the Committee Membership is attached.

The Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee has created a regular schedule of quarterly conference calls to work in an expeditious manner toward meeting the committee charge. Call dates since last report: 11-14-2008 and 02-03-2009.

Our committee has reviewed the potential synergy between CIFOR Training assessment, and this committee's charge. The CIFOR committee is looking at *gaps* in training (accessibility, content). This CFP committee is looking at establishing a *standard* for programs for voluntary accreditation (more content based.)

This committee challenged members with the following action items:

1. Identify principles that guide how standards are developed and any examples of how standards are developed.
2. Make a list of accreditations and certifications that are highly regarded and make a list of the essential components (what's needed, how often is it renewed, syllabus, etc.)
3. Consider essential components for certification of foodborne illness outbreak investigations

After review of a comprehensive list that addressed action items 1 & 2, the committee is now focusing on item 3; What should accreditation or certification of foodborne illness outbreak investigations include?

The committee will look at the new CIFOR guidelines to help facilitate our efforts, and will also identify and consider what criteria could be used to approve food safety trainings, and how to determine if a program is qualified.

At this time, this committee is working toward building on the information compiled thus far, determining what topics should be included in foodborne illness/foodborne outbreak training programs, including discussion of prerequisites learning.

Future committee conference calls are scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of each quarter, at 10:00am – 11:30am EST:

- o May 5, 2009
- o August 4, 2009
- o November 3, 2009
- o February 2, 2010

Additional calls may be added to meet the deliverables of the Committee Charge in time for the April 2010 CFP conference.