

Conference for Food Protection 2006-2008  
Executive Board Meeting Committee Update

Council II – Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee  
Report  
(a sub-committee of the Programs Standards Committee)

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Date of Committee Report: **July 12, 2007**

Submitted By: Frank Ferko and Michéle Samarya-Timm

Committee Charge(s):

**Cataloging existing foodborne illness investigation training programs, optimizing the training and materials used, and developing recommendations to improve sustainability and rapidly broaden dissemination of the programs.**

Committee Members: (please see attached)

*For each committee member, please include:*

*Name  
Agency or Company  
Address  
City, State, Zip  
Phone  
Fax  
E-mail*

State Regulatory

Local Regulatory

Federal

Academia

Industry

Consumer

Progress Report/Committee Activities:

Over the past several months, our members continued to seek out other organizations pursuing projects and goals that parallel our committee's charge, and to explore possible collaborations to prevent duplication of efforts. Other entities such as CIFOR and CSTE, CDC, and industry associations are in

the process of researching and have similar charges as this committee. This committee will be looking toward exploring ways to collaborate with these groups to eliminate duplication of efforts.

Current model national/organizational foodborne outbreak training and response programs/guidelines include the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak and Response (CIFOR), the National Environmental Health Association's (NEHA) Epi-Ready Program, and International Association of Food Protection's (IAFP) Procedures to Investigate Foodborne Illness. However, this committee has found that various states and large metropolitan areas, as well as industry and academia are using local/regionally based programs for training and response. Examples of such include Michigan's F.I.R.S.T – Foodborne Investigation Response Strategies, and ORA-U's Epidemiology training. The committee discussed various ways of scoping out and gathering this information from across the U.S., and looked to have each committee member reach out to several states to gather information on state-specific foodborne response protocols and training programs.

During a committee conference call on July 11, National Restaurant Association offered research assistance from a summer intern, who could be assigned to assist in the gathering of information from the states. The committee enthusiastically accepted this offer, and will look to provide guidance and assistance to this intern's efforts. In addition, committee members will continue to compile and forward listings of known training and response programs.

During the next scheduled conference call August 22, 2007 members will update the committee on the status of their outreach, and discuss the best ways to catalogue the information gathered and insert into a general searchable grid to allow users to ascertain appropriate resources by topic or discipline. While electronic format is preferred in the interest of space and sharing, the co-chairs will act as a gathering point for hard copies of materials at this time.

New and existing Committee members are included in a separate attachment.

The next conference call for this group is scheduled for August 22, 2007.

Requested Actions: There are no requested actions at this time.