

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Safety Committee

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Committee Actions

The Safety Committee held its meeting September 19, 2006, during the AOAC Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN. Due to the Chair, Argentina Vindiola, having to return

home early, Sara Williams conducted the meeting. Zerlinde Balverde attended representing the AOAC staff liaison to the Official Methods Board. Only 3 members were present.

The untimely passing of Inés Cereijo, Safety Advisor of the Methods Committee on Additives, Beverages and Food Process-Related Analytes and Filth and Extraneous Materials in Food and Drugs, was commemorated. The article published in *Inside Laboratory Management (ILM)* was distributed for reading.

During the meeting, the necessity of having new members was discussed and possible qualified replacements as Safety Advisors for the Committees that do not have one were suggested. New advisors are in great need. The Committee has lost 3 advisors in the last year. Current advisors will need to review additional methods. In the next 6 months, there will be methods to review in the biothreat area including viral, chemical, and biological disciplines.

The Safety Symposium was held September 19, 2006. The 4 speakers provided informative presentations. The symposium was well attended considering the concurrence of 2 other symposia, the Wiley Award Address and Emerging Issues in Food Safety.

Eugene Chechik suggested the duties of the Safety Advisor should be updated. The Chair will review and update.

The Safety Committee members were encouraged to submit safety topics for publication in *ILM*. The member can write the article or just provide background information for use by *ILM* staff.