

**NE1834 Annual Business Meeting
September 19, 2021**

The technical committee of the NE1834 multi-state project held its 2021 meeting on the campus of the University of Maryland (College Park, MD) as well as virtually on Saturday and Sunday of September 18-19, 2021. Attending this meeting were representatives of member institutions as well as other regular guest members from the USDA and poultry breeding industry.

Attending members and collaborators:

Rami Dalloul, Jiuzhou Song, Ryan Arsenault, Calvin Keeler, Mark Parcels, Susan Lamont, Keith Jarosinski, Lisa Bielke, Robert Taylor, Yvonne Dreschler, Rodrigo Gallardo, Christopher Ashwell, Shawna Weimer, Ramesh Selvaraj, Matthew Koci, Gisela Erf, Janet Fulton, Paul Cotter, Andrew Broadbent, Mostapha Ghanem, Ali Nazmi, and Billy Hargis.

The business meeting began at 8:30am chaired by Rami Dalloul (U. of Georgia)

2022 annual meeting and group officers:

The first agenda item was the next meeting in 2022 and selection of business officers.

- A. Ryan Arsenault, current secretary will serve as Chair for next year's meeting.
- B. Lisa Bielke will host the meeting at Ohio State University, Wooster Campus.
- C. Call for volunteers or nomination from the floor for next year's secretary and Shawna Weimer (U. of Maryland) agreed to serve in this role.

Other Business

- A. **Renewal and Revision of the Project.** Dr. Robert Taylor showed a slide presentation listing official members of the project. The project will expire in 2023. Dr. Taylor asked if the members wanted the project to be revised and renewed. If so, the group should use 2022 to assemble required materials. Then the group will have from Jan-Sept 2023 to address any issues with the revision. Dr. Dalloul stated that the project is very active and asked if anyone was opposed to renewal, there were no objections, all attending members were in favor of the renewal. With this undertaking requiring significant collaborative efforts, several members agreed to assist with Dr. Taylor willing to lead revision efforts on the following conditions: 1) no one sees conflict of interest, 2) there are volunteers to lead document sections, and 3) the revision will have high priority and members will meet deadlines. All agreed. Dr. Taylor explained the writing effort breakdown, which requires at least 5 writers and included enough volunteers including Dalloul, Jarosinski, Bielke, and Song.
- B. **Additional membership.** The technical committee also discussed recruiting new members to the group particularly those sharing common research interests and goals, as well as those who are already collaborating with current members. Several potential candidate institutions were proposed including Penn State, Texas A&M, Cornell, USDA-ARS in Iowa, Mississippi State, Auburn and Clemson. Dr. Song asked about additional veterinary school members including those at the University of Georgia, UC Davis, and members of the respiratory diseases multistate project who may be interested in this project. Dr. Dalloul asked that members contact potential members at those institutions and invite them to the group meeting.

- C. **Avian immune reagents.** Dr. Jarosinski asked if anyone participated in the USDA-AFRI call for poultry immune reagents grants. While Dr. Koci submitted one, there is a critical need to further support these efforts particularly by group members.
- D. **NIFA Participation.** Dr. Taylor, as administrative advisor for the group, will ask NIFA that a USDA representative is at the meeting at least via zoom. He was told that they could not participate by Zoom, but currently they also cannot travel. Dr. Gallardo stated that a NIFA representative was at the avian respiratory group meeting. Dr. Lamont suggested shifting the meeting to before the weekend, which may enhance participation and allow a USDA representative to attend. While this may present certain challenges to schedule around classes, the decision will be at the discretion of the host following discussion with group members. Dr. Dalloul recommended Dr. Bielke send out a poll regarding next year's dates, which will be closer to the meeting in late spring 2022.
- E. **AIRG meeting.** Dr. Drechsler stated it was discussed having the NE1834 meeting in association with Avian Immunology Research Group (AIRG). Dr. Dalloul said AIRG may be in mid-May or late September 2022, either in Athens, GA or Newark, DE.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:28 am.