

Center for Research on Ingredient Safety (CRIS)
Emerging Issues Committee (EIC)
Charter (October 6, 2016)

Michigan State University (MSU) established the Center for Research on Ingredient Safety (CRIS) in 2014 to serve as a hub for objective science that adds rigor and data to the highly visible discourse on consumer product and ingredient safety. CRIS was envisioned by its founders as a program with a focus on the safe use of chemical ingredients in consumer packaged goods including foods, beverages, cosmetics, household care, personal care, and other product types, that will broadly build capability in three areas: scientific research, risk communication, and education & training.

During the early stages in the evolution of CRIS, the founders envisioned that the Center would be built into the leading source of research and data on ingredient safety, and that the impact of the scientific research conducted by CRIS would be judged through the following activities:

- Develop and implement a process to set and prioritize short-term and long-term strategic and scientific objectives of importance to ingredient safety
- Produce and disseminate unbiased and credible research data and analysis on the safe use of ingredients in food and consumer products.
- Offer unbiased and transparent evaluation of new technology that can be applied to evaluate ingredient safety.
- Generate results from collaborative research on ingredient safety.

The founders agreed that MSU would establish a team called the Emerging Issues Committee (EIC) that would have responsibility for developing and implementing a process to facilitate achieving these milestones

“Ingredients” as embodied in the name of CRIS, and hence defining the scope of work falling within the remittance of CRIS, will be determined by the EIC and subsequently shared with stakeholders.

FUNCTIONS OF THE EIC

The EIC, which is considered to be crucial to the success of CRIS, has two functions:

1. Serve as the scientific steering committee for the Center
2. Develop and implement the ‘emerging issues’ process for the Center

The ‘emerging issues’ process is designed to be applied at two levels. First, the EIC should play a critical role in identifying issues associated with ingredient safety, as they emerge. Second, based on these emerging issues, and on existing questions about ingredient safety, the EIC should set and prioritize short-term and long-term strategic scientific objectives.

Specific activities to be carried out by the EIC:

- (1) Support CRIS in developing and updating its Vision, Mission, scope, objectives, goals, and performance measures relative to scientific research conducted by the Center
- (2) Develop and implement processes for the Center to:
 - a. track emerging issues with a focus on ingredient safety in ‘real time’
 - b. set and prioritize short-term strategic scientific objectives (< one year)
 - c. set and prioritize long-term strategic scientific objectives (three to five years)
 - d. resolve questions that emerge involving exceptions to the definition of “ingredients” highlighted above
- (3) Meet at least twice a year to solicit, discuss, and prioritize emerging / existing issues of potential importance to the Center
- (4) Develop a prioritized list of research objectives (ideally) prior to the CRIS Annual Meeting
 - a. The Director will subsequently develop plans to meet as many of the objectives as feasible with the available resources
 - b. The Director with the support of the Internal Advisory Committee (IAC) will then be responsible for assuring the execution of the indicated research with the allocated financial resources
- (5) Support CRIS in maintaining independence of its scientific research outputs in order to ensure the integrity and credibility of information delivered by the Center’s scientists
 - a. In accord with the CRIS Bylaws, for Center Research projects prioritized by the EIC and conducted within the Center, the non-industry representatives on the EIC shall have 2 weeks to review prior to submission of materials for publication
 - b. Make recommendations to the Director for potential external non-industry reviewers
- (6) Make recommendations to the Director for potential new members of the EIC representing either the members or the non-industry representatives

EIC MEETINGS:

The EIC shall meet formally at least twice per year, or more often as the EIC Executive Team (defined below) may determine is appropriate. The meetings will be open to EIC members and the CRIS Director. The meetings do not have to be face-to-face, and can be conducted via teleconferences or web-based meetings. Guests may attend with the agreement of the majority of EIC members.

STRUCTURE AND OPERATION OF THE EIC

CRIS is envisioned to be a new partnership between academia, industry, government, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that will become recognized as the leading source of research and data on ingredient safety. It will be key to identify stakeholders

who, although representing diverse sectors, have an interest in applying objective science to improve our understanding of consumer product safety as it relates to ingredients. The optimal structure of the EIC requires an approach that integrates the perspective of multiple stakeholders, as reflected by the following qualities:

- (1) Membership composition:
 - a. A maximum of five representatives from CRIS Member private sector organizations
 - b. A minimum of two representatives from academic institutions other than MSU
 - c. A minimum of two representatives from government organizations
 - d. A minimum of two representatives from NGOs
- (2) Terms of service on the EIC:
 - a. The members of the EIC will serve on a rotating basis to ensure opportunity for many to serve
 - b. Ideally, one third of the members of the EIC, reflecting all sectors, will rotate off in any given year
 - c. Terms of service will overlap to ensure continuity of knowledge within the committee
 - d. The duration of the term of service will be 3 years
 - e. Members can serve a maximum of two consecutive 3-year terms; but can be re-considered for membership on the EIC after sitting out a full term
- (3) Appointment of members to the EIC:
 - a. Representatives from CRIS Member private sector organizations will be elected by CRIS Members in accordance with the CRIS Bylaws
 - a. Representatives from all other sectors on the EIC will be appointed by the IAC in accordance with the CRIS Bylaws
- (4) EIC Operations:
 - a. The members of the EIC will select / elect a chair, and a vice chair who will serve staggered two-year terms
 - b. The chair, vice chair, and the Center Director will constitute the Executive Team of the EIC
 - c. The Executive Team will work together to coordinate the activities the EIC
 - d. It is envisioned that the vice chair will normally become the chair
 - e. The chair and vice chair should alternate representing the industry and non-industry sectors of the EIC, respectively

Current Members of the CRIS Emerging Issues Committee:



Charlie Arnot, CEO, Center for Food Integrity



Patrizia Barone, Regional Regulatory Affairs Vice President, Unilever



Darrell Boverhof, Director, TERC, The Dow Chemical Company



Sam Cohen, Havlik-Wall Professor of Oncology, University of Nebraska Medical Center



Paul Howard, Associate Director, Office of Scientific Coordination, Food and Drug Administration (FDA)



Jieun Lee, Principal Food Toxicologist, Kellogg



Tim Phillips, Professor, Texas A&M University



George Pugh, Director, Ingredient Safety, Global Scientific and Regulatory Affairs, Coca-Cola Co.



Joseph Scimeca, Vice President, Global Regulatory and Scientific Affairs, Cargill, Inc.



Rusty Thomas, Director of the National Center for Computational Toxicology (NCCT), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)