



*The Scientific Association Dedicated
to Analytical Excellence[®]*

The Method Committee

John Szpylka
Member, Official Methods Board

September 2009

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- **Today's Takeaways**
 - **Seeing the logic of the Method Committee.**
 - **Understanding the role of the Method Committee.**
 - **The MC alongside other players (Study Director, etc.).**



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The Previous Process

- **Standing committees organized by interest groups (Nutrition, Microbiological, others).**
- **Methods were assigned to a Committee.**
 - Sometimes not an easy fit.



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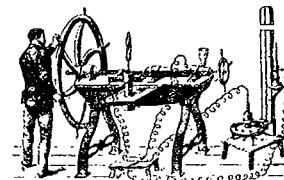
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The Previous Process

- **Everything funneled through a General Referee.**
 - The Study Director was agreed upon.
- **After the Collaborative Study:**
 - Committee voted to send method to OMB.
 - After that, final approval.



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Overview of the Current Process

- **Communities and Stakeholders come together.**
 - Recognize and define the need.
 - Create an Expert Review Panel if needed.
 - Perform Single Lab Validation.
 - Design a multi-lab study.
- **Submit application to AOAC Int'l**
 - AOACI makes sure all items present.



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- **Method Application:**
 - Proposal
 - Background
 - Concept
 - SLV
 - Method Performance
 - Quality Assurance
 - Multilab study design
 - Recommendations for SD, experts



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- **Once a complete package is submitted**
 - the method proposal goes to the OMB.
- **The OMB creates the Method Committee**
 - an ad-hoc committee focused on the specific method
 - Contains the expertise to perform an evaluation of an attribute within the defined scope.

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- **A Method Committee**
 - 3 to 5 voting members
 - Up to 4 non-voting advisors
 - **Method is given a title following a standard convention**
 - e.g., Method Committee for Pesticides in Soft Drinks
 - **The Study Director**
 - external to the MC
 - works alongside MC

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- **Makeup of the Method Committee**
 - **Voting Members**
 - **Chair**
 - **2 to 4 experts from the Panel of Experts**
 - **Safety Advisor (required)**
 - **Statistics Advisor (required)**
 - **Optional Topic Advisor**
 - **Optional process advisor (GR)**

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OMB Oversight

- **The Method Committee is appointed by the OMB**

- **OMB meets monthly to track progress**

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- **The Study Director**
 - **There can be co-Study Directors**
 - **Training opportunity**
 - **Assigned by OMB**
 - **From recommendations**
 - **From Pool of Experts**

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- **MC chair collects Method Committee comments**
 - **Frequent conversations (teleconference, email, etc.)**
 - **Forwards comments to SD**
- **SD reviews protocol**
- **Discussions between SD & MC**
- **Approval by MC and SD**

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- **SD orchestrates collab**
 - **Essentially the same process as before**
 - **Contacts labs**
 - **Prepares samples**
 - **Collects data**
 - **Performs evaluation of data**
 - **Can receive assistance from Stats Rep, Safety Rep, etc.**
 - **Writes manuscript**

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- **After collab is complete**
 - **SD submits manuscript to MC (additional advisors are if needed)**
- **MC reviews and discusses with SD**
- **MC recommends First Action, no FA, or revisions.**
- **First Action status relayed to OMB**
- **SD can appeal to OMB**

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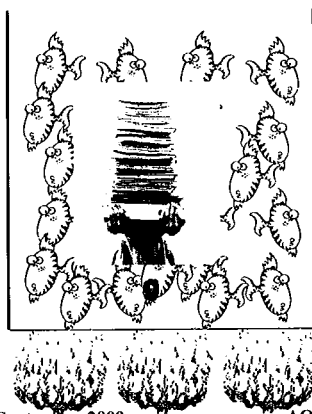
- **MC disbands**
 - **Final Report to OMB at retirement**
 - **Hoopla**
 - **Drinks**
 - **Committee members list retained**
 - **Annual Report for OMB Review**

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