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## **The Method Committee**

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**Member, Official Methods Board**

September 2010

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



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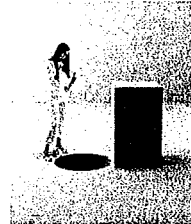
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## The Previous Process

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



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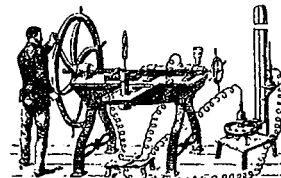
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## The Previous Process

- **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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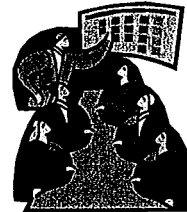
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## Overview of the Current Process

- **Communities and Stakeholders come together.**
  - Recognize and define the need.
  - 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 — *optional*
  - 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.



- **A Method Committee**
  - 3 to 5 people
  - 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**
  - **Chair**
  - **2 to 4 experts from the Panel of Experts**
  - **Safety advisor**
  - **Statistics advisor**
  - **Topic advisor (e.g., SD)**
  - **Optional process advisor (GR)**
- **The MC is appointed by the OMB**
- **OMB tracks 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**
    - **Writes manuscript**

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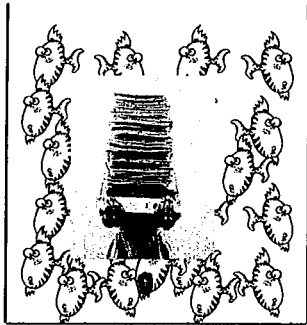
- **After collab is complete**
  - SD submits manuscript to MC (& additional advisors if needed)
- **MC reviews and discusses with SD**
- **MC recommends First Action, no FA, or revisions.**
- **SD can appeal to OMB**
- **Publish if okay**



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



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