

**Center for Research on Ingredient Safety (CRIS)**  
**External Advisory Committee (EAC)**  
**Charter (October 6, 2016)**

Michigan State University (MSU), with encouragement from the consumer products industry, non-government organizations, senior government representatives, and academics, established the Center for Research on Ingredient Safety (CRIS) in 2014. The founders established CRIS to serve as an academic center of expertise on matters related to the safe use of ingredients in the broad-based range of consumer packaged goods including foods, beverages, cosmetics, household care, personal care, and other product types.

During initial discussions CRIS' founders were clear that the Center needed to be established with a structure that would enable it to deliver information, research, training, and analysis on the safe use of consumer product ingredients free from untoward influence by special interests. The founders also considered it essential that mechanisms be established to ensure that CRIS operates programs aligned with the expectations of its members, and is managed effectively. The founders agreed that MSU would establish a team called the External Advisory Committee (EAC) that would have responsibility for ensuring that these imperatives are achieved in an appropriately balanced manner.

## **FUNCTIONS OF THE EAC**

The EAC has two functions:

1. Support CRIS in maintaining independence of its academic outputs from the interests of CRIS members and other interested parties in order to ensure the integrity and credibility of information delivered by the Center's scientists.
2. Provide support needed to help ensure CRIS develops and effectively executes strategies and actions focused on solving problems aligned with the priorities of CRIS stakeholders.

These dual roles are important. On the one hand, the EAC will need to help ensure that all scientific outputs (publications, opinions, press statements, etc) are of high quality and independent from untoward influence by special interests. On the other hand, the EAC will represent CRIS member's by making sure that CRIS programs are aligned to stakeholders' priorities and are operating effectively.

Specific activities to be carried out by the EAC:

- (1) Support CRIS in development and updating of its Vision, Mission, Objectives, Goals, Strategies and performance measures.

- (2) Provide support to CRIS staff as needed to ensure the overall effectiveness of the program.
- (3) Support CRIS in maintaining independence of its academic outputs from the interests of CRIS members and other interested parties in order to ensure the integrity and credibility of information delivered by the Center's scientists.
- (4) Provide support needed to help ensure CRIS develops and effectively executes strategies and actions focused on solving problems aligned with the priorities of CRIS stakeholders:
  - a. Provide a view to the CRIS Director and the members of the Internal Advisory Committee (IAC), as appropriate, on CRIS performance against agreed measures at least once per year, or more frequently as may be needed.
  - b. Review the status of the endowment and CRIS budget on a regular frequency. Provide guidance to the CRIS Director to help ensure the adequacy and stability of funding needed to support the Center.
  - c. Engage with the IAC and MSU leadership to support implementation of performance improvement plans in the event that such action is needed.
- (5) Assist CRIS in growing support for the work done by the Center:
  - a. Recruiting new CRIS members.
  - b. Procuring outside sources of funding for research projects.
- (6) Make recommendations to the IAC for new committee members for both the EAC and the Emerging Issues Committee when the terms of committee members conclude.

## **EAC MEETINGS:**

The EAC shall meet formally at least once per year, or more often as the EAC Executive Team (defined below) may determine is appropriate. The meetings will be open to EAC members and the CRIS Director. Guests may attend with the agreement of the majority of EAC members. The EAC may also hold Executive Sessions that would include EAC members only. An Executive Session of the EAC may only be called if a quorum of half the members and reflecting all sectors are present.

## **STRUCTURE AND OPERATION OF THE EAC**

CRIS is envisioned to be a new partnership between academia, industry, government, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) focused on chemical-based ingredient safety. The optimal structure of the EAC reflects the commitment of the Center to diversity and balance, 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 EAC:
  - a. The members of the EAC will serve on a rotating basis to ensure opportunity for many to serve
  - b. Ideally, one third of the members of the EAC, 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 EAC after sitting out a full term
- (3) Appointment of members to the EAC:
  - 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 EAC will be appointed by the IAC in accordance with the CRIS Bylaws
- (4) EAC Operations:
  - a. The members of the EAC 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 EAC
  - c. The Executive Team will work together to coordinate the activities the EAC
  - 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 EAC, respectively

**Current Members CRIS External Advisory Committee:**



**Corey Berends**, Senior Vice President, Research, Quality and Innovation, Con Agra Foods



**Alan Boobis**, Professor, Imperial College of London



**Leon Bruner**, Senior Vice President, Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA)



**John Bucher**, Associate Director, National Toxicology Program (NTP), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)



**Suzanne Fitzpatrick**, Senior Science Policy Advisor, Center for Food Safety and Nutrition (CFSAN), Food and Drug Administration (FDA)



**A. Wally Hayes**, Visiting Faculty, Harvard University and Adjunct Professor, University of South Florida, College of Public Health



**Timothy Haley**, Director of Regulatory Affairs, Bush Brothers and Company



**Richard Lane**, Director of Corporate Scientific Affairs, PepsiCo.



**David Tonucci**, Global Head, Product Safety & Regulatory, Flavours, Givaudan Flavors Corp.



**Connie Weaver**, Distinguished Professor and Department Head, Purdue University