



Advocacy Committee

Judy Duncan, Chair





Mission

- The Advocacy Committee is charged with promoting the efforts of TNI nationally.





Role of Advocacy

- The Advocacy Committee will:
 - Establish relationships with other organizations (e.g., ACIL, AWWA, WEF) that have an interest in accreditation issues.
 - Establish relationships with EPA program offices.
 - Develop presentations and papers to promote national accreditation.
 - Develop presentations and papers to promote TNI.
 - Provide outreach at national, regional and local meetings.
 - Assist with publication of the member newsletter.



Membership

- Lara Autry
- Lynn Bradley
- Judy Duncan
- Kenneth Jackson
- Martina McGarvey
- Susan Wyatt
- Zonetta English
- Paula Hogg
- Elizabeth Turner
- Gary Ward
- Michael Wichman
- Keith Chapman, SLA

Associate Members

- Kirstin Daigle
- Judy Morgan
- Steve Arms
- Aurora Shields
- JoAnn Boyd

Staff

- Jerry Parr
- Carol Batterton



Agenda

- Report on accomplishments
- Policy for use of TNI presentations
- Outreach to non-NEELAP states
- Planning for future newsletters
- SLAG update
- Other topics from this week





Accomplishments

(Since August 2011)

- Database of state accreditation programs
 - TNI developed database listing all states and accreditation program information, NELAP and non-NELAP
 - Database is live and can be accessed through TNI website
 - States and others encouraged to view and submit corrections if any noted
 - View at <http://www.nelac-institute.org/abdb.php>





Accreditation Body Database

All **NELAP** STATE

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▲ Accreditation Body ▼	▲ State ▼	Website	More...
Alaska Dept of Environmental Conservation	AK	Visit AB website	
Alabama Department of Environmental Management	AL	Visit AB website	Details
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality	AR	Visit AB website	
Arkansas Department of Health	AR	Visit AB website	
Arizona Department of Health Services	AZ	Visit AB website	
California Department of Public Health	CA	Visit AB website	
California Department of Public Health	CA	Visit AB website	
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment	CO	Visit AB website	
Connecticut Department of Public Health	CT	Visit AB website	
Delaware Department of Health and Social Services-Division of Public health	DE	Visit AB website	
Florida Department of Health	FL	Visit AB website	
Georgia Dept of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division	GA	Visit AB website	
Hawaii Department of Health	HI	Visit AB website	

Accreditation Body Profile

Florida Department of Health

1217 Pearl Street

Jacksonville, FL 32202
904/791-1500



NELAP Accrediting Body: NELAP
 Recognizes accreditation from NELAP ABs: Yes
 Accreditation required: Y if submitting data to FDEP, FDOH
 Labs required to obtain accreditation: All
 Reciprocity agreements: Y-NELAP states

Accreditation Program Contact:	Laboratory Contact:
Stephen Arms steve_arms@doh.state.fl.us 904/791-1502	Stephen Arms steve_arms@doh.state.fl.us 904/791-1502

Fields of Accreditation

DW	NPW	SCM	Air	Tissue	Rad
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other:					

Fees

\$200 Application fee + \$200 subsequent application for each Field of Acc. Certification fees: Chemistry/Toxicity/Microscopy/Microbiology=\$500 (4 or more categories within 1 FOA=\$2000); Rad=\$500

Accreditation Program Type

NELAP	NELAP-like	SDWA	17025
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:			

Related Websites:

www.doh.state.fl.us/lab/PDF_Files/WaterCert/rule64e1.pdf



Accomplishments

- Updated brochures
 - Information on TNI programs needed for presentations and outreach
 - Developed brochure for each program
 - TNI folder can be customized with program brochures for each outreach opportunity





Accomplishments

- Benefits of NELAP
 - ABs and others frequently called on to justify need for participation in national accreditation program
 - Jerry Parr developed a presentation for ABs and others to use
 - May also be useful tool for outreach to non-NELAP states



Accomplishments

- Articles for WEF Lab Solutions
 - Concern about reaching labs not involved in accreditation programs
 - Developed schedule for regular submission of articles to WEF:
 - ✦ TNI update
 - ✦ Small Lab Handbook
 - ✦ Benefits of a Quality System
 - ✦ Changes in the PT Program
 - ✦ TNI training opportunities





Accomplishments

- Participation in APHL and ASDWA
 - TNI had an exhibitor booth at the APHL and ASDWA Annual Conferences
 - A joint TNI/APHL task force has made recommendations to the Advocacy Committee on ways to persuade more state primacy labs to seek NELAP accreditation
 - A paper was presented at the ASDWA Annual Conference to emphasize the advantages of NELAP accreditation for primacy labs
 - An abstract for a poster on primacy lab accreditation is being submitted for the APHL Annual Conference in 2012



Accomplishments

- Response to ELAB
 - Responded to ELAB request for information on the health of national accreditation, current strengths, challenges and possible solutions





Accomplishments

- Draft Position Papers developed
 - Demonstration of Method Competency
 - Recognition of NELAP Accreditation Bodies
 - Consensus (balanced representation)
- Drafts out for review and comment from affected committees





TNI Presentations

- Advocacy Committee recognized need for easy access to presentations about TNI
- Numerous presentations available from Board members and staff
- Needed policy to manage, so we send a consistent message and don't re-invent the wheel each time
- Elements of the policy will include:
 - Where the presentations would be located
 - Who would have access
 - Notification to TNI by persons using the presentations (venue, etc.)





Outreach to States Not Participating in TNI

- Some states participated in NELAC, but have not participated in the last 5-6 years
- Much has changed; what is the best way to reach these states and get them up to speed on the new organization and new opportunities?
- How should we go about encouraging them to participate again?





Planning for Future Newsletters: 2012

- April Newsletter
 - Editor: Elizabeth Turner
 - Articles due: March 15? Publication: April 15?
- July Newsletter
 - Editor: Keith Chapman
 - Articles due: June 15? Publication: July 15?
- November Newsletter
 - Editor: ????
 - Articles due: Oct. 1? Publication: Nov. 1





Suggestions for April articles???

□ Discussion





SLAG Update



Other Topics

- Method Update Rule?
- OW letter?





Next Steps

