# TNI Board of Directors Meeting Summary February 11, 2009

# 1. Roll Call and Approval of December and January Minutes

Directors	Present
Joe Aiello	Yes
Steve Arms	Yes
Judith Duncan	Yes
Jack Farrell	Yes
Ken Jackson□	Yes
Tom McAninch	Yes
Sharon Mertens	No
Judy Morgan	Yes
Ken Olson	Yes
Aurora Shields	Yes
Matt Sica	No
Alfredo Sotomayor	Yes
Dave Speis	Yes
Curtis Wood	Yes
Bob Wyeth	No
Ex-Officio Directors	
Brooke Connor	Yes
Deb Szaro (Kevin Kubek)	Yes
George Detsis	No
Edward Hartzog (Gordon Ellison)	Yes
Staff	
Carol Batterton	No
Jerry Parr	Yes
Ilona Taunton	Yes
Jane Wilson	No
Janice Wlodarski	Yes

December 2008 meeting minutes approval deferred until March meeting.

January 2009 meeting minutes – changes to be made:

- 1. "6" Board members are up for re-election instead of 5.
- 2. Action Plan for Field Activities will be monthly report in the future. There will always be a program report for every program.
- 3. Item 7 "performing" misspelled.

Motion to approve with changes:

Motion: Jack Farrell Second: Judy Morgan

All in Favor: ALL

# 2. 2008 Financial Report

Preliminary 2009 Budget was presented but review postponed until the March meeting.

The Finance Committee will be providing a financial report for the membership that can be posted on the website. They are still looking for a good format/examples to draw from.

Currently ~2% in the red. Some budget dollars have not been included because we are waiting for them to come through from EPA and didn't want to count them until they are received.

2008 large expenditure was NELAP. We need to move the self-funding of the NELAP Board and activities into the foreground – to be resolved early this year. Carol will make sure it's on the NELAP Board agenda.

Statements will continue to be provided to the Board on a quarterly basis.

# 3. 2008 Annual Report

See Attachment I. This is a report that is presented to Lara Autry/EPA every year detailing TNI activities and accomplishments – items covered by the EPA grants. It contains information on ALL our activities, not just what EPA is supporting. It's good information – should we use this as a basis for an annual report?

Comments: Would be good to show what we've done as an organization and be posted on the website. It's a good summary; it shows progress. Call it an annual report and add some editorial comment to it. Roll in the financial information, format it nicely, and publish as an annual report. As an annual report, the information would have to be up to date. Non-applicable items removed.

Consensus that Jerry and staff continue to work on this as an Annual Report.

## 4. Implementation of the TNI Laboratory Standards

See *NELAP Board Recommendation (1-14-09-v0).doc* document for full details of LASC Recommendations to Implement Current TNI Standards for Accreditation Programs. Actions needed in the near future are shown in the table below:

TASK	WHEN
Consensus Standards Development Board	
Decide if editorial changes or TIAs are needed	February 2009
Laboratory Accreditation System Committee	
<ul> <li>Work with NELAP and CSDP on any issues that arise</li> </ul>	
Expert Committees	
Make any needed editorial changes or TIAs	
NELAP Board	
Adopt recommendations of LASC	March 31, 2009
Implement new standards	July 2010
Technical Assistance Committee	
Revise the Quality Manual template to be consistent with the new	August 2009
standards	
<ul> <li>Develop and schedule regional workshops on the new standards</li> </ul>	Spring/Fall 2009
<ul> <li>Develop guidance, SOPS, etc, as requested for implementation</li> </ul>	July 2009

# 5. TNI Meeting in San Antonio

General consensus is that the format is good and the plan not to hold committee meetings is appropriate (committee meetings could be held informally, if necessary). This conference will be more issue-oriented. See Attachment 2 for draft format. TNI meetings are shown in blue.

# 6. Action Items from Miami

See Attachment 3 for assignments to action items from the minutes from Miami.

# 7. Next Meeting: March 11, 2009

# Attachment 1 The NELAC Institute Summary of Activities and Accomplishments Calendar Year 2008

#### **General Administration**

- The winter meeting of the Forum on Laboratory Accreditation was held in Newport, CA, on January 2008 with 235 attendees.
- The Environmental Measurement Symposium (a joint meeting with the National Environmental Monitoring Conference (NEMC)) was held in Washington, DC, on August 11-15, 2008 with 469 attendees.
- The TNI Board finalized the operational plan.
- The TNI Board hired an additional staff member, Ilona Taunton, to serve as technical manager.
- TNI requested additional cooperative agreement funding from EPA to complete standards implementation and develop a methods compendium.
- The Policy Committee has developed basic operational policies and procedures to guide the organization.

#### **Standards Development**

- TNI has completed new standards for environmental laboratories and field measurement and sampling organizations. The new standards were posted on the TNI website in July 2008.
- The Laboratory Accreditation Systems Committee (LASC) has begun reviewing the new standards
  and will make recommendations for policy and/or guidance documents. The LASC will then pass the
  standard on to the NELAP Board with a recommendation as to whether the standards are ready for
  implementation. LASC will present recommendations at the Miami meeting in January 2009.
- State accreditation bodies (ABs) must then review and adopt the standards for implementation. This process is projected to be complete by spring 2009.
- The Accreditation Body Expert Committee is exploring options for recognizing states with accreditation programs that are not NELAP ABs.
- The Stationary Source Audit Sample (SSAS) expert committee has been formed to develop a standard for air stationary source audit samples.

#### National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP)

- The NELAP Board initiated the process to renew accreditation body recognitions for 9 of the current ABs. Paul Ellingson was hired to serve as Quality Assurance Officer for the process. EPA provided staff to serve as the Evaluation Coordinator and regional staff to assist in the evaluations. In 2008, the evaluation process has been completed and recognition renewed for 6 of the ABs. Three are still in process. Another 4 ABs will be evaluated in 2009.
- Standards Interpretation Requests are being processed but are taking significant effort.
- One state (Virginia) will be joining NELAP in 2009 and another state (Minnesota) is planning to join NELAP within the next two years.

#### **Laboratory Accreditation System**

- The standards interpretations process was finalized and a form posted on the TNI website to allow individuals to request an interpretation of the TNI standards. The process is now well underway.
- The website is still in development for posting the final responses. They will be posted by section of
  the standard to make it easier for people to find questions related to specific parts of the standard.
  The TNI webmaster is also looking at search capabilities and the possibility of pulling up parts of the
  standard as the question is reviewed.
- The LASC has completed review of the new TNI standard and will report on their review in Miami.

#### **TNI Website Enhancements**

TNI's subcontractor completely rebuilt the TNI website so that members can more fully participate in
the consensus standards development process and to provide additional technical assistance.
Enhancements include a better voting system, a system to process committee membership
applications according to the TNI policy, a secure area where members can access and download
accreditation standards, and improvements in the Accreditation Help page with additional templates
and tools.

#### **Technical Assistance**

- The Technical Assistance Committee's (TAC) technical SOP template for labs and administrative SOP template have been approved.
- The TAC successfully organized and presented the Assessment Forum and Mentoring Session at the Forum meeting in January in Newport, CA, and the Environmental Measurement Symposium in Washington, DC.
- TAC and the NELAP board collaborated to deliver a webinar mentoring session for states applying to become accreditation bodies.
- TAC will sponsor the Assessment Forum in Miami covering changes to the PT module in the new standards and method modifications.
- TAC will also hold a mentoring session for new AB applicants and a session covering changes to the Quality Systems requirements in the new standard in Miami.
- The TAC presented a proposal for the approval and review of training that is offered/recommended by TNI. The process has been approved by the TNI Board and incorporated into a draft SOP.
- TAC is planning to partner with regional lab organizations to deliver seminars outlining changes in the new accreditation standards.

#### **National Database Development and Management**

• NFSTC's contractors have been work to build the laboratory accreditation database and are consulting with TNI's National Database Committee as needed.

#### **Advocacy**

- TNI continued to explore the possibility of developing a scaleable standard to make it easier for small laboratories to obtain accreditation. This effort involved meetings with stakeholders, including the Water Environment Federation, American Water Works Association, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, American Council of Independent Laboratories, and the Association of Public Health Laboratories. TNI has also coordinated with EPA's water program offices on accreditation needs for their respective programs. Another round of stakeholder meetings will be scheduled in early 2009 to present the new standard and discuss PT frequency issues.
- A small lab advocate was appointed to represent the interests of small laboratories in TNI activities and programs.
- The committee is reviewing data on DMRQA costs for government laboratories in order to assess the impact of 1 vs. 2 PTs on small government labs.

#### **Proficiency Testing**

- The review of A2LA as a Proficiency Test Provider Accreditor has been completed. A final report
  was presented to the PT Board on their 12-18-08 conference call. TNI and A2LA have signed a
  Memorandum of Understanding delineating the respective roles of the two organizations in providing
  oversight of PT providers.
- The Board is looking at reorganizing the Fields of Proficiency Testing (FoPT) tables during their
  updates to ensure that headers and their meaning are clear to all users. There have been some
  misunderstandings in the past.
- TNI and EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance have had significant discussions surrounding EPA's Discharge Monitoring Report - Quality Assurance (DMRQA) program. EPA is

expected to withdraw the requirement for NELAC-accredited laboratories to participate in the DMRQA program in 2009.

#### Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee:

- The FoPT tables for microbiology were revised to be effective in January 2009. A PT provider has requested that the effective date of the DW FoPT table be extended to March 1, 2009 instead of January 1, 2009. The Board is contacting other PT providers to determine if they are also having implementation timing issues. The Board is also reviewing the standard to determine if more specific FoPT table implementation requirements are needed.

#### Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee:

- Requests for data have been sent to the PT Providers (Due Date: 1/31/09.)
- The subcommittee is working on updating the SOP that describes limit updates (TNI SOP #4-001). They have expedited this process so that the PT Board can finalize it before the subcommittee begins working with the data they have requested.

#### WET FoPT Subcommittee:

- The subcommittee plans to present WET FoPT tables to the PT Board on 12/18/08. The subcommittee is also preparing a presentation for Miami.

#### Attachment 2

# **Environmental Measurement Symposium Technical Program**

DRAFT 2/9/09

#### Monday, August 11

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 8:00 AM — 8:45 AM

• The Chemistry of Coffee

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 9:00 AM — 12:00 NOON

- ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY BOARD
- Mentoring Workshop: The New TNI Standards

#### 12:00 - 1:30 ATTENDEES LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

12:00 - 1:30 TNI Board and Committee Chairs (Working Lunch)

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:30 PM — 5:30 PM

- NEMC 1
- NEMC 2
- NEMC 3
- Proficiency Testing
  - Laboratory issuesFoPTs
- National Environmental Field Activities Program

## Tuesday, August 12

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 8:00 AM — 8:45 AM

• The Developmental Lifecycle of Commercial Laboratory Instrumentation

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 9:00 AM — 12:00 NOON

- NEMC 4
- NEMC 5
- **Proficiency Testing** 
  - o SSAS
  - o PT Providers
- Assessment Forum

#### 12:00 - 1:30 LUNCH

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:30 PM — 5:00 PM

- NEMC 6
- NEMC 7
- NEMC 8
- Assessment Forum

#### Wednesday, August 13

#### GENERAL SESSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: 8:00 AM — NOON

- USEPA Regulatory Agenda of the New Administration (the transition) Speaker will either be the new EPA Administrator or Deputy Administrator.
- Climate Change/Greenhouse Gases/Biofuels Speaker will either be from the Office of Air and Radiation (Brenner) or NOAA's Climate Program Office (Koblinsky).
- European Community's Approach to Environmental Management Speaker could be from the EU or the UN.
- Global perspective of the environment Speaker from the World Health Organization.

#### 12:00 - 1:30 LUNCH

#### **Regency Ballroom**

#### GENERAL SESSION ON NANOTECHNOLOGY: 1:30 PM — 5:00 PM

- International Alliance for Nano EHS Harmonization (IANH) Speaker, such as the chair, Kenneth Dawson of the Centre for BioNano Interactions at University of Dublin, to give a global/broad prospective on the issue.
- National Nanotechnology Initiative Speaker to give a Federal prospective on nanotechnology.
- Science Side of Nanotechnology Speaker from Duke or UCLA based on the articles of the formation of Environmental Institutes for Nanotech.
- Development/Products of Nanotechnology Speaker from Commercial side, possibly Battelle

#### Thursday, August 14

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 8:00 AM — 8:45 AM

Pharmaceuticals in Water

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 9:00 AM — 12:00 NOON

- NEMC 9
- NEMC 10
- NEMC 11
- National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
  - o Implementation of New Standards
  - o Building a National Program

#### 12:00 - 1:30 LUNCH

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:30 PM — 5:00 PM

- NEMC 12
- NEMC 13
- NEMC 14
- National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
  - Fields of Accreditation
  - National Database

#### Friday, August 15

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 8:00 AM — 8:45 AM

Health Effects of Exposure to Metallic Species

#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 9:00 AM — 12:00 NOON

- NEMC 15
- NEMC 16
- NEMC 17
- Committee/Program Reports

# Attachment 3 Action Items from Miami Board and Chairs Meeting

#### Field Activities - Marlene / Ilona

Implementation of the Field Activities Program strategic plan.

#### SW-846 Update IVB - Joe Aiello / Dave Speis

The majority of the Accreditation Bodies have agreed to drop the letter designation for the SW-846 method in their accreditations, but not all ABs will do this. One solution would be to accredit by technology, but the EPA OW would not accept that approach.

Jeff Flowers indicated that ELAB would be visiting with the EPA OSWER in Washington, D.C. to develop a process for handling this issue. Perhaps a member of the NELAP Board could attend this meeting as well. In the future, TNI should consider outreach to regulators who may be unaware of the complications of methods issues in accreditations. TAC could assist with this outreach.

#### Standards Interpretation Requests – Ilona / Jack

- The website needs to be revised to say that methods interpretation is not the function of the standards interpretation process.
- The website needs to say that while we are in the standards approval and adoption process, we may not respond to requests.
- Ilona will work with Jack Farrell to establish a template for responding to method related questions.
- We would like to provide the inquirer with some links to help them get an answer to their question.
- TAC should develop a plan for a long term solution to methods interpretation.

# **ELAB Report Comparing TNI and DW Standards – Jerry for TNI**

TNI form a work group to get back to ELAB with comments. The work group will consist of one member each from CSDB (Kirstin & Paul), Policy Committee (Bob), Jack Farrell, Jane Wilson and Jerry Parr. The review will focus on how the programs are similar, how they are different and how they can be brought together. Jerry will take the lead for TNI.

#### **Stationary Source Audit Sample**

- There is no established sector for this effort. Jerry noted that work is in progress to determine where this
  fits into the organization. May involve the PT Board. Policy Committee
- A2LA has indicated they want to do an additional onsite evaluation of PT providers who participate in this
  program. It would create additional cost for the PT providers. Jerry will visit with Randy Querry about
  this.
- The EPA program ends October 1, 2009, and most believe TNI needs to be ready to assume the program at that time; however, we still do not have all the information we need to set up the program. EPA has a database for states to enter audit samples results, but the A2LA PT database doesn't work for this purpose. Some think we may still be able to use EPA's database after Oct. 1. TNI should consider whether it will be possible to use the lab accreditation database being built with assistance for NFSTC. TNI should follow up with NFSTC on funding availability. We should also determine where this program fits within TNI's organizational structure. Jerry / Policy Committee
- Dan Hickman noted that we should consider using TNI method codes for any work done on the database.
  He also mentioned that he believes some of the elements of the needed database are similar to LAMS
  and that he should be consulted before anything gets started. Jerry is looking into how to get Dan access
  to the current EPA database so that he can evaluate how it might fit. Maria

# **Proficiency Testing**

Frequency of PT: the subcommittee working on the PT frequency issue doesn't have enough information to make a recommendation yet. The key question that needs to be answered is "What is the purpose of PTs?" Jerry will look at the CNAEL report and early PT minutes to see if we can determine what the early thinking was. Kirstin expects something to be ready by the San Antonio meeting. Unlikely resolution will come through in the next few months and not with new standards, but the next cycle of standards.

GLEMP: A group was formed (Ilona Taunton, Bob Wyeth, Judy, Dave Spies, **Curtis Woods**) to work on this. A meeting with ERA and GLEMP may be a consideration. This group will consider the issue and come back to the TNI Board with recommendations.

#### Assessor Uniformity - Jack

Several remarked that assessor uniformity was brought up as an issue several times during the conference and that assessor uniformity needs to be emphasized more as we move forward with the new standards. Jack Farrell indicated that this would be a good topic for an Assessment Forum. Some aspects of that training could include development of an assessment SOP, steps to a successful assessment, what you thought was a deficiency really isn't. The definition of consistency needs to be established to move forward successfully with this training. We can ask labs with more than one accreditation to provide examples of inconsistencies.

#### **Organizational Structure – Policy Committee**

NELAP Board: Need to add an EPA person as ex officio to the NELAP Board, and also provision for associate members.

Bylaws: The Policy committee will draft bylaws changes. Changes for Field Activities may be needed as well

QA: Need to consider adding a function for QA feedback to the TNI Board on the activities of the NELAP Board. This function could mirror the old AARB with annual review and report.

#### **Advocacy – Policy Committee**

Help for state agencies: The TNI Board (Jerry / Judy Morgan) should put together a letter ASAP to state agencies about the value of the NELAP accreditation program.

#### **Administrative – Policy Committee**

Policies: The new document control policy is effective April 2009. **Jerry** will schedule a meeting with staff to review.

Annual committee reports: TNI bylaws require each committee to submit an annual report. The Policy committee is working on an example to share. Committees will be required to review their old charters and submit new ones.

# Attachment 4 Program Reports

# February 10, 2009

#### **Consensus Standards Development**

- Expert Committees are reviewing editorial revisions to their TNI modules as suggested by the LASC review.
- TIAs are being developed by some Expert Committees in response to LASC comments. These plans
  were discussed by the committees in Miami. Public comment has closed on the 2 TIAs proposed by
  the Accreditation Body Committee and they plan to discuss comments to the TIAs at their February
  meeting.
- The Stationary Source Audit Sample Expert Committee has compiled all comments received on the
  three working draft standards, and has started review of comments for incorporation and
  development of the voting draft standards. The Expert Committee has also formed a subcommittee to
  work on development of a central database to house audit sample data (to replace database currently
  administered by EPA). The subcommittee has met once.

#### **NELAP**

- There are 2 AB renewals pending from the first round. CA has a second corrective action response pending. FL has asked for an extension for their corrective action response. A recommendation for approval of the NJ program has been forwarded to the NELAP Board.
- In the second round, IL, OR, and TX technical reviews have been completed. LADEQ technical review is underway.
- The SW-846 issue is still in discussion. Most, but not all ABs, are comfortable with dropping the letter designation on the method for accreditation purposes. The issue was put in the parking lot for continued discussion at the next meeting.
- The NELAP Board will begin review of the LASC's recommendations on the new standards at their next meeting (Feb.23).

#### **Technical Assistance**

- TAC organized and delivered wildly successful assessment forums and mentoring sessions in Miami. Based on comments received, subjects for the San Antonio meeting are being planned.
- TAC will begin discussing regional workshops for training labs on the new TNI standards at their next meeting.
- Ilona and Brooke are working revisions to the quality manual template to be consistent with the new standards.
  - A meeting needs to be planned with Quality Systems to determine the best method for moving forward.
  - The next step will be to finalize a more detailed list of section content and then begin looking for volunteers to help with these section updates.
- TAC will put standards interpretation requests regarding methods modifications on hold pending a revised procedure.

#### Advocacy

- Len Schantz reported that he had received responses from 10 labs that are interested in being part of a small lab focus group. He will plan a conference call. A flier promoting small lab outreach will be developed for use by TNI members at local conferences and presentations.
- Pat Conlon is editor of the next TNI newsletter which is scheduled to come out on March 3.

- Deb Szaro has invited Judy Duncan and Jerry Parr to participate in a conference call with EPA Regional Science and Technology Directors. Additional outreach to EPA regional staff and laboratories is also being planned.
- A conference call is being planned with Greg Carroll, Deb Szaro, Jerry, and an AB to discuss ways EPA can express support for state accreditation programs experiencing budgetary crisis.
- The March call of the committee will focus on the information gathered from Judy's survey in future out reach efforts and to identify problems that may exist.

#### **Laboratory Accreditation System Committee**

- The LASC has completed review of the new TNI standard and has presented the NELAP Board of Directors with a list of recommendations. The LASC is expecting comments back from the Board by the end of the month. The LASC will then work with the Consensus Standards Development Program to make any needed changes.
- A copy of the NELAP Board Recommendation has been distributed as a separate document with this agenda.
- Standards Interpretation Request process:
  - 2 new requests were received in January. All new requests will be received, but people will be informed that the process may take longer to accommodate the time needed for finalization and implementation of the TNI Standard. The NELAP Board has completed review on a few more responses and final letters will be submitted to the inquirers this week. The website will also be updated this month to inform inquirers of this change and to clarify what the process should be used for.
  - Ilona provided open questions for the TAC Assessment Forum. Input from the meeting will be forwarded to the NELAP Board to assist them in responding to the open questions.
  - Dan Hickman and Ilona still need to work with William to look for alternative methods of storing the files to make them more easily accessible as the committees work through their responses. The process is currently all done via e-mail.

#### PT Board

- Eric Smith from TestAmerica Nashville will be the new PT Board Chair for 2009.
- The PT Board has completed their review of A2LA. The overall assessment went well. The main finding was that the database has not been fully implemented. The PT Board will continue to work with A2LA on this until it has been completed.
- The Board announced their decision on the future handling of Experimental PTs. They discussed 4
  options initially raised in Washington, DC and decided on Option C:

Discontinue the use of Experimental Analyte Tables. Each new analyte would now be added directly to the accreditation tables and a default study mean of +/- 3 standard deviations would be applied to that parameter until sufficient data is generated to determine better analyte specific acceptance criteria.

The Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee is now working on implementing this decision. They hope to have Draft tables complete by April and hope to have these preliminary updates to the tables finalized by July 2009.

#### WET FoPT Subcommittee:

New tables have been completed and submitted to the PT Board for review during their February teleconference.

## **National Database**

- The subcommittee met in Miami. The meeting included the following discussion items:
  - The database is currently not designed to handle non-NELAP states, though it is a goal that it be able to handle this in the future. The TNI Board will need to consider how to charge for this.
  - A number of committee members asked if the database could be automated to inform a laboratory when changes are made to their information in the database. This will be taken under consideration and may be a possibility for a charge.
  - There was also consideration given to the possibility that a new AB may want to use the database as their own database instead of designing a custom database. The database would need some additional information and the TNI Board would have to consider how to charge for this.
  - The database needs to be wrapped up by October.
  - A TNI Administrator will be needed to deal with things like method codes, adding lab info when there is a switch between primary ABs, etc ...
  - In the future, could the database be used for labs to electronically apply for accreditation?
  - Are there opportunities for the system to pay for itself? The following items were considered:
    - A charge for access would be applied if the database is used more than x times.
    - The database could only be accessed by members though many felt this would limit the accessibility of the information and they did not that aspect.
    - If a vendor is downloading information on labs certified for a certain type of test, there would be a charge for something like this.
    - Limit the type of access. If you need more access, there is a subscription charge.
       This could be limited by frequency of use or type of information available.
    - The labs can add information to the comment section for a fee website address? (The labs present were not in favor of the site becoming a marketing tool. The "google" idea of paying to have your lab at the top of a list when a specific type of testing is requested was not supported by the labs present at the meeting.)
    - Find additional uses for the database (AB Database, use of database by non-NELAP states, change notifications, etc...)
  - Next steps prior to finalization of the database include:
    - Dealing with multiple primaries.
    - Give access to committee members for testing.
    - Compare product to original deliverables request.
    - Analyte codes need to be finalized.
    - ABs need to be entered into the system.
    - TNI function to upload initial state updates??
    - Non-responsibility caveat needs to be added to multiple pages.

#### **NEFAP**

Field Activities committee meeting schedule for February 10 to begin work on this effort.

#### Website

- Will begin effort to review national database.
- · Established voting system for Board election

#### **Policy**

No meeting since Miami

#### **Finance**

Draft of 2009 budget completed; will present for Board review at the March meeting.

Meeting in Miami on long-term funding ideas; committee will continue to develop.

# **Environmental Measurement Symposium (NEMC plus TNI Forum in San Antonio)**

- Plan for managing abstracts finalized.
- Call for Papers at printer; email announcement to go out on 2/12.
- RFP for training courses sent out.
- EPA Administrator likely as keynote speaker.
- Preliminary plan for TNI portion of meeting developed.

# **Membership**

• Active Members: 594