

# **TNI PT Program Executive Committee Meeting Summary**

**February 18, 2021**

## 1. Roll call, approval of minutes and overview:

Chair, Shawn Kassner, called the TNI PT Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) meeting to order at 1pm Eastern on February 18, 2021 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were thirteen (13) members present. Associate members present: Craig Huff, Tim Miller, Mike Blades, Reggie Morgan, Amy DeMarco, Susan Jackson, Nicole Cairns, and Eric Smith.

Shawn asked for confirmation that everyone received the agenda and meeting information.

The December, two sets of January meeting minutes and the joint session minutes regarding WET PTs were distributed by email for review.

A motion was made by Fred to approve the

- December 17, 2021 minutes as written with a correction to the number of voting members present and “regulated” vs “unregulated” should be checked on with Jennifer Best before posting.
- January 21, 2021 minutes as written.
- January 28, 2021 minutes as written.
- January 25, 2021 joint session minutes as written with a spelling correction of “exists” instead of “exits”.

The motion was seconded by Jennifer Duhon. Vote: 13 – For, 0 – Against and 1-Abstain (Carl – he didn’t attend the virtual conference). The motion was approved. Ilona will share the joint session minutes with Lynn and Rami when they are posted.

There was a change made to the agenda – Michella is not rotating off. She has one more year left.

## 2. Update

Shawn requested data for PFAS and residuals. Shawn talked to William about the database. He would like each of the Chairs of the FoPT Subcommittees to be able to pull data from the database. He will follow-up on this. Shawn will make sure an email goes out to each of the Chairs when this becomes possible.

The joint meeting was a good meeting. WET will be looking at making changes to their quality program and adopting the changes to their Standard. There are also changes that the PT Expert Committee will look at additions to Volume 1 Module 1. The meeting minutes can be reviewed.

Membership: There are 3 new members joining the Committee – Prasanth, Sennett, and Patrick Selig. The Committee will need to discuss Michella's role when she steps off next year. There is another candidate from Millipore Sigma, so we will look at that. Ilona mentioned that Eric should consider turning in an application for voting membership since he's been off voting membership for a year.

### 3. WET FoPT Subcommittee

Shawn would like to form a WET FoPT Subcommittee. There is work to be done. A motion was made by Fred to form a WET FoPT Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Andy and unanimously approved.

Shawn will reach out to Rami and the WET Expert Committee to begin developing the subcommittee.

### 4. SOP 4-101:

The Subcommittee has taken it as far as they can. We now need to form a workgroup of people made-up of the SOP Subcommittee and Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee. Carl Kircher and Mike Blades have volunteered from the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee. Eric will invite Carl and Mike to the next SOP Subcommittee meeting on March 12, 2021. This will give Carl and Mike a chance to review the current version of the SOP.

Carl asked for a copy of the current version of the DRAFT SOP. Ilona forwarded it to both Mike and Carl. It was suggested to look at it in Simple Mark-up mode to make it more readable. Shawn thanked everyone for their involvement and emphasized the importance of this SOP.

### 5. FoPT Tables

PTRL definitions were updated and Shawn looked at analyte numbers. The Committee needs to discuss effective dates.

There are 2 additional changes he made regarding HEM and HEM-Silica Gel treated. He had discussions by email with Jerry Parr and Dan Hickman. Shawn let them know the impact of these changes on labs, PT providers and ABs. There are numerous databases that will need to be updated. PTPAs are also impacted. Shawn is concerned that some of these changes were never put through on an ARA.

Craig noted that making analyte code changes is a big deal. Jennifer Duhon agreed with this. There is a big impact and analyte codes need to stay consistent.

Ilona asked about the use of an ARA for these types of changes. This hasn't been done in the past. There are communication issues with the IT Committee and we need to communicate better. Shawn feels strongly that changes need to be done through the ARA.

The Committee needs to take a look at SOP 4-107 and make sure there aren't any changes needed. The Committee is asked to review it and send comments on email by next Friday, 1-26-21. If it looks like we want to make changes, we need to let the Policy Committee know to stop their further review of this SOP until an update is submitted. *(Addition: Updates do need to be made so Ilona had this removed from the Policy Committee agenda.)*

The Committee continued to discuss how changes should be requested. There is an issue of changes being made in IT and PTPEC not being in the loop of the change. This is an issue that is still on the Action Table.

Shawn asked about an implementation date for the tables he sent by email with the agenda. Shawn will be checking in with Kristin Brown and Lynn Bradley. He will also let them know about the HEM analyte code changes. He will check in with PT Providers and PTPAs too. He will bring this information back next month to help the PTPEC set an effective date.

## 6. Task List

PTPEC Goals for 2021 include: -

- Working on WET PT issue.
- Next to get the PTPA evaluations started. Need to finalize a checklist.
- Mechanisms to improve involvement of non-TNI AB stakeholders.
  - o Andy noted that the Committee also talked about working with other states that use PTs that are not currently on the FoPT table.
- Complete NH PFAS added to DW table.
- Feasibility studies – Radiochemistry Uncertainty to PT Evaluations, Technology based PTs, Prep methods on FoPT tables, development to PT Program metrics, Air and Emissions PT Program.
- Finish updates to the DW Radiochemistry FoPT table.

## 7. Subcommittee Reports

### Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee

Carl had no update.

### PT Program SOP Subcommittee

Eric noted that the Committee has already discussed the formation of the combined workgroup and SOP 4-107.

### Microbiology FoPT Subcommittee

No update.

## 8. New Business.

None

## 9. Action Items

The action items can be found in Attachment C (new format). Attachment B includes a list of reminders.

## 10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on March 18, 2021 at 1pm Eastern.

Adjourned at 2:20pm Eastern. (Motion: Fred. Seconded: Scott– Unanimous).

**Attachment A**  
**Participants**  
**TNI**  
**Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Shawn Kassner (2023*) (Chair) <b>Present</b>	Lab	Pace	shawn.kassner@pacelabs.com
Ilona Taunton, Program Administrator  <b>Present</b>		TNI	tauntoni@msn.com
Carl Kircher (2024)  <b>Present</b>	AB	Florida Department of Health	Carl.Kircher@flhealth.gov
Andy Valkenburg (2024)  <b>Present</b>	Other	QASE Inc.	cvalkenbur@aol.com
Jennifer Duhon (2022)  <b>Present</b>	Other	Millipore Sigma	jennifer.duhon@sial.com
Patrick Garrity (2022)  <b>Present</b>	AB	Kentucky DEP	patrick.garrity@ky.gov
Michella Karapondo (2022)  <b>Present</b>	Other	USEPA	karapondo.michella@epa.gov
Fred Anderson (2023)  <b>Present</b>	Other	Advanced Analytical Solutions, LLC	Fred@advancedqc.com
Jennifer Bordwell (2023)  <b>Present</b>	Lab	Upper Occoquan Service Authority	jennifer.bordwell@uosa.org
Scott Haas (2023)  <b>Present</b>	FSMO/ LAB	Environmental Testing, Inc.	shaas@etilab.com
Rachel Ellis (2022*)  <b>Present</b>	AB	New Jersey DEP	rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov
Patrick Selig (2024*)  <b>Present</b>	AB	ANAB	pselig@anab.org
Sennett Kim (2024*)  <b>Present</b>	AB	A2LA	skim@a2la.org
Prasanth (2024*)  <b>Present</b>	AB	ISA	pramakrishnan@iasonline.org

**Attachment B**

**Backburner / Reminders – TNI PT Executive Committee**

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Meeting Reference</b>	<b>Comments</b>
7	Add the Field PT Subcommittee to the limit update SOP during its next update.	3/4/10	In Progress
11	Evaluate how labs are accredited for analytes that co-elute.	5-19-11	See meeting reference for details.
13	Charter needs to be reviewed/updated in November.	Ongoing	
18	Shawn noted that PTPEC should have some specific measurements. This should be passed along to the PTP SOP Subcommittee. Nicole noted that we need to determine which items to measure.	6-29-17	To be added to 2021 goals.

Attachment C: PTPEC Committee Action Item Summary – 2021

Item	Task Description	Document Number	TNI Contact	Task Added	Start Date	Due Date	Complete Date	Comments
295	PTPA Checklist needs to be updated to 2016 Standard.		Ilona		TBD	April 2021		2/17/21: Ilona has a DRAFT for SASS. Shawn and Ilona need to develop PTPA's from 2016 Standard.
349	FoPT Table Subcommittee: - Review LAMS table vs FoPT table. - WET FoPT table format needs to be finalized.			4/20/17	4/20/17			2/17/21: Changes have been corrected for all tables except WET. The WET FoPT subcommittee will take this on as part of the development of the new table. The review of LAMS was completed.
368	Forward Jerry's question to Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee. (Analyte code change for the non-polar extractable materials.)			8/24/17	8/24/17			2/17/21: SMK to discuss this issue with the PTPEC as to the impact and process of database changes. 2/18/21: Shawn had communication with Jerry and Dan. HEM and HEM-Silica Gel changes made to FoPT table.
431	Discuss with IT Committee the need for LAMS updates to be communicated to the PTPEC.			10/31/19				2/17/21: Shawn to discuss with Mei Beth and Jerry.
432	DW FoPT Table – Lines 17-26 need to be reviewed with LAMS Administrator. PTPEC is going to use what was originally in the table instead of what is currently in LAMS.			10/31/19				2/17/21: Shawn will follow-up with Dan to complete.

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437	Reach out to Sennet Kim and ANAB to confirm there is still an issue related to SCM FoPT table metals footnotes for fixed limits.			3/26/20	3/26/20			2/17/21: On-going Shawn working with William to access data.
445	Send PCB survey to Ilona so she can arrange to have it sent out.		Shawn Ilona	6/18/20	6/18/20			9-17-20: Shawn is working on this and will get to Ilona when complete.
454	Form WET FoPT Subcommittee		Shawn	2/18/21				2/18/21: Shawn will ask Rami for membership recommendations.
455	Update SOP 4-107: FoPT Table Management	SOP 4-107	PTP SOP Subcommittee	2/19/21				2/18/21: Need procedures to make non-ARA changes to the table? 3/16/21: Received initial Policy Committee comments to review.
456	Update SOP 4-101: Recommendation, Evaluation, and Calculation of Acceptance Criteria and Applicable Concentration Ranges for Proficiency Tests	SOP 4-101	PTP SOP Subcommittee	2/18/21	2/18/21			2/18/21: Combined workgroup established to complete SOP.
457	FoPT table updates sent by email	- DW FoPT - NPW FoPT - SCM FoPT - DW Rad FoPT		2/18/21	2/18/21			2/18/21: Shawn will check-in with PTPAs, NELAP AC, and PT Providers about implementation timing so PTPEC can set an effective date.
458	Improve communication with non-TNI AB stakeholders.			2/18/21				



