

Radiochemistry Expert Committee (REC) Meeting Summary

June 26, 2019

1. Roll Call and Minutes:

Terry Romanko, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:08pm Eastern on June 26, 2019 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 5 members present. Associate members in attendance: Mark Johnson and Carl Kircher.

The Committee did not meet in May.

Meeting minutes are distributed by email for comment/revision for a week and then posted on the TNI website.

2. Review of the Standard

The Committee will pick-up the review of the Standard next month because Bob could not be on the call. The suggestions being reviewed are Bob's.

4. Radiochemistry Checklist

The Word and Excel checklists are complete. Terry will send it to Ilona for her final review and posting on the TNI website. He hopes to have this to her by the end of the week.

5. Technical Manager

Terry pulled up the last version of the Technical Manager language worked on by the Committee. Many of the other expert committees are adopting a similar format based on the work done by this Committee.

Discussion:

- Ron commented that there needs to be a limit placed on the number of years that can be exchanged for college credit. Perhaps it should be 4 or 8 credits. This concern relates to how can you ensure that someone has increasing levels of experience and not that they have just run the same method for the last 10 years.
- Additions were made to #5 – see below.
- #6 has to be in Radiochemistry and it can't be the same analysis.
- Don't put Bachelor of Science. Keep it as bachelor's degree only. Schools vary in what they consider as a Bachelor of Science vs Bachelor of Arts. Terry gave the example that Chemistry in his school was a Bachelor of Arts.

- There were concerns expressed about #7 – contact AB for exceptions. The ABs are concerned that another state might accept something they would not. Ilona noted that this was discussed during the Microbiology Technical Manager discussion and they thought it would work if each relevant state had to be contacted and not just the primary state. Robert and Ron liked that idea. Carl preferred to see where the discussion goes before commenting.

Ilona noted that Jessica needs all the expert committee language for Technical Manager before the Jacksonville meeting. She plans to share all this language during the Quality System's meeting to get feedback.

Terry will update the language and distribute it to the Committee for comment.

(Addition: Updated language emailed by Terry on 6/28/19:

- a) *Any technical manager of an accredited environmental laboratory engaged in radiological analysis shall be a person:*
 - i. *with a bachelor's degree; and*
 - ii. *with thirty-two (32) college semester credit hours of chemistry and physics; and*
 - iii. *with sixteen (16) college semester credit hours of radiochemistry; and*
 - iv. *with two (2) or more years of experience in the radiological analysis of environmental samples.*
 - v. *A master's or doctoral degree in one of the above disciplines may be substituted for one (1) year experience.*
 - vi. *1 year experience working in an environmental radioanalytical laboratory may be substituted for 4 credit hours. Multiple years of substitution may be utilized, but each year substituted must be related to the learning of and proficiency in a different analytical method/technique or instrumentation type. This will help ensure an increasing level of knowledge in radiochemistry analyses (preparation and/or instrumentation) during that time period.*
 - vii. *In lieu of any of the above, the laboratory may petition each body for which accreditation is sought, presenting the candidate's qualifications in a consistent format to each.)*

6. Summer Meeting

Terry and Bob are working on the training. It will be reviewed by Yoon and Robert. Yoon will also supply some data for the data review package. Terry commented that he needs the text printout. Yoon will have this to Terry by Friday.

Ilona asked if part of the training will be pre-recorded like last time. This would need to be ready by about 7/15/19 so people of time to review the material. Terry will get back to her.

7. New Business

None.

8. Action Items

A summary of action items can be found in Attachment B.

9. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2019 at 1pm Eastern.
(Addition: The next meeting was June 26, 2019.)

A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B and C.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:53pm Eastern. (Motion: Robert Second: Yoon Unanimously approved.)

**Attachment A
Participants
Radiochemistry Expert Committee**

| Members | Affiliation | | Contact Information |
|--|--|-------|--|
| Terry Romanko Chair (2021*) Present | TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc. | Lab | Terry.romanko@testamericainc.com |
| Sherry Faye (2022*) Present | Wadsworth Center, NY State DOH Albany, NY | AB | sherry.faye@health.ny.gov |
| Velinda Herbert (2021*) Absent | National Analytical Environmental Laboratory | Lab | Herbert.velinda@epa.gov |
| Brian Miller (2021*) Absent | ERA | Other | bmiller@eraqc.com |
| Ron Houck (2021) Present | PA DEP/Bureau of Laboratories | AB | rhouck@pa.gov |
| Yoon Cha (2020) Present | Eurofins Eaton Analytical | Lab | YoonCha@eurofinsUS.com |
| Candy Friday (2020) Absent | CdFriday Environmental, Inc. | Lab | candy@fridayllc.com |
| Greg Raspanti (2022*) Absent | New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection | AB | Greg.Raspanti@dep.nj.gov |
| Pepa Sassin (2022*) Absent | EPA - Region 3 | Other | Sassin.Pepa@epa.gov |
| Robert Aullman (2022*) Present | Utah Department of Health | AB | aullman77@gmail.com |
| Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) Recording/Join at 1:20pm | The NELAC Institute | n/a | Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org |

Attachment B

Action Items – REC

| | Action Item | Who | Target Completion | Completed |
|----|--|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 90 | Send note about method codes and concerns to the PT Expert Committee. Is there a way to limit the codes a lab can use to report PT data? | Bob | TBD | |
| 93 | Discuss new PT criteria at next FoPT Chemistry subcommittee meeting | Bob and Keith | 3/21/19 | |
| 94 | Harmonize Excel Checklist with Word Checklist | Terry and Candy | 3/27/2019 | In progress. |
| 95 | Provide information for training data package to Terry. | Yoon | TBD | |
| 96 | Let Ilona know if training material needs to be pre-recorded for Jacksonville. | Terry | 7/15/19 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Attachment C – Back Burner / Reminders

| | Item | Meeting Reference | Comments |
|---|---|--------------------------|---|
| 5 | Form subcommittee of experts in MS and other atom counting techniques to see that these techniques are adequately addressed in the radiochemistry module. | 9/24/14 | |
| 6 | From Action Item # 75: Prepare copy of Standard annotated with summary document language. | | This is a project Carolyn was working on, but the committee decided it may duplicate the Small Lab Handbook. This project has been put on Hold. |