

# Laboratory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Final

April 19, 2016

In attendance: Stacey DeGrasse, Joseph DeCrescenzo, Carol Dorsey, Matthew Forester, Andy Haines, Gregg Langlois, Linda McFarland, Leonora Porter, Diane Regan, Wade Rourke, Alison Sirois, James Smith, John Tesvich, Kathleen Wickman, Linda Chandler, Cheryl Lassiter, Melissa 'Lizzie' Evans, Quay Dortch, Maggie Broadwater

Absent: Richard Burrow, Darcie Couture, Tom Howell, Shelley Lankford, Gabriela Mucino, Joel Hansel, Jessica Jones

Guest(s): Johnna Fay

Note-taker(s): Stacey

## AGENDA

Call Agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Meeting Minutes from February 2016
3. Meeting Report from February 2016
4. Pre-Proposal Discussions/Recommendations
  - a. NSP ELISA
  - b. ASP ELISA
5. Workgroup (WG) Updates
  - a. Biotoxins
    - i. SRT Discussion
    - ii. DSP Discussion
  - b. Checklist
  - c. Method Validation
  - d. Engagement
  - e. Microbiology
6. Next Meeting (3:00-5:00 PM ET)
  - a. May 17
7. Other Business

## MEETING NOTES SUMMARY

The meeting was called to order, followed by roll call.

Meeting Minutes: The LC meeting minutes from February 2016 were approved. **Action item: Stacey will finalize.**

Meeting Report: The LC meeting report from February 2016 was approved. **Action item: Stacey will finalize and provide to the ISSC Executive Office.**

Pre-Proposal Discussions/Recommendations:

- NSP ELISA Pre-Proposal: A Pre-Proposal for an ELISA for testing for NSP toxins was submitted by Leanne Flewelling. Per Procedure XVI, the Pre-Proposal included a description of the method, the proposed use of the method, and a time table for conducting the SLV. The mouse bioassay is currently the only approved method for NSP toxins; there are only a few labs that can perform this method. The extensive nature of the *Karenia* bloom this past season highlighted the need for an alternative method that could be used for screening. The ELISA in the Pre-Proposal is from MARBIONC. There is also an Abraxis ELISA for NSP toxins that some labs used as a pre-screen during the past bloom season. It is unclear if anyone is ready to submit a Pre-Proposal for the Abraxis ELISA. Wade expressed concern that for the comparability aspect of a full proposal the mouse bioassay and the ELISA will be difficult to compare since the mouse bioassay results are in mouse units, which doesn't have a conversion factor to equate to the units expressed by the ELISA. John indicated industry support for having such a tool that could be used to test for NSP so that decisions could be made faster rather than having to rely on the few labs that can conduct the mouse bioassay. The LC voted to recommend that the ISSC approve the Pre-Proposal for the ELISA NSP and that the submitter be invited to submit a full SLV proposal for consideration. Further, the LC recommended that Maggie Broadwater be assigned as the liaison for this proposal. **Action item: Stacey will notify the ISSC Executive Office of the LC's recommendations on this Pre-Proposal.**
- SRT ASP with Methanol Extraction Pre-Proposal: A Pre-Proposal for a lateral flow chromatography kit for testing for ASP toxins with a methanol extraction was submitted by Dorothy Easy of Scotia Rapid Testing. The kit is the same as that in Proposal 05-111; however, the extraction in 05-111 is the rapid extraction (acetic acid and isopropanol) and the Pre-Proposal extraction is with 50% methanol. The LC thought that the 50% methanol extraction would be more desirable since it is the same extraction as the method currently used for ASP (HPLC-UV). This would mean that the same extract could be used during the SLV to obtain data on the kit performance but also compared to the HPLC-UV. It was also discussed that domoic acid is expected to be more stable in the 50% methanol solution, as compared to the rapid extract solution. The LC voted to recommend that the ISSC approve the Pre-Proposal for the SRT ASP with methanol extraction and that the submitter be invited to submit a full SLV proposal for consideration. Further, the LC recommended that Stacey be assigned as the liaison for this proposal. **Action item: Stacey will notify the ISSC Executive Office of the LC's recommendations on this Pre-Proposal.**

Workgroup Updates:

Biotoxins Workgroup. (1) The Biotoxins WG held a conference call with Scotia Rapid Test (Dorothy Easy) this past month to discuss Proposal 05-111 and the recently submitted Pre-Proposal for the SRT ASP using the methanol extraction. The call was productive and clarified outstanding issues for the LC and SRT. It was agreed that Proposal 05-111 is to be evaluated as the rapid extraction for PSP and ASP only for use in the SRT kits. Also the Biotoxins WG recommended to SRT that they use the submission checklist to submit their data to avoid confusion since numerous data sets have been submitted since the proposal was first submitted

in 2005. The WG recommended the data be sorted per shellfish species and that data with and without a reader be separated. The Biotoxins WG further discussed the difference in expectations of data for PSP versus ASP since the kit for PSP using the HCl extraction was already an Approved Limited Use Method. (2) The Biotoxins WG discussed data submitted by Jon Deeds as a preliminary package of SLV information for the LC-MS method for DSP toxins. The main question that arises is how to handle comparability since there is no established approved method for DSP toxins. Solutions may include using certified reference material in shellfish tissue. (3) The Biotoxins WG asked for an update on the PSP HPLC PCOX extension for other species. Maine is delayed in submitting their data; however, Alaska has submitted the data to cover the species of interest to them. It was decided that the WG will proceed with evaluating the AK data now. **Action item: The Biotoxins WG will continue with conference calls to discuss biotoxin proposals/charges.**

Checklist Workgroup. There are no outstanding charges to the Checklist Workgroup at this time.

Method Validation Workgroup. There was nothing new to report; the WG will proceed with developing validation guidelines.

Engagement Workgroup. Quay Dortch updated the LC on the drafted priority needs for biotoxins that will inform the Request for Proposals (RFP) for NOAA's funding programs. Quay, Stacey, and Darcie held a call with Ken to determine how to proceed. The intent is to post the biotoxin priorities on the ISSC webpage; however, we need to determine exactly where and how best to post so that users can find the information readily. In the short-term Ken suggested that we send the priorities with a letter to funding agencies that these are some of the scientific needs of the ISSC and if funded would be beneficial to the NSSP. This model follows what has been done for microbiological research needs by the Research Guidance Committee. The letter has been drafted, the priorities finalized, and recipients identified. **Action items: Stacey, Quay, and Darcie will continue to work with Ken to get the letters sent and the priorities information displayed on the ISSC webpage.**

Microbiology Workgroup: There are no outstanding charges to this WG at this time.

Next Meeting: The Laboratory Committee calls are held the third Tuesday of each month from 3:00-5:00 PM ET. The next call is scheduled for May 17.

Other Business: Stacey asked that LC members notify her and the ISSC office if they are not receiving the email invitations with the call-in information and/or the emails from ISSC with meeting materials.

Gregg updated the LC that they submitted the RBA PSP data for oysters to the ISSC at the end of March, so the LC can expect to have that data soon for review and consideration as a matrix extension.