

Laboratory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Final
August 16, 2016

In attendance: Stacey DeGrasse, Matthew Forester, Andy Haines, Tom Howell, Diane Regan, Wade Rourke, Linda Chandler, Melissa 'Lizzie' Evans, Jessica Jones, Quay Dortch, Maggie Broadwater

Absent: Richard Burrow, Darcie Couture, Joseph DeCrescenzo, Shelley Lankford, Linda McFarland, Gabriela Mucino, Leonora Porter, James Smith, John Tesvich, Kathleen Wickman, Joel Hansel, Cheryl Lassiter

Guest: Johnna Fay

Note-taker(s): Stacey

AGENDA

Call Agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Meeting Minutes from April, May, & June 2016
3. Meeting Reports from April, May, & June 2016
4. Method/Proposal Tracker
5. Pre-Proposal
 - a. LC-MS for Brevetoxins
6. Workgroup (WG) Updates
 - a. Biotoxins
 - i. PCOX Species Extension
 - ii. Queue
 1. DSP-LC Data
 2. SRT PSP Data
 3. RBA PSP Data
 - b. Checklist
 - c. Method Validation
 - i. Biotxin Qualitative Methods Guidelines
 - ii. Species Extension (cross-cutting Biotoxin Workgroup)
 - d. Engagement
 - i. NOAA Funding Opportunity
 - e. Microbiology
7. Workgroup Participation
 - a. Need Volunteers
8. Next Meeting (3:00-5:00 PM ET)
 - a. September 20
9. Other Business

MEETING NOTES SUMMARY

The meeting was called to order, followed by roll call. There was no quorum; therefore, no voting was conducted. The call focused on discussion of tasks underway.

Meeting Minutes: The LC meeting minutes from April, May, & June 2016 were on the agenda; however, no one had comments.

Meeting Report: The LC meeting reports from April, May, & June 2016 were on the agenda; however, no one had comments.

Method/Proposal Tracker: The LC walked through the items on the proposal tracker and most notably discussed the addition of a new item – the pre-proposal received by Ann Abraham from the FDA on an LC-MS method for brevetoxins. Wade asked about data for the SRT and RBA, as it is indicated in the tracker that new data were submitted. Those data have been provided to the Laboratory Committee. **Action item: Stacey will resend the SRT and RBA data in the next materials sent to the Laboratory Committee.**

Pre-Proposal: The Laboratory Committee received a pre-proposal from Ann Abraham (FDA) on an LC-MS method for detecting NSP toxins in molluscan shellfish. There was no quorum to vote on a recommendation. However, the content and merits of the pre-proposal were discussed. The pre-proposal met the requirements for pre-proposal submission, per the ISSC Constitution, Bylaws, and Procedures. There seemed to be an agreement that a method for detecting NSP toxins is still needed. Yet, there were a number of concerns expressed about the pre-proposal. One question raised was whether the method detects brevetoxins or only brevetoxin metabolites. If metabolites only, is there any concern that the method does not detect the brevetoxin parent molecules? The pre-proposal does not reference the mouse bioassay and only states that the LC-MS method will be compared to the ELISA, which is not an approved method. Further, the challenge of having toxicity equivalency factors for brevetoxins and metabolites was discussed. Even though the Laboratory Committee could not vote those on the call thought that sharing this feedback with the method submitter as soon as possible would be helpful. **Action item: Stacey will draft the initial feedback on the proposal to be shared with the submitter.**

Workgroup Updates:

Biotoxins Workgroup. Wade and Stacey updated the Laboratory Committee on the response to AK regarding PCOX extension to additional species. There was no quorum to vote on the response letter; however, the content of the letter was discussed. Much of the discussion was focused on how to handle species extensions when we currently have no explicit guidelines on how to do so. The Biotoxins Workgroup and Method Validation Workgroup decided to have a joint call to discuss the guidelines issue. **Action item: The Method Validation Workgroup will discuss the letter during their next call and will then hold a joint meeting with the Biotoxins Workgroup to discuss.**

Checklist Workgroup. There are no outstanding charges to the Checklist Workgroup at this time. Lizzie updated the Laboratory Committee that checklists for the new Vibrio methods were underway and that we could expect submission of those in the near future. Stacey also raised the issue of recent laboratory results where interfering compounds were challenging HPLC data

interpretation. The discussion focused on whether quality control procedures to prevent this from happening in the future should be incorporated in to method checklists. Some thought that having method standard operating procedures available on the webpage may be a solution, even though that would take a significant amount of work to create.

Method Validation Workgroup. Jessica reported on the latest Method Validation Workgroup call. John Bowers was a guest during their call and he presented the Probability of Detection model that the workgroup is considering including in their guidelines for qualitative methods for biotoxins. The group discussed the differences in presence/absence methods versus limit methods (those with a cutoff value) and the potential need to handle the guidelines separately.

Engagement Workgroup. NOAA has announced a funding opportunity that addresses the biotoxin priority needs of the ISSC. This may be a one-time offering to submit proposals in support of the ISSC needs. The Laboratory Committee was encouraged to consider submitting letters of intent or sharing the information with others who may wish to submit. Some on the Laboratory Committee did not receive the announcement. The letters of intent are due September 2. Also Quay announced that she was traveling to Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences for a site visit to the Harmful Algal Bloom Taxonomy course that was funded by NOAA. **Action item: Stacey will share the NOAA funding announcement with the Laboratory Committee members.**

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

Workgroup Participation: The Laboratory Committee has recently lost several active members and workgroup participants. Stacey asked for volunteers from the Laboratory Committee to serve on one or more workgroups. **Action item: Laboratory Committee members are to email Stacey with any interest in serving on one or more of the following workgroups: Biotoxins, Checklists, Method Validation, Engagement, and/or Microbiology.**

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 September 20.

Other Business: Linda and Stacey brought it to the Laboratory Committee's attention that the newly revised ISSC Constitution, Bylaws, and Procedures now has the analytical method section captured in Procedure XV. Matt announced that there is an upcoming Pacific Regional Lab meeting and that all Pacific states, Mexico, and British Columbia will be participating. He will brief the Laboratory Committee on any pertinent topics/outcomes of the meeting.