

TNI Board of Directors Meeting Summary

July 9, 2025

ROLL CALL

Directors	Present	Staff	Present
Aaren Alger		Paul Junio	X
Steve Arms	X	Jerry Parr	X
Justin Brown	X	Ilona Taunton	X
Kristin Brown		Janice Wlodarski	X
Robin Cook	X	Bob Wyeth	X
Maria Friedman			
Susan Jackson	X		
Jessica Jensen	X		
William Lipps	X		
Harold Longbaugh			
Judy Morgan	X		
Prem Parmar	X		
Patsy Root	X		
Nick Slawson			
Valerie Slaven			
Alfredo Sotomayor	X		
Tracy Szerszen	X		
Past Chair			
Sharon Mertens			

AGENDA

1.0 Review of Agenda and Consent Agenda

- Board of Directors Agenda Approved: 7-9-2025
- Consent Agenda Approved: 7-9-2025

2.0 Creation of the Professional Development Core Program

The Professional Development Task Force met on June 13, approved their Charter, and developed a proposed Charter for the Executive Committee of this new proposed core program. Copies of both Charters were provided separately. The Task Force also developed the language below for inclusion in the next revision of the TNI Bylaws.

Professional Development Program

The purpose of the Professional Development Program is to establish and maintain efforts to enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of individuals conducting environmental sampling and measurement.

The Task Force requests the Board approve the Task Force Charter, the Executive Committee Charter, authorize the creation of the new committee, and dissolve the Task Force.

Note: Most, if not all, of the Task Force members expressed an interest in joining the new Executive Committee, which would give the committee an initial roster of 8 voting members.

Motion to Approve Charter with Modifications as Presented:

Motion to Approve: Patsy Root

Second: Judy Morgan

Approved: Unanimous

Motion to Dissolve the Professional Development Task Force:

Motion to Approve: Robin Cook

Second: William Lipps

Approved: Unanimous

3.0 2025-2030 Draft Strategic Plan

Review of the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan completed.

Motion to Approve the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan as edited:

Motion to Approve: Patsy Root

Second: Robin Cook

Approved: Unanimous

4. Review and Approval of SOP 7-100 on NGAB Evaluations

Based on the productive discussion in the May Board call, the Policy Committee has revised SOP 7-100, the SOP used to recognize NGABs to accredit laboratories to the TNI standard. The major changes include:

- Remove requirement of an Evaluation Team and specify the requirements for evaluators instead. Remove requirement for a NELAP AB on the Evaluation Team.
- Add QA Peer Reviewer process. The Reviewer must be a NELAP AB.
- Add Interim Recognition procedures and delete option for Mock Assessment.

The revised SOP has one contract Evaluator (as opposed to an evaluation team) with additional evaluators brought in as necessary for specific expertise. The QA Peer Review section was beefed up considerably, with these responsibilities:

- reads the final report to ensure findings were appropriately identified and the Evaluator has clearly communicated all observations.
- reviews the Technical Review Checklist and any available corrective action responses to ensure the requirements of this SOP were met.

These other edits were made for clarity.

- The committee agreed to delete the following terms (and their definitions):
 - Comment
 - Concern
 - Date of recognition
 - Evaluation Team

- Gap Analysis
 - Lead Evaluator
 - Mock Assessment
 - Technical Completeness Review
- The committee then made significant revisions to the following definitions:
 - Evaluation
 - Evaluation Coordinator
 - Evaluator
 - Finding
 - Nonconformity
 - Recognition
- Minor edits were made to the definitions for TNRC and Witness(ing). The definitions for Finding and Nonconformity are based on language from ISO 9000 and represent a significant change in that they now allow for both positive and negative findings.
- Added Technical Review Checklist to Definitions.
- Changed “assures” to “ensures” in several places.
- Clarified in section 5.3.6 that it is the Evaluation Coordinator who receives the report.
- Revised section 5.4 to only include qualifications and other minor edits.
- Revised the language in 5.5.2 by changing “Selecting” to “Recommending.”
- Removing language in Section 5.5 about the size of the evaluation team.
- Removing Section 5.5.7 on reviewing evaluation reports.
- Removing 5.5.9 regarding agreements and fees.
- Removing language relating to certificates from 5.5.12.
- Adding section 5.5.13 on records.
- Revised section 5.6 to be consistent with 5.4.
- Deleted section 5.7 on the evaluator team.
- Revised 5.7.1 to clarify the EC recommends an Evaluator, not selects and removed reference to NGAB.
- Removing 5.8.3 as this is an EC responsibility.
- Revise 5.8.4 to clarify the Evaluator “recommends” recognition status.
- Adding 5.8.5 on the Technical Review Checklist.
- Adding Section 5.8.7 on records.
- Removed language in section 5.6 into a new section 5.7.1.
- Split section 5.9 into 2 sections, 5.8 and qualifications and 5.10 on responsibilities and clarified both sections to be consistent with 5.7 and 5.8.
- Revised sections 6.1 through 6.12. for clarity.
- Added a new section 6.5.6 emphasizing the requirements in Volume 2 for ABs.
- Deleted language about mock assessments in section 6.6 and 6.7
- Added section 6.12.3 on Interim Recognition.
- Added section 6.12.3.3 on the first witnessing of an assessment.

- Removed language about voting from since this is covered in SOP 1-104.
- Added reciprocal language to 6.16 for NGAB unusual circumstances.
- Deleted section 6.17 on SIRs as this is an obvious activity.
- Revised the listed required records in 8.0 to reflect the requirements of the SOP.
- Added SOP 1-104 to References.
- Added Appendix D on Conflict-of-Interest Attestation
- Other minor edits with no change in intent.

Motion to Approve of SOP 7-100 on NGAB Evaluations with changes as presented:

Motion to Approve: Steve Arms

Second: Patsy Root

Approved: Unanimous

CONSENT AGENDA

Approved 7/9/2025

1. Approval of June Minutes

2. Response to ANSI

In May 22, TNI received a letter from ANSI expressing concerns about TNI's pursuit of American National Standard. In response, Bob Wyeth provided this response on June 23.

Dear Mr. Moskowitz:

In response to your letter referenced above and dated May 22, 2025, please be advised of the following.

- 1) A copy of TNI's SOP 2-100, Rev. 3.4 dated January 2021, entitled Procedures Governing Standards Development is attached. On January 16, 2021, as a part of our on-going activities at the time, we submitted SOP 2-100, Rev. 3.4 to ANSI.
- 2) TNI has continued to develop Standards consistent with SOP 2-100, Rev. 3.4, and *ANSI Essential Requirements*. Your communication would suggest that TNI has not been active in our standards development activities. Quite to the contrary, the following table illustrates our activity **since May 19, 2020**.

Standard (ID/Name)	PINS Date		BSR-8 Date	
	Submittal	Std Action	Submittal	Std Action
EL-V1M1/Proficiency Testing	1/14/2022	1/21/2022	TBD (to be determined)	TBD
EL-V1M3/Asbestos	-	-	6/1/2021	6/18/2021
EL-V1M4/Chemistry	10/4/2021	10/8/2021	TBD	TBD
EL-V1M5/Microbiology	9/21/2021	10/5/2021	3/7/2023	3/10/2023
EL-V1M6/Radiochemistry	-	-	1/11/2022	1/28/2022
EL-V1M7/Toxicity Testing	-	-	2/28/2025	3/14/2025
EL-V2M1/AB Accrediting Requirements	-	-	7/26/2021	8/6/2021
EL-V2M2/AB requirements for Lab Proficiency Testing	1/14/2022	1/21/2022	TBD	TBD
EL-V3/Requirements for Proficiency Test Providers	1/14/2022	1/21/2022	TBD	TBD
EL-V4/Proficiency Test Provider Accreditation	1/14/2022	1/21/2022	TBD	TBD

Note: "the – sign" indicates PINS dates prior to 5/19/2020

EL-V1M2 regarding Quality System requirements, and both Field Sampling and Measurement Organization standards (FSMO V1 and V2), have active standard development activities, with PINS prior to May 19, 2022, that will result in BSR-8 at a yet to be determined date.

To address your specific question as to "TNI's reasons why it has not developed a proposed American National Standard," please recall the suggestions of you and your auditor. First, we were advised to revise and simplify the SOP for operational efficiency. Upon doing so, it was sufficiently different that standard development could not effectively proceed under the prevailing SOP at the time we filed the required PINS. When we addressed you as to the best way to proceed in preparation for the special audit, our ANSI coordinator was advised not to submit a BSR-9, which would be the subject to said audit, until such time as the particular standard in question had been

completed under each and every step of the new SOP (SOP 2-100, Rev. 3.4) governing TNI's development procedure.

We currently have a number of proposed ANS for ANSI consideration, but each was begun under a previous SOP. Per your advice, utilizing one of those proposed standards would result in the probability of missing information, which would have been a repeat condition from the previous audit. Following said advice we are very near posting, for public comment, our first Standard completed under the prevailing SOP.

- 3) TNI was founded and continues to exist based on the belief that accreditation to a consensus standard is critical to a laboratories' ability to provide data of known and documented quality. We further believe that despite the costs and the fact that we have never received any comments on our Standards, recognition as an American National Standard is of value as we continue to provide our volunteer-based services to the environmental testing community/

3. Quarterly SIR Report

SIR #	Date	Subject	Status
427	2/7/22	V1M4: 1.7.1.1.k.ii.a states, "Measurement of the Relative Error: This calculation shall be performed for 2 calibration levels: the standard at or near the mid-point of the initial calibration and the standard at the lowest level." Question: What is the correct determination of what "near the mid-point of the initial calibration" means? Does this mean it is half-way between the lowest concentration and highest concentration standards? Does it mean that it is one of the middle calibration points? For example: ICAL standards of 0.5, 1, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100 ug/L. What is "near the mid-point" in this example? Do we use 50, because it's the concentration that is half-way between the highest and lowest ICAL concentrations or can we use 5 or 10 or 25 because it's one of the concentrations at the middle of our calibration points?	Posted to AC Voting site 5/2/25
499	9/12/24	Do preservatives need to be included in method blanks and associated laboratory fortified samples? For further information to consider, please note the following: The definition of Laboratory Fortified Sample (however named) in the TNI Standard is - A sample matrix, free from the analytes of interest, spiked with verified known amounts of analytes or a material containing known and verified amounts of analytes and taken through all sample preparation and analytical steps of the procedure unless otherwise noted in a reference method. It is generally used to establish intra-laboratory or analyst specific precision and bias or to assess the performance of all or a portion of the measurement system. Analytical methods have separate sections that outline the requirements for sample preparation and analysis, and those sections are separate from those that discuss sample preservation. In terms of specific methods, EPA 524.2 requires that the LFB be preserved (see Section 7.8.2). EPA 624.1 doesn't address preservation in its preparation of a QC Check sample (see Section 8.4.1). Neither SW846-8260D, 8000C, nor 5000 address preservation of the LCS. If the LCS were required to be preserved, it would be noted as in EPA 524.2.	Chemistry responded 11/16/24; no change
504	11/19/24	This section requires that disposable or single-use volumetric equipment shall be verified once per lot, prior to or in conjunction with first use. Is it acceptable to perform this verification at one location of a network	Posted to NELAP AC Voting 3/11/25; no change

		laboratory, and share that verification documentation among its laboratories, providing the required documentation of verification to any network laboratory that uses the lot in question?	
508	1/27/25	Regarding the term "verify" in TNI 2016 V1M2 5.5.13.1(e)(ii) in relation to disposable plastic, class A certified, digitubes and filter tubes, can the verification process be defined by the laboratory? Specifically, If laboratory SOPs stipulate that verification of each CoA for a certified product lot must meet lab defined accuracy and precision criteria for all applicable volumes, would maintaining a record of that CoA with the initials and date of the laboratory staff receiving/validating said consumable and accompanying CoA serve as sufficient prior-to-first-use verification? I have attached an example of the vendor's volume verification CoA for reference.	On hold pending resolution to SIR 504

6 SIRs were received that were ruled to not be SIRs.

SUMMARY

SIR Category	#
Total number received (All time)	520
Total number received (Q3 2025)	6
Number unresolved	4

4.0 Posting of EL-V4 for Comment

The TNI Proficiency Testing Expert Committee has posted a Draft Standard for EL-V4-2025-Rev. 3.0, *General Requirements for an Accreditation Body of Environmental Proficiency Test Providers*. This revision reflects a total rewrite of the standard consistent with ISO 17011. Justification for the changes presented is provided on the required Justification form. The comment period will be open for ninety (90) calendar days. <https://www.nelac-institute.org/news.php?id=5698>

5.0 CONSENSUS STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

5.1 Consensus Standard Development Program Executive Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Continue to develop policies and procedures that guide standards development to ensure full compliance with all relevant TNI requirements for Expert Committee operations and standards development.	
Ensure consistency and uniformity between Volumes and Modules of the Standard	4/9: Reviewed FSMO V1 and began balloting CSDP approval. 5/14 Continue to review FSMO V1. 7/9: Members are reminded to review DS ELV4 posted to the TNI website. 6/11 Finalized review of FSMO V1 and continued to provide advice and recommendations on language to resolve the Technical Specialist issue in EL V1M2 and companion modules EL V1M3-M7.
Ensure technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, and other tools are	

developed to facilitate the implantation of all Standards.

Provide opportunities for stakeholder involvement throughout the development process and assist Expert Committees in dissemination of pertinent information and responses to comments.

Submit one of the revised Modules (including the entire Development Process) to ANSI to finalize TNI's re-accreditation.

Continue the Standards revision process, including assuring a 'big picture' review prior to any Module becoming final

Facilitate the discussions in the Analytical Discipline workgroup regarding internal audits and technical specialists.

Administrative Activities

7/9: After consultation with AC, recommendation prepared Technical Specialist Language. Recommendations to be reviewed with AC and submitted to QMS.

1/8 Report of recommendations on Analytical Disciplines and approach to Tech Specialist prepared/approved by Executive Committee. See Board agenda item 2.

4/9 Sought guidance on KSA criteria from Credentials committee.

5/14 Advise and recommend language for resolution of the Technical Specialist issue relative to individual AB regulations for education and experience.

1/8 Approved third term for PTEC committee member. The Chairs, Paul Junio and PA plan to review membership, review open action items, and look at 2024 accomplishments and 2025 goals to plan the first 2025 Committee meeting and prepare slides for the meetings in Jacksonville.

4/9 Welcomed Carol Gebhar to EC as Chair of PTEC.

5.2 Asbestos Testing Expert Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for asbestos testing (AT) that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality.	3/12: Discussed reopening of Module 3 to address Technical Specialist requirements as § 4 of the standard. 5/14: Initiated a work group to address the SRM issue requirements of EL V1M3 as no equivalent materials available. 6/11 Continuing to work on SRM issue and on Technical Specialist qualifications for Asbestos. 7/9 Work Group for SRM Issue gathering information and will formally meet later in July. 7/9 Reviewed QMS proposed decisions regarding definitions and the results of the survey conducted regarding Modules 3-7.
Seek American National Standard status from ANSI and pursue adoption of Module 3 in NELAP.	

Serve as a technical resource regarding AT to TNI members and other interested parties.

Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.

Develop questions and training to assist the credentials efforts.

Participate on the Analytical Discipline workgroup.

Administrative Activities

1/8: Robert Hecker, NYSDoH elected as new Chair of committee.

3/12: Introduced new members and finalized 2025 Roster. Elected Kathleen Bartley as Vice-Chair. Committee remains balanced with 3 AB, 4 Lab and 1 Other. One new Associate joining the ATEC.

4/9: One new Associate member has joined the ATEC.

5/14: Re-established monthly meetings.

6/11: New committee member added.

5.3 Chemistry Expert Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Finalize revision to V1M4.	1/8: CEC has not yet met since the previous Program Report. Efforts reference a revised EL V1M4 continue. 3/12: Committee continues to revise language in V1M4. 4/9 Committee continues to revise language in V1M4.; now meeting twice monthly to complete DS by Summer TNI meeting. 5/14 Committee completed review of proposed changes to EL V1M4. "final" clean copy being distributed and ballot to approved planned for June Meeting. 6/11 A few final comments being resolved and approval pending with posting of EL V1M4 prior to St. Louis meeting. 7/9 CEC continues to meet twice monthly. EL-V1M4 DS completed. "Cleaned -up" version being distributed for final review and balloting during 7/16 meeting. Anticipate posting thereafter and presentation in St. Louis during comment period.
Provide technical assistance in implementation of the Standard.	
Serve as a technical resource regarding chemical testing to TNI members and other interested parties.	

Support the Credentialing effort.

Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, training, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.

Participate on the Analytical Discipline workgroup.

Address any SIR.

4/9 SIR 427 on relative error resolved and reviewed non-valid SIR

Administrative Activities

4/9 Two new Associate members joined the CEC.

5/14 Three new associate members applied to the CEC.

6/11 New Associate members added to committee.

5.4 Laboratory Accreditation Body Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Finalize Standard V2M1, Revision 2.	3/12: Recently added revisions to the V2M1 Draft Standard Rev 1 were discussed at the public session in Jacksonville, and several still-unresolved issues were considered but no decisions made yet.
– Discuss and rule on any comments Persuasive or Non-persuasive	1/8: The December meeting was able to discuss and rule on 5 comments, with two more tabled for discussion at conference. 3/12: A quorum was present at both the January and February meetings, so more progress was made on judging the persuasiveness of comments on the V2M1 DS. 4/9: Made more progress on judging persuasiveness of comments at the March meeting. 6/11: Continued progress on comments (51, 59, and 1) 7/9: Completed review of comments and will now go back through them in July to confirm entries and to look for missing dates for some of the decisions.
– If controversies identified, publish Revision 3 and receive/review comments again.	
– Committee vote for Final Standard.	
Review and update Technical Review Checklist as needed based on changes to standard and the evaluation process.	
Work with the NELAP AC to revise the evaluation process.	
Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, and other tools as	

needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.

Work with the NELAP AC to revise the evaluation process.

3/12: Evaluation process revisions were raised and briefly discussed at the February meeting, and 2024 working drafts of documents were shared with committee members.

Administrative Activities

4/9: Committee meetings rescheduled for third Fridays in hopes of consistently achieving a quorum.

5.5 Microbiology Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete Volume 1 Module 5 Draft Standard.	1/8: The Committee has three meetings planned for January in order to have a revised DRAFT Standard before the conference in Jacksonville. Final plans include a review of comments received from Aaron Alger related to demonstration of the quality of reagents and media and use of CoAs. The Committee will also be reviewing the current versions of DRAFT Module 2 and 4 to make sure there are no conflicts with the Micro Standard. The final activity will be a review of any remaining Committee member comments. 3/12: Sending out the Revised Microbiology Standard for comment this week. This revision does not include the possible new Section 4 related to Technical Specialists. 4/9: Standard sent for posting to receive comment. The Committee starting to look at wording for a new Section 4 related to Technical Specialists. 5/14: The Revised DRAFT Standard was posted for comment that will end on June 9, 2025. 6/11: There were comments on the Revised DRAFT Standard received from Committee members and at the conference. These were put into a table that the Committee started reviewing during their May meeting. The comment period on the Revised DRAFT Standard ends today and comments will start being reviewed during the Committee meeting tomorrow. 7/9: The Committee started their review of the Comments that were received.
Continue to respond to Standard Interpretation Requests	5/14: The Committee reviewed rejected SIRs and did not need to make any changes to the Draft Standard. No SIRs are due.
Prepare Implementation Guidance (IG) regarding Incubator Equilibrium checks and Temperature Distribution.	3/12: The Committee is re-starting this work this month. 4/9: The Committee is continuing work on this guidance. 5/14: Review of the document was completed, and pictures for insertion were discussed. A Final DRAFT will be reviewed during the May meeting for finalization. 6/11: The Final DRAFT was reviewed during the meeting. Updates were made and the Incubator Equilibrium Checks Implementation Guidance was approved by the

Serve as a technical resource regarding microbiological testing to TNI members and other interested parties.

Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, training. And other tools as needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.

Develop questions and training to assist with the credential's efforts.

Participate on the Analytical Discipline workgroup.

Administrative Activities

Committee. The document is being cleaned up and will then go to the LASEC for posting.

7/9: The Guidance documents were forwarded to LASEC for review.

1/8: Cody Danielson and Robin Cook will continue as Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025. Nigel Allison (associate member) has been voted onto the Committee as a voting member.

5.6 Proficiency Testing Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete revision to: V1M1, V2M2, V3, and V4.	1/8: A revised DS for EL V4 will be presented at the Winter meeting. 3/12: presented current proposed language changes in V4 at Winter meeting and collected comments and suggestions at said meeting. EL V4 nears completion and posting for comment. Anticipate vote to approve DS in April. EL V3 will follow as comments have been addressed and any potential conflicts with EL V4 will be resolved. 4/9: PTPEC request for clarification of requirements for reporting and PTPA document management resulted in April meeting being dedicated to rewriting of § 5.71 and 5.72. Revisions submitted to PTPEC for review and comment. Anticipate approval of EL V4 in May, 2025. 5/14: PTEC resolved potential PTPEC issues and completed its review of EI V4 and are prepared to vote for approval of the DS at the next meeting. Passage will initiate presentation of a BSR-9 to ANSI as this is the first module completed entire under SOP 2-100, Rev. 4.3. A final recertification audit would then be scheduled by ANSI. Committee is progressing to address changes in EL V3 which should follow shortly thereafter and be subject of the St. Louis meeting. 6/11 Committee successfully balloted EL V4 and is now preparing the document for posting and public comment. EL V3 is now primary focus and should be available in DS form for St. Louis meeting.

Serve as a technical resource to TNI membership and the environmental testing community regarding PT performance.

Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, training. And other tools as needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.

Support the Credentialing effort.

Continue to respond to Standard Interpretation Requests

Administrative Activities

7/9 EL-V4 posted, and 90-day comment period began; no comments to date. Will proceed as per SOP 2-100.

Will seek comments during St. Louis meeting.

7/9 While continuing to meet twice monthly, EL-V3 continues to progress and likely be presented in a per-DS format in St. Louis.

3/12: Welcomed new members and finalized Roster in February. Kirstin Daigle, current chair, resigned membership due to change in responsibilities at her employer but will remain an Associate. Carol Gebhart elected as new chair and Vice chair being sought. One new Associate member joined the committee.

4/9: Continue to seek Vice-Chair; have one Associate volunteer who, if elected, will fill the role and bring census to 14 members. Hope to fill final open voting member position in May 2025 Two new Associates have joined the PTEC.

5/14 the position of PTEC Vice Chair should be resolved in the next meeting as Nick Slawson of A2LA has volunteered to accept the role. This will bring the census to 14 with the final position to be balloted at the 2nd May meeting. One new associate member has joined the PTEC.

6/11 Leadership team now consists of Carol Gebhart and Nick Slawson as Chair and Vice-Chair of the PTEC. One vacancy remains and should be filled in July.

5.7 Quality Management Systems Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete Volume 1 Module 2	1/8: The Committee started reviewing definitions and concluded that doing this all during meeting time will greatly extend when the DRAFT Standard will be complete. Ilona prepared a review of all definitions that included confirmation of use in Module 2 and glossary updates. The Committee Chairs, CSDP EC Chair and Ilona met to put a recommendation to the Committee that will be reviewed by the Committee on 1/13/24. CSDP EC will also have a discussion about whether the other Expert

Committees would like to see definitions that are used in multiple modules be in Module 2 though the term may not be used in Module 2.

3/12: Ilona prepared a definition survey that has been sent to the other Expert Committees and Program Administrators. The survey contains definitions the QMS is looking at either deleting or just not including in Module 2 because the term is not used in Module 2. The survey asks if a definition is included in their module, whether they would be in favor of removing it in Module 2 and a text box to explain why it should not be removed if they are not in favor. There is also a text question about whether definitions used in multiple modules should be housed in Module 2 regardless of whether it is a term used in Module 2. The survey is due April 1st and the feedback will allow QMS to complete the definitions section. The Committee needs to work with Bob Wyeth to understand any ANSI conflicts with referring to TNI credentialing or the NEFAP Standard in Module 2.

4/9: The Committee is continuing to work on definitions. A reminder for survey responses was sent. 4 responses have been received. At a minimum they still need Mod 3, 5, 6 and 7.

5/14: The Committee is reviewing the Definition Survey Summary. 17 Definitions have been reviewed. Where only one Expert Committee still needed a definition, the Expert Committee will be notified that the definition should be added to the Expert Committee's module. Where multiple Expert Committees used or needed the definition, the definition will be left in Module 2.

6/11: Should complete the review of definitions during the June meetings. The Committee will then update any definitions it plans to keep and notify the Expert Committees of any definitions it plans to delete based on the survey.

7/9: The Committee finished reviewing definitions and will share the results with the Expert Committees. The Committee will be working on updating definitions they will maintain in the Standard in July.

- Finalize Technical Specialist language.

3/8: Language was discussed further in Jacksonville. The Committee needs to work with Bob Wyeth to understand any ANSI conflicts with recommending a TNI credential in the Standard. Does this impact the NEFAP recommendation also. Worked on updating language about qualification needs for interim Technical Specialists. Need to work with states to clarify that proposed language may result in multiple technical specialists. It was commented that states don't want to see multiple specialists in the same discipline. Need to get a comprehensive list of state requirements. One state commented that their regulations state that a bachelor's degree is required for a radiochemistry technical

specialist. Current proposed language does not work for them.

5/14: The Committee reviewed and updated the Technical Specialist language based on comments received in Jacksonville, FL. They also received a table from the NELAP AC that they are starting to review: existing regulations in NELAP States about Technical Manager Qualifications.

6/11: The Committee met only once in May due to the holiday. Paul Junio (CSDP EC Chair) and Ilona were in attendance at the NELAP AC meeting to discuss Technical Specialist language. They received good input from the NELAP AC and then started a DRAFT with updated language that the Committee will start to review during the June meeting. The language will be discussed during the CSDP EC meeting this week also.

7/9: The proposed new Technical Specialist language was presented to the CSDP EC for feedback from the Expert Committees. This will be further worked on by QMS in July.

- Resolve any remaining controversial topics:
- Work on language from Sections 4.2 and 4.3.1 from ISO/IEC 17011:2017. Laboratory requirements are included in these sections and should be added to Module 2.

Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, training, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implementation of the new Standard.

Continue to respond to Standard Interpretation Requests

1/8: The Committee reviewed SIR 504 on verification of disposable volumetric equipment at a single lab in network laboratories and proposed language that was emailed to the Committee for review and approval in January.

3/12: Response to SIR 504 was completed. A request was received to correct the response. Response was evaluated and resent to LASEC.

5/14: The Committee reviewed rejected SIRs and did not need to make any changes to the Draft Standard. No SIRs are due.

Administrative Activities

1/8: The Chairs and Ilona met to review membership, review open action items, and look at 2024 accomplishments and 2025 goals to plan the first 2025 Committee meeting and prepare slides for the QMS meeting in Jacksonville, FL.

3/12: Debbie Bond and Carla McCord were reinstated as Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025.

5.8 Radiochemistry Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Revise Module 6 as needed.	Committee may need to re-open their final Standard to add Section 4 to deal with any additional Technical Specialist requirements.
Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, training, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.	
Resolve reporting uncertainty with PT results.	
Develop and present a training class geared towards people that are not experts in the field.	3/12: Work on training is continuing.
Participate on the Analytical Discipline workgroup.	
Continue to respond to any SIR.	
Respond to requests from QMS Expert Committee to assist in standard development.	4/9: The Committee discussed possible changes to their Standard and the development of a Section 4 to address Technical Specialist requirements. On hold until more information is available. Looking to see if other Modules are adding more detail. The Committee started reviewing the definitions survey information from QMS. The general feeling so far is that it makes sense to keep definitions that are needed by more than one module in Module 2, but specialized definitions relevant to a Module should be in that Module. 5/14: Ilona provided an update on definitions that are only used in Module 6 and not in Module 2. Radiochemistry will likely need to add any necessary definitions to their Standard when they add Section 4 with new Technical Specialist language.
Development of Non-Potable Water PTs and/or other PT issues	3/12: Ilona met with Stacie regarding complaints about PT results and new Radiochemistry PT limits. Stacie is following up with Amanda (Committee Chair). 4/9: Ilona met with the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee last week regarding review of the FoPTs. She asked that the Subcommittee perform its 1-year new implementation review of the new Radiochemistry limits. The Subcommittee plans to ask for a volunteer from the Radiochemistry Expert Committee to participate on the Subcommittee when they are ready to do this review. Data is being requested. 6/11: Volunteers met with the Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee on 6/4/25 to begin the review process
Seek ANS status for V1M6.	

Administrative Activities

1/8: The Committee voted in a new Vice Chair - Mary Beth Gustafson. The Chairs and Ilona met to review membership, review open action items, and look at 2024 accomplishments and 2025 goals to plan the first 2025 Committee meeting and prepare slides for the Radiochemistry meeting in Jacksonville, FL.

4/9: Committee discussed ways to increase the number of voting members.

5.9 Whole Effluent Toxicity Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete revision of V1M7 and publish a Draft Standard for comment.	1/8: Comments on the "clean draft" submitted by committee members were discussed at the December meeting, with additional comments still to be addressed at the January meeting. It may (or not) be possible to have the draft module posted for comment prior to conference. 3/12: The V1M7 Draft Standard was published for comment on February 26, 2025. At the public meeting during conference in Jacksonville, changes to the standard were reviewed and discussed in a half-day session. 4/9: No comments received as of April 3, 2025, but committee was notified by LASEC that its recommendation to the NELAP AC was that the module requires additional revisions – sections 3 and 4, which are dependent upon Module 2 content. 5/14: Comments were received on the Draft Standard. 6/11: Comment period closed 5/27. Comments will need to be compiled/grouped to aid in responding to them. Assuming all comments were submitted to both the Chair and PA, this will begin soon. 7/9: 109 Comments were received (from 3 people) and have been organized by their location in the Module. The Committee will take the comments received on the Draft Module 7 and begin to consider them at the July meeting.
Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, training, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implantation of the new Standard.	6/11: The FoPT subcommittee recommends using PT acceptance criteria similar to Chemistry, in that at least 90-110% windows should be judged acceptable as opposed to strictly basing this window on study data.
Complete the effort to establish a path to achieve data comparability for WET PT data.	3/12: Committee plans to update its PT white paper. 7/9: The WET FoPT Subcommittee presented a proposal to the Committee as a whole to mirror the Chemistry FoPT tables in that a calculated acceptance limit could never be higher than 90% on the low end of acceptance, nor lower than 110% on the high end of acceptance.

Support as needed the QC Specialist badge for aquatic toxicity for the credentialing initiative.

Participate on the Analytical Discipline workgroup.

Continue to respond to any SIR.

Provide venue for sharing of information and best practices of WET labs.

Review and finalize WET definitions list, publish on WET Committee page.

3/12: At the February meeting, the committee cleaned up the list of definitions used in aquatic toxicity testing. Most definitions were already reviewed due to use in the Draft Standard, but not all. Final review and approval remains to be done.

4/9: Source of most definitions located (for citation purposes). Working on QMS request to determine definitions needed that could go into V1M2.

7/9: There are conflicts with definitions in Module 2 that the CSDP EC Chair did not comment upon. They will need to be sent separately to the committee to avoid conflict.

Develop training and exam questions to support credential initiative as needed.

3/12: Committee awaits further clarification about “analytical discipline” so that they can create the appropriate KSAs for aquatic toxicity testing.

Administrative Activities

6. NEFAP

6.1 NEFAP Executive Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Market the new Field Activities Standards once completed.	
Complete NEFAP AB re-evaluation process.	3/10: No new applications have been received. 4/9: No new applications have been received. A new PT Evaluator needs to be found and developed to participate on the evaluation teams for 2 of the upcoming evaluations. A new schedule will be developed in April. 5/14: Application reminders have been sent to all NGABs with a due date of June. NGABs can extend this application due date by 30 days. One NEFAP application has been received, but still need their TNI Standard Renewal Application. 6/11: There is currently one application that has been submitted for the NEFAP/PT recognition, but they are also applying for the TNI Standard recognition. All three of these recognitions will need to occur at the same time. One NGAB has requested an extension that has been granted. A reminder will go out this week.

Continue to develop training courses and implement strategic plan as it relates to training.

Continue to aggressively market the Program utilizing the strategies outlined in the strategic plan.

- Hold the third annual virtual Sampling Conclave

Ilona attended the PJLA APLAC Evaluation closing meeting in preparation for their upcoming TNI Standard/NEFAP/PT evaluations.

Ilona has two new volunteers that have expressed interest in helping with the PT Evaluations. The tests are complete for this training, but a two hour additional training needs to be scheduled in early July with Marlene.

7/9: Applications are still coming in.

Courses in development:

- Internal Auditing for Field Sampling and Measurement Organizations. This course is being developed within the NEFAP EC.

3/12: Paul Bergeron is planning a meeting to finalize the course and pick a training date. It is looking like the live trainer will not be available until July to do their portion of the class.

4/9: Looking at developing dates for end of July. Needs to be finalized and then a course description will be prepared for a training flyer by the end of April.

5/14: Dates were determined for the training, but some logistics are still being worked on this week. Dates: July 15th and July 22nd.

7/9: The course dates have been changed to August 19 and 26, 2025 to give more preparation time.

1/8: Registration opened for the workshop on sampling and analysis plans and a flyer went out on December 20, 2024. There are currently 13 individuals registered and 1 group.

3/12: Total individual attendees for the workshop was 45 and there were 6 groups with 5-10 participants each. Work has started on the June Field Conclave. It will be a 6 hour 1 day event on June 3, 2025. Tracy is working on the abstract flyer that should go out this week.

4/9: The flyer went out and the Committee is receiving input. More work is needed to prepare the schedule of speakers and registration is expected to open early May.

5/14: The date for the Conclave has been changed to June 17, 2025 from 10 am-3 pm EDT. Registration will be opened this week.

6/11: Registration has opened and a flyer with information was distributed. Another Flyer will go out later this week and features will go out each day on Linked In to make people aware of the various presentation topics. Presentations will be due at the end of the week.

7/9: The Conclave had 85 registrations and 7 of those were groups. This means that about 150 people participated in the Conclave this year.

Update policies and procedures to reflect any changes in NEFAP.

Implementation of Volume 1 – FSMO Standard

6/11: The Committee has started the process of reviewing the Volume 1 FSMO Standard for implementation. Ilona prepared an SOP for the review process that has gone out to Committee members to consider for finalization next week so the review can be completed.

7/9: The new review process SOP 5-104 has been approved for use by the Committee and is ready for Policy Committee review.

Generate more awareness of the program and drive growth and interest in participation.

Administrative Activities

1/8: Ilona sent emails to possible new Committee members encouraging them to apply. The Chair and Ilona have planned a meeting for 1/10/25 to review membership, review open action items and look at 2024 accomplishments and 2025 goals to plan the first 2025 Committee meeting and prepare slides for the Field meeting in Jacksonville, FL.

3/12: Kevin Holbrooks has been added as the new Vice-Chair in 2025. Tracy will be continuing as Chair. The Committee is working on an updated list of Metrics that will be presented to the Board.

6.2 Field Activities Expert Committee (FAC)

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete revisions to Volumes 1 and 2.	Volume 1 1/8: The responses to commenters have been sent out and if no appeals are received, the Standard will be final at the end of the month. 3/12: The V1 Standard is now final. It has been sent to the CSDP EC for review and will then be sent to the NEFAP EC for approval for use and determination of an effective date. 4/9: Bob Wyeth sent some comments in his review that Katie and Ilona have developed responses. Need to meet with Bob and Paul Junio (Chair – CSDP) to discuss. 5/14: A couple of editorial changes will be made and then final formatting will be applied before it goes to the NEFAP EC for approval and setting of an implementation date. CSDP did not feel the need for any substantial changes. 6/11: The Volume 1 FSMO Standard was sent to the NEFAP EC for approval for use in their program. Volume 2 1/8: Work is continuing with weekly Workgroup meetings to finalize a DRAFT of Module 2 for the Committee to review.

	3/12: Work is continuing with weekly Workgroup meetings to finalize a DRAFT of Module 2 for the Committee to review. 4/9: The Committee has finished its initial review and Ilona is working on updating the sections with the review comments and preparing a DRAFT for a review by the Committee next week. It will then go to Jan for formatting and clean-up before a Committee vote before posting for comment. 5/14: The Committee is in Section 6 of its final review before it will be sent to Jan for clean-up and then it will be voted on as a DRAFT Standard. 6/1: The Committee is continuing its final review of Volume 2. 7/9: The Committee is continuing its final review of Volume 2.
Assist NEFAP in planning for Sampling Conclave. Discuss addition of media-specific field sampling modules to Volume 1. Respond to SIRs, as necessary. Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.	6/11: Katie is working on a presentation of the FSMO Volume 1 Standard.
Administrative Activities	3/12: Katie is trying to set-up workgroups to begin working on implementation tools. 7/9: Ilona provided tools used previously for the 2014 Standard implementation for consideration for update to assist with the 2024 Standard update. 4/9: Difficulty finding volunteers. Will check with NEFAP EC and Katie has started work on the crosswalk for Volume 1. 1/8: Ilona sent emails to possible new Committee members encouraging them to apply. The Chair and Ilona met to review membership, review open action items, and look at 2024 accomplishments and 2025 goals to plan the first 2025 Committee meeting and prepare slides for the Field meeting in Jacksonville, FL. 3/12: Paul Bergeron is the new Committee Vice-Chair for 2025. Katie will continue as Chair for 2025.

7. NELAP

7.1 Accreditation Council

2025 Objectives	Status
Sustain governance role for the program and promoting consistency in AB operations.	
Review and comment on V2M1 Draft Standard Revision 3.	1/8: The January 6 meeting planned to discuss an SIR with a complicated history, about whether Microbiology sterility checks must be performed in the laboratory of use.

Review and comment on other revised modules of the TNI ELS Standard (Volume 1) as the Expert Committees publish Draft Standards.

4/9: Received LASEC recommendation concerning V1M7, as follows: "LASEC finds that the Draft Standard V1M7 represents an improvement over the current standard and has no perceived obstacles to implementation by accreditation bodies, but changes are required before it can be considered suitable for adoption and implementation by the NELAP Accreditation Council. Specifically, sections 3 and 4 of the Draft Standard cannot be considered "final" at this time because the content of Module 2 is not yet finalized, and both of these sections – Definitions and Technical Specialist Qualifications – depend on the final language of the Quality Management Systems module V1M2. Once those two sections align with the other modules in Volume 1, LASEC expects to provide a recommendation to adopt."

4/9: Provided list of state requirements for Technical Director/Manager to QMS as promised.

Address issues of concern to NELAP ABs as they arise.

5/14: Discussed a request from Paul Junio about whether the Standard Methods announcement of a Change in Method Nomenclature

(<https://www.standardmethods.org/pb-assets/standard-methods/Resources/Nomenclature%20JEB%20memo%20revision%20final%202-1740590566063.pdf>) should cause changes to LAMS practices. Kristin spoke with Paul about minor concerns.

6/11: Paul Junio (Chair, CSDP EC) previously asked for information on state requirements related to Technical Specialists. CSDP EC is seeking additional information about how their current requirements could change. There was a good discussion that included examples of what the AC might be able to work with. Paul and Ilona (QMS PA) will work on DRAFT language to present to the QMS Expert Committee and CSDP EC based on the discussion.

7/9: Susan Jackson (PTPEC) and Paul Junio (LAMS) met with the NELAP AC today to discuss an FoPT change that eliminates gamma-Chlordane from the table and adds trans-Chlordane. PT Providers do not offer gamma-Chlordane, but have always offered trans-Chlordane. These are not the same compound and the table has now been corrected. This has impact on accreditation, methods, etc. ... Jerry will work with EMC to request that EPA provide a document summarizing the issue and providing guidance on how to deal with methods that list gamma-Chlordane when they should list trans-Chlordane. This is an issue for permits also.

Jerry Parr shared information from a recent Cannabis Regulators Association(CANN-RA.org) meeting where they commented that they would like to see more NELAP ABs accrediting for Cannabis.

Complete current evaluations and plan for the future.

5/14: The Council discussed the possibility of using a contracted staff person in place of the state evaluator. The

small ABs favor the idea but larger ones don't. Cost will be a determining factor, so the two Lead Evaluators will be consulted about the time needed, and ABs using the contractor would prefer that the cost be spread over three years.

6/11: This topic was further discussed. States would like an opportunity to opt in and pay an additional fee or participate in an evaluation and not pay the additional fee.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Louisiana Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (LELAP) evaluation was completed. The AC voted to renew their recognition.

The Virginia evaluation was completed. The AC voted to renew their recognition.

7/9: The NELAP AC will begin work on a letter to LASEC and the Evaluation group to recommend changes to the Evaluation process. This will be reviewed at their next meeting.

Continue to provide information sharing venue.

Administrative Activities

3/12: The Council did not hold a meeting in February, only the conference session, where concerns about the Technical Specialist qualifications were raised. At the March meeting, Council members were asked to provide a summary of any state regulatory requirements about Technical Manager/Director that might be relevant to the Technical Specialist qualifications, and that summary will be shared with CSDEC and QMS Expert Committee when information is compiled. A vote to approve minor revisions (5-year review) to POL 3-102 (Relationship of NELAP AB Certificates of Recognition and the NELAP Evaluation Process) is underway, with two email votes still outstanding.

Note: Vote concluded after the call and the document was sent to the Policy Committee.

4/9: Considered minor edits to the NELAP Dispute Resolution SOP 3-104.

7.2 Laboratory Accreditation Systems Executive Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Supplement SIR with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.	4/9: Determined to administratively withdraw SIR 425, which asks whether micro sterility checks must be performed in the lab of use. This SIR was 3 years old, with multiple requested revisions but the final answer was that the language of the standard does not provide an answer, and posting such a response to the TNI website would not be implementable.
Review Draft Standards as they are developed.	4/9: Reviewed V1M7 Draft Standard and provided a recommendation to the NELAP AC as follows: "LASEC finds that the Draft Standard V1M7 represents an improvement over the current standard and has no perceived obstacles to implementation by accreditation bodies, but changes are required before it can be considered suitable for adoption and implementation by the NELAP Accreditation Council. Specifically, sections 3 and 4 of the Draft Standard cannot be considered "final" at this time because the content of Module 2 is not yet finalized, and both of these sections – Definitions and Technical Specialist Qualifications – depend on the final language of the Quality Management Systems module V1M2. Once those two sections align with the other modules in Volume 1, LASEC expects to provide a recommendation to adopt." LASEC will also communicate to CSDP EC its concerns about the timeline that required publication of V1M7 while this issue is unresolved. 5/14: Approved an exception to the Standards Review for Suitability SOP 3-106 that LASEC delay all technical module recommendations to the NELAP AC until such time as the Technical Specialist language in Module is firmly established. Lynn was asked to notify the NELAP AC of this decision and that was done at the Council's May 5 meeting.
Prepare to assume role as Recognition Body for NGAB status (parallel to NEFAP and PTPEC recognitions)	
Develop Draft Policies and SOPs for NELAP as needed.	3/12: Committee approved minor revisions (5-year review) to POL 3-102 (Relationship of NELAP AB Certificates of Recognition and the NELAP Evaluation Process) at its January meeting.
Sustain SIR progress and supplement SIRS with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.	3/12: LASEC did not meet in February but a vote to approve posting the response to SIR 504 for Accreditation Council review was requested by email and is ongoing.
Work in cooperation with the NELAP Accreditation Council (AC) to assist in implementing this program.	
Administrative Activities	

8. PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

2025 Objectives	Status
Establish and maintain a national PT program to support a national environmental accreditation program.	1/8: Continued updating the SOP 4-101 through 3 subcommittee meetings. 3/12: Continued updating SOP 4-101. Identified potential SOP updates to be made to other SOPs to ensure SOPs match requirements in TNI Standard updates in the works with the PTEC.
Ensure that fields of Proficiency Testing (FoPTs) are appropriate for their intended use.	01/08: Will present updated PTRL for Hg in NPW, and Chlordane changes at Winter Forum to assess the impact of these changes. Will move ahead with updates to affected FoPT tables. 3/12: Approved NPW including update to Mercury PTRL and changes in Chlordane nomenclature and CAS# references. Approved SCM FoPT Table including change in Chlordane nomenclature and CAS#. 4/9: Updated draft SCM and NPW FoPT tables have been sent to the AC and PT Providers to gather comments for updates on the NPW Mercury PTRL, and updates to chlordane nomenclature. 5/14: No comments have been received to date. The Committee will review this in their May meeting. 6/11: The tables were posted for comments that need to be made by July 11, 2025. Any comments will be reviewed during the July meeting. 5/14: The Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee has requested PT information to perform an annual review after new limits were developed for DW Radiochemistry. A volunteer from the Radiochemistry Expert Committee has been requested to help with this effort. 6/11: The Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee received the PT data for review of the Radiochemistry limits. The Committee met on 6/4/25 to start the review with the inclusion of volunteers from the Radiochemistry Expert Committee. 7/9: A comment was received from Minnesota and with input from Paul Junio (LAMS), the Committee decided the table posted for comments relative to chlordane needed immediate changes. See description and resolution under NELAP AC report. 7/9: Based on the June Chemistry FoPT meeting, a letter was written to Michella Karapondo with a request for EPA to consider re-evaluating the MQOs for: Gross-alpha, Gross-beta, Radium-226, and Strontium-90. They also requested that EPA consider incorporating zeta- scoring for the Drinking Water Radiochemistry analytes. This scoring model would take into account the standard uncertainties associated with the PT

Work with the WET FoPT Subcommittee to develop recommendations to resolve problems with variability of testing conditions.

providers assigned values and laboratory reported methods in the evaluation criteria. A meeting is being set up with Michella and Katie Hoffman from EPA and Robert Rosson from GDIT to discuss options.

1/8: Continued developing recommendation for setting minimum acceptance limits for LC 25 and LC 50 to ensure acceptance limits are reasonable.

3/12: The WET EC will work with this subcommittee to develop this recommendation and look at other options for WET PTs.

4/9: Additional members with appropriate expertise from the WET EC have volunteered to join the WET FoPT Subcommittee to complete the work on developing a recommendation for FoPT Table updates that will be presented to the PTPEC.

5/14: Two applications have been received for associate membership and forwarded to the Subcommittee.

6/11: Data is being re-processed based on recommendations from the WET Expert Committee.

7/9: The Subcommittee completed the FoPT table update on June 18, 2025. It will need to be sent out for comment before finalization. Craig Huff is retiring.

Develop resolution for reporting uncertainty with Radiochemistry PT results.

Conduct a 10-year review of all FoPTs.

1/8: Completed Review and calculations for DW Inorganics and Metals. Will continue review of all other DW FoPTs.

3/12: Subcommittee will be reviewing conclusions from the review of the calculations for DW Inorganics and Metals. Will continue review of all other DW FoPTs.

4/9: Subcommittee is developing a tool to streamline determining impacts of possible DW FoPT updates identified as a result of the 10-year review. After the 10-year review is completed, the subcommittee will prepare a recommendation for the PTPEC to consider.

6/11: The Subcommittee has started the 10-year review of all FoPTs.

7/7: The Subcommittee changed its meeting to mid-July and will continue its review of DW limits.

Ensure the effectiveness of the PT Provider accreditation and oversight program.

Complete Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditor (PTPA) evaluations.

4/9: With Stacie's departure another individual will need to be identified to represent PTP"EC and get trained.

5/14: A possible candidate has been identified for the PTPA evaluations, but this needs to be confirmed and other volunteers may still express interest this week.

Application reminders have been sent to all NGABs with a due date of June. NGABs can extend this

Complete and gather information on PT Program metrics.
Continue working to be inclusive of non-TNI ABs.
Support the NELAP AC on method codes issues in LAMS for TPH/Oil and Grease/HEM, cyanides, and microbiology
Work with PT Expert Committee to update Volumes 3 and 4 of the TNI Laboratory Standard

Administrative Activities

application due date by 30 days. One PTPA application has been received but still need their TNI Standard Renewal Application. Training for new evaluators is planned in 3 weeks.

1/8: working with PTEC to review Volume 4 and update format and language to align with ISO.

3/12: Discussed proposed language changes on PTEC meeting at the 2025 forum and identified potential SOP updates for the PTPEC to make once the draft standard is finalized and approved.

5/14: The Committee is reviewing a proposed update to DRAFT Volume 4 received from the PT Expert Committee.

1/8: Began outreach to current active associate members about moving to a voting member status by completing the application. Approved nomination for Michella Karapondo as a voting member. Jennifer Best resigned as a voting member and will continue on as an associate member due to a new professional role.

7/9: The Committee did a thorough review of action items.

3/12: Voted in Lisa Stafford representing the laboratory stakeholder group as voting member. Asking the Board of Directors to approve a third term for Rachel Ellis, representing the Accreditation stakeholder, to ensure committee balance.

4/9: Voted in Nilda Cox representing the laboratory stakeholder group as a voting member. The role of PTPEC Program Administrator is shifting to Ilona Taunton.

9 ADMINISTRATION

9.1 Advocacy Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Implement a plan for national accreditation and systematic outreach to data users that will explain and promote the benefits of a quality management system.	6/11: Initiated preliminary discussions about objective 1.2.6 (future NELAP vision) and agreed on the following steps: 1. Have a wide-ranging conversation with Dan Hautman.

Finalize the “Introduction to TNI” to create a webinar for new members.

Monitor EPA/federal activities for opportunities to share TNI’s activities and promote national accreditation.

Deliver the State of National Accreditation Report to non-NELAP state contacts and trade associations.

Look for opportunities to add TNI Ambassadors for non-NELAP states.

Monitor EPA/federal activities for opportunities to share TNI’s activities and promote national accreditation.

Sustain

- organizing newsletter publication

- providing assistance to conference planning

- support for Small Laboratory Advocate role

Provide outreach (e.g., presentations and papers) to promote The NELAC Institute and TNI’s programs.

2. Contact the NGABs about their ability to handle more labs.

3. Compile a table summarizing all non-NELAP certified labs.

4/9: Discussed whether and how TNI might assist EPA in sustaining laboratory certification activities with EPA’s reduced funding and staffing.

3/12: During the brief Advocacy session at conference and again during the March 6 meeting, newsletter articles were identified and a volunteer editor chosen.

4/9: Finalized plans for spring newsletter.

6/11: Spring newsletter sent on June 4.

2025 Presentations confirmed:

April 6, 2025, A2LA Annual Conference – Jerry Parr – Changes to the TNI Laboratory Accreditation Standards

May 23, 2025, FSEA Spring Meeting - Paul Junio – TNI’s Credential Initiative

1/8: Committee members approved a Letter to the Editor of C&EN concerning cannabis labs, The letter explains that including ethics and data integrity requirements in laboratory quality management systems would avoid many of the “lab shopping” issues that were the topic of a September article and editorial. This letter will be presented for Board discussion at today’s meeting.

5/14: Edited a draft letter to Cannabis Regulators Association (CANN-RA.org) asking to meet and discuss the lab issues CANN-RA faces that are very similar to the early drinking water certification issues, and whether some sort of collaborative partnership might be beneficial to both parties. Jerry sent the

letter on May 2 and it was received favorably. A meeting in late June seems likely.

6/11: Meeting set for June 23. Jerry is also recruiting cannabis speakers for the NEMC Ensuring Reliable Data session.

7/9: On June 23, Jerry Parr and Sharon Mertens met with the Executive Director and other individuals representing the Cannabis Regulators Association. We shared some of the activities we were doing that could be beneficial to their members and the laboratories they regulate. In the future, we will be working with their committee that focuses on testing issues.

7/9: Victoria Pretti (NY) and Steve Jetter (OR) have agreed to present on cannabis testing issues at EMS.

Develop a new White Paper on acceptance of NELAP accreditations by non-NELAP states.

Conduct other activities delegated to the Advocacy Committee

Administrative Activities

4/9: Discussed a request to place advertising in the TNI newsletter. Jerry will explore further, as Advocacy had no objections to the concept.

6/11: Devon Morgan approved as a new voting member bring the total to 8.

9.2 Credentials Committee

2025 Objectivities	Status
Support Executive Director in implementing the Credentialing Initiative for a QMS Certified Professional.	7/9: Reviewed and approved a draft web page that will allow individuals to upload a resume with one minor change.
Review current exam questions for accuracy and understanding.	3/12: Workshop on applying for and completing the QM digital badges and full credential presented at the end of conference in Jacksonville. 7/9: Reviewed the feedback from the Exam Preparation webinar provided in June and deleted one question, revised 2, and made several policy changes to the Credentials Handbook
Select next roles for potential credentialing.	1/8: The Credentials Committee held its November-December meeting on December 4, and that was reported for the 12/11/24 Board meeting.
Develop KSA for next role.	3/12: Review of TS KSAs for analytical discipline "inorganic non-metals" completed at the February 26 meeting. Two additional chemistry analytical discipline KSAs still to be created and reviewed. Expert committees asked to create KSAs for other analytical disciplines.

	4/9: Reviewed metals sample preparation KSAs. 6/11: Reviewed and edited draft instructions for creating KSAs for Technical Specialists for other modules. 7/9: Initiated the use of Chat GPT to help develop KSAs and test questions.
Review existing training courses and see if additional courses are needed.	5/14: Discussed QMS exam prep course (process and sample questions) to be offered in June, prior to the first exam for the Certified Quality Management Systems Professional credential.
Coordinate with TNI Training Committee in developing courses.	
Administrative Activities	4/9: Requested volunteers for the Professional Development Task Force being formed. 7/9: Paul Canevero added as a voting member.

9.3 Policy Committee

2025 Objectives		Status
Continue to develop and/or review SOPs and Policies		See Table below.
Policy/SOP No.	Description	Status
SOP 1-123	Personal Data Collection and Use	1/8: Provided for Board endorsement.
POL 7-100	Issuance of NGAB Certificates	3/12: Provided for Board endorsement.
SOP 1-133	TNI Management Review	3/13: Draft complete and forwarded to PAs for review. 4/9: Incorporated comments from PAs and approved SOP.
SOP 2-103	Format and Style Guide for TNI Standards	3/13: Review complete and returned to CSDP EC for minor revisions. 4/9: Reviewed and approved revised SOP.
POL 3-102	Relationship of NELAP AB Certificates of Recognition and the NELAP Evaluation Process	4/9: Reviewed and approved revised Policy.
SOP 3-104	NELAP Dispute Resolution Process	5/14: Reviewed and approved revised SOP.
SOP 7-100	Evaluation of NGABs for Accrediting Environmental Laboratories under Recognition by TNI	6/11: Initiated efforts to revise this SOP based on May Board discussion. 7/9: SOP provided to the Board for review and endorsement.

Begin Maintaining Glossary.	5/14 The committee initiated a review of inconsistent terms and Paul volunteered to draft recommended changes and present to the committee for the next
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call along with any needed revisions to SOP 1-130. The committee agreed that if any ISO/IEC definitions exist they should take precedent over any TNI definitions unless a strong reason for using the TNI definition exists and that definitions in ISO/IEC 17000 should take preference over subsidiary ISO/IEC standards such as 17011 or 17025.

Conduct a 10-year review of the TNI Bylaws and Quality Management Plan.
Conduct other activities delegated to the Policy Committee
Administrative Activities

6/11: Scheduled a third call for May to expedite work on SOP 7-100.

9.4 Training Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Continue Linked-In presence.	
Continue to work with the Credential Committee to support this effort.	
Look for opportunities to collaborate with other training providers.	5/14: Developing possible collaboration with PJLA.
Post Webcast for how to complete training application to teach courses.	3/12: Presentation given in Jacksonville, FL. Will incorporate a few updates based on new website roll-out and prepare a new recording. 6/11: Working on updates to the application so the training can be finalized.
Work with vendors to develop technical course training opportunities.	
Develop new survey for webinars.	
Continue to develop ideas for training courses and issue RFPs.	3/12: Workgroup met in February and course descriptions are in progress. 4/9: Workgroup met and final language is just about complete. Will be sent middle of the month. 5/14: The RFP was completed and Jan is working on distribution. Jerry Thao has posted this on LinkedIn. The Committee discussed ways to find trainers for upcoming technical course needs. The RFP will include these topics: – Managing Change to Minimize Risk and Increase Success – Management Review as a Tool to Improve Efficiency, Reduce Waste and Protect the Bottom Line – How to Write Effective Non-Conformances 6/11: The RFP was distributed, and three bids have come in from Silky, Dorothy and Marlene.

Details are being worked on and then classes will be scheduled.

7/7: The following classes have been scheduled:

- Dorothy: Managing Change to Minimize Risk and Increase Success – October 30, 2025
- Silky: Management Reviews – A Pathway to Improvement – September 16, 2025
- Marlene: How to Write Non-Conformance - October 14, 2025.
- Marlene has also submitted an additional course – Introductions to TNI Assessments and Evaluations proposed for November 7, 2025. This class will be recommended to students with no AB experience who wish to take the Basic Assessor class.

ANAB has finished writing their Risk course and it is being reviewed. This will be another course that ANAB will offer through TNI.

Review training to ensure it is not obsolete.

5/14: Updates are being received and a status meeting is planned for 5/13. A new Workgroup member has been added.

6/11: The Workgroup has made lots of progress on these reviews. It is hoping to have the current scheduled reviews completed by the end of August.

Continue to update Course Catalog database as new courses are developed.
Expand use of technology to administer, automatically grade tests, and provide certificates.

3/12: Rolled out in Jacksonville, FL.

3/10/25: The new EDS webpage was rolled out at the meeting in Jacksonville, NC.

Continue to offer and market new training courses.

1/8: A new course is being offered on January 14, 2024: The 2024 Proposed EPA Method Update Rule. It is a 3 hour course being taught by Jerry Parr and William Lipps. Registrations confirmed to date: 58 individual registrations and 7 groups.

3/12: Looking at adding courses to the RFP in March: Change Management, Lessons Learned in the Field, FSMO V1 New Standard Training, How to Write Effective Non-Conformances, Management Reviews as a Strategic Planning Tool, and Integrity Training.

4/9: The Integrity Training will be put on hold until more information is received from EPA.

- Dorothy Love is planning a 4 course series on Keys to Quality Management. Proposed dates are May 21 and 28 and June 11 and 18. The course will be a total of 8 hours.
- Mary Johnson is planning an update to her Wastewater Laboratory Basics course in July. Details to follow. She has new material to add.
- Jeanne Mensingh is working on a final course proposal for a topic that did not get a bid on the last RFP round – Validation of User Developed Software. This course is expected to be taught in early Fall (Aug/Sep). Jeanne is also teaching a course at EMS related to the presentation she made at the Assessment Forum in Jacksonville.
- 5/14: Dorothy and Mary's classes are posted for registration on the TNI website. One additional class has also been posted: Exam Preparation for a Certified Quality Management Systems Professional. It will be taught by Jerry Parr on June 16, 2025. All 3 courses are also posted on LinkedIn.

7/9: Dorothy completed the Keys to Quality Management course. There were 58 students in attendance. Mary completed her Wastewater Laboratory – Basics and Essential Analyses course. There were 15 individual and 3 group registrations, so there were about 45 participants.

Continue to develop ideas and issue RFPs for training courses.

Develop new Course Survey

3/12: Surveys were given for the Assessment Forum and Mentor Session in Jacksonville and will be reviewed at March Training meeting.

4/9: The Committee reviewed the surveys and will look into a few items:

- Make sure people know how to add suggestions after the conference.

	- Looks like most people responding to these surveys have lots of experience. Does that mean most people attending these session are experienced and we should prepare them for these people? - Help develop Conference survey to include, in addition to information already collected, how long people have worked in their industry, Perhaps add questions to registration to find out if it is someone's first conference.
Continue to hold Mentor Session and Assessment Forum at every TNI meeting	7/9: Agenda for both sessions for St. Louis finalized.
Other	4/9: Discussed development of Professional Development Program. Calista, Elizabeth, Joe Manzella and Ilona will be included in a Task Force being developed to work on this. Also discussed Jack Farrell Scholarship.
Administrative Activities	1/8: Work by the Committee is continuing on this Strategic Planning. The Chairs and Ilona met to review membership, review open action items, and look at 2024 accomplishments and 2025 goals to plan the first 2025 Committee meeting and prepare slides for the training meeting in Jacksonville. 7/9: Ilona presented a new automated program she has implemented for administering tests for webinars. The test and grading for most courses is now automated and provides immediate feedback to determine if there are any questions that might need to be refined before posting as a Webcast.

9.6 Forum on Environmental Accreditation

The 2025 Forum will be in Jacksonville, FL from February 3-6, 2025.

1/8: Currently have around 150 attendees and the hotel room block is at 78%. A reminder of the deadline for early registration and to get a room by December 10 will go out Tuesday.

3/12: Ended up with 222 attendees. Fell just a little short of the room block due to several late cancellations due to flu. Expenses \$30K greater than budget due to higher food costs but projections are still on track for income to exceed expense by about \$20K.

2026 Forum will be in Boston from January 12-15.

9.7 Environmental Measurement Symposium

The 2025 Symposium will be in St. Louis, MO from August 4-8, 2025.

3/12: The program is getting close to being set. Due to the number of abstracts received for the NEMC portion of the meeting, we will be going to 5 concurrent sessions Monday and Tuesday am. Currently

planning on 20 NEMC breakout session with ~110 presentations and 11 TNI sessions. Friday morning will have a workshop on cybersecurity and a credentials exam. Starting to workout kinks in using Microsoft Teams to record TNI Working Session at NEMC. Looking at purchasing equipment to reduce AV costs. The preliminary schedules is shown below. Registration should open by March 17 or so.

4/9: The schedule was modified slightly as shown below and attendee registration opened on April 1.

5/14: The exhibit program is sold out with 53 organizations and 61 tables. Attendee registration sits at 104, with only 4 of these being recordings.

6/11: Attendee registration sits at 174, with only 4 of these being recordings. Two EPA presenters had to cancel so the Thursday am session was revised.

7/9: Attendee registration sits at 330, with only 8 of these being recordings. This number does not count ~130 exhibitors nor 10 presenters that have not registered. The hotel room block is at 97% with the deadline to get a room this Friday. We have 13 registrations for the cybersecurity workshop and 14 for the credential's exam.

2025 Environmental Measurement Symposium Conference at a Glance

Time	Mon 8/5	Tues 8/6	Wed 8/7	Thu 8/8	Fri 8/9
8:15	Carter award	Schiessel Keynote	Plenary Session	Program updates 8:30-10:00	
9:00-12:00	HRMS	LIMS		Sample Prep 2	Security Workshop and Credentials Exam
	MeCl2	Drinking Water 2		Consensus	
	Drinking Water/1	Reliable Data		Microbiology	
	TNI WET/LAB	TNI Radiochemistry		TNI Field	
	Assessment Forum	TNI Micro			
12:00-1:00	Lunch on Own	Lunch	Lunch on own +5 Vendor Lunches	Lunch	
1:00 – 5:00	Microplastics	Best Mgmt (4)	Com Sci (6)	Air	
	Sustainable Lab	Forensics (4)	Lab Ops (5)	Organics	
	PFAS/1	Metals (4)	Sample Prep /1 (5)	PFAS 2	
	TNI Chemistry	EMC	TNI Quality Systems	TNI Credentials & Training	
	TNI PTEC/PTPEC	NELAP/LASEC	TNI Mentor	4:15 Committee Reports	
5:30	Reception & Exhibit	Showcase 3:30 - 5:30	Exhibit close 3:30		

10. TASK FORCES AND OTHER EFFORTS

10.1 Consumables Task Force

2025 Objectives	Status
Finalize the decision tree and certificates documents.	
Test the guidance with selected stakeholder groups.	
Develop implementation tools for laboratories.	
Prepare guidance document.	1/8: Task Force to ballot approval of draft Guidance Document in January prior to meeting in Jacksonville. 3/12: Draft Guidance Document presented at Winter Meeting and comments were solicited. Comments have been addressed by the Task Force and a final draft document has been created and circulated for review by select interested parties. Anticipate any potential final changes and submitting the Guidance Document to the Policy Committee for review and approval. 4/9: CTF requested select stakeholders review of the draft GD. Comments and suggestions have been received and incorporated into the document for review and approval by the task force during April meeting. GD will then be submitted to the Policy Committee for review and approval. 5/14: The Task Force met and resolved editorial/grammatical comments from external reviewers in the GD. The final language of the GD distributed to members and the June meeting will address and hopefully resolve all remaining comments (primarily in the appendices). The GD will then be forwarded to the Policy Committee for approval. 6/11 Committee approved Guidance Document and is currently working to resolve comments and external reviewer comments and suggestions on appendices and checklists. The full document will be submitted to the Policy Committee in July. 7/9 Final Guidance Document to be present for Task Force vote in July. Vote to be conducted by e-mail ballot due to continued attendance issues. Upon approval the document will be submitted to the Policy Committee for approval.
Administrative Activities	

10.2 Feedback Task Force

2025 Objectives	Status
Conduct the survey.	4/8: No change, awaiting resolution of technical issues.
Develop recommendations.	
Dissolve the Task Force	

10.3 Professional Development Task Force

2025 Objectives	Status
Develop a Charter for the new Executive Committee.	4/9: Task Force formed with first meeting planned for April. 5/14: Task Force members identified and draft Charter developed. Sharon Mertens has volunteered to help lead the effort. 6/11: First meeting schedule for June 13. 7/9: See Agenda item 1.
Develop plan for the Jack Farrell Analytical Excellence Scholarship.	
Develop recommendations for the Board.	
Dissolve the Task Force	

10.4 NGAB Evaluations

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete NGAB re-evaluation process.	5/14: Application reminders have been sent to all NGABs with a due date of June. NGABs can extend this application due date by 30 days. Two applications have been received, but still need their TNI Standard Renewal Application. Ilona will be preparing the SOP 7-100 (Evaluation of Non-Governmental Accreditation Bodies (NGAB) for Accrediting Environmental Laboratories under Recognition by TNI) exam for this training with Marlene's review. All other training material is ready. 6/11: Applications are due in June, but there have been two requests for an extension. The training will be updated to include the new SOP for the evaluators. Ilona is helping with the development of the class, so consideration is being given to whether updating the SOP and preparing the exam is sufficient to cover her training since she has already undergone the Evaluator training for NEFAP, PTP and NELAP. The only change is the new SOP. 7/9: Judy Morgan and Marlene Moore agreed to continue to serve on the TNRCC. All applications are expected to be in by mid-August. Initial review of the first application

required that it be returned for more specific references in the checklist. PJLA's application was received on July 7.

10.4 Environmental Monitoring Coalition

4/9: EMC provided comments on the proposed EPA Methods Update Rule on March 24.

11. MEMBERSHIP

- 1203 active members

11.1 Committee Applications – Voting/Associate

First	Last	Organization	Interest	Committee
Kevin	Thompson	Waters-ERA	Voting	Executive: Proficiency Testing Program
Rachel	Amaro	Trinity River Authority Of Texas	Associate	Chemistry
Maria	Friedman	California ELAP	Voting	TNRC
Aaren	Alger	Alger Consulting & Training	Voting	TNRC
Kristin	Brown	Utah DHHS	Voting	TNRC
Paul	Canevaro	Republic Services	Voting	Credentials
Sara	Duran	Alliance Technical Group, LLC	Associate	Quality Management Systems
Kathleen	Mitchell	RMB Environmental Laboratories	Associate	Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)
Mary Ann	Concepcion	San Francisco Public Utilities	Associate	Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)
Kevin	Sudds	City of Riverside Lab Services	Voting	Chemistry
Greg	Agee	Los Angeles County Sanitation	Associate	Chemistry

11.2 New and Renewed Members:

- 206 New and Renewed memberships in June, 2025

11.3 Expired Memberships

- Of the 31 expired memberships from May, 5 renewed after contact (2 emails were undeliverable, 2 are retiring soon). Emails were sent to June expired members on July 1, 2025.
- 26 Memberships Expired in June