

TNI Board of Directors Meeting Summary

April 8, 2026

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	X	Janice Wlodarski	X
Robin Cook	X	Bob Wyeth	X
Maria Friedman	X		
Susan Jackson	X		
Jessica Jensen	X		
William Lipps	X		
Harold Longbaugh	X		
Judy Morgan			
Prem Parmar			
Stephanie Rippeon	X		
Patsy Root	X		
Valerie Slaven	X		
Alfredo Sotomayor	X		
Tracy Szerszen	X		
Michelle Wade			
Past Chair			
Sharon Mertens	X		

AGENDA

1.0 Review of Agenda and Consent Agenda

Approve Agenda: Unanimous

Approve Consent Agenda: Unanimous, with changes to the Agenda

2.0 Proficiency Testing in Non-NELAP states

The PTP EC recently received a complaint concerning PT acceptance criteria which resulted primarily from a common laboratory practice of reporting a single analytical result for multiple methods, particularly with small data sets from any PT Study. This stems from variable accreditation requirements for reporting specific methods and method revisions.

The PTP EC and its established Complaint Subcommittee, consistent with SOP 4-107, determined that the complaint was not valid as the analytes of concern were not included in the FoPT tables and thus not in the scope of the PTP EC. The Executive Committee is subsequently taking no specific action in this regard.

The PTP EC, however, acknowledged to the complainant that the problem was significant and suggested it required TNI's attention. The committee thinks it is fair to say that this problem has existed for some time and has been recognized as quite complex and multifaceted as well as having impacts on virtually all stakeholders.

Resolution of the situation will require assessment and potentially a number of changes to current practices and procedures. Equitable resolution will also necessitate contributions from the AC and all Programs and Executive/Expert Committees. The PTP EC would therefore request the formation by the Board of Directors of a Task Force appointed to address the issue.

Discussion:

Form a task group to take on this issue. Define what the problem is and what they would try to accomplish. There are multiple issues here that make it a complex problem. Needs a good charter.

Motion to create a task form to address these issues that the PTP EC have brought to the board: Susan Jackson

Second: Robin Cook

Approved: Unanimous

Task Force members: Paul, Valerie, Maria, Susan can address from the PTP EC angle, maybe Ilona, Bob will be PA.

3.0 Continued Review of TNI's Quality Management Plan

In the March call, the Board requested a section on disputes and appeals be added. After reviewing draft language, the Polic Committee approved adding Section 8.6 to the QMP as follows:

8.6 Disputes and Appeals

Each TNI program Executive Committee has a procedure for handling complaints and management of appeals received by the program.

Motion to Approve adding Section 8.6 to the QMP: William Lipps

Second: Tracy Szerszen

Approved: Unanimous

4.0 Renumbering of Four Training SOPs

On March 20, the Policy committee agreed with a proposal to renumber SOPs 1-110, 1-117, 1-128, and 1-129 to 6-110, 6-117, 6-128, and 6-129 all with revision number 1.0 with no change in effective date. These changes will be reflected in the new Professional Development Program. The committee also agreed that SOP numbers SOPs 6-100 and 6-101 -- obsolete SOPs related to the SSAS effort -- will not be used by the new PDP.

These actions do not require approval by the Board.

5.0 Conforming Changes to SOPs 2-100 and 2-103

The committee agreed that conforming changes to SOP 2-100 (adding template for posting of a new Final Standard) and SOP 2-103 (removing references to ANSI) with no change in revision number or effective date and no further review by the Policy or the Board was appropriate as long as the change section of the SOP should when these changes were made.

Jerry will take this back to Policy and bring it up for next month's meeting (May).

CONSENT AGENDA

Approved 4/8/2026

1.0 Approval of March Minutes

2.0 ANSI Membership

We received this notice on March 31:

Dear Jerry,

We hope all is well!

We are circling back with this reminder for your 2026 membership renewal.

This can be paid online here: <https://portal.ansi.org/myaccount>, or with the ANSI Easy Pay

Link: <https://portal.ansi.org/MyAccount/InvoiceSearch>.

Sincerely,

ANSI Membership Team

Unless the Board objects, Jerry Plans to respond with this message this week.

Thank you for the reminder. Our membership was essential in the formation of our organization and getting us compliant with OMB A-119. However, our Board has decided that continuing this membership is not in our organization's best interest.

Compared to your typical member, we are a very small organization with a very limited number of standards and a fixed customer base. Since our formation in 2006, we have continuously improved our policies and procedures for standard development and believe we have a very robust system.

3.0 Quarterly SIR Report

The total number of SIRs submitted is 531. SIR updates (or SIRs pending completion) during Q1 2026 are as follows:

SIR #	Date	Subject	Status
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	No, the standard does not require method blanks or laboratory fortified blanks (however named) to have the preservatives added to them; unless the method specifically requires it. <i>[unchanged from previous; AC vote incomplete]</i>

		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.	
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SUMMARY

SIR Category	#
Total number received (All time)	531
Total number received (Q1 2026)	2
Number unresolved	6

4.0 [Reserved]

5.0 CONSENSUS STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CSDP)

5.1 CSDP Executive Committee

2026 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.	2/11: Continue to provide monitoring and oversight of standards development by expert committees.
Ensure consistency and uniformity between Volumes and Modules of the Standard	2/11: Reviewing DS from expert committees to ensure consistency and lack of conflict. 3/11: Prepared/submitted comments on Draft Standards. 4/8 Temperature at Receipt requirements removed from EL V1M2 and deferred to expert committees (EL V1M3-7) who all reported requirements covered in their respective modules.
Provide technical and administrative assistance, guidance documents, checklists, and other tools to facilitate the implementation 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.	2/11: Advised committee chairs that standards naming convention (previously approved) was undergoing further potential revision

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

Administrative Activities

2/11: Reviewed expert committees' election of 2026 leadership roles. Review and approved 3rd term request(s).

3/11 preparing for election of Vice Chair. A number of requests for term extensions on expert committees reviewed and approved. New expert committee members approved.

4/8 Debbie Bond elected as Vice Chair of CSDP EC. Nicole Cairns welcomed to executive committee. Third Term approvals for LAB and Radiochemistry Chairs

5.2 Asbestos Expert Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for asbestos testing that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality.	2/11: EL V1M3 waits implementation by Abs. Removed any special requirements for Technical Specialist and will advise QMS expert committee.
Pursue adoption and implementation of Module 3 in NELAP.	
Serve as a technical resource regarding TNI members and other interested parties.	
Develop technical assistance, guidance documents, checklists, and other tools as needed to facilitate the implementation of the new Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.	2/11: Continuing to develop Implementation Guidance for SRM equivalency. 3/11 Continues to develop strategies for unavailable SRM required by EL V1M3. Guidance document anticipated.
Develop questions and training to assist the credentials efforts.	
Respond to SIRs as necessary.	
Administrative Activities	2/11 Leadership roles remain unchanged. Committee balanced with one new associate. 4/8 Committee returning to Quarterly meeting cycle. Work Group on SRM guidance document will proceed until draft prepared for committee review.

5.3 Chemistry Expert Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for chemical testing that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality.	2/11: EL V1M4 published for public comment and comment period has closed. 505 comments received (many editorial and/or duplicative) and committee processing comments. Persuasive comments have been determined, and a revised DS will be forthcoming.
Finalize EL V1M4 and pursue adoption and implementation.	3/11: Committee continues to review comments and draft revised language to address persuasive comments. Reworking document to comply with SOP 2-103. 4/8 Committee continues to review comments and draft revised language to address persuasive comments. Numerous comments resolved and recorded.
Provide technical assistance in implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.	4/8 Language harmonization with QMS changes to definitions in EL V1M2
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.	2/11: Guidance documents anticipated but not yet defined
Respond to any SIRs as necessary.	2/11: Awaiting resolution from LASEC/AC on 2 outstanding SIRs
Administrative Activities	2/11: New committee leadership (Nicole Cairns) in place and 3 new associates added, 5 members rotating off the committee. Election of new members scheduled for March meeting from 13 candidates. Balance will be maintained. 3/11: New members elected and approved by CSDP EC. Committee census at 15 members with balance and lack of dominance. Associate members confirmed. 3 New Associates joined the committee. 4/8 New members welcomed. 2 additional Associates added to committee.

5.4 Field Activities Expert Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete revisions to Volume 2.	2/11: Committee is expecting to finalize the Draft Standard for Committee vote. The Summary of Changes will then be completed, and the Standard will be posted for comment late February/early March. 3/11: Additional comments are being resolved. The Committee will be meeting later this month to review the additional updates for vote. 4/8: Working towards resolving final questions and making some changes based on updates in NELAP Volume 2. Meeting end of month for final resolution for voting.
Assist NEFAP in planning for Sampling Conclave.	2/11: The Sampling conclave will be June 2026. See NEFAP EC for additional information.
Discuss addition of media-specific field sampling modules to Volume 1.	2/11: The committee believes this is not needed given the new Annex in Volume 1.
Respond to SIRs as necessary.	
Work with the NELAP EC to develop tools to facilitate the implementation of the new Volume 1 Standard including providing webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.	2/11: Work will continue on the Accreditation Process Guidance Document after the Volume 2 Standard is posted.
Administrative Activities	

5.5 Laboratory Accreditation Body (LAB) Expert Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Finalize Standard V2M1, Revision 2.	2/11: Workgroups are continuing to help finalize language: - DRAFT language for Assessor Qualifications is just about complete. - ISO/IEC language being removed from the Standard has been gathered. The Committee needs to review this proposal. - Comments from Conferences are being reviewed for any additional changes to the DRAFT Standard. - The Summary of Changes needs to be completed prior to posting the Revised DRAFT Standard (Rev 2). 3/11: The Committee continued its review of changes to the Standard. The Committee is getting support to change Matrix – Technology – Analyte to Matrix – Method – Analyte.

	4/8: Work is continuing on final language for assessor qualifications and training. The Committee is considering additional meetings to expedite completion of the Standard. The Committee also met with Debbie Bond to discuss language additions to be included in Module 2 – see QMS update.
– Discuss and rule on any comments Persuasive or Non-persuasive	2/11: The Committee is confirming that responses are still consistent with changes made to the Standard and should be voting on this document in February/March. 3/11: The Response to Comments document has been updated and is being reviewed by Committee members for voting this month. Letters will be sent to commenters after the table is approved. 4/8: More time was needed to review and make updates to the document. It will be an agenda item during the April meeting.
– If controversies identified, publish Revision 3 and receive/review comments again.	
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.	2/11: Work will begin in March.
Provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Standard including providing a webinar/webcast training on the new Standard.	
Respond to SIRs as necessary.	
Administrative Activities	2/11: Membership will be finalized in February. Extensions for third terms are being requested to complete the DRAFT Standard. 3/11: Extensions for additional terms have been voted on and are being sent to the CSDP EC for approval (Aaren Alger, Michael Perry, and Socorro Baldonado). The Vice Chair (Amy Steurwald) was added to the CSDP EC meeting notification to provide coverage for the Chair when she cannot attend. 4/8: The three terms were extended, and Aaren will continue as Chair of LAB.

5.6 Microbiology Expert Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Complete Volume 1 Module 5 Draft Standard.	1/14: Committee met and discussed comments on the draft Standard. The committee was unable to finalize all comments in time to present a new Draft in Boston. 2/11: No additional meeting held in January due to timing of Forum in Boston. 2/11: Committee is nearing completion of review of all comments. Required course(s) for Module 2 Annex C still be provided. Expect Draft by April '26. 3/11: Committee is nearing completion of review of all comments. Required course(s) for Module 2 Annex C still to be provided. Expect Draft by April '26. 4/8: Committee is finalizing language on some of the last items via email following the meeting. The last remaining comments requiring a determination of persuasive or non-persuasive are in a limited area and should not take long to resolve.
Respond to SIRs s necessary.	
Revise Implementation Guidance (IG) regarding Incubator Equilibrium checks and Temperature Distribution if needed.	4/8: Guidance documents hadn't been addressed by NELAP EC, but are on the agenda for their next meeting.
Serve as a technical resource regarding microbiological testing to TNI members and other interested parties.	
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	
Develop questions and training to assist with the credential's efforts.	
Administrative Activities	1/14: Hunter Adams and Elixia Snyder will be rotating off of the committee, leaving 3 openings. Only laboratory stakeholders applied for the openings. In order to maintain balance, only 2 openings will be filled. Cody Danielson was re-elected Chair. Robin Cook is stepping down as Vice Chair to facilitate an eventual successor to Cody. An election is in process for her replacement. 2/11: Nigel Allison was elected Vice Chair. Katie Strothman and Elizabeth Turner were elected as Voting members. One position remains open on the Committee, but it can't be filled by an Accredited Organization stakeholder due to balance concerns.

5.7 Proficiency Testing (PT) Expert Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Continue to develop and maintain consensus standards for proficiency testing that are practical, implementable, and meet the needs of the environmental testing community while providing data of known and documented quality.	2/11: EL V4 published for public comment and comment period has closed. EL V3 nears completion and posting in March is anticipated.
Complete revisions to EL V1M1, EL V2M2 EL V3 and EL V4. Pursue adoption and Implementation.	2/11: Numerous comments received on V4 and committee processing comments. Persuasive comments have been determined, and a revised DS will be forthcoming. 3/11: All comments on EL V4 received have been resolved and response to comments document to be posted and commenters notified. Proceeding with revised DS. The DS for EL V3 nears completion and posting in March anticipated. 4/8 Response to Comments not yet posted as commentor IDs required verification; will post within 7 days with commentor notifications to follow.
Serve as a technical resource to TNI membership and the environmental testing community regarding PT performance.	2/11: Working with PTP EC to ensure implementability of standards as well as application of FoPT table utility
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.	
Support the Credentialing effort.	
Respond to SIRs as necessary	
Administrative Activities	2/11: Leadership roles remain unchanged. Committee balanced with 3 new associate members. Seeking approval for 2 individuals for 3 rd term; last position on committee anticipated to be filled in March election. 3/11: Two members requested for and approved for 3 rd term. One new associate member. Associate members confirmed for 2026. 4/8 In attempts to complete and post revised EL V4 and post EL V3 prior to Houston meeting, committee moving to bimonthly meeting. One new Associate member joined the committee

5.8 Quality Management Systems (QMS) Expert Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Complete Volume 1 Module 2	2/11: The Committee is reviewing comments from the Boston Conference to make any final changes to the DRAFT Standard. The Summary of Changes document was shared in Boston and is just about complete. The Committee is expecting vote on the DRAFT Standard in March. 3/11: The Committee was asked to begin reviewing the Standard in detail in preparation for voting. The Committee started review of these comments. 4/8: The Committee is reviewing the Summary of Changes document in preparation of posting the Standard in April or early May. Debbie met with LAB to work on the addition of language from the LAB Standard (Volume 2) that is lab specific. There are lab requirements in Volume 2 that are not currently part of Volume 1.
– Publish DRAFT – Review of comments – Publish Revised DRAFT as needed.	
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.	2/11: The Committee is working on the Cross-Reference of the new Standard to the 2016 Standard.
Respond to any SIR as necessary.	
Administrative Activities as necessary.	2/11: The Committee's request for Debbie Bond's third term was approved by the CSDP EC. 3/11: New Committee members were added: Alison Boren, Lauren Webb, Jessica Jensen, Kim Felder, and Hunter Nelson. Debbie Bond was voted in to continue as Chair and Jessica Jensen was voted as Vice-Chair.

5.9 Radiochemistry Expert Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Revise Module 6 as needed.	2/11: The Committee is not planning to make any content updates to Module 6. 3/11: Radiochemistry course examples were sent to QMS for inclusion in Annex C.
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.	

Work with the "PT Expert Committee to resolve reporting uncertainty with PT results during their Standard development process.

Develop and present a training class geared towards people that are not experts in the field.

Respond to any SIR as necessary.

Work with the PTP EC to develop Non-Potable Water PTs and/or other PT issues

Support Chemistry FoPT Subcommittee as needed with Radiochemistry FoPT limits.

Administrative Activities

2/11: Work in progress.

2/11: The Committee is developing a 4 hour course that will be held in Houston and then recorded as a webinar.

3/11: A course description and learning objectives are being developed for the course for posting with the opening of registration for Houston.

4/8: A course description and learning objectives have been submitted.

2/11: Membership will be finalized in February.

3/11: New Committee members were added: Ezekiel Blain, Chad Lane, Joshua Prichard, and Hannah Vietor. The Committee has also requested that Amanda be approved for a third term.

4/8: Amanda has been approved for a third term and will continue as Chair of the Radiochemistry Committee.

5.10 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Expert Committee

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete revision of V1M7 and publish a Draft Standard for comment.	2/11: Committee reviewed comments received at the Forum in Boston. Some changes were made in the draft on the basis of those comments. 3/11: Further progress made on comments from the Forum and in general. Chair has made some formatting changes to aid in clarity. 4/8: Committee has decided on almost all submitted comments as persuasive or non-persuasive. There are some outstanding comments regarding definitions and some global formatting/style issues. A revised copy with all current decisions incorporated will be submitted for Committee discussion prior to the April meeting. The April meeting is delayed by 2 weeks due to a scheduling conflict.
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.	

Complete the effort to establish a path to achieve data comparability for WET PT data.

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

Respond to any SIR as necessary.

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

Administrative Activities

1/14: 2 committee members approved for second terms. No member terms expired. At least one member has retired and will serve through the completion of the Standard. New members are needed.

2/11: 2 applications have been received for new members, both in the Accredited Organization stakeholder group. Due to balance issues, only one such member could be added. This should occur in conjunction with the February meeting.

3/11: Votes to add member to committee received. Committee at 12 members (6 Laboratory, 3 AB, 3 Other).

6. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ACTIVITIES PROGRAM (NEFAP)

6.1 NEFAP Executive Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Market the new Field Activities Standard to FSMOs.	
Review and comment on V2 Draft Standard(s).	2/11: The Committee was provided with a copy of the DRAFT Standard to provide initial comments before the Field Activities Committee vote on the DRAFT Standard.
Complete NEFAP AB re-evaluation process.	2/11/26: PJLA is submitting updates to their application. 3/11: Evaluations will begin in the order the applications were received. As the evaluations are completed Ilona will be maintaining a table of updates to show when the technical checklist review is completed, the online "onsite" is scheduled, the "onsite" is completed, the witness is scheduled, the witness is completed, the report is sent to the QA Reviewer, the report is sent to the Recognition Committee and when the NEFAP EC votes to complete the recognition. The evaluation will begin with A2LA, then PJLA and then ANAB for NEFAP and A2LA and then ANAB for PTP. Since the TNI Standard Evaluations will be done alongside these evaluations the order will be A2LA (Start: 3/15), PJLA (5/1), IAS (7/1) and ANAB (9/1). 4/8: Review of the application has been started for A2LA. The PJLA start date has been extended to 5/15/26.

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

2/11: Field Sampling and Measurements: Ensuring Reliable Results held in Boston on January 15 with 7 students.

/8: Katie is preparing to record class as Webcast that will go out on next training flyer.

Courses in development:

- Internal Auditing for Field Sampling and Measurement Organizations. This course is being developed within the NEFAP EC.
 - o 2/11: Course planned for March or April.
 - o 3/11: Megan reviewed learning objectives. Course will be posted the end of this week.
 - o 4/8: Scheduling for May 29, 2026 – will be part of flyer with posted webcasts and other training class in May.
- Key Concepts and Implementation of FSMO Volume 1 Standard

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

- Hold the fourth annual virtual Sampling Conclave

2/11: Conclave planned for June 2026 – The Committee is looking at June 16-17, 2026, with a day on PFAS sampling and a second on other topics. Anand is reaching out to EPA for possible participation on PFAS sampling and based on the feedback the Committee will finalize the Conclave details during their February meeting.

3/11: Jerry has been forwarding abstracts for possible speakers. JEA will be able to participate. Tracy is reaching out to other possible speakers.

4/8: Tracy updated a flyer that is now ready for publication. It has been sent to Jerry Thao for posting on Linked IN and was sent to Jan for distribution by email. The date is June 16th and if there are lots of abstracts submitted ... it may extend to June 17th.

- Hold a workshop on Sampling for PFAS

2/11: The Committee is looking at Lessons Learned from the Field and moving PFAS to the Conclave.

Update policies and procedures to reflect any changes in NEFAP.

- Address comments on SOP 5-104 that were provided to the NEFAP EC in 2020.
- Conduct 5-year review of SOP 5-107.

Work with the Field Activities to provide technical assistance in developing tools to facilitate the implementation of the Volume 1 Standard including providing a webinar/webcast on the changes for the previous version.

Evaluate need for improved consistency in NEFAP AB Scopes of Accreditation.

Administrative Activities

2/11: Committee membership will be updated in February.

3/11: The Committee added new members: Paul Bergeron and Elizabeth Turner.

7. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM (NELAP)

7.1 NELAP Accreditation Council

2026 Objectives	Status
Sustain governance role for the program and promoting consistency in AB operations.	
Review and provide comment on V2M1 revised draft Standards.	2/11: There was discussion regarding ethics and data integrity procedures related to notification of ABs. The NELAP AC will review draft V1M2 and DRAFT V2M1 language during the February meeting and possibly provide comment. 3/11: More time was needed to continue to review the information, so discussion will be completed during March meeting.
Review and comment on other revised modules of the TNI ELS Standard (Volume 1) as the Expert Committees publish Draft Standards.	2/11: The NELAP AC completed review of comments on the draft V1M4 Standard and submitted them to the Chemistry Committee.
Address issues of concern to NELAP ABs as they arise.	4/8: The Council discussed how multiple Technical Specialists are maintained in databases and how communication is handled to laboratories. In general, states recognize that there are multiple technical specialists, but they request the name of one person to send relevant updates to that will be responsible for communicating information to the other Technical Specialists in the lab. 4/8: ABs are seeing an increase in data being generated where incubators have been out of range, but data was reported without any flags or notes. Concern that there are new employees that are not following requirements.
Work with the LAB to revise the evaluation process.	2/11: Work will begin on this in March.
Complete current evaluations and plan for the future.	2/11: The Texas evaluation was completed and will be reviewed for vote during the February meeting. Ilona

reached out to previous attendees participating in the Evaluation quarterly meetings and meetings will start again in March. She is also working on an update to the Evaluation summary that will be provided with monthly reports in March.

3/11: The final report was reviewed and the NELAP AC voted to renew recognition.

4/8: Illinois submitted an application on 3/10/26 (Steve). Minnesota requested an application extension that was approved for submission in April (Aaren). New Jersey's submission is being postponed to July because their previous evaluation was delayed so there was more time between the two evaluations/ (Aaren). California is working on an application. Aaren completed the evaluation of New Hampshire and submitted report to the AC.

Continue to provide information sharing venue.

2/11: Round Table discussions are still in progress.

Review Policies and Procedures for 5 year review and as needed.

2/11: The Mutual Recognition and Dispute Resolution SOPs are being reviewed.

4/8: The Dispute Resolution SOP is on the April meeting agenda.

Administrative Activities

7.2 NELAP Executive Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Supplement SIR with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.	2/11: The SIR SOP will be reviewed for possible updates.
Review and provide comments on all EL Draft Standards as they are developed.	2/11: The Committee prepared comments on the V1M4 <i>Summary of Suggested Changes and Justification</i> document and reviewed a portion of the V1M4 DRAFT Standard (through Section 6.3) of the comments submitted by a Committee Associate Member. The comments were sent to the Chemistry Committee.
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.	See below
– Revise SOP 3-103, Standards Review	
– Revise 3-105: SIR Management	4/8: The Committee is updating this SOP to remove the requirement of an SIR Subcommittee. Work on SIRs will be handled by the committee since the backlog has been caught up. This update will be reviewed in April.
– Revise 3-106: Standard Suitability	3/11: Scheduled for March meeting

- Conduct 5-year review of POL 3-101 and SOP 3-108.

Sustain SIR progress and supplement SIRS with Implementation Guidance for non-SIR questions.

Work in cooperation with the NELAP Accreditation Council (AC) to assist in implementing this program.

Administrative Activities

4/8: Committee is working on an outline for the SOP update and will continue to work on this SOP in April.

2/11: Two SIRs were posted as completed SIRs. One SIR will be reviewed by the NELAP AC during the February meeting because of a voting comment. Four SIRs were received and determined to not be SIRs.

4/8: See note about SOP 3-105 (SIR Management) being updated. Three SIRs were submitted in March.

2/11: Membership will be updated in during the February meeting.

3/11/26: Three new committee members were added to the NELAP EC. They are: Taryn Hurley (AB-OK), Gretchen Wellfinger (AB-NY), and Tracy Szerszen (AB-NGAB-PJLA). With Maria Friedman's rotation off the Committee, the Committee voted in Shari Pfalmer as Chair and Patty Carvajal as Vice-Chair. Shari was the former Vice-Chair.

8. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PDP)

8.1 PDP Executive Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Establish and implement guidance, policies, procedures, and tools necessary to implement the program.	2/11: Website and Committee Applications now operational. Notice of creation of committee posted. 3/11: SOPs 1-100 and 1-101 were updated to include the Program into the SOP numbering system and to include it in the TNI Committees SOP.
Provide oversight and guidance to the Credentials and Training committees.	
Implement the Jack Farrell Analytical Excellence scholarship.	2/11: Notification and application were developed and distributed for Jack Farrell Scholarship. Developing review process for applications received. 3/11: A workgroup was developed to begin work on a process for selecting scholarship recipients. The workgroup met and is working on an SOP that will be reviewed next week. One scholarship application has been received. Two inquiries have been received. 4/8: There are two applications. Follow-up information has been requested for more information and review of the applications by the Workgroup will start later this week. The Workgroup is continuing work on an SOP

Establish an emerging professionals' initiative (however named). – **Emerging Leaders**

for the selection process. Ilona provided some words to describe Financial Need for those questioning what this means in the application.

2/11: Received great input during the Boston conference. Recommendation to look at a leadership program that includes training and mentorship. Established for people that want to take on more responsibilities in their workplace. Based on people wanting to take a new step, but not necessarily new or young in their professional development. This could be relevant to career, next generation of TNI Committee Chairs, etc ... New to QA or TNI? Pair them up with an AB, industry person, etc. This pairing could rotate.

3/11: Examples of similar organization will be looked at during the March meeting to help with discussion.

4/8: The Committee is considering a course being developed for a free introductory course about the evolution of environmental regulations for newer professionals and directing others to more in-depth training. It would be available to all.

4/8: The Committee likes changing the name to Emerging Leaders – it is more inclusive. Includes people wanting to develop leadership skills in current roles and those transitioning to other roles.

Investigate opportunities to identify funding to support the program.

2/11: Received one vendor donation during Boston meeting.

Develop and implement "Quality Time with TNI."

2/11: Quarterly live 1 hour event. Might include: Hot Topics (Tech Specialist, Standard Update Process), Meet a Member, Ask an AB, Back to Basics (MDL procedures, record keeping), etc.

Administrative Activities

2/11: 7 applications received. Membership will be reviewed in February.

3/11: New Committee membership has been added: Littia Mann, Michelle Wade, and Anand Mudambi. In addition, the Committee has added its first associate members.

8.2 Credentials Committee

2026 Objectivities	Status
Continue to support Executive Director in implementing the Credentialing Initiative for a QMS Certified Professional.	2/11: Exam given in Boston with 3 applicants and 2 passed: – Denice Johnson, NEORSD – Chemistry and WET – Katalina Li, Spectrum Environmental – Asbestos 3/11: The committee discussed the grading procedure and agreed the technical module grading should be graded separately from the

other questions. The committee also discussed offering technical module exams in Houston to the current list of certified professionals.

4/8: The committee discussed 3 applications that have been received for individuals not attending a TNI meeting and discussed an option where the exams could be done by a member of the committee, or some other designated individual that lives close to the individual. These exams would be given 1-2 weeks before the in-person exam at a meeting so the individual could observe the exam preparation webinar. Tentative locations for July 2026 are:

- Charleston, SC (David Smit proctor)
- Sherwood, OR (Melanie Roshe proctor)
- Pittsburg, CA (Theresa Johnson proctor)

Continue to review current exam questions for accuracy and understanding.

Continue to develop KSA for Technical Specialist and then develop the exam.

4/8: The committee began reviewing KSAs for organics and developed 2 techniques for sample treatment before preparation, 12 techniques for sample preparation, 4 techniques for treatment after preparation, 4 clean-up techniques, 4 techniques, and 2 reporting techniques. The committee then developed the KSA for the 2 techniques before sample preparation.

Review existing training courses and see if additional courses are needed.

Coordinate with TNI Training Committee in developing courses.

Administrative Activities

2/11: Alison Boren (Vermont) applied to be an Associate Member.

8.3 Training Committee

2026 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.	
Post Webcast for how to complete training application to teach courses.	2/11: Too be completed by next RFP.

Work with vendors and other trainers to develop technical course training opportunities.

2/11: Working with Credentialing to understand courses needed.

Develop new survey for webinars.

2/11: To be reviewed during February meeting.

3/11: Though the Committee could not meet in February due to lack of quorum, Ilona shared the template for a course membership survey with some Committee members. The update will be reviewed by the Committee in March.

Continue to develop ideas for training courses and issue RFPs.

2/11: Workgroup meeting before February training meeting. 2 new course applications received and being pursued. Followed up on Scott Sider's course development. Field Internal Audit course set for April.

Review training to ensure it is not obsolete.

Continue to update Course Catalog database as new courses are developed.

Continue to offer and market new training courses.

2/11/26: 2 new course applications received and being pursued. Followed up on Scott Sider's course development. Field Internal Audit course set for April.

4/8 Other courses in development:

- Matt Sica – Discipline Specific Technical Training Series
- Mary Johnson: Building Excellence: Integrating Initial and Ongoing Training into Laboratory Operations – May 27, 2026
- Mary Johnson - Biochemical Oxygen Demand: From Sample to Report – June 24, 2026
- Radiochemistry course in Houston that will be provided as a Webinar/Webcast after the meeting.
- NEFAP – Internal Audit course for Field – May 29, 2026 at 11am Eastern.
- Jerry Parr – Updated MDL course.
- Scott Siders – Deep dive into Quality Management Systems.
- FAC - Lessons Learned in the Field
- Jeanne Mensingh – Validation of User-Developed Computer Software and other topics. Course summary being expanded.
- Marlene - Update to "Scared Straight" course originally developed by John Moorman.

- MUR course – TBD

There are also some free training courses being worked on by Jerry: (1) Introduction to TNI for new members, (2) Introduction to the Evolution of Environmental Regulations.

Continue to hold Mentor Session and Assessment Forum at every TNI meeting

2/11: Held Assessment Forum and Mentor Session in Boston.

- Mentor Session: But Why? TNI Requirements
- Assessment Forum: But Why? State Regulatory Practices

Administrative Activities

9. PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM (PTP)

9.1 PTP Executive Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Implement all policies and procedures necessary to establish, maintain, and continually improve a national PT program to support environmental accreditation programs.	3/11: SOP 4-101 proposed by subcommittee for approval. SOP 4-109. PT Program Standards Review and Adoption, scheduled for review and approval at March meeting.
– Address comments on SOP 4-101 that were provided to the PTP EC in 2025. – Conduct a 5-year review of SOP 4-108	4/8 SOP 4-101 remains to be finalized as SOP Subcommittee did not meet. SOP 4-109 was approved by super majority ballot and forwarded to Policy for review. Five Year Reviews of SOP 4-102 and SOP 4-108 were initiated after assignment to the SOP Subcommittee.
Ensure that fields of Proficiency Testing (FoPTs) are created, maintained, and updated as appropriate to support environmental laboratory accreditation programs.	2/11: WET FoPT revisions await implementation. Uranium (mass) to be added to Drinking Water FoPT table. 3/11 WETT FoPT table with effective date posted to website. Analyte Request Application to include U (mass) in DW table reviewed and sent to Chemistry FoPT subcommittee for processing consistent with SOP 4-107. 4/8: Upon posting of WETT FoPT, question of effective date was raised, currently SOP requires 6 months from posting. If there are no comments this leaves little time for implementation. Committee will consider changing to 6 months from close of comment period. 3/11 Request to include U (mass) in DW table reviewed and sent to Chemistry FoPT subcommittee for processing consistent with SOP 4-107. 4/8: Chemistry FoPT subcommittee is continuing to process the request for Uranium (mass) with inputs for the EPA sources invited to participate.

Develop resolution for reporting uncertainty with Radiochemistry PT results.

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

Complete PTP AB evaluations.

2/11: Revised SOP 7-101 approved.

3/11: Evaluations will begin in the order the applications were received. As the evaluations are completed she will be maintaining a table of updates to show when the technical checklist review is completed, the online "onsite" is scheduled, the "onsite" is completed, the witness is scheduled, the witness is completed, the report is sent to the QA Reviewer, the report is sent to the Recognition Committee and when the NEFAP EC votes to complete the recognition. The evaluation will begin with A2LA, then PJLA and then ANAB for NEFAP and A2LA and then ANAB for PTP. Since the TNI Standard Evaluations will be done alongside these evaluations the order will be A2LA (Start: 3/15), PJLA (5/1), IAS (7/1) and ANAB (9/1).

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 as necessary.

4/8 Committee advised of 20 new analyte codes being added to LAMS. Committee confirmed and advised that these analytes were not currently on FoPT tables.

Work with PT Expert Committee to update Volumes 3 and 4 of the TNI Laboratory Standard

2/11: EL V4 reviewed and comments submitted to PTEC. EL V3 anticipated to be received in March for Executive Committee review.

Administrative Activities

2/11: Leadership roles remain unchanged. One member has retired and resigned his position; 3 vacancies being addressed to interested associates; committee balanced with 2 new associate members.

3/11: After meeting in closed session, executive committee elected a new member. Roster remains at 14; one vacancy remains. Complaint received and considered valid by Executive committee; sent to Chemistry FoPT subcommittee for processing consistent with SOP 4-102.

4/8: Complaint Subcommittee concluded the complaint was not valid primarily due to the analytes of concern not being on TNI's FoPT tables. Compliant resolution, however, resulted in a request to the TNI Board to establish a Task Force to address the issue of reporting of one analytical result for multiple methods and the issues evolving from small data sets.

10.1 Advocacy Committee

2026 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.	
Provide an “Introduction to TNI” webcast for new members.	3/11: Jerry Parr has developed a draft to be reviewed at the April meeting. 4/11: Draft presentation reviewed and committee decided it needs to be broken down into a simple overview and then others with more details on each program.
Provide a “History of TNI and Laboratory accreditation” webinar for new members and the public.	3/11: Existing free webinar by Jerry Parr and Marlene Moore, <i>Ensuring the Competency of Environmental Data Generation by accreditation</i> , is adequate for this goal.
Monitor EPA/federal activities for opportunities to share TNI’s activities and promote national accreditation.	4/8: NELAP Vision and Outreach Plan – Possibly meet with EPA people in Houston.
Deliver the State of National Accreditation Report to non-NELAP state contacts and trade associations at least every two years.	2/11: In progress with anticipated completion in December 2026. 4/8: Work will begin on this in July.
Look for opportunities to add TNI Ambassadors for non-NELAP states.	2/11: One new ambassador, Heather Morgan – Alabama. 3/11: The Committee had its Ambassadors Meeting. One request is to have the Committee help Ambassador’s provide updates by providing material for them to share.
Sustain	
– organizing newsletter publication	2/11: Next Newsletter to be published in June 2026.
– support for Small Laboratory Advocate role	
Provide outreach (e.g., presentations and papers) to promote The NELAC Institute and TNI’s programs.	2/11: 2026 Presentations confirmed: March 2026 ACIL P2 – Jerry Parr – Update on TNI (virtual) April 2026 A2LA AnnCon - Paul Junio – Update on TNI Standards May TCEQ Trade Fari – Jerry Parr - Update on TNI Standards 3/11: Jerry is planning an NEMC presentation with Judy. Lab’s need more flexibility in modifying methods for their use. This flexibility could be granted if they are TNI accredited laboratories following their

documented quality management system. This will be a plenary talk.

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

Serve as the Steering Committee for TNI's Annual Meeting

2/11: 2027 Forum will be in Long Beach from January 11-14.

2027 FORUM
January 11-14, 2027
Hyatt Regency Long Beach

Preliminary Schedule

Time	Monday: 1/11	Tuesday: 1/12	Wednesday: 1/13	Thursday: 1/14
8-12 PM	General Session 8:00 Welcome new Attendees 9:00 Annual Meeting 10:30 TBD	– Assessment Forum – PT/PTPT EC – Prof Dev ○ Training ○ Credentials	– QMS – Micro	Credentials Exam California Session OCSD Field Trip
12-1	Lunch on Own (11:30-1:00)	Lunch Provided	Lunch Provided	
1-5 PM	– Mentor Session – NELAP AC & EC – WET	– FAC/NEFAP – RadioChem – QMS	– Chemistry – LAB – NGAB/Advocacy 4:15 Committee Reports	TNI Staff mtg
5:30	Reception		Board reception	

Exhibit program runs from 3:00 on Monday to 3:30 pm on Tuesday.

Conduct other activities delegated to the Advocacy Committee

2/11: New tasks being considered:

- Promote use of NGABs
- Promote credentialing

4/8: Promote Use of NGABs – Article planned in newsletter.

Promote Credentialing – Advocacy will provide support as needed. Credentialing Committee will work on an article for the newsletter.

Single PT – Jerry forwarded the new vision for a single PT for laboratories that only work in their home state to only perform one PT annually, at the option of the AB, to the PT Committee. The committee responded favorably indicating this was part of the new risk management approach in ISO and will be looking into this during their Standard revision.

PT acceptance limits - The committee discussed an issue raised limits may have a bias because of how data is reported for each method – same number reported for multiple methods and pooled into calculation of limits.

Administrative Activities

4/8: New Action List table developed for minutes to better track committee activities.

10.2 Policy Committee

2026 Objectives	Status
Continue to develop and/or review SOPs and Policies	See Table below.

Policy/SOP No.	Description	Status
SOP 1-132	Formation of TNI Committees and Task Forces	2/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review and approval.
SOP 1-100	Format Guidelines for Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) of TNI	3/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review and approval.
SOP 1-101	Operation of TNI Committees	3/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review and approval.
SOP 2-100	Standards Development	3/11: Revised SOP provided for Board review.
SOPs 6-110, 6-117, 6-128, 6-129	Training SOPs	4/8: Renumbered to reflect new PFP. Provided for Board review.
SOPs 2-100, 2-103	CSDP SOPs	4/8: Conforming changes to reflect ANSI change. Provided for Board review.
SOP 4-109	PT Program Standards Review and Adoption	4/8: Added to Policy queue.
SOP 1-130	Maintenance of the TNI Glossary	In the queue.
SOP 1-104	Control of TNI Documents	In the queue (5-year review).
SOP 1-106	Development and Approval of TNI Policies and SOPs	In the queue (5-year review).

Begin Maintaining Glossary.

Conduct a 10-year review of the TNI Bylaws and Quality Management Plan.

2/11: QMP provided to the Board.

4/8: Revised WMP provided to the Board.

Conduct other activities delegated to the Policy Committee

2/11: Started review of Guidance Document on Consumables.

3/11: Review continued but tabled to review SOP 2-100.

4/8: Review started back up. 80% complete.

Administrative Activities

10.3 Environmental Measurement Symposium

The 2026 Symposium will be in Houston, TX from August 3-7, 2026.

**2025 Environmental Measurement Symposium
Conference at a Glance (Final)**

Mon 8/3	Tues 8/4	Wed 8/5	Thu 8/6	Fri 8/7
8:15 Carter award	8:15 Keynote	8:15 Plenary session	8:15-9:45 EPA Program Updates (3)	Credentials Exam Radiochemistry Training Course
9:00-12:00	9:00-12:00		10:00 – 12:00	
NEMC Air (5)	NEMC LIMS (5)		NEMC Community (4)	
NEMC AI (5)	NEMC Consensus (5)		NEMC Forensics (3)	
NEMC Real Time (5)	NEMC Organics (5)		NEMC MECL2 (4)	
TNI Micro	TNI NELAP AC & EC		TNI Radiochemistry	
TNI Assessment Forum	TNI PTEC/PTPEC		TNI QMS	
Lunch on Own	Lunch	Lunch on own +5 Vendor Lunches	Lunch	
1:30 – 5:00	1:00 – 3:00	1:30 – 5:00	1:00 – 5:00	
NEMC DW (6)	NEMC Design (4)	NEMC Data (6)	NEMC Reliable Data (7)	
NEMC Organics (6)	NEMC Metals (4)	NEMC Management (6)	NEMC PFAS (7)	
NEMC PFAS (7)	NEMC MicroP (3)	NEMC PFAS (6)	NEMC HRMS (8)	
TNI TNI Chemistry	TNI Chemistry	TNI PDP	TNI QMS (1-4)	
LAB	TNI WET	TNI Mentor	TNI Field (1-4)	
Reception 5:30	Showcase 3:30 - 5:30	Exhibit close 3:30	Committee Report 4:15-5	

2/11: The theme for this year's Symposium is Strengthening Public Trust in Science. 125 abstracts (97 oral and 28 poster) have been submitted for the NEMC part of the meeting. A draft of the TNI schedule was provided to committee chairs. 30 organizations (39 tables), including 5 lunch sponsors and 3 meeting sponsors, have signed up to be exhibitors; the meeting space has room for 68 tables.

3/11: 125 abstracts (112 oral and 32 poster) have been submitted for the NEMC part of the meeting. The TNI schedule is set as shown above with 12 committee meeting, the assessment forum, and mentor session. The EPA drinking water, wastewater, and hazardous waste programs have all committed to providing an update. Registration is on track to open April 6. 34 organizations (44 tables), including 5 lunch sponsors and 4 meeting sponsors, have signed up to be exhibitors; the meeting space has room for 68 tables.

4/8: 134 abstracts (111 oral and 33 poster) have been accepted for the NEMC part of the meeting. Attendee registration opened as planned on April 6. 43 organizations (54 tables), including 5 lunch sponsors, 5 meeting sponsors, and 5 Cybernet café sponsors have signed up to be exhibitors; the meeting space has room for 68 tables.

10.4 NGAB Evaluations

2025 Objectives	Status
Complete NGAB re-evaluation process.	2/11: Schedule completed in February.

3/11: See summary in NEFAP and PTP. A2LA review of application material and checklist begins 3/15/26.

11. TASK FORCES AND OTHER EFFORTS

11.1 Consumables Task Force

2026 Objectives	Status
Prepare guidance document.	2/11: Document provided t Policy in December 2025
Upon Policy Committee approval develop implementation tools and training for laboratories use of the Guidance document.	4/8 Policy Committee comments and questions on implementation received. Comments primarily editorial and if approved by CTF would be accepted.
Dissolve the Task Force	

11.2 Feedback Task Force

2026 Objectives	Status
Conduct the survey.	2/11: Survey sent to over 6000 individuals on 2/3. Responses are due by 2/18/26. 53 responses have been received. 3/11: Summary will be provided to the Task Force in March. 4/8: Survey resent in March and responses will be tabulated in April.
Develop recommendations.	
Dissolve the Task Force	

11.3 CSDP Task Force

2026 Objectives	Status
Develop a replacement for ANSI to evaluate this program.	3/11: Task Force consists of Jerry, Paul, Bob, Alfredo, and Marlene Moore. Draft of RFP in development.
– Develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) and send to NGABs for assistance in identifying potential contractors.	4/8: No progress on RFP.
– Evaluate proposals.	
– Issue a contract.	

12. MEMBERSHIP

- 1125 active members

12.1 Committee Applications – Voting/Associate

Name	Organization	Interest	Committee
Mike Bollin	Pace Analytical	Associate	WET
Carol Gebhart	ALS Global	Associate	PTP EC
Miliana Hernandez Santa	Guadalupe Blanco River Authority	Voting	Chemistry
Rachel Hook	HRSD	Associate	Chemistry
Manford Hurley	Energy Laboratories, Inc.	Associate	Radiochemistry
Amy Pollard	Geogia Pacific	Associate	Chemistry
Stephanie Rippeon	A2LA	Voting	Board of Directors
Michelle Wade	Wade Consulting and Solutions	Voting	Board of Directors
Janielle Ward	Pace Analytical Services	Associate	QMS
Janielle Ward	Pace Analytical Services	Associate	Chemistry

12.2 New and Renewed Members:

- 69 New and Renewed memberships in March, 2026

12.3 Expired Memberships

- Of the 24 expired memberships from February, 4 renewed after contact (1 retired, and 3 were undeliverable). Emails were sent to March expired members on April 1, 2026.
- 27 Memberships Expired in March