

Notes from the TNI Credentials Committee Session
Forum on Laboratory Accreditation, Jacksonville, Florida
Wednesday, February 5, 2025 8:00 am Eastern

Ken welcomed everyone to the session. He noted that the committee needs additional assessors, as the Technical Specialist (TS) KSAs will also become part of the assessor KSA.

As the TS KSAs are being developed, chemistry will be the first, and for now, we anticipate three analytical disciplines. There will be a section of fundamental chemistry requirements that apply to all three disciplines, and the KSAs for performing the actual lab work will be grouped so that a TS need only qualify for analyses being performed in the lab of employment. The digital badges will be for specific techniques, so that one can select only those needed.

The digital badge exams will be online as with the Quality Manager badges. Plans for offering the proctored “full credential” exam are still in development. Exams may be offered at TNI conferences, and possibly at local or regional conferences as well, with perhaps a virtual option (where extra precautions are taken to ensure that no outside information can be accessed) – that remains to be decided. A question arose about paper exams, and while that has not yet been considered, it seems likely that such a request would be considered in the same way as any other adaption for disability might be done, but those would necessarily be individual case-by-case decisions.

One commenter suggested that, as the badge credential is expensive, and for small labs needing a TS but expecting rapid turnover of staff, TNI might consider some form of grants for obtaining the TS credential.

Another commenter requested that a QM credential for FSMO labs be created. Jerry noted that each of the expert committees is being asked to create the KSAs for analytical disciplines related to that module, so that the Field Activities Committee could certainly do so.

A brief conversation about creation of a “prep course” for the credential, offered by an outside party, indicated that TNI would welcome such an effort, with the trainers coordinating with TNI’s Training Committee for development.

The KSA document for Quality Manager and the Credentials Handbook were provided within the conference portal.

Note: Lynn created these notes from the recording, as she had a schedule conflict with a committee taking comments on a standard revision. Jerry did a superb job with the PowerPoint.

Attachment 1

Credentials Committee Roster

NAME		EMAIL	AFFILIATION	STAKE-HOLDER CATEGORY	Present?
Paul	Banfer	paul.banfer@eisc.net	EISC	Other	
Kenneth	Brown	Kenneth.brown@escondido.gov	City of Escondido	Lab	Yes
Patricia	Carvajal	pmcarvajal@sariverauthority.org	San Antonio River Authority	Lab	
Steve	Drielak	drielak-associates@usa.net	Drielak & Associates	Other	
Stacey	Fry	Stacey.fry@cannabis.ca.gov	CA Dept. of Cannabis Control	Other	
Salima	Haniff	Salima.haniff@bvlabs.com	Bureau Veritas Labs	Lab	
Harold	Longbaugh	Harold.Longbaugh@houstontx.gov	City of Houston	Lab	Yes
Theresa	Johnson	Theresa.Johnson@mccampbell.com	McCampbell Analytical, Inc.	Lab	
Melanie	Roshu	melanie.roshu@gmail.com	Matrix Sciences International, Inc.	Lab	
Joann	Slavin	joann.slavin@health.ny.gov	NY DOH	AB	Yes
David	Smith	david.smith@antylia.com	Environmental Express	Other	Yes
Alfredo	Sotomayor	asotomayor@mmsd.com	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewer District	Lab	Yes
Elizabeth	Turner	Elizabeth.turner@pacelabs.com	Pace Labs, Inc.	Lab	Yes
Associate Members:					
Paul	Canevaro	PCanevaro@Republicservices.com	US Ecology Inc./ Republic Services	Lab	
Jerry	Thao	Jerry.thao@pacelabs.com	Pace Labs, Inc.	Lab	Yes
Staff:					
Jerry	Parr	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	TNI Executive Director		Yes
Lynn	Bradley	Lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org	TNI Program Administrator		
William	Daystrom	William.daystrom@nelac-institute.org	TNI IT Administrator		Yes