

Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGDM) July 2017 Report

July 11-13, 2017

Woodbridge, Virginia

I. Agenda:

Please see Attachment 1.

II. Meeting Synopsis:

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

The SWGDAM Chair, Mr. Anthony Onorato, reviewed the planned agenda for the next three days and explained that revisions to the Forensic Quality Assurance Standards (QAS) would be the focus of this meeting. The Chair introduced the following new guests for the July meeting: Meg Aceves, Connie Fisher (returning), Marla Kaplan, Brandon Letts, Ruth Montgomery, Lilly Moreno (returning) and Jeanette Wallin. The Chair also congratulated the following on their appointment as SWGDAM members: Suzie Barritt-Ross, Russell Gettig, Jason Kokoszka, Lisa Schiermeier-Wood and Jenifer Smith. The Chair recognized George Li for his dedicated service to SWGDAM as he retires from the Virginia Department of Forensic Sciences. The Chair also recognized Dr. John Buckleton and Elizabeth Morris for their assistance to SWGDAM.

The SWGDAM Chair explained that the current Executive Board members' terms have expired and thanked the following Board members for their dedicated service: Angelo Della Manna, Brian Hoey, Amy McGuckian, and Steven Myers. The Chair informed the attendees that he had nominated candidates for the 2017-2020 term in accordance with the SWGDAM Bylaws and the SWGDAM members were requested to vote for Executive Board members during this meeting. At the Chair's request, Russell Vossbrink agreed to serve as Vice Chair for the 2017-2020 term.

The Chair reviewed SWGDAM's participation in the ASCLD Webinar Series during April and May, 2017 as well as the status of the SWGDAM Committees and Working Groups.

Jocelyn Carlson, Chair of the Quality Assurance (QA) Committee, explained that the QA Committee reviewed the comments received during the SWGDAM peer review and, as a

result, additional revisions were made to the Forensic QAS. Ms. Carlson identified common comments and introduced topics needing further discussion that would be addressed Tuesday afternoon. Ms. Carlson reviewed the common comments and there was discussion of those comments. Ms. Carlson and members of the QA Committee then reviewed each Standard, highlighting additional revisions that had been made in response to the peer review comments.

Douglas Hares, the FBI Laboratory's NDIS Custodian presented a CODIS and NDIS Update. Dr. Hares reviewed the most recent NDIS statistics and explained that a new forensic specimen category, forensic targeted, will be implemented in the future. Dr. Hares also reviewed features that will be included in the CODIS 8.0 software, such as Rapid DNA, match rarity estimate, interoperability services, updated CMF and Pedigree autosearch. He explained that there will be a three hour training session for all CODIS Administrators on the new software at the Annual CODIS Conference on November 13-16, 2017.

During the afternoon, the topics needing further discussion were addressed followed by Ms. Carlson and members of the QA Committee review of individual Standards and the additional revisions.

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Peter Vallone, Leader of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Applied Genetics Group presented the following update on NIST activities. Dr. Vallone explained that there are various confidence levels with certified being the highest followed by reference values and then information values. Dr. Vallone noted that SRM 2391d is under production and SRM 2372a will be available in the fall of 2017. Dr. Vallone introduced the new format for the strbase.nist.gov site. Dr. Vallone also reviewed sequencing studies on the NIST population data scheduled to be presented at the Forensic Science Error Management Symposium; that presentation is now available at <http://strbase.nist.gov/NISTpop.htm>.

Darrel Oubre, Chair of the CODIS Committee, presented the Committee's recommendations for Standard 17 on Outsourcing Ownership.

The morning session concluded with a review of the topics needing further discussion.

Alexander Kneppers, Chair of the ENFSI DNA Expert Working Group provided an update on ENFSI DNA activities. Mr. Kneppers reviewed the April 2017 annual meeting of the DNA Expert Working Group, including the progress of the following subgroups: QA; methods analysis and interpretation; combined session methods/analyses and forensic biology; DNA database and legislation; automation and LIMS; and forensic

biology and casework. Mr. Kneppers also reviewed the following ISFG activities: the European Survey on Forensic Applications of Massively Parallel Sequencing, DNA SeqEx validation studies, STRidER, EuroforGen, and GEDNAP Proficiency Tests. He also updated the attendees on the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) sponsored contamination database which does not currently contain any profiles from manufacturers or users.

The afternoon session included a discussion of outstanding issues moderated by Ms. Carlson.

A round table discussion was held in the evening and the following topics were presented and/or discussed: validation reviews, 3500 troubleshooting, ASCLD Rapid DNA initiative, touch DNA/direct amplification using NGS, implementation of Y-screening in a multi-lab system, single base variants in mixtures, sexual assault kit legislation, and MPS evaluations for mtDNA sequencing.

Thursday, July 16, 2015

Minh Nguyen with the National Institute of Justice' Office of Investigative and Forensic Services presented an update on Forensic Biology and DNA Research and Development. Ms. Nguyen announced that the *National Best Practices for Sexual Assault Kits: A Multidisciplinary Approach* has been approved for release. Ms. Nguyen also reviewed the following: FY2016 Funded R & D projects; 2016 Technology Working Group update; and FY2017 Solicitations.

Dawn Herkenham with Leidos provided a Legislative Update. Ms. Herkenham reviewed recent Federal legislation, including the Survivors Bill of Rights Act (enacted), the Consolidated Appropriations Act (enacted), and the Rapid DNA Act of 2017 (House and Senate versions passed by each). She also described pending State DNA database legislation, including Indiana arrestee legislation (enacted) and Idaho legislation (enacted) to collect from individuals convicted of a crime requiring sex offender registration. Ms. Herkenham reviewed State sexual assault evidence kit legislation, including recently enacted laws in New Mexico and Utah. She also updated the attendees on State arrestee litigation and cases of interest to the forensic DNA community.

A revised draft of the Forensic QAS revisions was distributed to meeting attendees. Ms. Carlson led the afternoon review of the revisions, including Standard 13. At the conclusion of the review, the SWGDAM Chair explained that the final revisions would be distributed to the SWGDAM members for a vote on whether the Forensic QAS revisions are ready to be submitted to the Executive Board for posting for public comments. Additionally, the Chair announced and congratulated the following as the

2017-2020 SWGDAM Executive Board members: Chris Carney, Eugene Lien, Amy McGuckian, Shawn Montpetit and John Tonkyn.

III. Attendees:

Please see Attachment 2.

IV. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held January 9-11, 2018.

Attachment 1 - Final Agenda

SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP



DNA ANALYSIS METHODS

SWGDM REGULAR MEETING

July 11 - 13, 2017

AGENDA

Monday, July 10, 2017

SPECIAL COMMITTEE SESSION

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM QA Committee

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

8:30 AM Welcome – SWGDAM Chair

QAS REVIEW SESSION: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

9:00 AM Discussion of SWGDAM QAS Peer Review Comments – Jocelyn Carlson & QA Committee

10:00 AM BREAK

10:15 AM Discussion of SWGDAM QAS Peer Review Comments

11:00 AM Review of QAS Revisions and Discussion

12:00 PM LUNCH

1:30 PM CODIS and NDIS Update – Douglas Hares

QAS REVIEW SESSION: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

2:00 PM Review of QAS Revisions and Discussion

5:00 PM ADJOURNMENT

SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP



DNA ANALYSIS METHODS

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

- 8:30 AM Update Session: NIST – Pete Vallone
- 9:30 AM Standard 17: CODIS Committee – Darrel Oubre
- 10:00 AM BREAK
- 10:15 AM Review of QAS Revisions and Discussion
- 11:30 AM LUNCH
- 1:30 PM ENFSI Update – Sander Kneppers
- 2:15 PM Review of QAS Revisions and Discussion
- 4:30 PM ADJOURNMENT

ROUND TABLE SESSION

- 6:00 PM Moderator: Russell Vossbrink, SWGDAM Vice Chair

SPECIAL COMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSION

- 4:30 PM QA Committee

Thursday, July 13, 2017

- 8:30 AM Update Session: NIJ – Minh Nguyen
- 9:00 AM Update Session: Legislative – Dawn Herkenham
- 9:45 AM BREAK

SPECIAL COMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSION

- 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM NGS Working Group

QAS REVIEW SESSION: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REVIEW

- 10:15 AM Individual Review of QAS Revisions
- 12:30 PM LUNCH
- 1:30 PM All Standard Review – Jocelyn Carlson
- 4:45 PM Closing Remarks – SWGDAM Chair
- 5:00 PM ADJOURNMENT

Attachment 2 - Attendees

**SWGDM July 2017 Meeting
July 11-13, 2017
Attendees**

SWGDM Chair

Anthony Onorato

SWGDM Executive Board

Angelo Della Manna

Amy McGuckian

Steven Myers

Russell Vossbrink

Dawn Herkenham

SWGDM Attendees

Meg Aceves

Suzanne Barritt-Ross

Todd Bille

Thomas Callaghan

Jocelyn Carlson

Chris Carney

Amber Carr

Michael Coble

Jerrilyn Conway

Brenda Danosky

Seth Faith

Neil Fernandopulle

Connie Fisher

Russell Gettig

Katherine Butler Gettings

Ann Marie Gross

Lisa Grossweiler

Douglas Hares

Brian Harmon

Bruce Heidebrecht

Bill Hudlow

Deedra Hughes

Jodi Irwin

Clark Jaw

Elizabeth Johnson

Kristy Kadash

Marla Kaplan

Susannah Kehl

Sander Kneppers

Jason Kokoszka

Brandon Letts

George Li

Eugene Lien

Beth Ann Marne

Charla Marshall

Scott McWilliams

Gary Molina

Ruth Montgomery

Shawn Montpetit

Lilly Moreno

Tamyra Moretti

Minh Nguyen

Mary Lou Nicholson

Jeffrey Nye

Darrel Oubre

Dixie Peters

John Planz

Juliet Rolando

Lisa Schiermeier-Wood

Peg Schwartz

Taylor Scott

Christie Smith

Jenifer Smith

Melissa Suddeth

John Tonkyn

Peter Vallone

Jeanette Wallin

Ray Wickenheiser

Richard Wilson

Tim Zolandz