

**External Laboratory Safety Workgroup (ELSW)
Meeting Summary
Monday, December 1, 2014
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

Attendees

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| ✓ Joseph Kanabrocki, PhD, CBSP – <i>Co-Chair</i> | ✓ Kenneth I. Berns, MD, PhD – <i>Co-Chair</i> |
| ✓ Debra L. Hunt, DrPH, CBSP | ✓ Heather J. Sheeley, BA, MS, CBiol, MSB,
CMIOSH, FISTR |
| ✓ Thomas V. Inglesby, MD | ✓ Elaine Baker, MPH, <i>Designated Federal
Officer*</i> |
| ✓ Patty Olinger, RBP | David A. Relman, MD |
| ✓ Michael A. Pentella, PhD, D(ABMM) | Fred Sparling, MD |
| ✓ Jill Taylor, PhD | |
| ✓ Domenica (Dee) Zimmerman | |

✓ *In attendance*

Summary of Meeting Notes

Roll Call and Call to Order

Elaine Baker, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), ELSW

Update from the Laboratory Safety Improvement Workgroup (LSIW)

Dr. Leslie Dauphin, Acting Director of Laboratory Safety, presented an update from the Laboratory Safety Improvement Workgroup (LSIW). The LSIW completed all of its primary tasks and activities for Phase 1 of the Laboratory Safety Improvement effort.

- To date, the moratorium has been lifted on 51 of the 53 requests. The two remaining are approved for an extension for submission of their requests by December 31, 2014.

Among the LSIW's recommendations was the establishment of the position of Associate Director for Laboratory Science and Safety (ADLSS), directly reporting to Dr. Frieden.

- The recruitment process for this position is currently underway; a formal announcement for this position was posted on USAJOBS® on November 24, 2014 and will remain open through January 5, 2015.

In the interim, Dr. Frieden has requested Dr. Dauphin continue leading the laboratory safety efforts until the position is permanently filled. Primary focus will be placed on the following four activities:

1. Expanding biosafety training for laboratory scientists
2. Moving forward with external accreditation for laboratories
3. Assessing technologies to verify safety protocol control points
4. Working with the ELSW, for which Sarah Wiley, will now be Designated Federal Officer

Efforts for two of the four activities have begun.

- **Biosafety training:** Information collected from the staff engagement sessions, feedback to the LSIW's mailbox, and feedback from stakeholders across the agency will be used to develop the curriculum for a standardized biosafety training program. A working group is being formed, and will work collaboratively with the Environment, Safety, and Health Compliance Office (ESHCO) and the Laboratory Training Branch (LTB) to develop a training curriculum.
- **Technologies:** A total of 53 camera systems were requested in CDC laboratories as a result of the review of requests for lifting of the moratorium. Of those, 35 have been installed.

Discussion Points

ELSW Members and LSIW Members

- LSIW Recommendations

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- ELSW will be provided a summary of the LSIW Recommendations Report.
- Dr. Dauphin stressed that ESHCO will be working closely with the Interim ADLSS on the outlined four efforts.
- ELSW Recommendations to Dr. Frieden
 - Dr. Frieden's response to the ELSW Recommendations indicated that there is a minimum amount of resources available.
- Internal and External Recommendations
 - Gaps between the two sets of recommendations will have to be resolved.
 - Efforts will move in parallel once the recommendations have been submitted and approved by the ACD.

CDC Recommendations Update

Elaine Baker and ELSW Members

- The next ACD teleconference is scheduled to take place in December or January
 - Preparations for the formal presentation of recommendations will be discussed among the Chairs and Ms. Baker.
- ELSW recommendations will be submitted to the HHS upon the ACD's approval of the recommendations.
- The Secretary may request a CDC response to the recommendations.

NIH Document Request

ELSW Members

The workgroup is requesting documentation from NIH pertaining to the following categories:

- Incident reporting, reporting structure, laboratory safety materials available to laboratory staff, laboratory training programs available to researchers, safety policies and procedures, internal standing committees and committee charters (e.g., safety committees, institutional biosafety committee, and others), occupational health program description (including policies and procedures for vaccination and injury reporting), the select agent program description, and the incident report from the experimental animal escape at the Rocky Mountain Laboratories (RML).
- Ms. Baker will engage with NIH to have these documents submitted to the workgroup by the December 15th teleconference.

NIH Visit in 2015

ELSW Members

- Consideration is being given for the second week of February 2015 to conduct a visit to NIH.
 - Members will send their availability to Sarah Wiley.

Administrative Matters

Elaine Baker, DFO

The next ELSW meeting is scheduled for December 15th, 2015 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm EST.

Wrap up and Adjournment

Dr. Joseph Kanabrocki, Co-Chair, ELSW