

SWGDRUG Meeting Minutes
La Jolla, California
June 10 – 13, 2019

Core Committee Members (present):

Scott R. Oulton, Chair Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
Christian C. Matchett, Vice-Chair Southern Association of Forensic Scientists (SAFS)
Sandra E. Rodriguez-Cruz, Secretariat Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
Michael Bovens European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI)
Karen S. Bowen Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (MAFS)
Jason D. Brewer Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
Juli Cruciotti Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists (MAAFS)
Linda C. Jackson American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD)
Richard Liang Health Canada
Eric Person California State University, Fresno
Catherine Quinn Victoria Forensic Science Centre, Australia
Tiffany A. Ribadeneyra Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS)
Sandra B. Sachs California Association of the Criminalists (CAC)
Roger Schneider Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (SWAFS)
Ruth W. Smith Michigan State University
Tiong Whei Angeline Yap Asian Forensic Sciences Network (AFSN)
William E. Wallace National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
Agnes D. Winokur ASTM International and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Core Committee Members (not present):

Adriano Maldaner Iberoamerican Academy of Criminalistics and Forensic Studies (AICEF)

Guests:

Andrea Larick Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) – Note taker
Richard P. Meyers Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
Yen Ling Wong United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

MONDAY, June 10, 2019

Welcome Remarks and Introduction of Guests (Scott R. Oulton)

- SWGDRUG Chair Scott Oulton opened the meeting by thanking core members for their attendance, and gave special thanks to Secretariat Sandra Rodriguez-Cruz for coordinating the logistics of the meeting. He recognized the recent work promotions of current members Conor Crean and Catherine Quinn, and their recent and future separations from SWGDRUG. Mr. Oulton also introduced invited guest Yen Ling Wong, who is replacing Conor Crean from UNODC, and special guest Andrea Larick who will be serving as the note taker for the week.

- Mr. Oulton provided brief updates on the operating meeting budget, SWGDRUG monographs, bulletin, and potential future library updates. He concluded his welcoming remarks by presenting the agenda and goals for the week.
- The recent US federal legal changes surrounding the analysis of cannabis were briefly discussed by the group, including potential revisions to the SWGDRUG Recommendations.

Updates from Organization Representatives

- Mr. Oulton provided updates on the recent activities of the OSAC Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis Scientific Area Committee. In particular, he discussed the recently ASTM-published training document (E2917) developed via collaboration with all OSAC-wide subcommittees.
- SWGDRUG Secretariat Sandra Rodriguez-Cruz provided an update on the OSAC Seized Drugs subcommittee. She discussed recently revised ASTM document that soon will be submitted to the OSAC Registry process, and provided a summary of new and recently developed OSAC guidance documents for the assessment of GC-MS data, establishing blind proficiency quality control programs in seized drug laboratories, and the development of in-house mass spectral libraries, among others.
- Mr. Michael Bovens delivered an update on the most recent activities of the ENFSI Drugs Working group (DWG). He summarized the topics presented during their most recent meeting (May 2019, Cyprus) which included cannabis legalization, cocaine profiling, LC-HRMS online database, analysis of positional isomers using GC-VUV, the conversions of APAA to BMK and MAPA to P2P, the chemical profiling of Nyaope (hallucinogenic mix of low grade heroin, cannabis, antiretroviral drugs and other excipients), IUPAC naming of NPS, among others. He also discussed the status of the Best Practices Manual for Seized Drug Analysis and recent publications from the Chemometrics subcommittee. Mr. Bovens also briefly discussed the upcoming ISO 21043 document (forensics). He concluded his presentation by discussing and summarizing his and his colleagues' experience with the Swiss-developed typification color test used to distinguish between industrial hemp and drug hemp.
- Ms. Angeline Yap provided the AFSN update, including a summary of the most recent Drug Trends Surveys: NPS trends in South East Asia and NPS trends in Singapore. Ms. Yap also discussed recent solvent effects observed during the GC-MS analysis of LSD analogues, and the use of GC-IR for analysis of positional isomers. Additionally, she also presented a summary of the InterForensics 2019 Conference in Brazil, including results from a survey on SWGDRUG resources.
- The group discussed the possibility of SWGDRUG publishing a Raman library, as well as the high demand for libraries for portable instruments and ESI-MS and DART-MS data. The addition of a link on the SWGDRUG page to the recent RTI landscape study on portable instrumentation was also discussed. Mr. Oulton also discussed some of the legal issues and limitations associated with the potential endorsement of commercial products.
- Mr. Jason Brewer delivered an FBI update which included a discussion on their recent implementation of the uniform language for testimony and reports (ULTR), 100% court

transcript reviews, and the posting of all SOPs online. He also discussed analysis of synthetic cannabinoids tainted with blood thinners such as the rodenticides brodifacoum and bromadiolone.

- Ms. Yen Ling Wong provided an update from UNODC, including their International Collaborative Exercises (ICE), the Early Warning Advisory (EWA), and the UNODC Opioid Strategy. She also discussed observations on trends and prevalence of tramadol, and continued difficulties regarding the shipping, exportation and importation of drug standards worldwide.
- Mr. Richard Laing provided the Health Canada update, which included a summary of new fentanyl trends, drug summary reports, validation of analytical schemes, and cannabis legal issues in Canada. While discussing the analysis of cannabis, he also noted that analysts are also identifying foreign compounds such as pesticides, and that THC quantitation is being done using NMR.
- Online presentations delivered by:
 - Mr. Brian Smith (Big Sur Scientific) - BSS 3000 Portable IR and its use for the identification of hemp
 - Mr. Greg Banik (Bio-Rad Laboratories) - KnowItAll software for spectral processing and spectral database management
- Mr. William Wallace discussed the new MOU between NIST and DEA for curation/quality assessment of new entries to the SWGDRUG MS library. Mr. Wallace also announced that all the NIST reviewed and approved spectra processed since 2017 will be included in the 2020 edition of the NIST library, to be published June 2020. Mr. Wallace also brought attention to recent issues regarding spectral data quality, and how the NIST collaborators assess the data prior to inclusion in the SWGDRUG library. A link will be added on the SWGDRUG page to a recent NIST publication describing their spectral quality assurance protocol. Mr. Wallace also presented a new multidimensional library search algorithm being developed to distinguish between positional isomers and analogues. He shared results for fentanyl and fentanyl-related compounds.
- Ms. Linda Jackson provided an update from ASCLD and recent activities of the Emerging Drugs Task group, including the HIDTA OD map and science trends (available to the public). She also shared information about the Bureau of Justice assistance grants, CDC fentanyl reference materials, the economic impact of the opioid crisis, and an overview of the US 2018 hemp laws.

TUESDAY, June 11, 2019

- Mr. Oulton discussed the week's objectives and the separate sub-committees needed to accomplish the necessary work.
- Discussions on specific documents were initiated by Mr. Matchett. He presented a summary of the public comments received for the posted drafts of PART IIIB and

Supplemental Document SD-7. The group discussed the comments and potential revisions needed.

- For the rest of the day, members worked as separate groups on revisions to the following documents:
 - PART IIIB and SD-7 – Cate, Linda, Agnes, Bill, Rick, Ruth, Karen, and Angeline
 - PART IVB and SD-2 - Sandra (Sachs), Jason, Eric, Roger, Juli, and Rich
 - PART IVA and SD-5 – Sandra (Rodriguez-Cruz), Tiffany, Michael, and Yen Ling

WEDNESDAY, June 12, 2019

- Core committee members continued to work in groups on document edits.
- Ms. Jackson presented the revisions made to PART IIIB and SD-7 that address the public comments received. Additional minor edits were suggested to the document's content and figures.
- Ms. Ribadeneyra and Ms. Rodriguez-Cruz discussed revisions to PART IVA. Most of the edits were made to harmonize the content of the Recommendations with the most recent version of ISO 17025 (2017). Potential revisions to PART IVA.6.1.6.1 were extensively discussed by core committee members.

THURSDAY, June 13, 2019

- Copies of the latest draft of PART IIIB were distributed to be reviewed by members.
- Ms. Sachs presented an update on the ongoing revisions to PART IVB and Mr. Person discussed the direction and preliminary draft for Supplemental Document SD-2. Work on these documents will continue after the meeting.
- Ms. Jackson led the final discussion on the revisions to PART IIIB. After the discussion, Mr. Laing made a motion to *publish* the latest version of the document, pending final editorial review, as part of version 8.0 of the SWGDRUG Recommendations. Ms. Cruciotti seconded the motion. The group agreed that no substantial changes were made to the document after the public comment period, and thus, it does not require an additional round of public commentary. The motion passed unanimously.
- Ms. Ribadeneyra presented the final draft of PART IVA. Mr. Laing motioned to release PART IVA for *public comments*, following editorial review. Ms. Cruciotti seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Ms. Ribadeneyra presented the draft of SD-5. Mr. Laing motioned to release SD-5 for *public comments*, following editorial review. Ms. Cruciotti seconded the motion. Upon discussion, the committee agreed to also add a "Revision Date" to the document. The motion passed unanimously.

- Ms. Jackson presented the final draft of Supplemental Document SD-7. Mr. Laing made a motion to officially *publish* SD-7 as part of version 8.0 of the SWGDRUG Recommendations, pending final editorial review. Ms. Cruciotti seconded the motion. During discussions, Ms. Sachs noted that she strongly feels the committee missed an opportunity to provide direction for the re-categorization of techniques, and that additional formal guidance may be needed in the future to address the issue. The motion passed with one negative vote by Mr. Person. He noted his disagreement on classifying DART-MS as a Category A technique, even as an initial classification on one of the SD-7 examples. His concerns and negative vote were noted.

Meeting Summary and Closing Remarks (Scott R. Oulton)

- Mr. Oulton announced that the next in-person SWGDRUG meeting is scheduled for the week of June 8, 2020, as there is no funding available for a second meeting in 2019. He encouraged core committee members to stay engaged on all ongoing projects so that additional work on the pending documents can continue between meetings.
 - After editorial review, final documents approved for publication (**PART IIIB** and **SD-7**) will be sent to committee members for final thoughts, prior to online posting.
 - After editorial review, final drafts of **PART IVA** and **SD-5** will be released for a 60-day public comment period. Public comments will be disseminated to core committee members before the next in-person meeting.
 - Ms. Sachs and Mr. Brewer will continue working on **PART IVB**. Mr. Person will take the lead on the **SD-2** revisions. After these drafts are finalized, online voting will be scheduled prior to making them available for public comments.
- Mr. Oulton officially welcomed new core committee member Yen Ling Wong. She will continue as representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Mr. Oulton once again thanked and acknowledged Catherine Quinn for her many years of contributions to SWGDRUG.
- Mr. Oulton closed the meeting by thanking the committee members for their hard work and commitment to producing high-quality documents. He also thanked vice-chair Chris Matchett and secretariat Sandra Rodriguez-Cruz for coordinating the meeting events, and Ms. Andrea Larick for her participation as a note taker.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Andrea Larick.