

MAY 30
MAY 31
JUNE 1
2023

TNI-2

READY TO LAUNCH



CON.2023

Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

MESSAGE FROM THE 2023 ELAP CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

The launch of our 3rd ELAP Conference – what a journey it has been! We are so excited to have you along for the ride as we travel to infinity and beyond to go where no lab has gone before. Too many space references? It's just going to keep going, so be prepared.

The year ahead is significant for the environmental laboratories in California. As TNI implementation is finalized, the laboratory community has made galactic strides towards compliance. This year's conference agenda mirrors that intense focus. From the exciting research being done on a lab floating above earth to the ground-breaking laboratory work being done around the state, we know there is something here for everyone.

The last day of the conference will be specifically focused on TNI. We'll hear from one of our Early Adopter laboratories, and each of our Third Party Assessors will present on a different aspect of assessments to help your lab reach for the stars. Thank you for joining us this year! We know that California is home to some of the best laboratories in, dare we say, the galaxy!



JENN MCCLAREN



KATLIN BLOOM



LEANN CASTLE

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

MAY 30 - THE SPACEWALK

Join us as we start our conference with a laboratory in space! Our presenters today provide big picture context for the work done by ELAP's laboratories.

9:00 - 9:05 am ----- Welcome

9:05 - 10:00 am ---- Keynote: **Michael S. Roberts, Ph.D.**

10:00 - 10:35 am --- From Padawans to Jedis: The Rise of California's
Environmental Laboratories: **Andrew Hamilton**

10:35 - 10:40 am --- BREAK

10:40 - 11:15 am --- 2021 Methods Update Rule: **Christopher Hand**

11:15 - 11:55 am --- Meeting the Proficiency Testing Requirements for CA ELAP:
Christopher Ryan, Ph.D.

MAY 31 - THE MOONSHOT

A moonshot is a lofty goal or innovative project. Today's presentations highlight the out of this world work being performed across our state.

9:00 - 9:05 am ----- Welcome

9:05 - 9:30 am ----- ELTAC's Mission, accomplishments & projects for 2023:
Judy Morgan

9:30 - 10:15 am ---- PFAS-t and Furious: Getting Up To Speed On PFAS Analysis:
Agustin Pierri, Ph.D.

10:15 - 10:25 am --- BREAK

10:25 - 11:10 am --- How to think like a toxicologist: a guide to successful toxicity
testing: **Peter Arth**

11:10 - 11:55 am --- OC San's Ocean Monitoring Program: **Samuel Choi, Ph.D.**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

JUNE 1 - THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

As the conference comes to an end, this day's focus is how to be best prepared as TNI implementation begins.

9:00 - 9:05 am ----- Welcome

9:05 - 9:50 am ----- From Launching to Orbiting: How LACSD Became an Early Adopter of TNI-2: **Kelvin Yuen**

9:50 - 10:25 am ----- Are You Ready for 2024? Last Minute Tips and Tricks: **Kate Hilty / Christopher Hand**

10:25 - 10:30 am --- BREAK

10:30 - 10:50 am --- Preparing for a Great Assessment: **Zaneta Popovska (ANAB)**

10:50 - 11:10 am --- Performing Appropriate Root Cause Analysis and Writing Corrective Action Plans: **Stephanie Rippeon (A2LA)**

11:10 - 11:30 am --- Common Findings Related to Implementing the TNI Standard: **Matthew Sica (PJLA)**

11:30 - 11:50 am --- Most Common Assessment Non-conformities: **Duncan Millar/Harry Makam (IAS)**

11:50 - 12 pm ----- BLAST OFF!

... Subject to change without notice ...

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Michael S. Roberts, PhD is the Chief Scientific Officer of the International Space Station National Laboratory, managed by the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space, Inc. (CASIS). Before joining CASIS in 2013, Michael worked as a principal investigator and research group lead in the NASA Advanced Life Support program at the Kennedy Space Center. Prior to arriving at NASA-KSC in 1999, Michael completed an undergraduate degree in biology at Maryville College, a doctorate in microbiology at Wesleyan University and post-doctoral research at the Center for Microbial Ecology at Michigan State University and the RIKEN Institute in Wako-shi, Japan.



Andrew Hamilton is the State Water Board's Quality Assurance Officer in the Office of Information Management and Analysis (OIMA), where his role is to maintain the Water Board's Quality Management System and support the implementation of quality assurance policies and procedures to ensure the production or acquisition of quality data. Andrew has over 12 years of experience working in the environmental laboratory industry including as Laboratory Director and Technical Manager of ELAP-accredited commercial laboratories.



Christopher Hand is a Senior Environmental Scientist with the California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program where he serves as ELAP's State Agency Liaison. Christopher is one of ELAP's Laboratory Certification Officers responsible for accrediting drinking water laboratories; and works in coordination with the Quality Assurance Units at the Division of Drinking Water and the Office of Information Management and Analysis in the State Water Board. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from California State University at East Bay, and prior to his role at ELAP, has worked in both a research laboratory and as a lead analyst at an environmental laboratory.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Chris Ryan received a bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences (1997) and a Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry (2004) from Southern Illinois University. After finishing his studies, Dr. Ryan went on to complete post-doctoral fellowships at the University of California Los Angeles. In 2013 he joined the Environmental Chemistry Laboratory with the CA Department of Toxic Substances Control as a Research Scientist. Dr. Ryan accepted a position in the Drinking Water and Radiation Laboratory with the CA Department of Public Health in 2014. In 2016 Dr. Ryan joined CA ELAP. In his current position he is the supervisor for the Monitoring Unit where he oversees review of proficiency test studies to ensure laboratory compliance with program procedures and regulations.



Judith (Judy) Morgan is VP and Chief Compliance Officer for Pace Analytical Services, LLC. With over 30 years in analytical testing and compliance, she provides the necessary leadership to oversee a strong corporate compliance program that includes quality assurance, EHS and sustainability, international standards, government relations, and ethics and confidentiality. Well known to the industry she is, a respected expert witness, formerly a registered lobbyist, and has analytical experience in both organic and inorganic analyses. Her experience and dedication to the testing industry has allowed her to apply technical expertise as an active member for multiple National/Federal Committees and organizations such as TNI, ACIL, SETAC, A2LA, and EPA, where she has held multiple roles including, chairman, board member, ethics officer, vice president, treasurer, member and speaker. In addition to her B.S. Chemistry and M.S. Analytical Chemistry, Ms. Morgan has completed environmental analytical research, at Vanderbilt University. She is affiliated with many professional organizations, receiving high honors including the Preston Millar Award and the esteemed Charlie Carter Award.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Dr. Agustin Pierri obtained his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Southern California and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of California Santa Barbara where he worked on synthesizing photoactive pharmaceuticals and nanocarriers. He has authored many scientific publications and has given numerous presentations at technical meetings on topics ranging from inorganic photochemistry to environmental analytical chemistry. At Weck Labs, he has worked as a bench chemist in all sections of the laboratory, which includes microbiology, inorganics, and organics. Additionally, he has extensive experience developing and validating methods for emerging contaminants by sophisticated techniques such as LC-MS/MS, GC-MS/MS, and ICP-MS. Since becoming the Laboratory Technical Director in 2016, he continues to be active in developing methods for novel contaminants, as well as modernizing legacy analytical methods to lower detection limits and improve data quality.



Peter Arth is currently the Director of Enthalpy Analytical's Environmental Toxicology division. Over the course of his career in environmental laboratory services and consulting, he's held positions as analyst, project manager, operations manager, and laboratory director. Peter is an environmental scientist with a passion for applying an understanding of the intersection of toxicology, biology, ecology, and chemistry to understand, navigate, and solve complex environmental issues.

Peter has led laboratory-driven toxicological programs for commercial, industrial, governmental, and academic partners. Peter is well-versed in all aspects of performing and interpreting toxicity tests under guidelines published by a variety of regulatory agencies. His primary technical focus and expertise is the design, performance, and interpretation of site-specific toxicity investigations in freshwater, marine, and terrestrial environments. He has been engaged in TIE and other toxicity testing method development and adaptation, advocated for novel uses of bioassays as regulatory and risk assessment tools, and has presented his work at meetings and conferences across the country.

In all programs, Peter places a strong emphasis on effective collaboration, developing clear goals and objectives and attaining them cost efficiently, using sound experimental design, achieving unassailable data quality, and gaining client and regulatory approval. He has lent his expertise to several working groups and committees and is active in regulatory affairs at the regional, state, and national level. He is currently serving a term on the Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee (ELTAC) and is the Stakeholder Advisory Committee representative for private laboratories in the California statewide C. dubia Quality Assurance Study.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Samuel Choi is the manager for Environmental Laboratory and Ocean Monitoring Division at the Orange County Sanitation District. He has been working in the wastewater sector for 14 years, starting his career as a microbiologist. He holds a Master's in Environmental Engineering and a Ph.D. in Environmental Science with an emphasis in Environmental Microbiology. In addition, Sam also holds a part-time faculty position at the California State University Fullerton in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (2018-present).



Kelvin Yuen is the Supervising Scientist of Quality Assurance and Supply Services at the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD). He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from Loyola Marymount University. With over 20 years of experience in environmental testing and analysis, he currently oversees various quality assurance programs including accreditations, corrective actions, document control, ethics and data integrity, method validation, proficiency testing, and support equipment verifications. Most recently, as the Laboratories Section's designated Quality Manager, Kelvin is responsible for implementing the 2016 TNI-2 regulations across the ten LACSD laboratories.



Kate Hilty joined ELAP in 2015 and is currently the manager of ELAP's Administrative Operations Unit. In addition to overseeing all administrative activities, Kate leads program policy analysis, communications initiatives, and special projects. Kate spent ten years honing her customer interaction skills in several arenas prior to joining the Water Board. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Communication Studies and a Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration, both from California State University, Sacramento. When not working, Kate enjoys crossfit and walking her giant dog at the river.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Zaneta Popovska (ANAB) is an associate director at ANAB with the responsibility to lead the ILR (Inspection, Laboratory and Related Activities) team of testing laboratories, PTP (Proficiency Testing Providers), RMP (Reference Materials Producers), Medical and Biobanking.

Zaneta has 12 years of experience with ANAB ILR team and many years of prior professional engineering, medical research, and technical experience in various testing laboratories.

Zaneta has led many assessment teams and continues to represent ANAB as an Executive Committee member for ACIL Environmental Sciences Section and at the TNI Lab Expert and QMS committees.



Stephanie Rippeon is the Environmental Programs Manager with A2LA and has worked with the association since July 2016. She supports the day-to-day operations of accreditation by assisting laboratories in obtaining and maintaining accreditation in the chemical, biological, and environmental fields of testing. Stephanie serves as the primary staff point contact for laboratories looking to participate in the Environmental accreditation programs offered by A2LA which includes the Department of Defense Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (DoDELAP), Department of Energy Consolidated Audit Program (DOECAP), TNI, TNI FSMO, and the state environmental laboratory assessment programs.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Stevenson University in Stevenson, MD and attended East Carolina University in Greenville, NC for her graduate studies in Biomedical Science. During that time, her research focused on the study of kinetics and thermodynamics of enzyme action. Stephanie has also previously worked for several laboratories and research facilities spanning a variety of industries including pharmaceutical development, media production, quality control testing, and tobacco pesticide analysis.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Matthew Sica has over 30 years of experience in laboratory environments and has gained expertise in management and quality systems, laboratory accreditation, project management, process improvement and regulatory issues. He has managed laboratories performing environmental testing and industrial hygiene. He served as a program manager for a state program. He has consulted with petroleum testing laboratories, pharmaceutical testing laboratories, reference material producers, proficiency test providers along with calibration laboratories for accreditation preparation. Having been a consultant, he understands the balance between the detail of the standard and practical application of the requirements with the focus of standard compliance in an efficient manner. His most recent laboratory role was the VP of Compliance and Quality for a network of cannabis testing. In this role, he steered a quality department in the transition to a simplified approach to quality management utilizing technology to drive compliance within each location. With Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, he serves in the role of Technical Program Manager. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He has provided a variety of management and technical training courses throughout the world.



Harry Makam serves as the Accreditation Program Officer at International Accreditation Service (IAS). He has his BS in Forensic Science from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. He is also an EPA Microbiology Lab Certification Officer and has performed numerous assessments on testing laboratories against the ISO/IEC 17025 standard.



Duncan Millar is Head of Global Sales for International Accreditation Service (IAS). He has degrees from the University of California, San Diego and the University of Glasgow, Scotland. Duncan has led IAS efforts in working with laboratories transitioning to the TNI-2 standard for the State of California ELAP program.