

SCAPA Biosafety Working Group
Telecon Summary
February 14, 2008

Participants:

Lynn Fondren, SNL
Lori Manis, ORNL
Cliff Glantz, PNNL
Gary Winner, ANL
Diane Rodi, ANL
Susan Weekly,
Fred Horn, BNL
Frank Roberto, INL
ORISE

Update on membership: there have been changes at LLNL, SNL-Livermore; please let Frank know if you are aware of other changes, or of the replacements at LLNL and SNL-Livermore. Frank will try to get that information as well.

ANS Topical Meeting session on Biosafety Operations and Emergency Response, Albuquerque, NM, Mar. 11: Speakers include Lynn Fondren, Jim Powers, Dina Matz, Stuart Dols (NIST-CONTAM), and Frank Roberto. After this session, speakers agreed to make papers, and in some cases, presentations available via the BWG website. To be posted soon.

AI 06-06: Frank to draft summary of current state of the art and circulate for additions prior to submission to Jim Powers. Commitment to complete a draft in time for the May SCAPA meeting made in the March SCAPA telecon.

Discussion of ABSA affiliation: current charter, objectives, and membership appear to be close to those needed for affiliation with ABSA. This is being suggested as a means to raise visibility of DOE commitment to biosafety, and collective strength of DOE biosafety community. Frank to determine if there are enough ABSA members to meet the minimum (5 or 10; seems to be a discrepancy in the requirement listing on ABSA website.)

SCAPA meeting, Reston, VA, May 8-9: Biosafety working group to meet 4:30-6pm on Wed, May 7; two topical presentations proposed by invited speakers from NIH and NBACC (no commitment yet 4/10/08)

EPA nanomaterials research plan public meeting Apr. 11, 2008: Carl Mazzola wanted to bring this to our attention. Draft Nanomaterial Research Strategy (NRS) available for comment – <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/nano/publications/index.html>

It was suggested that a website with example biosafety manuals, incident response and security plans would be a valuable resource to the membership. A secure website has been established through a link to the BWG website (<http://orise.orau.gov/emi/scapa/biosafety-wg.htm>) Cliff has provided details to Dina and Frank that can be shared as needed with the membership. Thanks to Cliff, Dorothy Cohen, and Amparo Atencio for setting up what we hope will be a much used and growing resource for the membership.