

Steering Committee (SC) Call Minutes
NanoRelease Food Additive
February 6th, 2013

Participants: Steve Roberts, Annette McCarthy, Rickey Yada, Don Forsyth, Mark Perry, David Carlander, John Milner, Scott Thurmond, Neil Buck, Tom Neltner, Michael Hansen, Danielle Fugere, Vicki Stone, Greg Noonan, Rick Canady, Libby Tsytsikova, Molly Bloom

Agenda

(1) Approval of last call minutes

- No members on the call had any comments. Any comments should be sent to the secretariat by February 13th, after which time the minutes will be considered approved and posted on the public website.

(2) New SC Members

- Since the last call, the SC has approved a new member. An additional new SC member was added because he has become the chair of TG5. The new members introduced themselves.

(3) Project Timeline

- Members were reminded of the project timeline and that the SOST had a face-to-face meeting at the ILSI Annual Meeting last month. No members on the call had any comments or suggestions to the timeline.

(4) Group Updates

- The recent New York Times article about an As You Sow report was discussed by the Steering Committee. Members agreed that the NanoRelease project is working to address these issues by supporting collaboration and discussion amongst stakeholders.
- TG 1
 - A TG1 co-chair noted that the co-chairs had a call earlier this week and are in the process of refining the outline. They have identified three categories: soft/lipid-based nanomaterials, solid non-lipid non-metal nanomaterials, and solid metalloid/metal-based nanomaterials with examples for each category. There will be a full TG call in the next week.
 - The importance of sharing the case study outline with the other TGs was pointed out.
- TG 2
 - TG2 co-chair noted that this group has a new member.
 - The group recently had a call and authors are now working on their specific chapters given the input from the workshop. Another call is scheduled for the end of February.
- TG 3
 - TG3 co-chair noted that the group had a call about two weeks ago to go over notes made after the workshop which involved editing the white paper.
 - The edits include moving background information from TG3 to TG2 and techniques that could identify materials from TG3 to TG4. This will focus the paper on models. At the workshop good feedback was given on in vivo models and the use of tables.

- Group chapter authors are now working on editing sections and adding details. The secretariat is in the process of scheduling the group's next call.
- TG 4
 - TG4 co-chair noted that the group recently had a call with new members who agreed to provide support for chapters where there was a lack of authorship.
 - Chapters are now being updated.
 - TG4 has discussed incorporating a decision tree that will support choice of methods.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for the second half of February.
- TG 5
 - TG5 chair noted that the group had a call a week ago deciding to divide up regulatory areas to make an initial summary and to review why the project has decided not to use a definition for nano.
 - Authors are now starting to draft text and will have a better idea for the focus of the paper by the next call in the last week of February.
- SOST
 - All new SOST members mentioned on the last SC call have been approved.
 - Some members met in person at the ILSI annual meeting in Miami in January. They drafted an outline of what the SOS should cover in relation to other TGs and the project as a whole with the goal of targeting Nature Nanotechnology for publication.
- Publication strategy
 - The approach going forward is to have a vote on the best option for publication by TG members. Voting will be gathered by the end of today and then there will be a second round of voting for specific journals. There will be an update on the next call.

(5) Revised Dec. 2012 Workshop Summary

- The secretariat is working on a workshop summary, which will be sent out soon.
Action Item: Members should respond with comments for finalization of the document within one week of it being sent out.

(6) NanoLyse joint workshop Sept. 2013

- This 1.5 day workshop is being hosted by Health Canada and will be held in Ottawa.
Action Item: Members should respond to the secretariat about the best dates in September so that a venue can be booked for when most potential participants are available.
- The NanoLyse project is developing methods and data for nanoparticles in food and references. It would be good to interweave the two projects to take full advantage of data that can be shared between the projects.
- This workshop would also provide the opportunity to discuss health risk cases that Health Canada may want to consider.

(7) Preliminary discussion for Phase 3 (lab testing)

- Intention of project is to identify methods and in the second phase we are trying to figure out what methods to carry forward and what to use as reference materials.

- Members were reminded that of the need to start planning this phase of Interlaboratory testing of methods for initiation in the next 12 months. Now is the time to start planning what experts to invite to form an Interlaboratory Testing Group (ITG) with expertise in methods and instrumentation.
- In addition, we need to start thinking about identifying resources for this phase.
- It was noted that some organizations have expressed interest and as TGs start winding down with their papers they may want to participate in ITG. It would also be useful to speak with NanoLyse.
- The question of who will produce the materials for testing was raised. This was noted as something for the ITG planning group to initially discuss.
- A sequence of conference calls to identify a core group for shaping ITG charges should be held soon and a webinar/face to face meeting in the next 2-3 months.
Action Item: SC members should start thinking about who would be good for this group.

(8) Outreach: Updates on Recent/Upcoming Presentations

- “Nanotech concerns highlight core research needs” article
 - This article calling for collaborative efforts across different stakeholder groups in areas that may be relevant to this project was brought to the SC’s attention.
 - The article was pointed out the secretariat by a SC member as an outreach item and may give us reason to connect with USDA programs to ask what is going on that might be of interest the project. Opportunity to talk about potential synergies and collaborations.
- American National Standards Institute Panel
 - This panel held earlier this week with discussion turned to the Food Additive project.
 - The panel expressed strong need for standards format for exposure information- need methods in order to develop standards.
 - There was strong endorsement expressed for this project.
- QNano Integrating Conference (Prague, Feb 27 – March 1, 2013)
 - An SC member who is participating in this noted that it is a EU funded integrated project that provides facilities for Europe researchers to characterize nanomaterials. Researchers can apply for access and funding to these facilities.
 - Conference is held to get researchers together from across Europe to discuss nanotechnology resources.
 - Some members of this project will be giving presentations on their own work and could mention the Food Additive project then provide feedback to the project after the conference.
 - Topics range from Systems Biology and in silico approaches to methods applications.
- EU Sustainable Nanotechnology Project
 - Submission for funding is in a couple of weeks.
 - An SC member agreed to suggest a direct endorsement from the Food Additive project.
- Establishing a webinar series on relevant measurement methods/instrumentation
 - Members discussed the idea of having a webinar series that focuses on specific techniques for those interested in methods.

- o Members expressed support with reservations about having endorsement and sales pitches from companies instead of focusing on the techniques and technology.
- o It was noted that one way to frame this would be to make it clear to the presenters that the project is on the cutting edge- leading development that would be useful for the companies to know, making this more of a scientific exchange instead of sales pitch.
- o It was also suggested that the project could pre-screen presentation slides to keep the focus on technology and not a particular brand.
- o The seminars could be put on by laboratories and not necessarily by company representatives.
- o A member pointed out that the QNano website has potential speakers.
Action Item: This will be put as an agenda item for future calls to discuss later.