

**NIST Guidance Groups: Input Received &
Proposed Plan Development
February 18, 2014 (5:00 – 7:00 PM) PST
Ballroom 6C, Washington State Convention Center**

Agenda

Time (Pacific Standard Time)	Presentation	Presenter
5:00 – 5:10 PM	Welcome and Introductions	Mark Stolorow
5:10 – 5:15 PM	Brief Background on NIST	Rich Cavanagh
5:15 – 5:30 PM	Notice of Inquiry Responses Received by NIST	Susan Ballou
5:30 – 6:00 PM	Plan for the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC)	Barbara Guttman John Butler
6:00 – 6:15 PM	OSAC Membership	John Paul Jones II
6:15 – 7:00 PM	Questions	

Abstract

The development of a quality infrastructure for forensic science was a key component of some of the reforms anticipated in the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report. In response to the report, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the US Department of Justice signed a bilateral agency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in March 2013 which specified the establishment of “Guidance Groups” now termed Scientific Area Committees (SACs). NIST created the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) model to promulgate NIST’s responsibility to administer and coordinate support for the discipline-specific SACs. In September 2013, NIST issued in the Federal Register a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) to obtain national and international input on the establishment and structure of governance models. Eighty-two submissions were received in response to the NOI. NIST envisions uniform administration of development, promulgation and adoption of standards through the OSAC as well as supporting communication flow between the SACs and the forensic science community. The plan design intends to bring structure, scientific rigor and increased communication among forensic scientists, research scientists, academicians, statisticians, attorneys, managers and quality assurance specialists.