

Scientific Working Group for



SWGTOX
Forensic Toxicology

SWGDRUG Update – January 2013

Bruce A. Goldberger, Ph.D., DABFT
SWGTOX Executive Committee Member

SWGTOX

- ▶ Established in October, 2009 by the Forensic Toxicology Council (FTC)
 - ▶ SWGTOX business is independent of the FTC, SOFT, AAFS and ABFT
- ▶ Bylaws Enacted Dec. 16, 2010

History of Self-Regulation in Forensic Toxicology

- ▶ American Board of Forensic Toxicology
 - ▶ Established – 1975
 - ▶ First individual certification – 1976
 - ▶ Laboratory accreditation program established – 1996
 - ▶ First laboratory accredited – 1997
- ▶ Forensic Toxicology Certification Board
 - ▶ Established – 1993
 - ▶ First individual certification – 1995
- ▶ SOFT/AAFS Forensic Toxicology Laboratory Guidelines
 - ▶ 1991/1997/2002/2006

Mission

- ▶ The mission of SWGTOX is to develop and disseminate consensus standards for the practice of forensic toxicology.

Objectives

- ▶ Establish standards for the practice of forensic toxicology, including the following areas
 - ▶ Standards, practice, protocols including QA and QC
 - ▶ Education and training requirements
 - ▶ Accreditation
 - ▶ Certification
- ▶ Develop a Code of Professional Conduct for forensic toxicologists and laboratories
- ▶ Identify general areas of R&D needs
- ▶ Promote public awareness of the field of forensic toxicology

Scope

- ▶ SWGTOX activities concern toxicological matters including post-mortem toxicology, human performance toxicology, workplace drug testing, medicolegal and criminal investigations, and court-mandated testing.
- ▶ While the work product developed by SWGTOX is the standard of practice in all forensic toxicology disciplines, the scope of SWGTOX activities will not necessarily include those specialized areas where mandated, codified rules and regulations currently exist.

Committee Structure

- ▶ SWGTOX Chair or Co-Chairs appointed by FTC:
 - ▶ Rob Middleberg, Ph.D.
- ▶ Executive Committee consisting of SWGTOX Chair(s), Committee Chairs and two Members-at-Large elected by SWGTOX Members
 - ▶ Three Committees
 - ▶ Modeled after the IWG structure
 - ▶ Chairs of committees appointed by SWGTOX Chair(s)
 - Standards, Practice, Protocols, and Accreditation – Marc LeBeau, Ph.D.
 - Education, Ethics, Outreach and Certification - Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D.
 - Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation - Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D.
 - ▶ Members-at-Large
 - Laurel Farrell
 - Jeri Roper-Miller, Ph.D.
- ▶ Executive Secretary
 - Madeline Montgomery

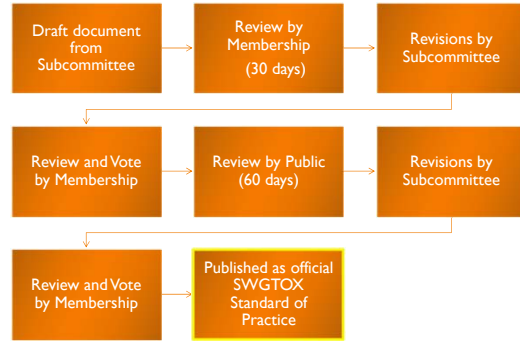
Members

- ▶ Selected from a diverse group with expertise in the areas that SWGTOX is addressing:
 - ▶ Members have voting privileges
 - ▶ Limit of 50 Members at one time
 - ▶ Selected by Executive Committee
 - ▶ Member's term length at discretion of Executive Committee
 - ▶ Must remain active with SWGTOX to maintain Member status
- ▶ Advisors and invited guests add to the expertise, but do not have voting privileges
- ▶ No compensation or honorarium for participation

Current Members

- ▶ Dan Anderson (CA)
- ▶ Mike Baylor (NC)
- ▶ Patrick Callery (WV)
- ▶ Randall Clark (AL)
- ▶ Fiona Couper (WA)
- ▶ Dennis Crouch (TN)
- ▶ Kurt Dubowski (OK)
- ▶ Laurel Farrell (CO)
- ▶ Mark Fondren (TX)
- ▶ Bruce Goldberger (FL)
- ▶ Sue Hackworthy (WI)
- ▶ Chris Heartsill (TX)
- ▶ Marilyn Huestis (MD)
- ▶ Dan Isenschmid (MI)
- ▶ Amanda Jenkins (MA)
- ▶ Graham Jones (Canada)
- ▶ Melissa Kennedy (VA)
- ▶ Sarah Kerrigan (TX)
- ▶ Loralie Langman (MN)
- ▶ Marc LeBeau (VA)
- ▶ Laura Liddicoat (WI)
- ▶ Jennifer Limoges (NY)
- ▶ David Masters-Moore (CA)
- ▶ Rob Middleberg (PA)
- ▶ Madeline Montgomery (VA)
- ▶ David Moody (UT)
- ▶ Robert Osiewicz (NY)
- ▶ Michelle Peace (VA)
- ▶ Julia Pearson (FL)
- ▶ Jeri Roper-Miller (NC)
- ▶ Tom Rosano (NY)
- ▶ Robert Sears (SC)
- ▶ Matt Slawson (UT)
- ▶ Betsy Spratt (NY)
- ▶ Peter Stout (NC)
- ▶ Jarrad Wagner (OK)
- ▶ Robert Zettl (CO)

Review/Approval of Standards of Practice



Current Activities

- ▶ **Standard for Codes and Guides of Professional Conduct**
 - ▶ Adopted December 16, 2010
- ▶ **Report of the Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation Committee**
 - ▶ Adopted December 13, 2012

Current Activities

- ▶ Laboratory Accreditation Standards
- ▶ Amplification Document for Laboratory Audits
- ▶ Method Validation
- ▶ Quality Assurance/Quality Management Standards
 - ▶ Analytical Procedures
 - ▶ Proficiency Testing
 - ▶ Reporting
 - ▶ Quality Control
- ▶ Education, Training, Competency and Certification Standards
- ▶ Measurement Traceability and Measurement Uncertainty
- ▶ MS Identification Criteria

Current Activities

- ▶ **Breath Alcohol Testing**
 - ▶ Personnel
 - ▶ Evaluation
 - ▶ Validation
 - ▶ Quality Assurance
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Meetings

- ▶ **Minimum: 2x year – pending funding**
 - ▶ **Members only**
 - ▶ **Parliamentary order**
 - ▶ **Other communication means**
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Your Role

- ▶ **Pay attention to postings on www.SWGTOX.org**
 - ▶ **Review and COMMENT on draft documents**
 - ▶ **Support SWGTOX and its mission**
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