

September 18, 2009 LPC Meeting

Attending Members: Sandy Buchner, Angella Breitenbeck, Dave Johnson, Anita Friend, Mary Lenardson

LPC Workshop:

1. Hach offers many training classes, may be able to offer training support and equipment for workshop –Sandy will check with HACH when they do the next training session in Grand Rapids
2. Partnering with IPP group to put workshop together may be beneficial. We may want to ask for a spot to talk to IPP at a seminar or committee meeting to gauge interest.
3. Angella will contact IPP committee chair and ask for initial thoughts about partnering for workshop.
4. DEQ also offers training courses (only verbal no hands on), check with Bob Avery at next meeting to see if DEQ might want to participate.
5. Weekly e-mails regarding how to train different seminar topics were not effective. Only 2 responses were obtained. We will try to tackle 2 topics per committee meeting to brainstorm ideas.
 - Glassware – how glassware affects precision/accuracy in measurement. Measure out 50 mL of water using a volumetric flask, graduated cylinder, Erlenmeyer flask, etc. and weigh each sample and show which is closest to 50 g. Start a section on glassware with a brief review of the properties of the three types of glass found in the lab. These are soft glass, hard glass and high temperature/UV transmission glass. Then move to specific uses based on shape and accuracy. Last would be safety issues related to use of glassware. A good reference is The Laboratory Handbook of Materials, Equipment and Technique by Gary S. Coyne.
 - Instead of talking about precision, bias, and accuracy separately, integrate it into discussion of other topics (like a specific test) to keep attendees interested and engaged. This will give the “why” and show real world examples. This type of approach will also work with a discussion about ethics.
 - Safety issues – having chemicals stored in the wrong containers w/o labels can spill or break
6. Many issues tie in together, the more you can integrate the more palatable it will become because a topic can be tied to real world situations which holds interest longer.
7. Need to make it appealing to the money makers – must make it beneficial and hands on since several agencies also put on this type of workshop. We need to make sure that the workshop has real world impact in the laboratory setting.
8. Angella will email Jerry about contacting several local community colleges and see if there is interest in hosting a seminar
9. Angella will email Amy how many people attended the MRWA workshop
10. If we are able to partner with HACH we may want to stick with colorimetric and ISE based tests: phosphorous, pH, BOD, COD, R. chlorine, CN, phosphorous, sulfates, TKN, chloride, hex chrom, ISE-NH3?????

2010 Seminar Planning:

1. Email Amy and ask her to contact Perry Brake about being the keynote at the 2010 spring seminar, has he done speaking engagements before??
2. John St. Andre – mentored Mary Lenardson – may be good keynote, very entertaining, retired now, Mary will talk to him and see if he is interested in participating in seminar
3. Want to try to keep at Eagle Eye will try to come up with possible seminar dates at October meeting

4. Would like to keep the “2 track” afternoon session, many attendees liked the format, but make presentation times longer to more easily keep the tracks synchronized.
5. Possible seminar topics
 - SOP writing
 - How to prepare for an audit – maybe get an auditor to speak (2 tracks would be applicable)

General Discussion:

1. Sandy Buchner has agreed to be the committee vice-chair (Thank you Sandy)
2. Angella will let Mary know which email address bounced back
3. Angella and Mary will work on putting together an article for the MWEA Matters magazine (deadline in Nov. 20, 2009)
4. Email “frequently attending members” contact info to frequently attending members

Upcoming Meetings:

1. October 16, 2009 (Mary Lenardson Host)
2. November 20, 2009 (MWEA office)
3. December 18, 2009 (Charles Peterson Host)