



## Florida Society of Environmental Analysts 2023 Fall Conference November 7 – 9, 2023

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### Day 1 - Tuesday November 7, 2023 – Workshops Environmental Labs

7:45am Registration Opens	Registration Desk
10:00am –6:30pm Exhibitor area open	Grand Salon
12:00 – 1:00pm Lunch (provided)	Grand Salon
5:00-6:30pm Exhibitor Reception	Grand Salon

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#### Tuesday Morning Session 8:15am – 12:00m (Break 10:00-10:30am in Grand Salon)

##### ***Workshop 1 – Back to Basics ~0.35 CEUs – Michael & Mei Beth Shepherd, Shepherd Technical Services (Flagler Room C)***

Both new and old laboratory staff will benefit from this workshop which goes over the use and care of general lab equipment and covers some good laboratory practices. Time is spent reviewing the names and uses of laboratory equipment including pipettes and balances. SDS, PPE, basic calculations, rounding, and significant figures are also covered. Come remember things you have forgotten, or learn them!

##### ***Workshop 2 – Managing a Data Integrity Investigation ~0.35 CEUs – Silky Labie, ELCAT (Flagler Room B)***

Every laboratory receives questions about the content of their reports or observations about laboratory activities. Sometimes a simple explanation is needed concerning the use of data qualifiers or verifying reported values. Any communication that questions a laboratory activity or product must be taken seriously even when it is from the curmudgeon who routinely calls with seemingly insignificant issues. Concerns or observations about a laboratory's activities can originate from clients, whistleblowers (internal or external), or from internal or external audits. Each concern, no matter how trivial, must be investigated. In most cases, the response can be straightforward. However, irregularities in the documentation or records may imply a data integrity violation that must be addressed.

**Lunch 12:00-1:00pm – Provided by FSEA (Grand Salon)**

#### Tuesday Afternoon Session 1:00pm – 5:00pm (Break 3:00-3:30pm in Grand Salon)

##### ***Workshop 3 – Open Forum on Troubleshooting/Peer Session ~0.40 CEUs – Valerie Slaven, Michelle Wade, and Paul Junio – Pace Analytical (Flagler Room B&C)***

Panel Style discussion - Are you struggling with a corrective action, method performance issues, or just perplexed about a technical problem? If so, bring your problems and let us help to solve them. No problem too big or small. We are here to help.

**5:00-6:30pm Reception in Exhibit Area with Hors d'oeuvres and Door Prizes (Grand Salon)**

## Day 2 - Wednesday November 8, 2023 Technical Sessions in the Flagler Ballroom - ~0.75 CEUs

7:45am Registration Opens	Registration Desk
7:45 – 8:15am Continental Breakfast	Grand Salon
7:45am – 3:15pm Exhibitor area open	Grand Salon
12:00 – 1:15pm Lunch (provided)	Grand Salon
7:30-10:00pm Scholarship Fundraiser & Social	Grand Salon

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**8:15 – 8:20am** *Opening Remarks – Robin Cook, FSEA President*

**8:20 – 9:30am** *Keys to Success with Technical Support for Analytical Instrumentation – Johann Hinck, SEAL Analytical*  
Communication with technical support can sometimes become a time consuming or frustrating process, especially when it comes to analytical instrumentation. However, there are ways to not only turn this experience into a positive one, but to utilize it as a learning tool. This discussion will include examples of technical support problems and how the solutions to these issues can be expedited through clear communication with a knowledgeable technical support staff. We will also discuss tips on ways to communicate and provide information to technical support, as well as what you should expect from your instrument's technical support team.

**9:30-10:15am** *Analytical Tools for the Investigation of the Presence of PFAS – Charles Neslund, Eurofins*  
Methods (and techniques) for the analysis of PFAS run the gamut from those designed for drinking water to the recently issued 4<sup>th</sup> Draft EPA Method 1633. We could also pull into the mix the TOP Assay, TOF (total organic fluorine) and Non-Target Analysis (NTA) and it would seem that we have quite a few tools at our disposal for assessing the impacts and presence of PFAS in the environment. But what do all of these applications do for the practitioner investigating PFAS? In this presentation, we will give brief over views of the individual methodologies and the data that they provide, how they relate to the targets set in the EPA's PFAS Roadmap and will provide the following: Methods Comparison; Methods for non-potable water, solid and air matrices - what is available today and what is being worked on (Draft 1633); Matrix specific considerations; A review of state specific method requirements; An introduction/review of new techniques for PFAS determination to compliment targeted compound approaches.

**10:15–11:00am** *BREAK in Exhibit Area – Grand Salon*

**11:00-11:45am** *The Changing PFAS Landscape and EPA Method 1621– Uyen Mai, Metrohm*  
What we know about PFAS compounds is changing every day, as the list of compounds continues to grow and be detected in more products and the environment. Historically, targeted LC-MS/MS methods have been used to detect and quantify a limited list of these compounds, though there is increasing interest in non-targeted methods, which look at total fluorine and give a better picture of the overall impact. The US EPA has acknowledged this shift in thinking with the proposal of method 1621, which screens for adsorbable organic fluorine (AOF) using combustion ion chromatography (CIC). In this talk, details of EPA method 1621 will be discussed along with an optimized sample prep and CIC solution to comply with the method.

**11:45am-noon** *FSEA Business Meeting, Presentation of Fredrick C. Bothe Scholarship for Environmental Studies*

**12:00-1:15pm** *LUNCH provided in the Grand Salon*

## Day 2 - Wednesday November 8, 2023 Technical Sessions in the Flagler Ballroom - (continued)

7:45am Registration Opens	Registration Desk
7:45-8:15am Continental Breakfast	Grand Salon
7:45am –3:15pm Exhibitor area open	Grand Salon
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- 1:15-2:00pm** *Improved anions analysis – impact of newer technologies in older contaminants – Victor Diaz, Shimadzu*  
Fast and robust analysis of anions in environmental samples is essential for environmental laboratories due to the short turn-around-times required for the analysis of nitrate and nitrite in methods EPA 300 and 300.1. When analyzing samples with diverse and variable composition for nitrate and nitrite together with some of the other targets from these methods (e.g., F-, Cl-, Br-, PO4-, and SO4- from EPA 300), laboratories may run into challenges. We optimized the method conditions to maximize lab productivity and turn-around-time for the analysis of EPA 300 in a run-to-run time of 4.5 minutes. To further increase the efficacy of the method, we evaluated two approaches to eliminate the need for sample-reruns when results from various anions are outside the calibration range or interferences are present. In this presentation we will present the results from the method performance evaluation including but not limited to linearity, sensitivity, and reproducibility.
- 2:00-2:45pm** *Microbiology requirements in SM9000 – Tony Francis, SAW Environmental*  
This session will focus on microbiology quality control items found in Standard Methods 9000 including changes and differences in the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> editions. We will discuss various ways to conform to current regulations in terms of procedures and recordkeeping.
- 2:45-3:15pm** *BREAK in Exhibit Area – Grand Salon*
- 3:15-4:00pm** *Using NEFAP FSMO Accreditation to Help Comply with FL-DEP Sampling Rules – Michael Shepherd, Shepherd Technical Services*  
The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FL-DEP) has established a number of requirements for sampling and analytical procedures within their programs. Putting in place Quality Management Systems to drive the sampling operations can help ingrain consistency and reliability to the activities. The presentation will help demonstrate how establishing and maintaining accreditation as a Field Sampling and Measurements Organization (FSMO) under the National Environmental Field Activities Program (NEFAP) can help organizations comply with FL-DEP's requirements
- 4:00-4:20pm** *Regional Meet and Greet – break out into small groups by Region to meet your Regional Director and other region members, offer suggestions for topics you would like to see in your region.*
- 4:20-5:05pm** *FLDOH 2022-23-24– Vanessa Soto-Contreras, Florida Department of Health*  
As more methods, standards and updates are approved for compliance, what is Florida ELCP doing? How are these changes being addressed? This presentation will give you information about how ELCP is brainstorming, updating processes, what is expected from laboratories and more.
- 5:05-5:20pm** *Door Prize Drawings*
- 7:30-10:00pm** *Social Event and Scholarship Fundraiser – Trivia Contest. Join us in the ballroom for a fun night of trivia. Bring a team or join one when you get there!*

## Day 3 – Thurs. Nov. 9, 2023 - Regulatory Sessions Flagler B&C ~0.45 CEUs OR Field WS in Flagler A ~0.30 CEUs

7:45am Registration Opens	Registration Desk
7:45am – 8:15am Continental Breakfast	Pre-function foyer
10:30-11:00am Break	Pre-function foyer

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### Field Sampling Workshop in Flagler A ~0.30 CEUs

#### 8:00-11:00am *Ensuring Representative Field Samples: A Comprehensive Workshop on Field Sampling Procedures and Addressing Common Challenges– Vance Reiman, JEA*

Field sampling is a critical aspect of environmental monitoring and is far from a simple task. Successfully collecting representative samples requires meticulous attention to detail, adherence to quality assurance (QA) requirements, adherence to standardized procedures, careful decontamination practices, and precise reporting. Even with the best preparation, challenges such as calibration issues, equipment failures, and unexpected results can cast doubt on data validity.

This workshop aims to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of their responsibilities to ensure accurate data collection and reporting. Participants will receive an overview of the FL Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) standard operating procedures (SOPs) pertaining to pre-sampling activities and field sampling, complemented by insights from internal supporting documentation.

We will engage in interactive sessions to address common issues encountered during field sampling and explore potential resolutions. By sharing experiences and solutions, participants will gain valuable insights into overcoming challenges and enhancing their sampling processes.

The workshop's objectives are twofold: to equip newcomers to field sampling with essential knowledge and to serve as a refresher for seasoned samplers while introducing them to new concepts. Attendees will leave the workshop with enhanced confidence in their sampling techniques and will be better equipped to provide clients with data that is truly representative and aligned with regulatory standards. Join us for this engaging workshop and be prepared to participate actively by asking questions and contributing your team's experiences. Together, we will work towards strengthening sampling departments and ensuring the delivery of accurate and reliable environmental data.

### Regulatory Sessions in the Flagler B&C Ballroom ~0.45 CEUs

#### 8:15-9:30am *Managing Measurement Traceability – Michelle Wade, Pace Analytical (REPEAT from Spring)*

Ensuring measurement traceability in the laboratory environment can often seem like you're navigating a labyrinth; especially when requirements seem to shift with every revision of a standard or regulation. Understanding some key concepts can help straighten the path from start to finish. This presentation will help define measurement traceability, identify key items that must be traced, and provide examples of ways to maintain measurement traceability. Providing a better understanding of how and why measurement traceability is important, what needs to be traceable, and how to maintain traceability in your laboratory.

#### 9:30-10:30am *Revisions to the TNI Standards – Paul Junio, TNI Consensus Standards Development Committee/ Pace Analytical (updates from Spring presentation)*

The TNI Standards are in the process of being revised. These revisions are due to changes in ISO 17011, ISO 17025, and realizations that there are improvements that can and should be made in the various technical modules. The presenter will provide a status report on the revision process for each Module, pointing out highlights of the changes proposed, in addition to taking feedback from attendees on the process. An important aspect of this process is that these changes, once made by TNI, don't become requirements until they have been approved by Accrediting Bodies.

#### 10:30-11:00am *BREAK in Pre-function foyer*

#### 11:00-11:45am *Updates from FDEP – Presenter TBD*

**11:45am-1:00pm *Regulatory Forum***

This session will allow attendees to submit questions in advance for our panel to answer. Typical questions include those related to laboratory accreditation, standards, regulatory interpretations and data issues.

**Please e-mail your questions to [secretary@fsea.net](mailto:secretary@fsea.net) by noon on November 8th so our panel has time to review the questions and prepare their answers.** If time allows, questions may be asked from the floor.

**Panel members:**

**FDEP – Panelist TBD**

**Robin Cook – TNI Microbiology Expert Committee Vice-Chair, TNI Advocacy Committee Vice-Chair**

**Michelle Wade -TNI Chemistry Expert Committee Chair**

**Paul Junio – TNI Consensus Standards Development Committee**

**Vanessa Soto-Contreras – FDOH**

**Save the Date for the 2024 Spring Conference – May 22-24, 2024 at the Sand Key Marriott in Clearwater Beach!**