

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
March 18, 2026
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

DATE: March 18, 2026

TO: Dean Nita Ahuja, MD, UW-SMPH – Dr. Jon Audhya, Designated Representative
Kirsten Johnson, Secretary-designee, DHS – Dr. Mark Werner, Designated Representative
Dr. Karen Hyun, Secretary, DNR – Greg Pils, Designated Representative
Randy Romanski, Secretary, DATCP – Gilbert (Gil) Kelley, Designated Representative
Dr. Christopher Strang, Chair
Dr. Mark Werner, Vice Chair
Dr. Jon Audhya, Member
Jessica Blahnik, Member
Dr. Robert Corliss, Member
Gina Green-Harris, Member
Gilbert (Gil) Kelley, Member
John Larson, Member
Hasmik Mkrtchyan, Member
Greg Pils, Member
Becky Rowland, Member
Zana Sijan, DNR Alternate
Rebecca Fahney, DNR Alternate
Anna Benton, DHS Alternate
Paula Tran, DHS Alternate
Andrea Poehling, UW-Madison Alternate

FROM: Dr. Rudolph Johnson, Secretary
Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

RE: Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors Meeting
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
In-Person/Online Meeting
March 18, 2026, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

CC: Dr. Errin Rider
Allen Benson
Nate Lepak
Jan Klawitter
Nancy McLean
Steve Strebel
Tip Vandall
Dr. Al Bateman
Sheila Jager

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WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING NOTICE
for**

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION

2601 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718

Notice is hereby given that the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors will convene in person and via teleconference at **1:00 pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2026.**

Notice is further given that matters concerning Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene issues, program responsibilities, or operations specified in the Wisconsin Statutes, which arise after publication of this notice may be added to the agenda and publicly noticed no less than two hours before the scheduled board meeting if the board Chair determines the matter is urgent.

Notice is further given that this meeting may be conducted partly or entirely by teleconference or videoconference.

Notice is further given that questions related to this notice, requests for special accommodations, or requests for a public appearance are addressed by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Administrative Offices by phone at (608) 890-0288 or in writing to the Secretary, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors, C/O WSLH Director, 465 Henry Mall, Madison, WI 53706

ORDER OF BUSINESS: See agenda.

Respectfully submitted,



Rudolph C. Johnson, PhD
Secretary, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors
Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
465 Henry Mall, Madison, WI 53706

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AGENDA

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- Item 1. ROLL CALL**
- Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA**
- Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES**
- Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS**

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Item 6. MARATHON COUNTY: WELLTAP PRIVATE WELL TESTING PRESENTATION**
Kate Florek – Marathon County Environmental Health and Safety Director
Sara Balge – Marathon County Environmental Health Sanitarian
Rachel Klemp-North – Marathon County Public Health Supervisor

- Item 7. PFAS UPDATE**
Erin Mani – WSLH EHD-Environmental Organic Chemistry Laboratory Director

- Item 8. FINANCIAL REPORT**
Al Benson – WSLH IT Director and Interim Finance Director

- Item 9. CONTRACTS REPORT**
Tip Vandall – WSLH Accounts Receivable and Contracts Manager

- Item 10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
Public Relations Report – **Jan Klawitter** – WSLH Communications Manager

- Item. 11 Election of Officers**

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PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 1. ROLL CALL

Description of Item:

Roll call of attendance at Board Meeting led by Board Chair

Suggested Board Action:

Submit roll call

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Board Secretary will record the roll call

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PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Description of Item:

The draft minutes of the December 17, 2025, board meeting are submitted for approval

Suggested Board Action:

Motion: Approve the draft minutes of the December 17, 2025, board meeting as submitted

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Approve draft minutes

Once approved, minutes become part of the public record and are posted on the WSLH website:

<http://www.slh.wisc.edu/about/board/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/>.

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APPROVED MINUTES

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

<1:00-4:00 PM>

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair Dr. Christopher Strang | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gil Kelley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair Dr. Mark Werner (DHS) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hasmik Mkrtchyan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary Dr. Rudy Johnson | <input type="checkbox"/> Zana Sijan (WDNR alternate) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Robert Corliss | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becca Fahney (WDNR alternate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jon Audhya (SMPH) | <input type="checkbox"/> Paula Tran (DHS alternate) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Pils (DNR) | <input type="checkbox"/> Anna Benton (DHS alternate) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Blahnik | <input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Poehling (SMPH alternate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gina Green-Harris | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Rowland | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Larson | |

WSLH STAFF PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Errin Rider | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Strebel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allen Benson | <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Al Bateman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Karbowski | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheila Jager |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Klawitter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tip Vandall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nancy McLean | |

GUESTS PRESENT: David Case from EPIC Systems was present as a listener.

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PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 1. ROLL CALL

WSLH Board Chair Dr. Chris Strang called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

At 1:03 PM WSLH Board Chair Dr. Chris Strang asked Sara Anderson to call the roll of Board Members and alternates. All board members or their designated representatives were present except for those excused.

Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

At 1:08 PM, Chair Dr. Chris Strang made a motion to approve the September 17, 2025 WSLH Board Meeting Minutes with the following correction – under the Members Present section Dr. Strang should be listed as Chair and Dr. Mark Werner should be listed as Vice-Chair. Greg Pils seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

No request to reorganize the agenda was made during the board meeting.

Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

No public appearances occurred for this board meeting.

Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS

No business from the board members was mentioned amidst this board meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Item 6. BIOMONITORING OVERVIEW – Meshel Lange

Meshel Lange (WSLH Laboratory Manager for Chemical Emergency Response) alongside Dr. Carrie Tomasallo (DHS Section Manager for Environmental Epidemiology and Surveillance) and Dr. Amy Schultz (UW REACH Scientist for the Department of Population Health Sciences) worked together to provide a presentation on WSLH Biomonitoring with an emphasis on DHS Public Health Collaboration and the support provided to Population Health Research. Meshel shared with the board an overview of how Biomonitoring began within WSLH and the series of meetings, committees and applications it took to achieve a Laboratory Monitoring Program. Dr. Tomasallo continued the presentation by sharing information on previous biomonitoring projects – and the project occurring currently (*Wisconsin Rural Health Study: Assessing Disproportionate Exposure to Environmental Chemicals Among Communities*) – supported by

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DHS. This project outline, along with DHS’s collaboration alongside the WI State Laboratory of Hygiene on outbreak Investigations, was mentioned. Dr. Amy Schultz wrapped up this presentation by discussing the various ways in which the process of biomonitoring is a staple to Population Health Research and the surveys they conduct – such as the Survey of the Health Wisconsin (SHOW).

Item 7. FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY OVERVIEW PRESENTATION – Kayla Neuman

Kayla Neuman (WSLH Forensic Toxicology Laboratory Director) provided a Forensic Toxicology Overview Presentation. Kayla covered particulars to the Forensic Toxicology Program – including its laboratory accreditation, its customers, the role and anticipated workload of a WSLH Toxicologist. The workflow for full-scope drug testing within the department – alongside the list of quantifiable drugs plus the training provided to external stakeholders who will handle the material was shared. Kayla wrapped up the presentation by discussing the funding for Forensic Toxicology which included the State Driver Improvement Surcharge Fund.

Item 8. FINANCIAL REPORT – Tip Vandall (on behalf of Kevin Karbowski)

Tip Vandall, WSLH Accounts Receivable and Contracts Manager, stood in for Kevin Karbowski and provided the Financial Report to the Board of Directors. Tip requested that all board members review the financial reports available in the WSLH Board Meeting Packet and to contact her with any questions.

Item 9. CONTRACTS REPORT – Tip Vandall

Tip Vandall, WSLH Accounts Receivable and Contracts Manager, shared the contract report. A grand total of \$15.3 million in contracts were executed since September 2025. Tip shared that all contracts signed were renewals and the ELC Enhancing Detection Expansion will end on July 31, 2026.

Item 10. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Workday Update – Al Benson (on behalf of Kevin Karbowski)

Al Benson, WSLH IT Director, provided the Workday Update to the Board of Directors on behalf of Kevin Karbowski.

Public Relations Report – Jan Klawitter

WSLH Communications Manager Jan Klawitter shared select items from the full Public Relations Report included in the December 17, 2025 board agenda packet.

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Adjourning

At 2:49 PM, Chair Dr. Chris Strang entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was offered by Hasmik Mkrtchyan and seconded by Dr. Mark Werner. The motion was passed unanimously, and the chair adjourned the meeting at 2:49 PM.

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PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

Description of Item:

Board members may suggest changes in the order in which agenda items are discussed

Suggested Board Action:

None

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Reorganize the agenda if requested by the Board

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PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Description of Item:

Under the board's *Policies and Procedures*, non-members are invited to make presentations

Suggested Board Action:

Follow WSLH *Policies and Procedures*:

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Follow WSLH *Policies and Procedures*

Per Policies and Procedures of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors:

§6.12 *Speaking privileges.* When the board is in session, no persons other than laboratory staff designated by the director shall be permitted to address the board except as hereinafter provided:

- (a) A committee report may be presented by a committee member who is not a member of the board.
- (b) A board or committee member in the course of presenting a matter to the board may request staff to assist in such a presentation.
- (c) If a board member directs a technical question for clarification of a specific issue to a person not authorized in this section, the Chair may permit such a person to respond.
- (d) The board may by majority vote or by decision of the Chair allow persons not otherwise authorized in this section to address the board if the situation warrants or the following criteria is followed:
 - (1) Written requests for public appearances on specific current agenda items shall be made to the Board Secretary no later than two working days prior to the meetings. The request shall outline the reasons for the request including the subject matter to be discussed in as much detail as is feasible prior to the meeting of the board. Those requesting an appearance may, at or prior to the board meeting, provide board members copies of any written materials to be presented or a written statement of a position.
 - (2) Individual presentations will be limited to five minutes, unless otherwise authorized by the Chair.
 - (3) To schedule an appearance before the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors, contact the Board Secretary, c/o Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, 465 Henry Mall, Madison, Wisconsin 53706. Telephone (608) 890-0288. The subject or subjects to be discussed must be identified.

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- (4) The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene "Guidelines for Citizen Participation in WSLH Board Meetings" are published on its website: <https://www.slh.wisc.edu/> , and printed copies are available on request. (See Appendix 5) [Section §6.12 approved 5/27/03 board meeting.]

Appendix 5

Guidelines for Citizen Participation at WSLH Board Meetings

The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene board provides opportunities for citizens to appear before the board to provide information to the board on items listed on the agenda. Such appearances shall be brief and concise. In order to accommodate this participation in the allotted time, the guidelines are as follows:

- A. Items to be brought before the board:
1. The board Secretary and Chair will assign a specific time on the agenda to hear public comment when a request to speak has been received from a member of the public.
 2. Individuals or organizations will be limited to a total of five (5) minutes to make a presentation to the board. Following the presentation board members may ask clarifying questions.
 3. An organization is limited to one (1) spokesperson on an issue.
 4. On complex issues, individuals wishing to appear before the board are encouraged to submit written materials to the Board Secretary in advance of the meeting so the board may be better informed on the subject in question. Such information should be submitted to the board Secretary for distribution to all board members no later than seven (7) working days before the board meeting.
 5. No matters that are in current litigation may be brought before the board.
- B. The board encourages individuals to confine their remarks to broad general policy issues rather than the day-to-day operations of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene.
- C. Citizens who have questions for board members should ask these questions prior to the board meeting, during any recess during the board proceedings, or after board adjournment.
- D. Written requests to appear before the WSLH Board of Directors should be submitted no later than two (2) working days prior to a scheduled board meeting.
- E. Submit written requests to:
Secretary, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors

C/O WSLH Director
465 Henry Mall
Madison, WI 53706
Telephone: (608) 890-0288
Email: sara.anderson@slh.wisc.edu

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PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS

Description of the Item:

Board Members' Matters will present board members with the opportunity to ask questions and/or discuss issues related to the Wisconsin Laboratory of Hygiene

Suggested Board Action:

Receive for information

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 6. MARATHON COUNTY: MAXIMIZING THE WELLTAP PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Description of the Item:

Kate Florek, Sara Balge and Rachel Klemp-North from the Marathon County Health Department will be providing a presentation on the Fee-Exempt Private Well testing for residents to the Board of Directors.

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 7. PFAS UPDATE

Description of the Item:

WSLH EHD-Environmental Chemistry Laboratory Director, Erin Mani, will provide a PFAS update to the Board of Directors

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 8. FINANCIAL REPORT

Description of the Item:

Al Benson, the WSLH Interim Finance Director, will provide an update on the Financial Report to the Board of Directors.

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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**University of Wisconsin-Madison
Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene
All Funds Income Statement
(For the 184 Days Ending 12.31.25 or 50% of the Fiscal Year 2026)**

		FY26 YTD
Revenues	\$	48,021,805
Expenses		
Salaries	\$	14,763,933
Fringe Benefits	\$	5,361,133
Total Compensation Expense	\$	20,125,066
Supplies & Services	\$	10,885,069
Internal Services	\$	373,920
Other Expenses	\$	467,825
Depreciation	\$	1,199,776
Total Expenses	\$	33,051,657
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	\$	14,970,148

Source: Workday

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University of Wisconsin-Madison
Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene
Projected FY27 Budget

	FY27
Revenues	\$ 58,089,249
State Appropriation	\$ 13,960,052
Proposed Price Increase	\$ 950,000
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 72,999,301</u>
Expenses	
Salaries	\$ 30,189,427
Fringe Benefits	10,908,778
Total Compensation Expense	<u>\$ 41,098,205</u>
Supplies & Services	\$ 27,624,725
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 68,722,930</u>
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	<u>\$ 4,276,372</u>

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 9. CONTRACTS REPORT

Description of the Item:

Tip Vandall, the WSLH Accounts Receivable and Contracts Manager, will provide a brief update on the Contracts Report to the Board of Directors.

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Rudolph Johnson, Director, WSLH

- **Public Relations Report**
 - Jan Klawitter, WSLH Communications Manager

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**Report to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board
Representative Public or Environmental Health Incidents of Educational Interest
December 5, 2025 – March 5, 2026**

Approx. Date	Agent or Event Name	Description	Current Status
OUTBREAKS AND INCIDENTS			
January-February 2026	Multiple measles responses	An unprecedented 4 separate measles responses were initiated in January-February, in Dane, Milwaukee, and Waukesha counties. The WSLH Communicable Disease Division worked closely with DHS and local health departments to respond to them, and provided PCR and serology testing to identify and respond to the outbreaks. Two separate times, the measles responses were initiated by WSLH CDD staff coming in on the weekend to test high-risk specimens that were positive. This weekend testing led to immediate public health responses in Waukesha and Dane county, helping to contain the spread of the virus.	Complete
RECENT EVENTS and FINDINGS			
November 2025	ASC Award for Best Presentation by a Cytologist	<p>A research poster comparing cohorts of women screened with the new algorithm adopted by some clinics (Primary HPV for women 25 years and older) and those who were tested with Co-Testing won the ASC Award for Best Presentation by a Cytologist at the American Society of Cytopathology annual meeting.</p> <p>The analysis by the WSLH Cytology Research Team - Dan Hoerl, Liz Haas, Kayo Miyazaki, and Teri Stewart - revealed important gaps in the HPV primary testing algorithm showing that co-testing detected more potential CIN2+ lesions in women aged 40 and older and that HPV primary</p>	Complete

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		screening missed 3.7% of potential High Risk HPV positive cases.	
December 5, 2025	Membership to Society of Forensic Toxicologist's Young Forensic Toxicologists Committee	Forensic Scientist II Traci Reese was appointed as a member of the SOFT – Young Forensic Scientists Committee. She will help with the planning of all YFT activities and educational opportunities.	Complete
January 5, 2026	Launch of digital record transmission from BadgerTracs to Forensic Toxicology's Epic LIMS	After many years of preparation, BadgerTracs and WSLH Forensic Toxicology finally launched the ability to electronically transmit submission data from BadgerTracs (automated reporting system for law enforcement) to the WSLH Forensic Toxicology LIMS. This feature should help improve data accuracy and eventually decrease turnaround time.	Complete
January 7, 2026	<i>Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics</i> article	Dr. Heather M. Barkholtz and William Naviaux are co-authors on – Bridging the Regulatory Chasm in Investigator-Initiated Human Subject Cannabis Research Despite widespread cannabis use and growing public health concerns, rigorously designed, federally compliant human pharmacology studies in the US remain rare. This is not due to lack of scientific interest or need, but rather a multilayered and duplicative regulatory framework that creates substantial barriers for investigator-initiated research.	Complete
January 26, 2026	Wisconsin Coroner and Medical Examiner Association Meeting	Forensic Scientist II Courtney Peterson presented the WSLH Forensic Toxicology update for the Coroners and Medical Examiners of Wisconsin.	Complete
January 28, 2026	Academy Standards Boards	Forensic Toxicology Director Kayla Neuman is assisting with the revision of ASB Standard 120: Standard for Analytical Scope and Sensitivity on	Ongoing

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	Standard 120 Working Group	Forensic Toxicology. ASB standards are nationally recognized as Best Practice in Forensic Sciences.	
February 2026	<i>Clinical Infectious Diseases</i> article	<p>Communicable Disease Division Associate Director Dr. Alana Sterkel is lead author on –</p> <p><u>Narrative Review of Chlamydia trachomatis Culture, Viability Testing, and Sequencing Methods</u></p> <p><i>Clinical Infectious Diseases</i>, Volume 82, Issue Supplement_1, 15 February 2026, Pages S6–S12, https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaf697</p> <p>The paper is part of a special supplement devoted to literature reviews from the CDC and APHL STI Testing Workgroup. Dr. Sterkel was invited to join this national workgroup two years ago and served as first author on this review, which will directly inform updates to CDC’s STI testing guidance.</p>	Complete
February 2026	<i>Blastomycosis research –</i> <i>Medical Mycology</i> article and UW ICTR article	<p>Communicable Disease Division Associate Director Dr. Alana Sterkel is co- author on –</p> <p><u>Role of Blastomyces BAD-1 IgG Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA) for the diagnosis of blastomycosis in persons residing in an endemic area</u></p> <p><i>Medical Mycology</i>, Volume 64, Issue 2, February 2026, myag002, https://doi.org/10.1093/mmy/myag002</p> <p>Dr. Sterkel’s blastomycosis research was also featured in a web story from the UW-Madison Institute for Clinical and Translational research -</p> <p><u>Wisconsin researchers develop faster, safer test for blastomycosis</u></p> <p>https://ictr.wisc.edu/news/wisconsin-researchers-develop-faster-safer-test-for-blastomycosis/</p>	Complete

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February 2026	Cytotechnology Program Semester closes – enrollment opens for 2027	The first semester of the hybrid Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences/WSLH Masters in Cytotechnology and Molecular Cytology 2026 cohort has come to a close with our pilot student earning a 4.0 GPA and our Clinical intern taking a position with UW Health. Our pilot student has also gained recommendations for the Bob Gay, Geraldine Colby Zeiler, and ASC Foundation Scholarship Awards in 2026. At least three additional students have applied for the 2026-2027 cohort.	Complete
February 2026	HPV self-collect verification samples	Self-Collection sites at HealthFirst Wausau and County Health Eau Claire have started implementing the WSLH Cytology verification plan for this new FDA-approved collection method. Verification will allow for extension of screening to all contracted sites, even those unable to employ a Nurse Practitioner. It could also allow for screening in rural FQHCs and other underserved areas.	Ongoing
February 3, 2026	UW Population Health Fellows monthly meeting	The WSLH hosted an all-day meeting for UW Population Health Fellows at the AG Drive facility. WSLH Communications Manager Jan Klawitter helped organize the event and WSLH CDD Director Dr. Al Bateman gave an infectious disease overview talk. Afterwards the Fellows toured the WSLH CDD lab with Dr. Bateman and CDD Manager Laura Louison.	Complete
February 4, 2026	WSLH CDD hosts ASCLS-Fox Valley students	The WSLH CDD hosted students in clinical laboratory training from the ASCLS-Fox Valley area, for a tour by CDD Supervisor Joshua Kropp and presentation by Dr. Al Bateman about WSLH and CDD.	Complete
February 8, 2026	National Safety Council – Alcohol Drugs and Impairment	Forensic Toxicology Director Kayla Neuman attended the NSC- ADID meeting virtually. As a member of the Drugs Subcommittee, she attended and discussed several position papers out for review as well as received other updates	Complete

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	Division (NSC-ADID)	on committee activities. She is currently assisting with a position paper on stop-testing practices used by Forensic Toxicology laboratories.	
February 10-13, 2026	American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA	Forensic Toxicology Director Kayla Neuman attended the AAFS annual meeting. As a member of the SOFT/AAFS Drugs & Driving committee, she moderated the special scientific session. She also attended many other presentations on toxicology, pathology, entomology, and anthropology.	Complete
February 12, 2026	American Academy of Forensic Sciences Poster presentation	Kate Mongold (MS student working with Dr. Heather Barkholtz & Forensic Toxicology) presented a poster titled: “The Deal With Diluents: Fentanyl Test Strips and How Diluents Affect Their Limit of Detection” at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in New Orleans, LA. The poster disseminated results of a collaborative project with the WSLH Chemical Emergency Response (CER) unit and was authored by Kate Mongold, Meshel Lange and Mason Shields (WSLH CER), and Dr. Heather Barkholtz.	Complete
February 25, 2026	Wisconsin Traffic Safety Officer’s Association (WTSOA) meeting	Forensic Scientist III/DRE Liaison Kimberle Glowacki was an exhibitor at the conference for traffic safety officers. She discussed the updated BadgerTracs submission process and answered toxicology testing questions from officers. She also spoke at the DRE graduation ceremony.	Complete
February 25, 2026	Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Graduation	Forensic Scientist II’s Traci Reese and Allen Mello graduated from DRE school. They audited the course in Spring 2025 and were officially recognized at the WTSOA meeting/graduation.	Complete

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February 25, 2026	Forensic Toxicology Lecture at Marquette University	Forensic Toxicology Director Kayla Neuman gave a lecture to the Forensic Science class at Marquette University.	Complete
February 26, 2026	Environmental Science Day	<p>The WSLH and DNR hosted another successful Environmental Science Day at the WSLH’s AG Drive facility. This is the 5th hybrid event, which showcases laboratory work and how scientific environmental data is used in application at DNR, DHS, UW, and other partner agencies.</p> <p>More than 260 people statewide and 30 in-person from 50+ state and local agencies heard from speakers from UW-Madison, DNR, DHS and the WSLH on topics, including PFAS Bioaccumulation in Traditional and Ecological Food Resources, Wildfire Impacts to PM2.5 Data, Building an accessible lead isotope database for resolving childhood lead poisoning cases, and BEOH and SLH: Stories from the Field.</p>	Complete
March 3, 2026	LRN-C Outreach Training	<p>The WSLH Chemical Emergency Response (CER) section hosted Laboratory Response Network-Chemical (LRN-C) colleagues from across the country to provide practical guidance on designing and implementing outreach programs.</p> <p>The WSLH CER program is nationally recognized for its LRN-C outreach program with Wisconsin HazMat Teams and other first responders. Participants at the March 3rd training then attended the WI Association of Hazardous Materials Responders (WAHMR) annual conference in Stevens Point to help connect the concepts they learned from WSLH CER staff directly to live engagement with the responder community at the conference.</p>	Complete

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Item 11. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2026

Description of the Item:

Dr. Mark Werner (a Government Member) will become Board Chair at the March 2026 meeting.

The Non-Government Board members will need to select a Vice Chair who will then become Chair in 2027.

§2.07 “Government Board Members” are defined as: the Secretary of Health Services, the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, or their designees, the medical examiner or coroner representative and the local health department representative.

§2.08 “Non-Government Board Members” are defined as a physician representing clinical laboratories, a member representing private environmental testing laboratories, and a member representing occupational health laboratories and two additional members.

§5.05 Intent.

(a) It is declared to be the intent of the Board that the position of Chairperson be rotated annually among the voting members of the Board and that each successive Vice Chairperson is also, in effect, the Chairperson-elect.

(b) It is the declared intent of the Board that the positions of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson be elected, in alternate years, from the "government" and the "non-government" members of the board as defined in 2.07 and 2.08 such that in any given year one position is held by a government member and the other is held by a non-government member.

(c) The Secretary shall prepare a ballot for the offices of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary in accord with these policies and procedures.

(d) The Director shall advise the board members of the historical rotation of the offices of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary prior to the annual meeting.

Suggested Board Action:

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
March 18, 2026
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Draft Motion: To be considered March 18, 2026

Move the nomination of the following for officers of the WSLH Board of Directors: Mark Werner for the position of Chair, _____ for the position of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and Rudy Johnson for the position of Secretary for the year 2026 term.