

To: LSAC
From: M. Torres
Date: April 4, 2009
Re: 2009 LSAC Agenda Item 6a: Report on Revision of R216

The R216 revision team aligned *ISO/IEC 17025:2005, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories* and the *OIE Quality Standard and Guidelines for Veterinary Laboratories: Infectious Diseases, 2008* as directed by the 2008 LSAC. This was accomplished by using the original wording of both standards in the criteria checklist and incorporating normative references and terms into the program document. The final product fulfilled both action items 4 and 5 from the 2008 LSAC and was approved by the CC in September of 2008. The revised R216 was well-received domestically and in the international community. We sincerely thank the revision team for their time and valuable advice.

We developed A2LA's revised R216 program significantly throughout the past year and also built upon the ideas of A. Hensley. We attended several scientific venues including conferences at the USAHA/AAVLD and tradeshows at ASVCP/ACVP, OIE, and VLA. Our presence at these meetings and conferences was beneficial to R216 education in the United States and information distribution in Canada to diverse, international interests. Details regarding the travel mentioned above are located in the A2LA newsletter articles available at www.A2LA.org.

Our future goals regarding assessors is to distribute the expertise and geographic locations of potential assessors equitably and concurrent with anticipated needs. University, federal government, and private industry backgrounds are represented at present.

The current number of AC and CC members for this program is appropriate for meeting present and future needs. P. Royal, D. Mettler, D. Ewalt, and T. Brigner represent veterinary testing on the AC at this time. We are very grateful for their volunteer service.

We have three certificates accredited to R216 requirements at present and interest from numerous applicants in obtaining accreditation. Additional information will be forthcoming regarding program laboratories and veterinary accreditation training initiatives.

Present goals include exploring limited international marketing for this program, expanding our partnership with the OIE, and researching the possibility of other standards and models for our diverse customer base.