



Government Credentialing Network (GCN)

Hosted by Workcred, an affiliate of the American National Standards Institute

Thursday, March 10, 2016

11:30 AM to 4:00 PM ET

ANSI Headquarters
1899 L Street NW, 11th Floor
Washington DC 20036

Summary of Key Points and Meeting Outcomes

On March 10, Workcred hosted the Government Credentialing Network, bringing together representatives from federal agencies and vendors to discuss initiatives relating to the quality and market value of credentials. The Network is intended to provide an effective and efficient forum for federal participants to share valuable information and insights about certifications, as well as related developments in policy, research, and statistics.

The Government Credentialing Network meets twice per year to bring individuals from federal agencies together to learn about various activities taking place within the federal government. The agenda for each meeting normally includes presentations by governmental agencies and individuals conducting related government workforce development projects, followed by the opportunity for sharing of information and ideas. Meeting recaps and presentations are shared with the full list of Network invitees (including those who were unable to attend a meeting) in order to create greater continuity between meetings.

Food Safety Credentialing Presentation – the National Environmental Health Association

Rance Baker, program administrator at the [National Environmental Health Association](#) (NEHA), provided a presentation on NEHA's work on behalf of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In particular, he highlighted NEHA's efforts to assist the FDA in increasing food safety in light of the [Food Safety Modernization Act](#), which aims to ensure the U.S. food supply is safe by shifting the focus from responding to contamination to preventing it.

Among other efforts, NEHA is working to increase the capacity of food safety professionals through courses and training programs, expanding credentialing programs, and developing a food safety auditor program under ISO/IEC 17024. NEHA is also developing a capacity-building food safety registry repository to help the FDA in identifying food safety "deserts" around the world so that it is possible to see where additional resources are needed. According to Mr. Baker, the involvement of both industry and government representatives in the development of food safety-related credentials has led to greater acceptance of those programs in industry.

➤ [View Presentation](#)

Cybersecurity Credentialing Presentation – Office of Personnel Management

Clifton Triplett, senior IT and cybersecurity advisor at the [Office of Personnel Management](#) (OPM), highlighted

important credentialing initiatives underway within the federal government to strengthen the cybersecurity of federal networks, systems, and data. Mr. Triplett drew attention the Cybersecurity Strategy and Implementation Plan (CSIP) mandate to analyze cybersecurity workforce demands and how the needs are expected to evolve. In his discussion, Mr. Triplett discussed efforts to categorize job descriptions and identify cyber attributes for positions across federal agencies, and development a pipeline for an appropriately skilled workforce. He is leading efforts to help develop guidelines to provide federal agencies with the tools to assess workforce development and credentialing needs across all sectors of cybersecurity.

Federal Training Session Pilot and Next Steps

Dr. Swift presented the GCN planning committee's proposal for fee-based credentialing training sessions for federal employees. The committee had proposed convening the pilot session, possibly in May 2016, as a two-day, two-track session; but for the pilot, network participants at the March 10 meeting agreed that a simpler one-day session in the fall timeframe may work best. It was suggested that the training session keep one track (with participants and speakers in one room), and that the session could begin with a general topic in the morning, with one or two additional topics being discussed in the afternoon. In terms of marketing the event, participants suggested highlighting the fact that this would be a first-of-its-kind training session, and that the session would focus on credentialing issues relevant to all federal agencies. Additionally, Network participants also suggested options at federal facilities to host the pilot, and Workcred staff will pursue these suggestions.

ACTION: Taking into consideration the input received from network participants, the planning committee will reconvene to revise plans for the training sessions, including speakers, meeting venues, potential sponsors, and a revised timeframe.

- **Nathaniel Hamilton** (OPM) and **David Wilcox** (GSX) agreed to be part of the steering committee going forward.
- **Roy Swift** will reach out to contacts at the Office of Personnel Management and the National Institute of Science and Technology to invite their sponsorship of the pilot training session.
- Additional volunteers interested in joining the planning committee can email jfelts@ansi.org.

Best Practices, Key Issues & Lessons Learned Discussion

In an open and interactive discussion, federal representatives shared specific best practices, credentialing challenges, questions, issues, and lessons learned for input and feedback by the group.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Government Credentialing Network is scheduled for **October 19, 2016**. Workcred staff will be in touch soon with further details.

Additional Resources Discussed:

- [*Communicating the Value of Competencies*](#), American Council on Education (ACE), 2016
This paper provides context for understanding the value of competencies among higher education institutions, students, and employers, as well as structure for improving communication of this value. It includes definitions of key terms, problems stakeholders currently encounter, and challenge questions to stimulate discussion and visualize potential futures that address these problems.

- **[Quality Dimensions for Connected Credentials](#), American Council on Education (ACE), 2016**
This paper provides context for understanding the value of connected credentials. It includes definitions of credentials, problems stakeholders currently encounter, six dimensions of quality that support connected credentials (transparency, modularity, portability, relevance, validity, and equity), and challenge questions to stimulate discussion and visualize potential futures for enhancing the quality of connected credentials.
- Philip Jalbert (EPA) provided participants with information about the **[Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality](#)** (CIAQ). The committee's mission is to coordinate Federal IAQ research and report on member activities. The website includes a listing of all presentations made to the Committee since 2002, available on request. You may also subscribe to email updates on various IAQ topics.



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Meeting Attendees
March 10, 2016

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Cynthia	Woodley	Chair, Government Credentialing Network; Member, Workcred Board of Directors
Rance	Baker	National Environmental Health Association
Sandra	Barniea	Defense Cyber Investigations Training Academy
Christopher	Bloor	Pearson VUE
Kevin	Bradley	HumRRO
David	Cox	Professional Testing, Inc.
Janet	Felts	Workcred
Roger	Grant	National Institute of Building Sciences
John	Haigh	U.S. Department of Education
Nathaniel	Hamilton	Office of Personnel Management
Sue	Jackson	Pearson VUE
Philip	Jalbert	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Vijay	Krishna	ANSI
Lisa	Lutz	SOLID, LLC
Kevin	Morgan	Federal Aviation Administration
Christine	Niero	Professional Testing, Inc.
Erik	Puskar	National Institute of Science and Technology
Dan	Smith	American Legion
Roy	Swift	Workcred
Clifton	Triplett	Office of Personnel Management
David	Wilcox	GSX
Jana	Zabinski	Workcred



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PROPOSED AGENDA

11:30 a.m.	Lunch	
12:00 – 12:20 p.m.	Welcome and Meeting Overview	<p>Dr. Cynthia Woodley, Chair Board Member, Workcred Board of Directors ANSI Board of Directors</p> <p>Dr. Roy Swift Executive Director, Workcred</p>
12:20 – 1:00 p.m.	Food Safety	<p>Rance Baker Program Administrator, National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)</p>
	<p><i>Rance Baker, program administrator of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), will discuss NEHA's work on behalf of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's training and credentialing initiatives.</i></p> <p><i>A Q&A period will follow the presentation.</i></p>	
1:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Cybersecurity	<p>Clifton Triplett Senior IT and Cybersecurity Advisor, Office of Personnel Management</p>
	<p><i>Clifton Triplett, Senior IT and Cybersecurity Advisor of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) will discuss cybersecurity credentialing.</i></p> <p><i>A Q&A period will follow the presentation.</i></p>	
1:30 – 1:45 p.m.	Break	
1:45 – 2:45 p.m.	Federal Training Session Pilot in Spring 2016	<p>Dr. Swift Agency Representatives</p>
	<p><i>Dr. Swift will present the steering committee's proposal for a pilot fee-based training session in the Spring of 2016. Network participants will provide input to help plan a successful and engaging event.</i></p>	
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Interactive Session: Best Practices, Key Issues, & Lessons Learned	<p>Dr. Woodley Agency Representatives</p>
	<p><i>Participants will have an opportunity to share best practices, challenges, and lessons learned in an interactive setting. Attendees</i></p>	

are invited to pose questions on key issues for feedback from the group.

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Recap of Action Items and Next Steps

Dr. Woodley

4:00 p.m.

Adjournment