



EBSA Education and Training Working Group, ETWG

Background and Rationale

EBSA's mission and future activities include, among other topics, education and training. As stated in its mission, EBSA is committed to "develop and provide supporting training materials and activities to ensure EBSA members are aware and informed of new issues and areas of research, to support the principle of continuous professional development for its members".

The Council has created the Education and Training Working Group to set up and maintain a framework for training and education in the wide field of biosafety, including the courses offered by and through EBSA in line with CWA 16335:2011 Biosafety Professional Competence.

Aim

To ensure that EBSA can foster and contribute to the need for Biosafety and Biosecurity education and training in Europe in agreement with the EBSA mission, the European legal requirements and in the best interest of the EBSA members.

Objectives

1. Identify the requirements for biosafety/biosecurity education and training at different levels and working environments using as a basis CWA 16335:2011 Biosafety Professional Competence.
2. Identify training possibilities, offered by EBSA and/or others, and make information available to the biosafety community.
3. Explore and implement different training methodologies if appropriate for EBSA courses. Make training tools available to the EBSA members (e.g. pictures, videos, power point presentations, spill drill protocols, etc.).
4. Define different types of courses: EBSA-owned courses, EBSA-endorsed courses, instructor-owned courses, each with their advantages, disadvantages and budgetary impacts for EBSA.
5. Define the process and create guidelines to select developers, reviewers and instructors of courses.
6. Define a fee structure for developers, reviewers and instructors of EBSA-owned, EBSA-endorsed and instructor-owned courses.
7. Organize annual satellite workshops, in close collaboration with the CPWG and stand-alone courses presented not in association with the annual conference.

Membership

- The Work Group shall consist of EBSA members, representing different countries and work environments.

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- The EBSA President appoints the chair of the WG, the EBSA Council appoints WG members. ETWG may propose new members to council for approval.
- The EBSA Council may decide to open a call for a new member, whenever needed.
- Members who have failed to participate in more than three meetings during a year will be asked to consider resigning.
- Ad-hoc members could be co-opted by the chair for specific topics and limited time.

ETWG operation

- The WG shall report to the Council at all meetings on its activities and status. The ETWG chair is the liaison person with the Council
- The WG shall plan its own activities/programme of work to meet the objectives, including time scale.
- Meetings are called by the Chair. The meeting location is decided based on what is most convenient and least expensive for all participants.
- Decisions are made by simple majority, while the Chair should strive for consensus
- All reports, proposals, meeting notes, budgets, etc are kept at the ETWG space on the EBSA website, thereby ensuring continuity of the ETWG activities. All ETWG members and Council members have access to the web space.
- The ETWG will identify instructors who will be officially invited by the EBSA secretariat; the EBSA secretariat will help with all administrative aspects.

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