



Federal Laboratory Consortium
for Technology Transfer

FLC Election Results

Updated June 22, 2020

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Strategic Plan Review

The following provides a review of the FLC strategic planning process that brought AUTM on as a cooperative partner, as well as an overview of each of the three main pillars that support the strategic plan, Promote, Educate and Facilitate.



FLC Strategic Planning



Implementation

- More detailed Bylaws revisions
- FLC website redesign
- FLC Business structure
- Educational model

2021



PROMOTE



EDUCATE



FACILITATE



Focus on Promote



Actively promote availability, benefit, and value of Federal laboratory assets through technology transfer (T2) to improve national economic prosperity and execution of lab missions.

GOALS:

1. Provide clear and simple communication and messaging of opportunities, benefit, and value available through T2 to the lab leadership and technical staff, national leadership, private sector, and other key stakeholders. (communication strategy and plan)
2. Leverage and expand online tools and resources that promote awareness of and access to available lab assets for the private sector and other key stakeholders. (tools and services)
3. Recognize the T2 community's best practices and top performers. (awards)

OUTCOMES:

Persistent awareness through intentional messaging to lab leadership, national leadership (executive & legislative branches) and FLC's traditional external audiences (private sector, state and local government, etc.)

PROMOTE OBJECTIVES:

- Develop a communication playbook/plan; include specific key messaging for specific audiences, etc.
- Pilot a unique FLC tour for a Fed T2 road show at established national tech hubs (e.g. Silicon Valley, Boston, Chicago, Austin); purpose is to raise awareness with potential intermediary partners and their clients.
- Study and recommend an upgrade or different approach to capturing and promoting "best practices" of Fed T2.
- Conduct individual and group engagement(s) with key legislative and executive officials & offices to build awareness and relationships.
- Develop/re-establish a plan for advancing FLC Business as the premier Federal government wide tool
- Assess how and where Lab Tech in Your Life (LTIYL) is being used; recommend next steps, etc.
- Assess and recommend the next iteration of the FLC website.
- Continue evolving the Award program to reflect membership/agency "demand signals"; how else to honor awardees (beyond presentation).

- Include specific “promote” strategies and efforts in planning national and regional events and meetings.
- Include efforts to ensure awareness and train regions with regard to communication tools, FLC Business, LTIYL, etc.

Progress Year-to-Date:

- COVID-19
 - Compiling federal lab research to show the breadth of progress and promote the great work currently being conducted by federal labs in the fight against COVID-19.
 - To date, more than 271 articles are posted on the site.
 - Cross agency partnerships 15%
 - Intra-agency partnerships 17%
 - Agency-university partnerships 28%
 - Agency-industry or community partnerships 37%
 - Partnership with AUTM to facilitate applications for COVID-19 related technologies.
 - Resources made available for those that want to get approval or testing of their technologies that combat COVID-19.
 - Joint FLC-AUTM press statement was released on April 6.
- FLC Communications
 - FLC Digest newsletter shows a 53% increase in open rates since January. Added a special COVID-19 section and launched two new newsletters: FLC Digest E&T; and FLC Spotlight.
 - Social Media
 - An increase in followers and fans, with LinkedIn experiencing the greatest growth of 4.8%.
 - Overall web metrics show a 12% increase in website visits comparing March 2020 with March 2019.
 - Regional newsletters sent to tailored regional email lists in early May, with an excellent average open rate of 34%.
 - National Awards Book completed; separate Regional Award and Meeting websites developed.

90 Day Plan for Promote:

- Continue to promote COVID technology transactions for federal labs
- Continue to refine Communications Plan outline and research
- Continue with audit/analysis of FLC website and FLC Business
- Launch media plan/marketing promotions for 2020 National Awards
- Continue marketing National Meeting and updating meeting website
- Lab Tech In Your Life (LTIYL) call for technologies and filming to be scheduled.
- 2021 National Awards categories and criteria are in the review process.

Focus on Educate



Provide progressive full spectrum education and training (E&T) and networking opportunities for Federal T2 professionals and key internal stakeholders.

GOALS:

1. Provide a robust training program for Federal T2 professionals delivered through state-of-the-art mechanisms. (T2 professional training)
2. Provide education & training to address two major 'gaps' in the Federal T2 community:
 - T2 professionals communicating how T2 delivers value and benefit to the mission of the lab (defining the value proposition) and
 - Lab leadership and technical staff communicating the value and benefit to the mission of the lab. (executive education)
3. Provide and expand intentional networking and sharing of best practices within the Federal lab T2 community. (networking)

OUTCOMES:

Internal training of Federal lab employees is in focus through a 'pipeline' approach (intentional, progressive), enhanced networking, and addressing the recognized gap of communicating up the chain.

EDUCATE OBJECTIVES:

- Develop a framework /pipeline of training to intentionally advance the T2 professional from novice to expert.
- Collect and develop a clearinghouse of available and worthy T2 training.
- Develop an executive education package targeting lab and agency senior leadership.
- Develop a training for T2 offices to communicate the value and benefit of T2 to leadership. Identify ways to engage leadership of the federal laboratories.

Progress Year to Date:

- National Meeting planning

- Annual Regional Meeting planning: webpage available <https://federallabs.org/region-meeting-overview>
- T2 Education inventory has started
- Developed a team to assist with developing an executive education package targeting lab and agency senior leadership
- Professional Development framework information gathering has started

90 Day Plan for Educate:

- Professional Development Framework:
 - During this time, we will be working hard to get the professional development framework in order and develop a path forward for education and training. Through research and discussion, we will focus on:
 - Recognizing the relevant content needed for success in the field
 - Planning & implementing professional development
 - Enhancing the education & training
 - Engaging agencies to collect common educational interests
 - Evaluating professional development
 - Developing the process to provide the education

- Training Inventory
 - One of the major initiatives for education and training is to conduct an inventory of current available training.
 - Inventory of T2 training is already in progress and the process moving forward will include collecting a clearinghouse of available and worthy training.
 - To accomplish this, the education team is reviewing all of the current education on the FLC website and creating a master spreadsheet of the training. We will be looking for gaps in education and organizing this information in a structured way.
 - The next phase will be to compile a team of subject matter experts to help assist the education team to be able to determine what training fits into certain categories.
 - For example, we would like to have categories that outline if the training is for a beginner, intermediate or expert FLC professional.
 - Once that step is completed, we will update the learning center section of the website to reflect these new categories. This will make it much easier for website visitors to locate the exact type of training they are seeking.

- New Courses and Material

- The planning process for new education and training topics typically begins with a gap analysis, needs assessment and/or evaluation of data to identify gaps within the FLC community in terms of knowledge, skill or practice. This will allow us to determine the educational topics that will most effectively address those gaps.
- In order to develop new courses, we will start by conducting interviews with SMEs in the field to assess missing educational topics. We will be looking at what the T2 professional currently does, best practices for the T2 professional, and gaps noted between current and best practices.

Focus on Facilitate



Proactively engage and leverage partnerships that connect relevant private sector partners with individual Federal laboratories to increase measurable outcomes.

GOALS:

1. Provide pilots, programs, and events that deploy “outreach” efforts to increase company to lab transactional opportunities. (pilots and programs)
2. Identify and establish strategically aligned relationships with intermediary partners that connect relevant communities of interest (technical, geographical, market, state & local governments, etc.) with Federal labs for interactions. (strategic partnerships)

OUTCOMES:

External tangible partnerships are in focus, resulting in measurable quality outcomes at the individual lab level.

FACILITATE OBJECTIVES

- Robust support of SBA/SBIR road show; develop a recommendation on how FLC can better leverage it to engage technology-based small businesses.
- Manage the FLC’s strategic partnerships. Generally, develop a process and begin to assess the benefit and value of specific partnerships that advance FLC’s mission; such as AUVSI, The Water Council, SSTI, AUTM, MEP, MBDA, IRI, AURP, etc.

- Manage and engage Board level working groups for pilots to explore and assess new models and partners for outreach with specific outcomes; heavy focus on regions.
- Continue to experiment, manage and progress Technology Focus Areas (TFAs); including TFA report to provide a memorialization of the past efforts and an update of the present status.
- Recruit non-involved Federal labs to engage with FLC
- Identify TFA, etc. aligned intermediary entities in the regions for consideration in planning the regional meetings

Progress Year to Date

- COVID-19
 - Partnership with AUTM to facilitate applications for COVID-19 related technologies.
 - Use of technology focus area mechanics to develop lists of potentially relevant technology from federal labs.
 - Directly facilitated partnerships and directed incoming questions to member labs.
- Technology Focus Area: Autonomous Systems
 - Webpage available at <https://federallabs.org/tech-focus/automation>
 - Developed list of relevant IP from federal labs.
 - Coordination with Unmanned Aircraft Systems Cluster
- Develop a Federal Lab Census
 - Initial data gathering underway
 - Developing taxonomy

90 Day Plan for Facilitate:

- Continue to facilitate COVID technology transactions for federal labs
- Evaluate progress of Technology Focus Area
- Develop a national level partnership approach and program
- Complete Lab Census taxonomy and data collection/develop draft
- Enhance regional partnerships with FLC Regions to strengthen economic ecosystems

2020 FLC Election Results

The 2020 FLC National Meeting was postponed due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and altered our traditional in-person voting process. Therefore, our election process became virtual, and every ballot was received by email.

Designated Consortium Agency Representatives and Laboratory Representatives whose memberships are registered with the FLC Recording Secretary are eligible to vote.

These elected positions are 2-year terms that begin October 1, 2020. Eligibility is limited to Consortium Representatives and Consortium Participants from a designated federal laboratory, and approval by the nominee's organization of employment is required.

The votes were received, managed and approved by the FLC Election Committee:



Jackie Kerby Moore
Vice Chair
Sandia National Laboratories (SNL)
E: jskerby@sandia.gov
P: (505) 845-8107



Sara Langdon
Communications Committee Chair
U.S. Army Medical Research & Development Command - Medical
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John Eisemann
Mid-Continent Regional Coordinator
USDA National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC)
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National Election Results

CONGRATULATIONS! The FLC election committee and the entire FLC community would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our newly elected Board members. We look forward to working together to execute the FLC strategic plan and propel our organization forward.



Finance Officer
Courtney Silverthorn
National Institute of Standards and Technology



Recording Secretary
John Bittman
National Institute of Standards and Technology

Member-At-Large (3 positions)



Member-At-Large

Valerie Larkin

Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Newport



Member-At-Large

David Pronchick, MIT Lincoln Laboratory



Member-At-Large

Thomas Stackhouse, National Cancer Institute

Mid-Atlantic Region Election Results



Regional Coordinator

Vladimir Popov

**Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer
Research**



Deputy Regional Coordinator

Claudia Haywood

**Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer
Research**

Midwest Region Election Results



Regional Coordinator

Jenna Dix

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division



Deputy Regional Coordinator

Sabra Tomb

Air Force Research Laboratory

Far West Region Election Results



Regional Coordinator
David Nicholson
USDA Agricultural Research Service

Deputy Regional Coordinator
Vacant

FLC Voting Results: FLC Bylaw Changes

Approved

Based on the FLC 2020 voting results, the proposed bylaw changes below have been passed by a substantial majority:

Reducing the Standing Committees to Three (3): Promote, Educate, and Facilitate to better reflect the pillars of the FLC Strategic Plan while the Cooperative Partner Agreement will handle the operations and logistics for the organization.

Reducing the size of the number of member-at-large positions from six (6) individuals to two (2) individuals to create a more nimble, strategic Executive Board.

Clarifying the role of the National Advisory Council in regard to the selection and terms of members.

Reducing the Executive Committee to Four (4) to reflect current practices.

Eliminate the Recording Secretary because of the Cooperative Partner Agreement with AUTM who have a professional staff to handle operations and logistics.

Election FAQs

When do the newly elected officials take office?

All new Board members take office on October 1, 2020, for a two year term.

With fewer MAL positions, how can we ensure adequate representation on the Executive Board across agencies, labs, and regions?

The FLC Executive Board is elected by all agencies and labs, across every region and it was determined through numerous meetings and studies that reducing the number of MAL positions will provide a more strategic overview without reducing representation. In addition to the Executive Board, there are many opportunities for agency, lab, and regional participation, including serving on committees and engaging in national and regional meeting efforts.

Why is the FLC making these changes to the Bylaws?

The FLC is making these changes to the bylaws to modernize the Consortium by allowing for more nimble practices as we move to a more strategic rather than an operational practice. These changes must follow the process described in the Bylaws to be approved by the members before they can be implemented.

Does the Board plan to update all the bylaws, or are these the only items getting changed?

The current Bylaw amendments are all that are being considered at this election. Article XI of the FLC Bylaws describes the process for amendments. Amendments to the Bylaws happen regularly following these procedures.

How do these changes impact me as a member?

As a member of the FLC, you should anticipate a greater alignment between the structure and function of the Executive Board and the Cooperating Partner, resulting in better service delivery. The Executive Board will be able to serve as a true oversight-focused Board of Directors rather than trying to deliver content while performing full time duties at a federal laboratory.

What amount of votes was required to approve bylaw changes?

The FLC Bylaws allow for a simple majority of votes to carry for elections or amendments, provided that a quorum of at least 25% of eligible voters cast a ballot.