

SPEAKER BIOS

Richard R. Cavanagh

Dr. Richard R. Cavanagh is the Acting Associate Director for Laboratory Programs and the Director of the Special Programs Office. Dr. Cavanagh supports the NIST Director and Associate Director for Laboratory Programs by coordinating and providing oversight of programs that span the mission and expertise of two or more NIST laboratories, such as the Office of Law Enforcement Standards and the Greenhouse Gas Program. He also is responsible for helping to ensure that research supporting homeland and national security projects/programs is congruent with NIST's research capabilities and overall programmatic priorities; overseeing NIST policies and procedures for human and animal subjects research, and scientific integrity and research misconduct; and directing the daily activities of the Reimbursable Agreements Coordination Office.

Dr. Cavanagh was appointed Chief of the Surface and Microanalysis Science Division in 1999, where he led a multidisciplinary staff on measurement challenges relevant to the semiconductor industry, trace explosive detection, and emerging needs in nanometrology, while simultaneously advancing microanalysis methods exploiting electrons, ions, and photons. He was responsible for multimillion dollar programs in the division with strong ties to other federal agencies. In 2008 he became the Deputy Director of the Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory, a position he held until 2009 when he assumed the role of Acting Director of the Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory. On October 4, 2010 he became the Deputy Director of the Material Measurement Laboratory and in August 2011 the Acting Director. For his achievements and service, Dr. Cavanagh received the Department of Commerce Silver Medal Award (1985); the Department of Commerce Gold Medal Award (1990); and the Samuel Stratton Award (1992).

Dr. Cavanagh has held several leadership responsibilities in addition to those at NIST. He is a Fellow of the American Vacuum Society and of the American Physical Society. He has served on the General Committee of the Physical Electronic Conference, Chaired the Gordon Research Conference on Dynamics at Surfaces, served on the Executive committee of the AVS Surface Science Division, and was a member of the Executive Committee and Governing Board of the Council for Chemical Research.

Dr. Cavanagh received his B.A. in chemistry from Wayne State University in 1972, and his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Harvard University in 1978.

Gordon Gillerman

Gordon Gillerman is Director of the Standards Coordination Office at NIST. He coordinates and advises federal agencies, U.S. industry and other stakeholders on standards and conformity assessment policy. Standards Services operates the U.S. Inquiry Point for the World Trade Organization's Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement and is a key information source for US industry on standards related market access issues.

Gordon also has extensive experience coordinating standards policy and development across a wide range of critical issues in the U.S. including cloud computing, health IT, homeland security, safety, health and protection of the environment.

Gordon is the Public Sector Co-Chair of the American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) Homeland Security Standards Panel, an expert on conformity assessment systems and their nexus with regulatory and trade issues and a sought after lecturer on standards, conformity assessment and regulation.

Prior experience include leading government affairs for the largest U.S. product safety certification and standard development organization, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) in Washington, DC, and Staff Engineer for the medical device and information technology sectors at UL's Northbrook, IL headquarters.

Gordon has worked collaboratively within the standards community to enhance health, safety, the environment and security throughout his career. In 2008 he received an Environmental Protection Agency Gold Medal, a Department of Commerce Bronze Medal and the ANSI Meritorious Service Award. In 2010 Gordon received a Department of Commerce Gold Medal for leadership in enhancing the performance standards and certification program for law enforcement body armor and EPA's Award for Outstanding Leadership in Collaborative Problem-Solving for his work in guiding the development of a Green Clean-Up standard. In 2012 Gordon received the ANSI Gerald H. Ritterbusch Conformity Assessment Medal. In 2013 he received the Department of Commerce Silver Medal for leadership in opening access to China's compulsory certification system to U.S. certification organizations. Gordon is also a SES – Society for Standards Professionals Fellow.

Gordon received a Bachelor's Degree BSEET from Bradley University in Peoria, IL.

Carol Hockert

Carol Hockert is the Chief of the Office of Weights and Measures at NIST, which provides technical expertise, training, international perspective and representation, and oversight to the U.S. legal metrology infrastructure. As part of her responsibilities, she serves as the Executive Secretary for the National Conference on Weights and Measures.

Prior to her appointment at NIST, she was the Director of the Weights and Measures Division for the State of Minnesota. Ms. Hockert began her career as a metrologist in the Minnesota state metrology laboratory, where she gained experience in mechanical, dimensional and thermodynamic calibrations, as well as in technical writing. She has done technical training on several measurement topics. In addition, she spent six years as both a lead and technical assessor for the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP).

Ms. Hockert is currently the Technical Program chair for the NCSL International (NCSLI), a professional association made up of people and organizations with an interest in measurement science. She is also a Past President. NCSLI promotes competitiveness and success of its members by improving the quality of products and services through excellence in calibration, testing, and metrology education and training.

Ms. Hockert received her Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota in 1983.

Ileana Martinez

Ileana Martinez is an International Affairs Advisor in the Standards Coordination Office at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). She also serves as International Affairs Advisor to the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) at NIST and is President of the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC).

Ms. Martinez has expertise in the U.S. approach to standards, regulations, conformity assessment, laboratory accreditation, as well as in the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (Public Law 104-96), U.S. trade obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement (TBT), the U.S. Inquiry Point, and related topics.

From 1996 through 2000, she served as the NIST Regional Standards Attaché at the U.S. Embassies in Buenos Aires, Argentina and in Brasilia, Brazil, with standards-related responsibilities for South America, seeking to reduce technical barriers to trade in the region. Ms. Martinez earlier worked as a Standards Engineer in a variety of industrial sectors for both U.S. and overseas organizations gaining hands-on experience in national, regional and international standardization and conformity assessment activities.

Ms. Martinez earned a bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and did graduate work at American University in Washington, D.C. in Science/Technology Policy.

Warren Merkel

Warren Merkel serves as Chief of the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP), responsible for overall management of the organization. He is also co-convenor of ISO CASCO Working Group 44 on the revision of ISO/IEC 17025. He is active in the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), the InterAmerican Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). Mr. Merkel previously served as Chief of NVLAP from 2003 to 2006. After leaving NIST for six years to teach chemistry, he returned to NVLAP in 2012.

From 1996 to 2003, Mr. Merkel was employed by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA), most recently as Technical Manager. From 1992 to 1996, he worked as an Investigative Chemist in the Defense Logistics Agency Analytical Product Testing Center in Philadelphia, PA.

Mr. Merkel holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Temple University and a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from Bloomsburg University.

James Olthoff

Dr. Olthoff is the Director of the Physical Measurement Laboratory (PML) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The PML maintains all of the U.S. physical measurement standards and is responsible for all calibration services at NIST. PML also contains the Office of Weights and Measures. Jim joined NIST in 1987 and has served as a research scientist, Group Leader, and Division Chief.

Jim received his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Maryland in 1985 in the area of atomic, molecular and optical physics. He then held a two-year appointment at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine before arriving at NIST. He has authored or co-authored more than 120 publications and has co-authored or edited four books. Jim has been the NIST representative to NCSLI since 2010, is the Chair of the SIM Quality System Task Force, and represents NIST and SIM in many international metrology activities.

Robert L. Watters, Jr.

Dr. Robert L. Watters, Jr. is the Associate Director for Measurement Services in the Material Measurement Laboratory (MML) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Dr. Watters is also the Director of the Office of Reference Materials (ORM) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), a position he has held since 2004. Dr. Watters has over 36 years of experience at NIST in the development of Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) and international metrology comparisons.

The Office of Reference Materials is responsible for all business support and information technology resources for NIST's Standard Reference Material Program. ORM also provides IT support for NIST calibration services. These programs represent over twenty million dollars in the transfer of NIST measurement services to the public and government agencies around the world.

Dr. Watters received his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Notre Dame in 1970 and his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1976. He joined the National Bureau of Standards in 1976, and became Group Leader for Atomic and Molecular Spectrometry in 1987. He has participated in the analysis and certification of over 150 Standard Reference Materials. He was a member of the NIST Ad Hoc Committee on Uncertainty Statements, which developed the NIST policy on implementing the ISO Guide to Uncertainty in Measurement.

Dr. Watters was a founding member of the Comité International des Poids et Mesures (CIPM) Consultative Committee on Amount of Substance. He led a team that developed an international database system for comparison measurements performed by the world's National Metrology Institutes. He is also responsible for maintaining the NIST Traceability web site, wherein the NIST policy on traceability is articulated, and through which many of NIST's customers obtain answers to their traceability questions.