

For Immediate Release:

Nov. 6, 2013

Contact Information:

Tom Manning, Director of Marketing
Telephone: +1.630.256.7527, ext. 103
E-mail: tmanning@slas.org

**New SLAS Volunteer Leadership Structure Addresses Priorities of
Newly Refreshed SLAS Strategic Plan**

Members Appointed to New SLAS Europe Council and SLAS Asia Council

CHICAGO – The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS) is decentralizing its volunteer leadership structure to achieve the international initiatives outlined in the newly updated SLAS Strategic Plan.

The SLAS Strategic Plan is thoughtfully reconsidered every three years to ensure the functional and strategic alignment of the Society and its programs, products, services and events. The newly refreshed plan was developed for 2014, 2015 and 2016 by the SLAS Strategic Planning Advisory Committee. After being officially approved and accepted by the SLAS Board of Directors, the plan was published at <http://www.slas.org/about/plan.cfm> when the Society unveiled its attractively redesigned, user-friendly website on November 1.

“Like its predecessor, our new plan is clear and focused,” says SLAS President Jeff Paslay. “It succinctly defines our purpose, our community and the ways through which we believe we can best serve and sustain both as we expand our global footprint.”

“One way of ensuring that SLAS programs meet the needs of local professionals and markets in Europe and Asia as well as in the Americas is by refining our governance structure,” says Paslay. “The formation of leadership councils in Europe and Asia will facilitate regional planning and decision-making, and will guarantee that members everywhere have active voices in our Society.”

The new, decentralized SLAS leadership model creates three hands-on regional leadership councils in the Americas, Asia and Europe, which will be overseen by one executive board of directors.

-more-

SLAS Global Headquarters 100 Illinois Street Suite 242 St. Charles, IL 60174 USA
P: +1.630.256.7527 U.S. toll-free: +1.877.990.SLAS (7527) F: +1.630.741.SLAS (7527) E: slas@slas.org slas.org

SLAS Asia Office Wise Logic International Ctr. 66 North Shan Xi Road Suite 2301-2304 Shanghai 200041 China
P: +011.86.21.51081513 F: +011.86.21.51160260 E: asia@slas.org asia-slas.org

SLAS Volunteer Leadership Infrastructure

Page 2 of 3

“The primary responsibility of the SLAS Europe Council,” says Paslay, “is to use first-hand knowledge of the similarities and differences between our related but distinct scientific communities to successfully implement the SLAS Five-Year Business Plan for Europe.” The groundwork for this plan was put into place in late 2012 when SLAS commissioned a comprehensive study of current and potential SLAS members throughout Europe. The results were encouraging, revealing that regular members regard SLAS very highly and are eager to become more involved on a regional basis.

“Likewise,” Paslay said, “the SLAS Asia Council will use its close connections and understanding of the Asian scientific community to evolve an effective model for member engagement and continue the SLAS Five-Year Business Plan for this part of the world.”

Each leadership council comprises seven representatives from throughout its region. Initially, representatives have been appointed by the SLAS Board of Directors for one- to three-year terms of service, which will begin in 2014. The board appointment process and the staggered terms are for initial organizational purposes only. As inaugural members complete their appointed terms, new members will be elected by members of their respective regions for full three-year terms.

SLAS Europe Council

Three-Year Terms (2014, 2015, 2016)

Steve Rees, VP Screening Sciences and Sample Management, AstraZeneca, UK

Emilio Diez, VP Molecular Research, GlaxoSmithKline, Spain

Burkhard Schaefer, President, BSSN Software, Germany

Two-Year Terms (2014, 2015)

Joerg Trappe, Director of Hit Finding Unit, Novartis Pharma, Switzerland

Ian Shuttler, Head of Product and Strategic Marketing, Tecan, Switzerland

One-Year Terms (2014)

Jörg Kutter, Professor, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Sabrina Corazza, Business Development, Axxam, Italy

SLAS Asia Regional Council

(Term Assignments Pending)

Ying Yang, Managing Director, LBD Life Sciences, China

Bin Li, R&D Director, AbbVie R&D Center, China

Mike Zhang, National Sales Manager, BD Biosciences, China

-more-

SLAS Volunteer Leadership Infrastructure
Page 3 of 3

Jonathan Connick, Executive Director, Head External in vitro Pharmacology; Site Head, EDDS and PCD China; Merck & Company, China

Bing Xie, Managing Director of Asia Pacific Operations, Cisbio Bioassays

Shuyi Si, Director, National Center for Screening New Microbial Drugs, Institute of Biotechnology, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, China

Lixin Zhang, Deputy Director of CAS Key Laboratory of Pathogenic Microbiology and Immunology; Inaugural Director of Drug Discovery Center for Tuberculosis; Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

As the SLAS Europe Council and SLAS Asia Council begin their work, the SLAS Board of Directors will complete the new decentralized leadership structure by confirming member appointments to the SLAS Americas Council in spring 2014.

For more information, visit www.slas.org or contact SLAS Global Headquarters at +1.877.990.SLAS (5727) or e-mail slas@slas.org.

***The Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS)** is an international community of more than 15,000 individual scientists, engineers, researchers, technologists and others from academic, government and commercial laboratories. The SLAS mission is to be the preeminent global organization providing forums for education and information exchange and to encourage the study of, and improve the practice of laboratory science and technology. For more information, visit www.SLAS.org.*

* * * * *