The SiLA Connection

STANDARDIZATION IN LAB AUTOMATION

APRIL 2018

SiLA demos true plug and play in San Diego

February saw the annual edition of the world famous SLAS show with 6600 delegates and SiLA was there with a booth showcasing SiLA 2 and AnIML. The booth was very busy most days as we gave demos and presented the standards. Many member booths around the floor proudly carried the SiLA logo. The hack session proved a useful way to discuss technical details.

The SiLA 2 tutorial approved popular and was presented to full room. We met many old friends and established lots of new contacts all keen to know more about SiLA and the new SiLA2 initiative.

If you missed us in San Diego, you can find the tutorial at this location:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/14CNLUg0qPz0Mo5fSFxO1DDJkRnSQ1MTEfg955nO8mEQ/edit?usp=sharing

Where to Next

Come meet us at the following events:

- **LRIG midwest meeting**
  Madison WI, USA 17 May

- **ELRIG France 2018**
  Le Bischenberg, Bischoffheim, Strasbourg France 23-24 May

- **SLAS Europe community meeting**
  Siemens Auditorium, ETH Zurich Switzerland 24th May

- **MIPTEC** Basel Life Science Week Congress Center Basel Switzerland 11-14th September

- **SiLA 2 Hackathon #10**
  Contact us for more details

Adieu and Welcome

The last quarter has seen some significant change at the top. We wish a fond farewell to Devon Johnson who has been our President for the last year and our COO for the past 2 years. Devon was key to growing our footprint in North America via SLAS and continuous outreach. She now moves on to a new role as operations manager at Grand Rounds, Inc. a digital health company in Reno, Nevada.

We wish her all success in the new role.

At the same time, we extend a warm welcome to Erwin Althof who joins us as our new president. Erwin is Scientific Technical Leader at Novartis Basel in the Consumer Health division for the past 14 years. He has been a strong supporter of SiLA since the very beginning and has championed the standards internally. We look ahead to another year moving forwards.

Erwin is a co-founder of SiLA and has been active in the Consortium since 2008.

SiLA Board of Directors Election Results

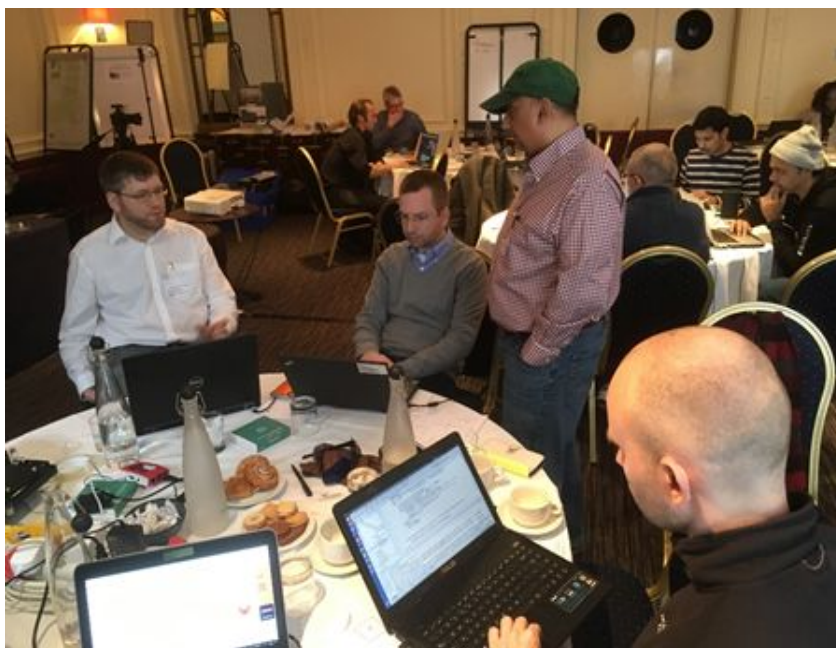Join SiLA in congratulating our 2017/2018 Board Members:

- Erwin Althof, Novartis Pharmaceuticals
- Alexander Brendel, infoteam Software AG
- Tobias Brode, Fraunhofer-IPA
- Patrick Courtney, tec-connection
- Thomas Frech, Xavo Software AG
- Rob Harkness, Peak Analysis and Automation
- Ivan Ivanov, Promega
- Daniel Juchli, wega Informatik
- Tom Kissling, F. Hoffmann La Roche
- Oliver Peter, Idorsia Pharmaceuticals
- Burkhard Schaefer, BSSN Software GmbH
- Haike Süring, Perkin Elmer Inc.
- Bart van der Schoot, Seyonic

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SiLA 2 at Pistoia Alliance London Hackathon

At the Pistoia Hackathon on March 12-13 in London, there were various challenges in the areas of machine learning, artificial intelligence and there was a future corner. One of the challenges in the future corner was to automate a small sample preparation and analytics workflow, common to many labs. The task was to integrate two hardware instruments and a virtual HPLC instrument into a service based workflow orchestration system and use the Seahorse cloud to analyze and visualize the chromatogram afterwards. A group of five people assumed this challenge and decided to implement a microservice based approach based on the standards SiLA and AnIML.

It was amazing to see how people who had never seen SiLA and AnIML before could implement a solution using these standards within a few hours. The final solution was a loosely coupled, service- and cloud-based implementation that has proven to work in a very flexible way.

Any interested party can get early access to SiLA 2 and AnIML. The new SiLA 2 standard is about to be available as a release candidate in Summer 2018. A release is scheduled for end of 2018.

The team hard at work

The Lab of the Future

We are proud to have a SiLA article published in the Bio-IT World.

"The Way to the Next Generation Lab of the Future—What, Why, How?"

The Next-generation Screening Lab What, Why, How?

A follow up event is in discussion. If you are interested in taking part, please get in touch at info@sila-standard.org

SiLA Academic Contribution Member-base Growing

In 2016, the SiLA Consortium broadened their membership categories and introduced a new "Academic Contribution Member" membership tier.

This tier allows academic institutes with low budget to be part of SiLA. Instead of an annual membership fee, Academic Contribution Members agree to invest 100 working hours into the standard before being announced as SiLA member.
We are happy to announce our first Academic Contribution Member: The "SmartLab Systems" research group of the Technical University of Dresden, Germany.

The SmartLab team has contributed the working hours in 2016 and thus helped actively to improve the standard.

For further information visit:

SiLA Hackathons – Join us!

Are you interested in joining the next SiLA Hackathon?
Contact info@sila-standard.org for detailed information and registration.

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New website up and running

February also saw the launch of the revamped SiLA website, with new information, app notes and a refreshed look. Thanks for the team at AWE for all the good work.

Sign up on the website for access to the document archive and to keep up to date at http://www.sila-standard.org/

Let us know what you think – we are happy to receive your feedback at info@sila-standard.org.

SiLA Hackathon #9

On April 5th, the 9th Hackathon on SiLA 2 was sponsored by Idorsia's CEO and many people outside the working group were joining to understand the latest developments and give valuable feedback.
The work was mainly focused on getting new members on the same page and testing the feature framework by defining an AuditTrailService and LoggingService.

It was positive to see that the major components make sense in practice. The working group will use the input in the coming days to rework some of the details that came up.

Are you interested in joining the next SiLA Hackathon?
Contact info@sila-standard.org for detailed information and registration.

SiLA General Assembly 2018

The next GA 2018 is taking place on May 16th.

The Board of Directors are looking forward to present an update to the members on SiLA's achievements and goals. Members with Core and Support level are entitled to vote.

Minutes of the meeting will be available to all SiLA members.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit us at www.sila-standard.org

Email us at info@sila-standard.org

Call +41 55 210 01 19 (Switzerland)

Job board: looking for lab staff?

At this time of year, budgets are released, managers are looking to recruit and staff think of new opportunities. It's the sign of a dynamic and healthy sector. We talk to thousands of laboratory scientist and managers in hundreds of labs. So if you have an open position, please contact SiLA – we may be able to help.