



S3 Collective

STANDARDS • SCIENCE • SAFETY

Dear S3 Collective friend,

As we take a moment to celebrate 4/20 and reflect on the progress of cannabis reform and innovation, we're energized by the momentum building across science, standards, and safety. This month, S3 Collective is on the move—attending conferences, connecting with regulators and researchers, and continuing to advocate for a harmonized, evidence-based framework for cannabis and botanical products. Let's keep pushing the industry forward—together.

Want to support our cause? Your tax-deductible [donations](#) help us continue making a real difference!

Want to help? Get added to our [volunteer list](#) for future projects.

Why tune in? Our newsletter is your window into the evolving world of cannabis standards, science, and safety! If you know someone who may be interested in our newsletter, let them know that they can [sign up here](#).

S3C Updates

S3 Collective formed a new **External Liaison Network** to deepen strategic engagement across sectors. These professionals serve in rotating communications roles to help strengthen partnerships and expand mission-aligned visibility.

- Jason Stark, Entourage Effect, Liaison Education & Digital Content Liaison
- Angela Speakman, Liaison for Education & Philanthropy Strategy, Cannabis Program Director at Stockton University and CEO of Elucidation and Green Shoulder, Education & Fundraising Liason
- James “Bo” Keyes, Classic Golf Tournaments Founder, Standards Engagement and SAC Liason

- Claire Erickson, Boveda, Trade & Industry Liaison
- Luna Stower, Social Liaison
- Zed Clark, MJ Unpacked, Events Liaison

We appreciate their leadership in supporting S3 Collective's work across research, policy, philanthropy, and community outreach.

S3 Collective's David Vaillencourt spoke on a panel at the [Global Cannabis Regulatory Summit](#) in Washington, D.C. on March 26.



David Vaillencourt (S3 Collective) presenting at the Global Cannabis Regulatory Summit

S3 Collective's Alena Rodriguez spoke on a panel about integrating lab data, academic research, voluntary consensus standards, and facility audits to improve the safety and quality of cannabis products at the [International Conference of the Science of Botanicals](#) (ICSB) in Oxford, Mississippi on April 10. She was joined by Yasha Kahn of MCR Labs, Dr. Robert Welch of the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss), and Darwin Millard of Cannabis Safety & Quality (CSQ).





Alena Rodriguez (S3 Collective), Yasha Kahn (MCR Labs) and Darwin Millard (CSQ) presenting at ICSB



Alena Rodriguez (S3 Collective) with Ole Miss' National Center for Cannabis Research and Education (NCCRE) team, Callie Anyan-Draine, Kim Byrd, and Dr. Robert Welch, at ICSB

S3 Collective is seeking sponsors for our upcoming Networking Event on June 23 during ASTM International's D37 Committee on Cannabis Week in Toronto, Canada. Connect with top industry leaders, regulators, and scientists while showcasing your

commitment to advancing standards, science, and safety in cannabis. **Contact David Vaillencourt** at david@s3collective.org for more information.

Standards Snapshot

The biggest opportunity in cannabis is leading from within—by uniting around shared values of safety, stability, and science. Across the board, no one wants to harm their customers. What the industry craves is consistency, credibility, and a common set of rules. By embracing standards and collaboration, we can shape a stronger future, together. [Read more.](#)

Help shape the future of global cannabis standards! Take an <10 minute survey to help us identify critical gaps in ASTM D37 standards and make your voice heard!

👉 [Take the Survey](#) by May 31.

ASTM D37 Open Ballots - None currently open

ASTM Interlaboratory Studies (ILS) - ASTM D37 is seeking labs to participate in the following ILS projects. Your lab does not need to be an ASTM member to participate and the test method and samples will be provided at no cost.

- ILS-1829:Cannabinoid concentration testing using [ASTM D8375-22](#) (LC-MS/MS)
- ILS-1830:Pesticide testing using [ASTM D8399-22](#) (LC-MS/MS)
- ILS-1988:Residual solvent testing using [ASTM WK87437](#) (HS-GC)
- ILS-1989:Terpenoid testing using [ASTM WK87438](#) (HS-GC)
- Elemental Impurity Testing: Participation in or leadership of an ILS using [ASTM D8469-22](#)
- Moisture Content Measurement: Participation in or leadership of an ILS to establish a standardized method (does your lab have a method that could be the standard? Let us know!)

If your lab is interested in participating in any of the above studies please let us know by filling out this [ASTM ILS Participation Survey](#). Contact alena@s3collective.org if you have any questions.

CALLING ALL CANNABIS & HEMP LABS

ASTM D37 is seeking your lab's
participation



Science Spotlight

New Federal Cannabis Research Resource Center Announced!

At this year's [International Conference on the Science of Botanicals](#), a major step forward for cannabis science was unveiled: the [launch](#) of a federally funded **Resource Center for Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research (R3CR)**. Backed by leading institutions and federal collaboration from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), R3CR is designed to streamline research, fast-track regulatory clarity, and fuel innovation in cannabis-based medicine.

The center will include three cores:

- **Research Support Core**, led by Dr. Mary Paine of Washington State University (WSU): Offers scientific and regulatory information, hosts workshops, and awards seed grants to cannabis researchers.
- **Research Standards Core**, led by Dr. Nandu Sarma of the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP): Develops and shares best practices and technical guidance for analytical procedures for investigational research and quality standards for cannabis studies.

- **Regulatory Guidance Core**, led by Dr. Mahmoud ElSohly of Ole Miss: Provides practical guidance to researchers navigating complex DEA and FDA regulations.

Curious how it will impact NIH studies, FDA reviews, and NIDA supply? [Click to learn more.](#)



R3CR leaders, Dr. Robert Welch (Ole Miss), Deena Hadi and Dr. Mary Paine (WSU), Dr. Mahmoud ElSohly and Dr. Ikhlas Khan (Ole Miss), and Dr. Nandu Sarma (USP)

Safety Scoop

Conflicting state safety laws are making compliance a nightmare for multi-state cannabis operators. Learn why experts say it's time to go beyond the bare minimum—and how ISO 45001 could be a game changer. [Read more.](#)

A new Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) [report](#) highlights opportunities to improve labeling, testing, and age verification for hemp products—prompting upcoming regulatory changes aimed at better protecting consumers and minors.

Events

- ★ NEW DATE ★ 5/01/25: [ASTM Conference on Overcoming Barriers to Entry in Cannabis and Hemp Industries](#): Views from Around the World (virtual and on-demand)
- 4/29/25 - 5/01/25: [MJUnpacked](#) in Atlantic City, NJ

- **5/19/25 - 5/20/25:** [Psychedelic Therapeutics and Drug Development Conference](#) in San Diego, CA
- **5/30/25 - 6/01/25:** [Florida Medical Cannabis Conference](#) in Orlando, FL
- **6/10/25 – 6/11/25:** [CANNRA External Stakeholders Meeting](#) in Denver, CO
- **6/16/25 - 6/20/25:** [Psychedelic Science](#) in Denver, CO
- **6/17/25 - 6/20/25:** [CannMed](#) in Río Grande, Puerto Rico
- **6/21/25 – 6/25/25:** [Association of Food and Drug Officials \(AFDO\)](#) Annual Educational Conference in Dallas, TX
- **★ 6/23/25 - 6/25/25:** [ASTM D37 Committee Week](#) in Toronto, Canada
- **7/13/25 - 7/18/25:** [Neurobiology of Psychedelics Gordon Research Conference](#) in Smithfield, RI
- **8/23/25 - 8/28/25:** [AOAC International Annual Meeting](#) in San Diego, CA

Rulemaking/Regulatory Events & Public Comments

All times listed are in local time.

- The **FDA** is seeking public comments, especially from veterinarians, on the use of cannabis-derived products (CDPs) like CBD in animals. This request aims to gather insights on usage trends, safety concerns, and potential benefits, with the [public comment period open until today, 4/16](#).
- **Alabama** - The Medical Cannabis Commission (MCC) met on [4/10](#) and will meet again on [5/15](#) at 1pm.
- **Alaska** - The Marijuana Control Board (MCB) is meeting today and tomorrow, [4/16 and 4/17](#) at 9:30am.
- **Arizona** - The Medical Marijuana Testing Advisory Council met on [4/02](#). The next meeting will be announced [here](#).
- **California** - The Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) is accepting [public comments](#) on revisions to cultivation and sanitation rules until 4/28. The Cannabis Advisory Committee (CAC) met on [3/27](#).
- **Colorado** - The Marijuana Enforcement Division's (MED) Science & Policy Forum will meet on [5/02 and 6/06](#) from 11am to 1pm.
- **D.C.** - The Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration (ABC) Board meets every Wednesday except when in recess. [This calendar](#) details meeting dates, with the next ones on [4/23](#), 4/30, 5/07, and 5/14 at 10:30am.
- **Georgia** - The Georgia Access to Medical Cannabis Commission met last on [2/12](#).
- **Iowa** - The Medical Cannabinoid Board (MCB) will meet on [5/16](#) at 10am.
- **Kentucky** - The Medical Cannabis Workgroup will meet on [4/30](#) from 3 - 4pm.
- **Maryland** - The Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA)'s Task Force on the Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances met on [3/27](#). The Advisory

Board on Medical and Adult-Use Cannabis met on [3/20](#).

- **Massachusetts** - The Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) met on [4/10](#) and will meet again today [4/16](#), [4/17](#) and [5/10](#) at 10am. The Cannabis Advisory Board's Cannabis Industry Subcommittee will meet on [4/24](#) from 10am - 12pm.
- **Michigan** - The Cannabis Regulatory Agency (CRA) will meet on [6/26](#) at 9:30am.
- **Minnesota** - The Cannabis Advisory Council will meet on [5/22](#) from 10am to 12pm.
- **Nevada** - The Cannabis Compliance Board (CCB) met on [3/20](#) and will meet tomorrow, [4/17](#), 5/15, and 6/18 at 9am, all at 9850 Double R Boulevard, Suite 101, Reno, Nevada.
- **New Hampshire** - The next Therapeutic Cannabis Medical Oversight Board Meetings met on [4/02](#) and will meet on [6/04](#) from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.
- **New Jersey** - The Cannabis Regulatory Commission (CRC) met on [4/03](#) and will meet again on [5/01](#) and [6/05](#).
- **New York** - The Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) proposed regulation of public convenience and advantage and is accepting [public comments until 5/19](#).
- **Oklahoma** - The Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA) will meet on [7/11](#) at 9am.
- **Oregon** - The Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) met on [3/20](#) and will meet again tomorrow, [4/17](#) at 9am. The Artificially Derived Cannabinoids (CBN) Rules Advisory Committee met on [3/19](#) and will have a [Public Rule Hearing](#) today, [4/16](#) at 9am. The Hemp Product Registration Rules Advisory Committee met on [4/02](#).
- **Pennsylvania** - The Medical Marijuana Advisory Board will meet today, [4/16](#) from 10:30am - 12:30pm.
- **Rhode Island** - The Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) is scheduled to meet on [4/25](#) and [5/16](#) at 1pm. They recently approved [final regulations](#), effective 5/01.
- **Utah** - The Center for Medical Cannabis (CMC) hosted a medical cannabis provider meeting on [4/10](#) and the next one will be on 7/10 at 8am.
- **Vermont** - The Cannabis Control Board (CCB) met on [4/08](#), [4/02](#), and [3/26](#) and will meet again today, [4/16](#) and [4/30](#) at 1pm.
- **Washington** - The Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) has received several recent [petitions for rulemaking](#). The LCB recently met on [4/08](#), [4/09](#), and [4/15](#). They will meet next on [4/22](#), [4/23](#), [5/06](#), and [5/07](#) from 10am to 11am.
- **West Virginia** - The Office of Medical Cannabis (OMC)'s Medical Cannabis Advisory Board (MCAB) met last on [3/20](#). The next meeting will be in June (TBD).

Are we missing one from your state? [Let us know!](#)

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to advancing the cannabis, hemp, and other botanical industries through collaboration, education, and standardization.

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