

# VCAT Subcommittee

## U.S. International Standards Development Activity

Mr. Jason Matusow

Subcommittee Chair

Dr. Jayne Morrow

NIST Sr. Advisor for Standards Policy

Final Report

February 14, 2024

**Action 1**  
(May 2023)

Establish committee, secure visiting experts

**Action 2**

- 8-10 listening sessions: (academics, SDOs, FACAs, think tanks and industry associations)

**Action 3**

- Visiting Experts: independent submissions of findings

**Action 4**

- Subcommittee Chair: input aggregation for draft submission

**Action 5**

- Feedback and refinement: VCAT candidate submission

**Action 6**

- VCAT adoption at February meeting

**Subcommittee  
Plan**

# Subcommittee Charter

## Objective:

Develop specific recommendations for deliberation of the full VCAT that assess the opportunities to enhance NIST's engagement in, support of, and coordination policy efforts in support of international standards development activity.

## Charter Directives for Consideration:

- The **Barriers to U.S. participation** in standards development activity, and opportunities for knowledge and resource sharing to ensure U.S. equities from the private and public sector are supported -- especially in potentially disruptive, fast-moving technology areas;
- **Opportunities to increase** the number of professional in CET sectors engaged in standards development activity, particularly in small and medium size enterprises (SMEs);
- **Opportunities for NIST** to work effectively with private-sector stakeholders to foster greater U.S. investment in pre-standardization research that is essential to standards development activity.

Designated Federal Officer (DFO) - Stephanie Shaw

## Subcommittee Members & Visiting Experts

Name	Affiliation
Jason Matusow	VCAT Member - Chair (Microsoft)
Vint Cerf	VCAT Member (Google)
Monisha Ghosh	VCAT Member (Notre Dame)
Mary Saunders	ANSI and ITAC 10
Phil Wennblom	Intel and ISO/IEC JTC 1
Susan Miller	ATIS
Glenn Reynolds	ATIS - alternate
Joshua Meltzer	Brookings Institute
Tim Simcoe	Boston University
Jim Matthews	Corning and IEEE SA
Veronica Lancaster	CTA and IEC USNC

# Listening Sessions

SDO: 3GPP, ANSI, ASTM, ATIS, IEEE

FACA: ITAC 6, 10, 15

Academics / Think Tanks: GUIRR, ITIF

USG: EPA, Lawrence Livermore National Lab, NIST

Associations: ITIC Standardization Policy

Consortia Counsel: Gesmer Updegrove, Biddle Law

# Preliminary Findings

## USSCET Feedback

Overall supportive

Overreach cautions

Consortia inclusion

OSS inclusion

## US Leadership

Standards system vs. individual SSO

Protect & promote democratic principles in good governance

International community engagement

## Blockers

SME challenges

Hosting challenges

Long-term executive support

## Pre-Standardization

Best opportunity for proactive impact

Numerous existing efforts for collaboration

## Measurement

Most essential need, least understood path forward

Outcomes-based, avoid simplistic context

## Workforce Development

Executive sponsorship challenge

University vs. mid-career training

Recognition and career challenges

# VCAT Report

## Summary Findings

### Coordination:

- Develop and execute a coherent and consistent standards policy that supports U.S. leadership and competitiveness in CETs

### Engagement:

- Increase engagement and participation in CET standards development organizations

### Capacity:

- Invest in resources and incentives to support the U.S. standards-setting ecosystem

### Innovation:

- Foster a culture of innovation and excellence in standards development and implementation

# VCAT Report

## Discussion

37 Total Recommendations:

### NSSCET

- ANSI US National Strategy remains primary for industry-led system
- Inter-agency coordination and USG engagement in CET standardization
- USG leadership long-term awareness of standards

### Barriers

- Analysis and awareness sharing is key
- Community notification process (SDO into NIST) would be valuable
- Hosting budget and visa challenges should be addressed

### Measurement

- Collaboration with academia and industry on outcomes-based measurement

### Workforce

- Public and private sector actions for enablement and capacity building

### Pre-standardization

- Maximize existing and new research grants/programs to generate pre-standardization inputs
- Coordinate with trading partner nations on pre-standardization inputs