



4311 Planters Court, Annandale, Virginia 22003 USA • Phone: (+1) 703.425.1258 • FAX: (+1) 703.425.1259  
www.i2sl.org • labs21@i2sl.org

## About I²SL

Dedicated to the design, engineering, and operation of high performance, low-energy, sustainable laboratory and related high technology facilities.

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Good Morning!

You are cordially invited to participate in a planning meeting regarding the development of new laboratory design guidelines. The meeting will be held at the AIA 2009 National Convention and Exposition, Moscone Center, San Francisco, CA, from noon until 1:30 p.m. on April 30. We are requesting your participation in this meeting because the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I²SL) believe your expertise would be of great assistance in determining the scope for such guidelines. As the event grows closer, materials will be sent that contain specific information for the meeting. After your review of the materials, suggestions for improvements to materials or other potential attendees for the meeting would be welcomed.

As background, on February 6, 2009, AIA and I²SL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to undertake the creation of comprehensive laboratory planning and design guidelines. The MOU provides for a productive working relationship toward the creation of new guidelines that will both update and expand the scope of the 1999 AIA Guidelines for Planning and Design of Biomedical Research Laboratories. A press release of this agreement can be seen online at: [www.aia.org/press/releases/AIAB054817](http://www.aia.org/press/releases/AIAB054817) or [www.i2sl.org/partnerships/partners.html#aia](http://www.i2sl.org/partnerships/partners.html#aia).

AIA and I²SL envision the guidelines as a comprehensive and “living” laboratory reference which will fuse the objectives and goals of the Laboratories for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Labs21<sup>®</sup>) program with the best architectural and engineering strategies for laboratories.

The MOU is based on the recognition that comprehensive guidelines for laboratories are necessary as these unique facility types form a large part of the research infrastructure and are the foundation supporting successful societies through academia, industry, and government, worldwide. The long-term investments required to build laboratories and their costly operation provide more reason for the organizations to work together to develop a set of guidelines to plan and build these facilities within the context of these objectives. We hope that you can join us in this effort to determine the scope that will shape the new guidelines.

Please RSVP by replying to this invitation by **March 20, 2009**. To ensure your participation in this meeting, I<sup>2</sup>SL and AIA will consider establishing a call-in line for the April 30 meeting. Please note in your RSVP whether you will only participate in the meeting if a conference call-in number is provided.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Hayes  
AIA



Phil Wirdzek  
I<sup>2</sup>SL