The Washington/Oregon section meeting was held December 14, 2016 at Fluke Corporation in Everett, Washington. The meeting was well attended by measurement scientists, technicians and students from various industries across the Northwest. Students from the University of Washington, Washington State University and Department of the Navy were represented at the meeting as well.

Our meeting was organized to showcase presentations from our guest speakers with networking and exhibitor breaks throughout the day. Exhibitor tables were well received and very interesting. Attendees would become so engrossed in the demonstrations, it was sometimes difficult to bring them back to our presentation room.

The opening presentation was given by the NCSLI Northwestern US Region Coordinator, Mons Lee. He described the history and benefits of membership in NCSLI. One benefit that he touched upon was access to a wealth of technical publications, which allow a laboratory to quickly identify areas to improve upon, or how an organization can comply with national standards.

Jeff Gust from Fluke Corporation presented decision rules and measurement risk updates in the new ISO/IEC 17025. The newest draft of the document better describes consumer risk and how a certification laboratory should document their decisions to achieve that level of risk management. Mike Schwartz from Cal Lab Solutions covered how automation though Metrology.NET can take advantage of fully distributed computing systems using various service protocols. Jack Somppi from Measurements International presented improvements on their quantum hall resistance system. He specifically highlighted the improvements in helium recapturing and the reduction of measurement uncertainty to 0.005 ppm.

Andrew Hickson from The Boeing Company presented on the adaptation of a medical Plethysmography liquid
metal strain gage to aerostructures. Directly following lunch, we had a brief presentation by Jennifer Fleenor from Tektronix on the NCSLI Early Career Professionals Committee. This newly founded committee looks to support industry professionals develop their career path in measurement science through mentorship, guidance and technical training.

Dr. Fritz Stahr from the University of Washington School of Oceanography presented on calibration troubleshooting of instruments used in deep ocean experiments. The issues identified in the presentation were in regards to poor reproducibility of calibration techniques. Our final presentation came from Dr. Yi-Hua Tang from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). He presented a history of the NIST watt balance and the redefinition of the kilogram. All presentations were very well received and the questions from the attendees were quite insightful.

Our meeting concluded with a tour of the Fluke Calibration labs that included stress and incursion testing, pressure calibration and the electronics primary lab where the Fluke Josephson voltage standard was undergoing preliminary inter-laboratory comparison work with NIST.

A great many thanks to Jeff Gust and Marty Kidd from Fluke for their willingness to host this meeting and all the organization in getting this pulled together. Jennifer Fleenor, Mons Lee and Tony Reed were a great help as well with getting the meeting put together.

Thank you very much to our exhibitors, we really appreciate all your support and education. We would also like to thank NCSL International for its continuous support of the metrology community. We look forward to our next meeting and we hope to see you there!