

### *Instructor Bios*

**Paula Austin, M.S.** is a Member of the Technical Staff in the International Biological Threat Reduction Program at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). She is a trained biochemist and microbiologist with more than 20 years of research experience that spans the disciplines of microbiology, molecular biology and biochemistry. She has experience working with high consequence pathogens both at the University of Idaho and at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID). She is a certified instructor through the US Office of Domestic Preparedness and has worked as an instructor at the US Department of Homeland Security Center for Domestic Preparedness and for Safety Training and Consultations. In addition to research and teaching, she has been involved in emergency response actions as a firefighter and hazardous materials technician for approximately 10 years.

**Susan Caskey**, is a Member of the Technical Staff in the International Biological Threat Reduction Program at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). She has degrees in Biology and Computer Science specializing in information management and security. She is also certified in network security architecture and has designed and implemented secure information management systems worldwide. Susan has designed methodologies for performing agent based risk assessments of biological agents and performs assessments of agents and facilities working to mitigate biosafety and biosecurity risks. She provides a wide range of training in both information security and biological threat reduction. In addition, Susan has designed and implemented network based disease surveillance systems for humans and animals; including the backend database as well as the communication components. She performs statistics based risk assessments of biological agents and, audits and secures biological databases, and has participated in physical security assessments of bioscience facilities. Susan has contributed to the development of international biosecurity guidelines focusing on information management. Recently, she has been developing laboratory based biosecurity and biosafety standards, procedures, and risk assessment tools for laboratories working on high risk agents.