February 24, 2014

General Announcements

President’s Message

Webinar #6 – “How to Increase Your Staff without Increasing Your Budget”

After a three week break, we're back on Wednesday February 26th at 1:00 pm EST, with ASCLD Director Adam Becnel's webinar teaching us how his laboratory was able to add capacity by increasing efficiency and productivity. Prepare to be engaged in the chat room and be sure to share your questions and comments for all to consider. Registration links will be sent shortly.

How to Increase Your Staff without Increasing Your Budget Flyer

Registration for the 41st Annual ASCLD Symposium is now open!!!

The 2014 Symposium will be held May 4-8, 2014 at the Paradise Valley Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. The symposium schedule, workshop descriptions, registration form and hotel accommodations can be found on the ASCLD website at: www.ascld.org

President-elect Brady Mills and the symposium planning committee have put together a fantastic conference including a variety of workshops and an exciting plenary session. Don’t miss out!

Call for Posters!!
The deadline for submitting abstracts for posters and workshops has passed, but there is still time to submit one for a poster. The theme for this year’s meeting is “The Efficiency of Quality”. If you’ve got an idea for a poster, please download the form below and return by March 1, 2014.

2014 ASCLD Symposium Abstract Form

Speaking of the meeting
The planning committee still has room for volunteers. Your degree of participation can be very flexible with opportunities ranging from working a shift at the registration table to running the meeting’s plenary session. How much time you commit is up to you! If you’re interested, please contact President Elect Mills at brady.mills@dps.texas.gov.

Seeking Candidates for the ASCLD Board of Directors
We will be electing new members to the Board of Directors at the business meeting to be held at the Symposium. If you or someone you know is a regular member and is interested in becoming a candidate for the ASCLD Board, please contact Sabrina.Cillessen@DFS.Virginia.gov

Jay Henry
ASCLD President
This Week’s Forensic Metric: $186.00

The median cost for a case in the investigative area of controlled substances. The cost includes allocations for capital, wages & salary, benefits, overtime & temporary hires, chemicals, reagents, consumables, gases, travel, quality assurance and accreditation, subcontracting, service of instruments, advertisements, non-instrument repairs and maintenance, equipment leasing, utilities, telecommunications, overhead, and other expenses. This information is derived from those laboratories who participated in the 2011-2012 FORESIGHT program.

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Learn more. Visit http://www.ssi.shimadzu.com/ASCLD

Bode Technology

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: Bode’s 2014 DNA Technical Conferences, providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

Bode Technology provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.

Bode’s solutions include BodeDirect™ Outsourcing and Same-Day DNA Service™, and the Bode Buccal DNA Collector™, a direct

News Around the Globe

Delaware drug testing lab under scrutiny
Washington Post
Delaware State Police said Friday that they are investigating discrepancies involving drug evidence sent to the state medical ...

Crime Lab wins $1 mil grant
The Chicago Maroon
The UChicago Crime Lab announced on Thursday that it has received a $1 million award from the MacArthur Foundation. The Lab is one of seven ...

New DNA law in South Africa will help fight crime, and put police to the test
Fox News
In a rare bright spot, a new law will expand a state DNA database used to fight crime by compelling police to take samples ... While South Africa’s forensic experts are highly skilled, police on the beat have been tarnished by cases of ...

Baltimore Police Department Uses Cutting-Edge Technology To Solve Crimes
CBS Local
Solving crimes in Baltimore City. Eyewitness News goes inside the police department’s crime lab to find out how they solved a ...
NC health officials warn of powerful new street drug
News & Observer
The head of the state’s toxicology lab says a new, deadly synthetic narcotic that caused three fatal overdoses in North Carolina last month ...

State may be playing role in Crime Lab site
WKRC TV Cincinnati
Hamilton County's undersized and outmoded Coroner's Crime Lab is going to move to the vacant Mercy Franciscan ...

Northern Colorado crime lab showcases collaborative investigations, high-tech tools
Greeley Tribune
Rep. Cory Gardner, R-Colo., leans in to examine one of the fingerprinting stations Tuesday morning at the Northern Colorado Regional Forensic ...

Training

ASCLD Webinars:
Links to these webinars can also be found on the ASCLD Training Opportunities webpage.

Webinar #1: Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction
Webinar #2: The Backlog Paradox: Doing Less is Doing More
Webinar #3: Managing Customer Expectations and Education
Webinar #4: Case Acceptance, Policies and Guidelines

The West Virginia University Forensic Science Initiative invites you to utilize their FREE webinar series on a variety of topics in forensic science! Experts in the field will present on a wide range of forensic science topics from the reliability of eye witness identification to fire scene investigation. Sign up now for the Texas Forensic Science Commission: Justice Through Science presentation. Follow the link for a list of upcoming webinars.

Try your CSI skills at the Basic Crime Scene Investigation for Legal Professionals course at West Virginia

Bode's newest offerings include: BodeLIMS™ – The First True Forensic DNA LIMS. BodeLIMS is a web-based LIMS that tracks samples from receipt through reporting. The software documents and captures the entire DNA analysis process and is completely configurable, thus adaptable to changing technologies. Bode LeanLab™ service utilizes Lean Six Sigma principles and delivers custom solutions to forensic labs improving efficiency, increasing throughput, reducing turnaround time and eliminating backlogs. Visit www.bodetech.com or email bode.service@bodetech.com for more information.
University’s forensic crime scene complex. This four day course will offer hands-on training specifically for the legal professional. Learn how to properly identify, collect, and preserve evidence at a crime scene. To better assist each student, class seating will be limited. For more information, click here.

ASCLD-LAB Training Training classes to help forensic laboratory personnel understand the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 General Requirements for the Competency of Testing and Calibration Laboratories.

Cal State Fullerton Certificates in Crime & Forensics. Contact Veronica Martinez at 1-657-278-3123 or see http://extension.fullerton.edu/professionaldevelopment/Crime-Forensic.

RTI International’s Center for Forensic Sciences Continuing Education is pleased to offer a second premium online course for legal professionals, titled “Managing Quality and Reliability in the Crime Laboratory: A Lawyer’s Perspective”. This low cost training was developed with the support of ASCLD/LAB, the North Carolina District Attorney's Association and the National Association of Prosecutor Coordinators. This course is designed for legal professionals who interface with scientific experts and/or present scientific evidence in courts of law. The course provides information about how accredited crime laboratories control quality, ensure the reliability of results, and work to maintain a high level of customer satisfaction and confidence in the reliability of laboratory services. It is recommended, but not required, that users have taken the course; An Introduction to the Crime Laboratory - Understanding its Role and Purpose before attempting this course.

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Evaluate the work of a scientific expert
- Name the two types of scientific analyses
- Name the international body that governs crime laboratory accreditation
- Recognize authoritative documents and court rulings critical to forensic science
- List five warning signs signaling problems in a crime laboratory

If you know of a legal professional who may be interested in taking this course, please direct them to: https://www.forensiced.org/training/viewcourse.cfm?moduleid=fdf2f9c6-4d9e-4e7c-a6fd-c5301474a49d. In some states, this course has been approved for 1 hour of CLE and MCLE credits

Employment Opportunities


DNA Analyst III, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensics Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014.

DNA Analyst I DNA Operations Mgr., Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensics Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014.

Training Coordinator and Deputy Quality Manager, International Commission on Missing Persons, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Expires: March 14, 2014.


DNA Section Supervisor, Texas Department of Public Safety, Weslaco Texas, Expires: February 28, 2014.

Biological Sciences – Criminal Investigator I (Forensic Scientist I), Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Denver, Colorado, Expires: February 28, 2014.

ICITAP Forensic Advisor, Engility Corporation, Algers, Expires: March 5, 2014.

Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances, DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: March 4, 2014.

ICITAP Forensics Advisor/Trainer, Engility Corporation, Mexico City, Expires: March 17, 2014.


DNA Criminalist II, County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino, CA, Expires: March 31, 2014.

Latent Print Examiner II, Oakland Police Dept –
The ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board/FQS offers 2 workshops for accreditation preparation to the forensic community.

ISO/IEC 17025 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Test Agencies
Attendees of this three-day workshop will obtain a general overview of ISO/IEC 17025 as it relates to forensic test agencies. All of the elements will be reviewed. The standard’s applicability, origin, purpose and marketplace will be discussed. Some of the more important concepts will be reviewed such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement and method witnessing.
April 21-23, 2014, Tampa, FL
September 22-24, 2014, Alexandria, VA

ISO/IEC 17020 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Police Agencies
Attendees of this two-day workshop will obtain a general overview of ISO/IEC 17020 for forensic police agencies. Individual elements of the standard will be reviewed; the standard’s applicability to forensic police agencies, origin, purpose and marketplace will also be discussed. Some of the more important concepts, such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement, and method witnessing will be reviewed.
April 24-25, 2014, Tampa, FL
May 19-20, 2014, Milwaukee, WI
September 25-26, 2014, Alexandria, VA

For more information about these workshops, contact FQS at 703-836-0025, ext 208. To register, please click on any of the dates above.
Association for Chemical Testing (I(CT) in Newport, CA. See http://www.iactonline.org/ for more information.

April 14-17, 2014: 11th Annual DNA Technical Workshop – Bode West in San Diego, CA.


November 3-6, 2014: Annual DNA & Investigators Workshop– Bode Mid-Atlantic in Crystal City, VA