January 6, 2014

General Announcements

President’s Message

Webinar #3: Managing Customer Expectations and Education

I hope that you will consider joining your colleagues on Wednesday January 8, 2014 for ASCLD’s third webinar in a series dissecting the issues surrounding backlogs. John Collins is our featured speaker and he will be discussing critical concepts needing consideration prior to tackling a backlog. Please follow this link for registration!

https://www.forensiced.org/training/viewcourse.cfm?
moduleid=624372a7-8af3-4d5f-8fa5-7caeba562b1d

We need your feedback by the end of the week!
To date, we’ve heard from about one third of you. As you may recall from the last symposium, we discussed some proposed language changes and realized that we needed to do a better job of understanding the viewpoints of the members, hence, the survey. Please, if you haven’t done so already, take a few minutes to share with us your thoughts.
The link for the survey is: http://questionpro.com/t/AGGeDZQb9c

Jay Henry
ASCLD President

This Week’s Forensic Metric: 48

The median turn-around time in days (48) for a Serology/Biology report with the timeline defined as beginning at the date of the first submission of evidence to report submission. This information is derived from those laboratories who participated in the 2011-2012 FORESIGHT program.

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.

Symposium Details…

In the next couple of weeks, we will be releasing the registration information for the Scottsdale meeting. Suffice to say, we’re excited about having the membership come together again and are looking forward to an amazing conference. If you have any questions, please contact Brady Mills at brady.mills@dps.texas.gov.

We will be electing new members to the Board of Directors at the business meeting to be held at the Symposium. If you or
Advances In DNA Tests Helped Solve East Hampton Cold Case
Hartford Courant
In 1999, East Hampton police and the state crime lab were able to link the biological material found in the Volvo to evidence recovered from third floor ...

Few rape kits from Yakima sent to state crime lab
KIMA CBS 29
Dozens of rape cases a year here in Yakima don't get analyzed in the state crime lab. Despite processing several rape kits, YPD ...

EXCLUSIVE: Nassau County Taxpayers Secretly Charged Millions ...
Long Island Press
These were but a few of the daily, costly antics that took place at the Nassau County Police Department (NCPD) Crime Lab—where drugs were tested, ...

Several Utah police agencies have stockpiles of unprocessed rape kits
Salt Lake Tribune
So Russo took the problem to the state crime lab only to make another disturbing discovery: It would take the lab at least two years to get all the old kits ...

Study: Majority of rape cases in Salt Lake County never prosecuted
Salt Lake Tribune
Reasons » Backlogged crime lab, traumatized victims and lack of evidence lead to many cases fizzling. By Erin ALberty and Janelle Stecklein.

Drug Lab Scandal Leaves Criminal Cases In Limbo
WBUR
In the new year, Congress could take up legislation aimed at improving oversight of the nation's crime labs. But critics are skeptical and say reform is ...

Indicting DNA mixtures and unknown males -- cutting edge or legally ...
Plain Dealer
DNA indictments based on mixtures and police report descriptions are ... a consensual partner or suspect, a cleaner forensic analysis can be done.

News Around the Globe

GC/MS/MS Speed, Sensitivity, and Selectivity Beyond Comparison
Triple quadrupole GC/MS/MS has emerged as a powerful technique for trace-level analysis of drug residues. Shimadzu's GCMS-TQ8030, providing exceptional sensitivity, selectivity, and specificity for detection and quantitation of targeted drugs in the presence of background interferences, is the most powerful choice for your toxicological applications.

Key features include:
- MRM and simultaneous Scan/MRM acquisition modes
- Ultrafast 600 MRM transitions/sec
- True scan speed of 20,000 u/sec
- Fully optimized collision energy for each MRM transition
- Single software platform for all Shimadzu GCMS
- Front-access source for easy maintenance

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

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

Bode's solutions include BodeDirect™
Regional forensic center to cost $5.25 million
Lebanon Democrat
The cost of a regional forensic center is expected to be $5.25 million, according to a Knox County official.

DNA sampling rule considered for sea burials
BBC News
Taking DNA samples from bodies to be buried at sea could become a legal requirement, in a move being considered by the government.

Idaho appellate court upholds drug conviction
San Francisco Chronicle
But in 2011, he received a letter indicating that the Idaho State Police had just discovered misconduct occurred at the forensic laboratory that tested ...

New Kiwi crime tool unravels mixed DNA
Southland Times
A shoe found at the scene contained a mixture of his DNA and another ... in collaboration with Duncan Taylor from Forensic Science South Australia, ...

More than 5000 previously untested rape kits submitted to Ohio DNA ...
Toledo Blade
Attorney General Mike DeWine says Ohio's crime lab has received more than 5,000 previously untested rape kits as it searches for ...

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

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 Outsourcing and Same-Day DNA Service™, and the Bode Buccal DNA Collector™, a direct collection system, reduces processing time, saving money for crime laboratories.

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.
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 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

Employment Opportunities

Computer Forensics Investigation Specialist, City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City, Expires: January 10, 2014
Supervisor of Forensic Services – Firearms, New York State Police, Albany, NY, Expires: January 21, 2014
DNA Analyst II, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, TX, Expires: January 31, 2014
Latent Print Examiner II, City of Oakland, Oakland, CA, Expires: January 24, 2014
Quality Assurance and Technical Manager – Toxicology, Ontario Public Service, Toronto, ON, Expires: January 6, 2014
Latent Print Examiner Supervisor, Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Orlando, FL, Expires: March 4, 2014
Information Technology Specialist (LIMS), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: February 24, 2014
Firearms Examiner, Dallas County Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences, Dallas, TX, Expires: February 26, 2014
Forensic Toxicologist or Trainee, Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Norfolk, VA, Expires: January 6, 2014
Assistant Professor, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, Expires: January 31, 2014
Chairperson, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Expires: February 18, 2014
Forensic DNA Analyst, Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, UT, Expires: January 11, 2014
Criminalistics Manager, Police Laboratory, NYPD, New York, NY, Expires: January 6, 2014
Manager – Case Management, Training and Professional Development Section, NYPD, New York, NY, Expires: January 6, 2014
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 (https://www.forensiced.org/training/clestates.cfm?cid=1128152721).

**Conferences**


April 6 -14, 2014: International International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Newport, CA. See http://www.iactonline.org/ for more information.


