

March 17, 2014



American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

General Announcements

President's Message

ASCLD 2014 Guidebook is now ready for download –

To get the app either...

- Open up your device's web browser and visit guidebook.com/getit
- Search for 'Guidebook' in the Apple, Google, or Amazon app stores
- In the 'Guidebook' App, search for ASCLD. We'll be there!

The feedback from last year's symposium was very positive and from all indications this App will be how we continue to distribute schedule updates, plenary session handouts and solicit feedback throughout the conference. I would encourage all members to download the App and participate.

Closing out the ASCLD Backlog Webinar Series -

The archival version for webinar #7, "**Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management**" is now available at [ASCLD Webinar #7](#). This webinar was the final in the ASCLD series "*Confronting Crime Laboratory Backlogs: Causes, Solutions, Expectations*" and features a Q&A session with the webinar series team of presenters, Brian Gestring, Dr. Cecelia Crouse, John Collins and Adam Becnel. We appreciate any feedback on the production of the webinar series or other topics of interest to feature in future ASCLD webinars. Feedback and/or questions reference any of the topics presented in the series can be directed to ASCLD President Jay Henry at jhenry@utah.gov.



Registration for the 2014 ASCLD Symposium is open at www.asclد.org. The theme of this year's meeting is 'The Efficiency of Quality'. The scheduled workshops and talks offer something for individuals at every level of crime lab management. You can pay registration fees online via Paypal after using the new online form or print out a registration form to send in to the ASCLD office with credit card information. **Submit your registration and payments before April 8, 2014 to avoid increased registration fees.**

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.

Please note that archival versions of all seven webinars in this series and certificates of attendance can be downloaded for free by accessing the archival links located on the ASCLD website under Jobs & Training, Training Opportunities tab. Webinar handouts and other reference documents, such as an example of a performance metrics spreadsheet, can be downloaded by clicking on the reference documents tab at the start of each webinar. If you need technical assistance in accessing archived webinars, please email Cameron Johnson at RTI customer service at cfs-forensic-ed@rti.org.

A special note: ASCLD is grateful to RTI International for their generous sponsorship of our programs. RTI staff provided free access to the series via their Adobe Connect platform as well as valuable moderator, technical and other administrative assistance in support of ASCLD's important goals to; 1) advance practices that strengthen crime laboratory operations and 2) support our leaders through access to the tools they need to excel in Forensic Science management. We hope that you will visit the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence booth at the 41st Annual ASCLD Symposium in Scottsdale, AZ to say hello to Erica Fornaro, Cameron Johnson, Josh Vickers and the rest of the RTI team and let them know how much we appreciate their service! Registration information for the symposium can be found at www.ASCLD.org.

And a message from our friends at RTI...

NIJ's Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE) has recently released two technology transition work products for the community that are now posted at the following links below provided for your convenience. To learn more about the FTCoE's mission, partner organizations or current federally funded projects, please visit www.forensicCOE.org. [Landscape Study of Mobile ID Fingerprint Devices](#) This FTCoE report provides a "landscape" view of the issues and products associated with mobile devices for fingerprint identification, with a focus on forensic applications. The document is intended to furnish laboratory managers and investigators with a survey of current commercially available products. In addition, the report provides decision makers and potential end users with use examples that illustrate successful adoption; issues to consider related to

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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.

implementation of mobile ID devices; and a snapshot of current mobile ID technologies. Upon review, the reader may better understand whether mobile ID devices can benefit his or her organization and how to proceed with selecting a platform and implementing use.

[Technical Evaluation of Magneto-optical Sensor Technology](#)

The discovery of more effective methods to detect and restore erased markings in firearms is of great interest to firearm examiners, in particular the invention of new nondestructive methods. Magneto optical (MO) sensor technology may address this need. In this FTCoE project, MO sensor technology was evaluated for the detection and visualization of obliterated serial numbers in five different metals and one composite material. Technical performance factors included MO sensor sensitivity (detection limit), accuracy, reproducibility, recovery, and selectivity. Non-technical performance factors included sample preparation, system operation, sample processing, worker safety, and cost.

ASCLD Annual Meeting

In case you haven't heard, 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.asclد.org

We all look forward to seeing you in May!

Uncle ASCLD still needs you!!

We have three ASCLD Board of Director positions to fill in May and we would like interested members to consider running. It's an amazing opportunity to serve and I promise that it will change and enhance your professional views of our field forever. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone, please contact Nomination & Award Committee Chair Sabrina Cillessen at sabrina.cillessen@dfs.virginia.gov.

Jay Henry

Bode's solutions include [BodeDirect™](#), [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.



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This Week's Forensic Metric: \$54.00

The median **cost** for a case in the investigative area of **DNA Database**. 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.

News Around the Globe

[Analyzing the causes of accidents and deaths](#)

Huntsville Item

As a toxicology chemist, it is her job to determine if drugs, alcohol, poison or other chemicals led to deaths or accidents by analyzing samples in the ...

[UNH forensic scientist targets worldwide sex trafficking through DNA](#)

New Haven Register

Timothy M. Palmbach, University of New Haven Chair & Associate Professor of the Forensic Science Department ...

[Lack of forensic labs: court notice to state](#)

Hindustan Times

The Punjab and Haryana high court has taken suo-motu notice of the lack of forensic science laboratories in Punjab because of which drug accused ...

[Assembly votes to limit DNA collection](#)

SFGate

The DNA collected would go straight to the state crime lab, rather than be kept by local police. The Department of Justice would not be allowed to ...

[Mugshots built from DNA data](#) [Nature.com](#)



WVU Center for Executive Education offers unique customized programs for forensic professionals interested in improving their individual and organizational knowledge of contemporary business practices.

Registration is now open for the 2014 Forensic Management Academy, a unique one-week management program geared specifically to current and aspiring forensic laboratory managers, law enforcement professionals and other forensic service providers. Instructors include forensic practitioners and college professors experienced in the field of forensics. The program will be offered September 14 – 19, 2014 in Morgantown, WV on the WVU campus. Please visit our website at <http://www.be.wvu.edu/execed/fma> for more information and to register.

Employment Opportunities

[Firearms Section Supervisor](#), Texas DPS Crime Laboratory – Austin, Austin, Texas, Expires: April 3, 2014

- [Crime Scene Investigator](#), Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Criminalistics Laboratory, Olathe, Kansas, Expires: June 20, 2014
- [Sheriff's Supervising Forensic Scientist \(Firearms and Toolmark\)](#), Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura, CA, Expires: June 17, 2014
- [Forensic Biostatistician](#), Office of Chief Medical Examiner, New York, NY, Expires: April 30, 2014
- [Senior Fingerprint Specialist](#), Internal

But the complex structure of the face makes it more valuable as a forensic tool — and more difficult to connect to genetic variation, says anthropologist ...

[Iteam: How crime lab tests Synthetic Marijuana's legality - WAFB 9 News Baton Rouge, Louisiana ... WAFB.com](#)

Once law enforcement confiscates Synthetic Pot, it's then taken to the State Police Crime Lab to be tested for whether the ingredients are legal or ...

[California DNA collection law upheld](#)

San Jose Mercury News

Anyone arrested for a felony in California can now expect both an unpleasant trip to jail and a demand for a sample of their precious DNA.

[Cutting-Edge Forensics Lab Debuts at GW](#)

W*USA 9

A cutting-edge forensics lab debuted at George Washington University. ... Weedn, chair of the Forensic Sciences Department at GWU, told WUSA9.

[Computer forensics examiner Christi Winters brings Multnomah County's court-ordered supervision ...](#)

The Oregonian

Computer forensic examiner Christi Winters looks at a cell phone and sees a ... Her lab, a windowless, fluorescent-lit room stacked floor-to-ceiling with ...

[Drug overdose prevention bill clears committee](#)

[Philly.com](#) (blog)

Legislation aimed at preventing overdose deaths by ensuring that police, firefighters and others have access to a drug that can halt the overdose ...

[Appeals Court to Weigh Value of Forensic Evidence](#)

Texas Tribune

Texas' highest criminal court will hear arguments Wednesday in a case that could affect how evolving scientific evidence is used in courtrooms across ...

Revenue Service, Chicago, IL, Expires: March 28, 2014

- [DNA Analyst](#), Indian River Crime Laboratory, Fort Pierce, Florida, Expires: June 12, 2014

- [Asst/Assoc/Full Professor, Forensic Science](#), UIC, Chicago, IL, Expires: May 2, 2014

- [Section Supervisor Regional Laboratories \(DNA\), Corpus Christi](#), Texas Department of Public Safety, Corpus Christi, Texas, Expires: April 25, 2014

- [Forensic Advisor/Instructor](#), Engility Corporation, Algiers, Algeria, Expires: April 7, 2014

- [Forensic Lab Manager](#), Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab, Lincoln, NE, Expires: March 31, 2014

- [Forensic Scientist – Latent Prints](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: May 27, 2014

- [Forensic Scientist III – DNA](#), Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage, Expires: March 24, 2014

- [DNA Analyst III/Serologist/DNA Operations Tech.](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensic Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014

- [DNA Analyst III](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensic Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014

- [DNA Analyst I DNA Operations Mgr.](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensic Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014

- [Forensic Manager Biology/DNA](#), LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: April 10, 2014

- [Forensic Scientist – Firearms and Toolmarks](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: May 5, 2014

- [Latent Print Examiner Supervisor](#), Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, Florida, Expires: May 2, 2014

- [DNA Criminalist II](#), County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino, CA, Expires: March 31, 2014

Conferences

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

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](#)

Webinar #5: [Efficiency Improvements](#)

Webinar #6: [Increasing Your Staff without Increasing Your Budget](#)

Webinar #7: [Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management](#)
2014 Spring Essentials of Forensic Science for Legal Professionals Program

Where: West Virginia University Downtown Campus, Morgantown, WV

When: March 11 – 12, 2014

The Forensic Science Initiative, in collaboration with the National Institute of Justice, is holding the 4th and final **FREE 2014 Spring Essentials of Forensic Science for Legal Professionals** program. The two day program will provide the basic precepts of forensic science training and supply the tools to effectively apply this information for trial to members of the legal community. Members of the academic community, lab personnel, and legal professionals will instruct and apply practical examples to the content presented. This is an excellent opportunity for the legal community to broaden their knowledge of important forensic science topics while also receiving continuing legal education.

Some topics include:

Relevant Questions to the Interpretation of Physical Evidence

Anatomy of a Wrongful Arson Conviction

Bias in Forensic Science Evidence

Frye, Daubert, and Their Application to Current Issues in Forensic Science

Basic Statistical Concepts in Forensics and many more!

To find out more information, visit

<http://fsi.research.wvu.edu>.

[ASCLD-LAB Training](#) Training classes to help forensic laboratory personnel understand the requirements

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

May 4-8, 2014: ASCLD Symposium at the Doubletree Resort, Paradise Valley in Scottsdale, AZ. See <http://www.asclid.org/meetings-list/> for more information.

May 11-16, 2014: Association of Firearm and Toolmark Examiners in Seattle, WA. See <http://www.afte.org/TrainingSeminar/AFTE2014/announcements/afte2014.htm> for more information.

May 19-22, 2014: [13th Annual DNA Technical Workshop – Bode East](#) in Lake Buena Vista, FL.

May 19-23, 2014 Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists in State College, PA. See <http://www.maafs.org/#!annual-meeting> for more information.

May 21-23, 2014 European Conference on Child Abuse (EUCCAN) in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. See <http://www.euccan.eu/en/> for more information.

August 10-16, 2014: International Association for Identification in Minneapolis, MN. See <http://www.theiai.org/conference/2014/index.php> for more information.

August 31 – September 4, 2014: 22nd International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences in Adelaide, South Australia. See <http://anzfss.org.au/international-symposium/> for more information.

October 4-10, 2014: Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists in St. Paul, MN. See <http://www.mafs.net/news-feeds-1/mafs-2014> for more information.

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 (<https://www.forensiced.org/training/clestates.cfm?cid=1128152721>).

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

October 13-18, 2014: World Forensic Festival in Seoul, South Korea. See <http://www.wff2014korea.org/info/index.php> for more information.

October 14-17, 2014: Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers in Vancouver, B.C. See <http://afqam.org/wp12/annual-training-conference/> for more information.

October 19-24, 2014: Society of Forensic Toxicologists in Grand Rapids, MI. See <http://www.soft-tox.org> for more information.

October 20-24, 2014: Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists in Rohnert Park, CA. See <http://www.nwafs.org/meetings.htm> for more information.

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

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.