

July 7, 2014



General Announcements

President's Message

Dear Colleagues:

Forensic Science Week

I hope everyone had a great Fourth of July! As a reminder, we have less than five weeks until the observance of forensic science week. I hope all ASCLD members are making plans to recognize national forensic science week! To further assist the membership, the forensic science week team has created a centralized website for all participants to gather information and post their ideas and successes. Take a moment and check out this great resource. We would also like for members to email us at forensicscienceweek@gmail.com if you have news articles published, any lab videos (recruitment videos, general information, etc.) or events that we can add to the website. Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to raise awareness of the great work that you do for the public.

www.forensicscienceweek.org

Have a good week,

Brady Mills
ASCLD President

Vendor Sponsors



The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis (CAFDA) is pleased to announce the [Genome ID Forum 2014 - Emerging Forensic Genomic Applications](#); a conference to take place on September 9 and 10 at the Hilton Greenville, North Carolina. Genome ID Forum brings together thought leaders from forensic science, research, academia, law and technology development for an open on-going dialogue regarding emerging science, technology applications and adoption by the forensic community. The program includes **Dr. Sandra Close (Kirkwood)**, Chief Science Officer, The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis speaking on "*High-Density SNP Array Technology Applied to Forensic Casework*". To foster open discussions, space is limited. [Click Here to Register for Genome ID Forum 2014.](#)



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DNA Mixture Interpretation Study

The ASCLD Forensic Research Committee supports the NIJ-funded DNA Mixture Interpretation Study coordinated by the Defense Forensics and Biometrics Agency and all interested laboratories are encouraged to participate. The purpose of this study is determine the variation that occurs in interpretation of DNA mixtures in 2-, 3-, and 4-person mixtures. Variations in allele calls will be evaluated intra- and inter-laboratory and allele calls will be evaluated both pre- and post-technical review. Participants will analyze five DNA mixture datasets that vary in the number of contributors and contributor ratios. Interpretations will be made using the laboratory's Standard Operating Procedures but with the thresholds provided based on the validation of the instrumentation used to generate the data set. Participants will receive the data in the form of .fsa files. The study will use quantifiable metrics to evaluate the participant's ability to identify the number of contributors, estimate the ratio of mixture components, evaluate the accuracy of the allele calls in each mixture, and examine the variations in the final statistics generated for the reported interpretations. The study is designed to take no more than 4 hours. Currently, eleven labs are participating.

To sign up, please email Roman Aranda at roman.aranda3.ctr@mail.mil. Please use "DNA Mixture Interpretation Study" in the subject line. Registration closes July 21, 2014 and all results must be returned by August 22, 2014.

News Around the Globe

[Editorial: Connecticut forensic lab finally on right track](#)

New Haven Register

Editorial: Connecticut forensic lab finally on right track. In this April 15 file photo, Mark Desire, right, assistant director for forensic biology at the Office of ...

[King: Closing city's crime lab would do wonders for all](#)

Houston Chronicle

Bill King says that with its perpetual ineptitude, the Houston crime lab ought to be shuttered once and for all, putting officers back on the streets.

[Forensic science council proposed by police](#)

The Nation

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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.

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

The Royal Thai Police (RTP) may propose the setting up of a forensic science council, to curb criticism that police may tamper with evidence to aid ...

[New DNA checks on untested Ohio rape kits have found almost 1500 hits, official says](#)

Greenfield Daily Reporter

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio's attorney general says an initiative to test previously untested rape kits has led to almost 1,500 hits to DNA profiles in a law ...

[Drug traffic avoiding Ohio](#)

LimaOhio.com

Drug seizures in the first five months dropped in almost every category except marijuana, where the amount taken from traffickers jumped 66 percent, ...

[CONNECTS AGAINST CRIME: DNA Database Expansion](#)

KGAN TV

Previously, the law said DNA samples could only be collected from convicted ... Back in February, we took you to the DNA Crime Lab in Ankeny, where ...

[David Cameron in talks with EU leaders over international DNA database](#)

The Guardian

David Cameron has been involved in talks with EU leaders over increasing cooperation for policing. Photograph: Alain Jocard/AFP/Getty Images.

[BHU introduces PG course in forensic science from this session](#)

Times of India

He said that many parts of the country lack forensic laboratories and evidence therefore gets mishandled or destroyed due to unskilled people

[Matthew T. Mangino: DNA transference under scrutiny in criminal prosecutions](#)

Hannibal.net

When DNA comes up in a criminal investigation, people listen. DNA is "the gold standard" of forensic science, nearly beyond question when it comes ...

[Despite backlog, crime lab unlikely to get funding boost](#)

WRAL.com

Raleigh, N.C. — Major backlogs in the State Crime Lab keep growing because of a shortage of DNA analysts and scientists who test blood in drunken ...

[ASU forensic's receives grant for cell research](#)

WSFA

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

This is the first grant to be secured by ASU's forensic science program which will allow undergraduate and graduate students to be actively involved in ...

[Brianna's Law, or DNA testing for felony arrests, begins in Nevada](#)

Reno Gazette Journal (blog)

The Washoe Crime Lab will hire two new people to deal with the DNA testing, said Washoe Forensic Science Division Director Renee Romero.

[Westmoreland drug deaths outpace 2013's record rate](#)

Tribune-Review

Since 2002, drug overdose fatalities have increased 355 percent, according to the Westmoreland County Drug Overdose Task Force. • The state ...

[House OKs remote testimony, but no funding](#)

WRAL.com

Raleigh, N.C. — House lawmakers gave final approval Monday to a measure that would allow state crime lab analysts to testify via videoconferencing.

[Synthetic marijuana use increasing in Baton Rouge](#)

SFGate

At the State Police Crime Lab, synthetic marijuana — called cannabinoids — will surpass cocaine in the evidence submitted for testing as part of law ...

[Iowa to expand DNA collection from criminals](#)

Quad City Times

However, a civil liberties advocate calls the collection of DNA from people who ... A "forensic sample" is defined as a biological sample originating from ...

[MTSU Senior SURFs Into Summer Research to Prep for Forensic Science Career](#)

WMOT

Dr. Alicja Lanfear, the postdoctoral research assistant for MTSU's Forensic Institute ... "My long-term career goal is to work for the FBI as a DNA analyst.

[Drug ban to have little impact on synthetic cannabinoids, council says](#)

ABC Online

The principal advisory council on drugs says WA's decision to name more psychoactive substances in the Poisons Act will not have much effect

[Nasty Corpse Smell Can Reveal Secrets](#)

Newser

They want to create a kit "so that within two hours any crime lab or medical ... (For more, read about a forensic expert's "secret fluid" for identifying ...

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.



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Employment Opportunities

[Forensic Scientist I or II](#), LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: September 3, 2014

[New York Times: Rape evidence backlog](#)

Salt Lake Tribune

Experts say the number of kits awaiting analysis and entry of the DNA profiles ... some of them a decade old, were discovered at the Detroit crime lab.

Training

George Mason University's Office of Continuing Professional Education in Virginia is hosting a 2-day seminar:

Sexually Violent Crime: The Body as Evidence
Taught by Dr. Henry Lee and Dr. Leah Bush
November 3-4, 2014

Sexually violent crime continues to challenge investigators and concern the general public. It has been estimated that every two minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. In many cases, sexual assault results in homicide. Dr. Henry Lee and Dr. Leah Bush, two of the country's top forensic scientists, will share their individual and collective expertise to help the participants understand the importance of the body as evidence as it relates to sexually violent crimes.

Please visit our course page at

http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold_case.php for more information on this exciting opportunity to learn from two of the top forensic scientists in the country!

Forensic and Investigative Science Outreach is pleased to provide quality, continuing education courses for forensic professionals. We would like to announce several on-site courses which will be offered for FREE at West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia. Please feel free to visit our [website](#) for additional registration information and to share this information with other interested individuals.

Continuing Education Courses – Summer 2014

Blood Presumptive Testing and Enhancement

This course will cover the medium of blood, precautions to take for personal protection, packaging concerns, and the importance of controls. It is intended for the beginning crime scene investigator, seasoned investigators wishing to

[Forensic Scientist III](#), Scottsdale Police Department, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: July 20, 2014

[Forensic Scientist III](#), Scottsdale Police Department, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: July 20, 2014

[Forensic Scientist-Chemistry](#), Justice, Missoula, MT, Expires: July 25, 2014

[Latent Print Examiner](#), Idaho State Police, Meridian, Idaho, Expires: July 11, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: August 31, 2014

[DNA Technical Leader](#), Idaho State Police, Meridian, Idaho, Expires: July 9, 2014

[Impressions Examiner](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: July 9, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Latent Print Examiner](#), DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: July 25, 2014

[Deputy Director Toxicology, Controlled Substance and Chemistry](#), Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Meriden, Connecticut, Expires: July 11, 2014

[Forensic Scientist](#), Fort Worth Police Department, Fort Worth, Texas, Expires: August 30, 2014

[Firearms Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science LGC, INC., Houston, TX, Expires: August 12, 2014

[Lead Forensic Scientist \(DNA\)](#), DC Government/Department of Forensic

review and practice these techniques, and patrol officers with secondary duties at the crime scene. Following the lecture portion, the remainder of the class will be hands on using techniques such as phenolphthalein, BlueStar, Amido Black, and Acid Yellow 7.

Dates: July 10-11, 2014

Instructor: Kelly Ayers, MS, CSCSA

Location: WVU Crime Scene Complex- Evansdale Campus

Identification of Natural and Man-made Fibers

This course will introduce students on how to identify natural and man-made fibers. The course will cover background information on fibers, the difference between natural and man-made fibers, polarizing light microscopy, thermal microscopy, and FTIR. Students will then gain hands on experience looking at both natural and man-made fibers under the microscopy and analyzing them using thermal microscopy and FTIR. Students will also be introduced to the notions on evidence interpretation as well as the Bayesian approach.

Dates: July 15-17, 2014

Instructor: Patrick Buzzini, PhD

Location: Oglebay Hall- Downtown Campus

Forensic GC/MS Workshop

Attendees will develop the ability to understand, carry out, and interpret mass spectrometric analyses in a crime laboratory setting. Attendees will also learn how to maintain and troubleshoot common problems with instrumentation. This course is geared toward those with solid scientific or technical background.

Dates: July 15-17, 2014

Instructor: Patrick Buzzini, PhD

Location: Oglebay Hall- Downtown Campus

Characterization and Comparison of Dyed Fibers

This course will introduce students to the forensic examination of dyed fiber evidence. The course will cover background information on dyed fibers, polarizing light microscopy, comparison microscopy, dichorism, Raman spectroscopy, Microspectrophotometry and Thin Layer

Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: July 31, 2014

[Forensic Scientist \(Crime Scene\)](#), DC Government, Washington, DC, Expires: July 17, 2014

[Forensic Scientist 3](#), Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory, Nashville, TN, Expires: July 14, 2014

[Forensic Scientist 2- Drug Unit](#), Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory Division, Nashville, TN, Expires: July 14, 2014

Conferences

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

August 11-15, 2014: The [2014 Annual General Meeting](#) of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE) will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii. The meeting will be a joint meeting with the [Australasian Society of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc.](#)

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

September 9-10, 2014: Emerging Forensic Genomic Applications – genomeID forum In Greenville, NC. See www.advancedforensicdna.com/corporate/snpforum/ for more information.

September 23-26, 2014: [Southern Association Forensic Scientist](#)

Chromatography (TLC). Students will then gain hands on experience looking at dyed fibers under the microscope and analyzing them using, Raman spectroscopy, Microspectrophotometry, and Thin Layer Chromatography. Students will also be introduced to the notions on evidence interpretation as well as the Bayesian approach.

Dates: July 22-24, 2014

Instructor: Patrick Buzzini, PhD

Location: Oglebay Hall- Downtown Campus

Introduction to Firearm Examination

This training course will cover the basic duties and necessary knowledge for firearm examiners. Hands-on examination of firearm components along with microscopic comparisons and firearm classification will be discussed and demonstrated. This course will give students a basic understanding of firearm examination techniques and as well as a list of reliable resources to use in a laboratory setting.

Crime scene investigators, evidence technicians and novice firearm examiners who wish to enhance the student's understanding of firearm examinations are encouraged to register for this course.

Dates: July 28-30, 2014

Instructor: Keith Morris, PhD

Location: Oglebay Hall- Downtown Campus

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](#)

[\(SAFS\) Annual 2014 Meeting](#) in Savannah, GA.

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.

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 19-23, 2014: [36th Annual Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists \(SWAFS\)](#) in South Padre Island, TX.

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

November 3-6, 2014: [Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientist \(NEAFS\) Annual Meeting](#) in Hershey, PA.

February 16-21, 2015: [AAFS 67th Annual Scientific Meeting](#) in Orlando, FL

[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=fd2f9c6-4d9e-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

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.

[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.

[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.