

July 21, 2014



American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

General Announcements

President's Message

Dear Colleagues:

I'm pleased to announce that the ASCLD Scholarship Committee recommended \$1000 awards to two students: Anastasia Brown and Katelyn Jackson. Both Anastasia and Katelyn are attending forensic science programs in Texas. These students successfully competed with a pool of other well qualified applicants. Each will receive a check for \$1000 that can be used for the upcoming 2014/2015 school year. Congratulations Anastasia and Katelyn!

A special thanks to ASCLD member Tracy Birch and her fellow committee members for reviewing all of the exceptionally qualified students and their application materials.

CSFO has joined the social media world and is now on Twitter! ASCLD and CSFO have both started using Twitter to keep all of our stakeholders, media, legislative offices, and members informed. CSFO can be followed at @CFSO1 and ASCLD can be followed at @ascl_ (with the underscore).

Forensic Science Week is coming up fast. Take a moment and check out the website. This truly is a great opportunity to raise awareness of the great work that you do for the public.

www.forensicscienceweek.org

Brady Mills
ASCLD President

DNA Mixture Interpretation Study

The ASCLD Forensic Research Committee supports the NIJ-funded DNA Mixture Interpretation Study coordinated

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. Roundtable Discussions led by each day's speakers and other invited guests will provide a meaningful exchange of ideas and include **Dr. Bruce Budowle**, Executive Director of Institute of Applied Genetics; University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth TX. To foster open discussions, space is limited. [Click Here to Register for Genome ID Forum 2014.](#)



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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 **August 29, 2014** with all data to be returned to Dr. Aranda by September 29, 2014.

News Around the Globe

[Catching Up: New criminal forensics laboratory rapidly rising](#)

Shreveport Times

The fast-rising North Louisiana Forensic Science Center on Linwood Avenue not far from University Health. / John Andrew Prime/The Times ...

[24 DNA matches found in newly tested rape kits](#)

The Denver Channel

DENVER - One year after the implementation of a new law prompted by a CALL7 Investigation, officials say they have already found DNA matches by ...

[Marshall University Forensic Science Graduate Program again ranks number one in the nation on ...](#)

HNN Huntingtonnews.net

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- Front-access source for easy maintenance

Learn more. Visit

<http://www.ssi.shimadzu.com/ASCLD>



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

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. - The Marshall University Forensic Science Graduate Program once again ranked number one in the country for its students ...

[Toxicology test backlog delays New Mexico death investigations](#)

KFDA

Albuquerque, N.M. - A New Mexico laboratory battles death investigation delays during a spike in the number of toxicology tests it handles.

[New forensic techniques leads to child sex charges](#)

Sydney Morning Herald

WA Police have charged a Wanneroo man over the sexual assault of a child eight years ago after advanced new forensic techniques identified a new ...

[Small Delaware County Crime Lab Known For Helping Solve Cases Quickly](#)

10TV

10TV's Kevin Landers went to one of the most unique crime labs in the state, where cases are getting cleared faster than most departments twice its ...

[Letter: \\$20M for new crime lab's criminal](#)

Newsday

Can someone explain to me why we are spending \$20 million in Nassau for a new crime lab ["\$20M for new crime lab," News, July 15]? The reason ...

[UT Dallas brings forensic science to Carrollton Library](#)

Star Local Media

UT Dallas' Science and Engineering Education Center was started to show off science to young kids around the Metroplex. That includes Carrollton ...

[US meeting on alternative toxicological methods](#)

Chemical Watch (subscription)

The US National Toxicology Program's Scientific Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods (SACATM) will hold its next meeting in ...

[Deputies Seeing Success in Latest Crime Lab Technologies](#)

Patch.com

The expedited latent fingerprint program gets results to detectives fast and ... Fingerprint technician Sharona Kay has had a tremendous amount of ...

[Report: 'Irreversible harm' when FBI didn't reveal flawed lab work in death-row cases](#)

Washington Post

In a scathing report that shed new light on one of the FBI lab's worst modern scandals, ... Problems at the FBI lab first surfaced in the early 1990s, when ... that sloppy work by examiners was producing unreliable forensic testimony.

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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.

[Long Island company awarded \\$20.7M contract to build new Nassau crime lab](#)

Greenfield Daily Reporter

SYOSSET, New York — A Syosset, Long Island, company has been awarded a \$20.7 million contract to build a new Nassau County crime lab.

[Coroner: 'Synthetic marijuana' is no longer similar to marijuana](#)

The Advocate

Synthetic marijuana was first submitted to the State Police Crime Lab in Baton Rouge in January 2010, the lab's toxicology and drug manager said.

[Forensic Program Helps North County Abuse Survivors](#)

KPBS

Above: The forensic health program at Escondido's Palomar Hospital ... "This is a sample package that we receive from the crime lab that has the ...

[Police storing DNA samples of children as young as 10](#)

Herald Scotland

Scottish LibDems justice spokeswoman Alison McInnes MSP described the sharp increase as "sobering" and called for increased regulation of DNA ..

[City to try regional lab for faster crime analysis](#)

Evanston Review

Facing lengthy backups on evidence analysis presented to the state crime laboratory, Evanston police are turning to a regional crime lab where results ...

[Editorial: Work still needed to reduce backlogs in criminal cases](#)

Huntington Herald Dispatch

On television police dramas, lab experts and medical examiners often move more quickly than the detectives to solve the crime. But in the real world, ...

[Vermont Supreme Court overturns state law on DNA collection](#)

Bennington Banner

The Vermont Supreme Court on Friday overturned a state law allowing DNA samples to be taken from suspects accused of a felony. In a 3-2 decision, ...

[Students learn about forensic anthropology](#)

Journal-Advocate

Jeff Schiel, anthropology and sociology professor at NJC, holds up two skulls as he talks about the different things you can tell about a person from ...

[State needs to address lag in DNA testing](#)

Asheville Citizen-Times

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.



Forensic Magazine® is the leading source of information on all aspects of forensic science technology, trends, equipment, services, and laboratory design. In every issue, Forensic Magazine® provides professionals working in forensic laboratories and crime scene investigation with the news and technical information they need—both in the lab and in the field. Forensic Magazine® covers forensics from evidence collection through processing, analysis, storage, and more. Forensic Magazine® features the latest technology, applications, and information for forensic scientists, crime scene investigators, and forensic specialists. Free subscriptions for the print/digital magazine and daily electronic newsletter are available at www.forensicmag.com

Employment Opportunities

[Forensic Science Services](#)

[Administrator](#), city of Long Beach, Long Beach, California, Expires: August 1, 2014

DNA evidence from Christopher's apartment may not be available until ... That "something" is a crime lab in Western North Carolina equipped to do DNA ... to salary increases for crime lab forensic scientists would likely have closed ...

[Integrating LIMS and evidence management](#)

Officer.com

Even though many crime labs have a LIMS in place, they are still faced with the disconnect that exists between their LIMS and the law enforcement ...

[Socks, Styrofoam cups some of the odd objects helping police crack cases](#)

wtkr.com

Since police didn't have a suspect in the case, scientists at the crime lab turned to the State of Virginia's large DNA databank to try to find the culprit.

[New state DNA law could help wrongly convicted](#)

Jackson Clarion Ledger

DNA collections from individuals arrested for violent crime could help solve crime and it could exonerate those wrongly convicted. ... would support increasing the budget of the Mississippi Crime Lab to help with the implementation.

[New division of forensic sciences will work to regain trust](#)

WDEL 1150AM

The Medical Examiner's office has been abolished, and a new division of forensic sciences that falls under Schiliro's department will take over.

[New State Police Forensics Lab Director appointed](#)

Bay Net

Facilities include the 68,000 square feet crime laboratory in Pikesville and two satellite labs in Berlin and Hagerstown. The State Police lab is ..

[New technology makes it easier to find criminals](#)

KHON2

Inside the New York Police Department's closely-guarded forensic crime lab, better development techniques in the fingerprinting field show detectives ..

[Criminalist I – Firearms](#), Oakland Police Department, Oakland, CA, Expires: August 8, 2014

[Criminalist II Firearms Examiner Specialty](#), Oakland Police Department, Oakland, CA, Expires: August 8, 2014

[Crime Scene Investigator](#), Independence Mo Police Dept., Independence, Missouri, Expires: July 25, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Toxicology](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: August 4, 2014

[DME Section Supervisor I](#), Texas DPS, Austin Texas, Expires: July 21, 2014

[Forensic Analyst – Biology-DNA](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30, 2014

[Latent Print Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30, 2014

[Quality Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30, 2014

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

[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

Training

A2LA courses are designed with forensic professionals in mind, including a new courses to be hosted in Minnesota this September on ISO/IEC

17025 and 17020. See the below link for a full listing with dates and topics.

http://www.a2la.org/training/course_schedule.cfm

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
October 27-28, 2014, Worcester, MA

- 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.

[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*.

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

[Forensic Scientist – Latent Print Examiner](#), DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: July 25, 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 Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: July 31, 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

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

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 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.

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

September 23-26, 2014: [Southern Association Forensic Scientist \(SAFS\) 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

Dates: July 22-24, 2014
Instructor: Patrick Buzzini, PhD
Location: Oglebay Hall- Downtown Campus

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

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

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

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](#)

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>).