

July 28, 2014



American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

General Announcements

President's Message

Dear Colleagues:

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has posted a new grant solicitation for state and local forensic crime laboratories. The NIJ is soliciting applications for funding for research studies to produce practicable knowledge that has the potential to improve the examination of physical evidence in forensic science laboratories. Additional information can be found at the website below.

<https://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl001113.pdf>

Brady Mills
ASCLD President

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

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. John M. Butler](#), Special Assistant to the Director for Forensic Science, NIST speaking on ["National Commission on Forensic Science and OSAC Update and Roads for Advanced Technologies Adoption"](#). To foster open discussions, space is limited. [Click Here to Register for Genome ID Forum 2014.](#)



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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.

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

News Around the Globe

[Pa. considers expanding DNA testing to suspects](#)

Newsworks.org

Mary Wilson is the state capitol reporter for Pennsylvania's public radio stations, including WITF in Harrisburg, WHYY in Philadelphia and WESA in ...

[Thumbs up: Success of forensic science program reflects well on MU](#)

Huntington Herald Dispatch

Marshall's Forensic Science Graduate Program announced this week that the ... Observers involved in the ranking of forensic science programs give ... students the opportunity to work with a federal DNA lab's forensic scientists and ...

[Pasadena Police Crime Lab receives recognition](#)

Your Houston News

... Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) in the forensic disciplines of Forensic Biology, Toxicology, Drug Chemistry ...

[Lake County Crime Lab gets international honor](#)

News-Herald.com

The Painesville Township-based lab has received international re-accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory ...

[York County DNA lab to help ease backlog](#)

The Herald | HeraldOnline.com

The lab was recently accredited by Forensic Quality Services, the nation's longest established accrediting body for forensic laboratories.

[New DNA crime fighting tool in the District](#)



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.

MyFox Washington DC

The District of Columbia is about to become the first city in the nation to use a revolutionary new crime fighting tool. It is a lab device that can analyze ...

Dead body feeding larvae useful in forensic investigations

Phys.Org

... through generation of DNA barcoding. This study, significant in forensic investigations was published in the open access Biodiversity Data Journal.

Special honor for troubled state crime lab

WNCT

North Carolina's crime lab is now the only system in the country to obtain ... The lab received a certificate Tuesday for forensic labs that follow high ...

Cleveland's last backlogged rape kits to be tested

seattlepi.com

... assault evidence and sent the last of nearly 4,000 rape kits to a state crime lab, though it could take another year before the testing is complete.

York Co. Sheriff's Office DNA lab earns inaugural accreditation

News Talk 94.3 WRHI

The laboratory received from Forensic Quality Services that it has achieved ... the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards Assessment for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories, ... said Cristy Kissel, DNA Technical Leader for the Laboratory.

Pasadena crime lab funded for another year

Your Houston News

Councilmember Ornaldo Ybarra: We have an accredited crime lab that is well respected throughout the state. The fact we are considering a joint ...

New N La criminal forensics lab rapidly rising

KTBS

Caddo Parish coroner Dr. Todd Thoma is enthusiastic about the criminal forensics lab rising in Shreveport. He tells The Times the 86,000-square-foot, ...

City-Claflin forensic lab partnership honored

The Tand D.com

In 2004, Orangeburg and Claflin University forged the partnership to improve forensic laboratory services in the hope of reducing crime in the area.

Faces of crime: Why forensic sketches and suspects don't always match

Tulsa World

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.

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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

Harvey Pratt's long career as Oklahoma's leading forensic profiler ... Pratt, who has done forensic art for much of his nearly 50-year career in law One problem: When DNA evidence connected Desmond Campbell — who was ...

Training

The Forensic Technology Center of Excellence announces its 2014 Technology Transition Workshop: The Utility and Features of Expert Systems for Interpreting DNA Data.

This on-site all travel-expense paid workshop will provide the forensic DNA community with a comprehensive review and hands on experience using a variety of expert systems available to crime laboratories.

We invite crime laboratory directors and managers for nominations. Space is limited so please see attached information sheet to learn more. Nominations received after August 8, 2014 will not be considered.

(https://forensiccoe.org/tech_workshops/DU_TTWS_ExpertSystems.aspx)

Please reply to Shane Hamstra (shamstra@rti.org; [919.541.7265](tel:919.541.7265)) with your nomination and questions.

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

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.



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 Lab Technician](#), City of Wilmington, Wilmington, NC, Expires: July 31, 2014

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*.

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

[Forensic Chemist](#), City of Wilmington, Wilmington, NC, Expires: July 31, 2014

[Criminalist, IB](#), NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner, New York, NY, Expires: August 23, 2014

[Chief Medical Examiner](#), Travis County, Austin, TX, Expires: September 23, 2014

[Forensic Scientist II-Latent Print Examiner](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: October 23, 2014

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

[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

[Forensic Scientist – Toxicology](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: August 4, 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 – Forensic Biology](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: August 31, 2014

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

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](#)

[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

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

September 23-26, 2014: [Southern Association Forensic Scientist \(SAFS\) Annual 2014 Meeting](#) in Savannah, GA.

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?mo>

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

[duleid=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>).