Dear Colleagues-

Since many of us are developing requests for the next budget year, I thought you might find the following information helpful. Thanks to John Collins for keeping an eye on this important topic.

2013 National Compensation Data Published
John Collins MA, SPHR
The Society for Human Resource Management recently announced the findings of a 2013 survey on compensation for all college graduates in the United States. This year’s average compensation rose by 2.4% to $45,327 over last year’s average of $44,259. The survey was conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). Of interest to crime laboratory administrators, graduates in math and science saw the smallest increases, rising only 0.9% to $42,731. The largest increase was for business graduates, whose average compensation rose by 7.9% to $55,635. The data are derived from accepted starting salaries provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Symposium 2014
Last month, President-elect Brady Mills hosted our first 2014 Symposium planning meeting. We were greatly encouraged and the consensus was that we had a great start for Scottsdale. If you’d like to participate, please let Brady (Brady.Mills@dps.texas.gov) or me (jhenry@utah.gov) know.

Jay Henry
ASCLD President

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 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.
International Initiatives
The International Forensic Strategic Alliance (IFSA) has created a survey to determine how it can add value to your network. Thank you for taking the time in answering this survey which includes 18 questions. Your answers will help IFSA define a strategic plan for meeting the needs of your organization. Please click on the link below to start the survey:
http://surveys.questionpro.com/a/t/AGGeDZPwOB

The National Institute of Forensic Science/Australia New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency is conducting a study on manufacturer DNA contamination. A survey (download the spreadsheet form here) has been developed which will capture information to map out the issue and identify possible sources and points of product contamination. The results will be used in the development of the ISO Standard "Minimizing the risk of human DNA contamination in products used to collect and analyze biological material for forensic purposes". Preliminary results will be presented at ISFG in September and full results will be presented at the ISO PC/272 Meeting in February.

Please send your responses to Dr. Linzi Wilson-Wilde, General Manager at NIFS by August 21, 2013 if possible.
linzi.wilson-wilde.nifs@anzpaa.org.au

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the survey

Soraya McClung
International Liaison Committee Chair

Marshall University DNA Technical Assistance Program for 2013
Please see the flyer and request form or contact Pam Staton at staton1@marshall.edu or 304-691-8962 for more information.

Trace Evidence Training Needs Survey
The Forensic Science Initiative at West Virginia University is surveying forensic science
practitioners to see if there is any interest in the need for trace evidence training. We are hoping to provide training courses in a variety of trace evidence areas, but first we need your help in determining what type of training is needed in this area. When answering the questions in the survey please be as specific as possible so we can provide you with the type of courses that are needed. The survey can be found at the following web address: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6XHSKJW. The survey will be open until October 11, 2013. We thank you for taking the time to participate in the survey. For more information or questions, contact us at FSI@mail.wvu.edu.

News Around the Globe

A look inside America's bomb library kwgn.com
... of recovering latent prints from the insurgent bomb makers who crafted them. ..... we are able to recover prints from these items through fingerprint processing.

Crime lab backlog causing death certificate delays Canton Repository
Jay Spencer, a forensic scientist for the Canton-Stark County Crime Lab, uses a gas chromatograph. Some local families have been waiting on a final death ...

Official backs greater performance of central crime lab AngolaPress
The general commander of National Police Ambrósio de Lemos Tuesday in Luanda defended greater performance of Central Criminal Laboratory enabling the ...

Journal Explores Incentive For False Results In Lab Tests For DUI TheNewspaper.com
The primary problem, according to the paper, is that fourteen states reward crime labs with a bonus for each conviction they generate. North Carolina

Sorenson Forensics provides forensic DNA casework services for federal, state and local crime laboratories; law enforcement agencies; and assists Officers of the Court in individual criminal cases. Sorenson Forensics is a unique private forensic DNA laboratory. We are built upon a foundation of collaborative forensics with law enforcement agencies, advanced lab technology and our unique experience. More than 500 law enforcement agencies have turned to Sorenson Forensics for individual casework and DNA testing services. We provide comprehensive biological screening, including: blood, semen, and saliva identifications. We also offer Y-screening (using Plexor HY), a more sensitive alternative to traditional screening that directly detects the presence of male DNA. Sorenson Forensics scientists and technicians have extensive public lab work experience, creating an environment empathetic to the issues which public labs face. Our veteran team with combined public and private lab work history have decades of forensic DNA experience and have completed thousands of individual cases. Some of the highest profile cases in the country have been sent to the Sorenson laboratory because of this unique expertise. The growing reputation for excellence has spread internationally with a world-wide clientele now using Sorenson Forensics. http://sorensonforensics.com

Calibrate, Inc. founded the pipette calibration industry in 1983 and remains North America's
New staff at APD forensics lab paying dividends
KXAN.com
The reduction in backlog at the crime lab is having a positive ripple effect at the County District Attorney's office. By statute, felony DWI and drug cases have to be ...

"Crazy Clown" Seized in Glynn County
WSAV-TV
The GBI's Crime Lab in Savannah analyzed the material in these packages to determine if a controlled substance was present, officials said. The analysis ...

Forensic lab not equipped to carry out forensic tests
MaltaToday
Court orders minister to rectify situation at the forensic labs as it is impinging on the ... The notification was ordered after Dr Owen Cardona from the Forensic Lab ...

NIST issues digital forensics guide
Fierce Mobile Government
It also addresses the challenge of growing forensic lab backlogs with guidance on handling on-site triage casework. An on-site triage decision tree, provided in ...

US lab fails eligibility test to check toxic residue
Times of India
BHOPAL: A lab in the United States - the country leading the campaign for military strike on Syria - has 'failed' a proficiency test which allows conducting forensic ...

DEA insists cold drug can be used in meth-making
Boston Herald
A cold and allergy decongestant now being sold nationwide contains a new form of pseudoephedrine that's being billed as difficult to use to make ...

Drug Testing Program Saves Counties Money,
Time
WBOY-TV
Drug Testing Program Saves Counties Money,
New York State toxicology lab receives major upgrades
News 10 Now
During the pre-trial hearing of Dennis Drue, many questions remain as to whether or not there were drugs or alcohol in his body. It took more than one month for ...

ACMT Explores the Intersection of Toxicology, Law Enforcement ...
PR Web (press release)
The American College of Medical Toxicology will present an educational symposium entitled “CSI Atlanta” on September 28th at the North American Congress ...

ECBC Forensic Analytical Laboratory achieves top grade from OPCW
BioPrepWatch
The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Forensic Analytical Center announced on Wednesday that it received an “A” grade in an international ...

State Crime Lab Backups Causing Local Issues
WT AJ
State Crime Lab Backups Causing Local Issues ... and the criminal is still out on the streets, all because DNA results aren't back from the crime lab. ... Crime lab backlog has been an issue for years, and now it's at the point where cases are reworked ...

Reworked DNA Bill seeks balance between privacy and better crime ...
Irish Times
DNA can disclose complex information about a person's family relationships, ethnic group and medical conditions, and continuous advances in science make it ...

UNT Center for Human Identification Forensic Science Division to ...
BioNews Texas
Human remains obtained from a former reform school — the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys in Marianna at Florida — will be studied and analyzed at The ...
NYC Council votes to require data on DNA lab techs
Wall Street Journal
The New York City medical examiners’ office would have to release data on training, protocols and proficiency testing for workers in its DNA ...

After Disasters, DNA Science Is Helpful, But Often Too Pricey
North Country Public Radio
But forensic scientists who use DNA say the technology isn’t always available where it’s most needed, like in poor countries, or in war zones like Syria.

DNA legislation Now In Effect In St. Kitts-Nevis
The St. Kitts-Nevis Observer
“The enactment of this legislation represents another step in our effort to modernize our criminal justice system,” says Homeland Security Minister Hon. Patrice ...

The DNA Science of Crime Fighting
NBC 7 San Diego
Many cold cases have ended in conviction thanks to the DNA science of crime fighting. ... San Diego County’s Crime Lab is expanding thanks to a $400,000 federal grant. ... “It is probably the most important forensic tool that we have,” said Lab ...

Local case renews push for mandatory DNA samples
KIRO Seattle
The case of Moses Kelley is renewing the push to take DNA samples from people the moment they’re arrested for a crime. Kelly pleaded guilty to raping an ...

Prescription drug abuse at epidemic levels
Kingsport Times News
Sullivan County is a beautiful region right on the edge of the Tennessee-Virginia state line. The county holds two cities, one nicknamed the “Model City” which ...

Florida, Expires: October 22, 2013
Forensic Services Laboratory Technician (NIBIN), City of Mesa, Mesa, AZ, Expires: September 28, 2013
Criminalist – Controlled Substances, Houston Police Department Crime Laboratory, Houston, Texas 77002, Expires: September 20, 2013

Conferences
September 23-26, 2013 2nd Annual Advanced DNA Technical Workshop – Bode Mid-Atlantic, Charlottesville, VA. See Bode Mid-Atlantic Conference for more details.


October 20-24, 2013 Southern Association of Forensic Scientists, Huntsville, AL. Click here for more information.

Training

No-cost, NIJ Medicolegal Death Investigation online training program. The information available online at: http://www.nfstc.org/apply-now-for-online-medicolegal-death-investigation-course/

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 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 new course for legal professionals. This course, titled “Introduction to the Crime Laboratory – Understanding its Role and Purpose,” is designed to provide information about the history, purpose and responsibilities of crime laboratories and the best practices for interacting effectively with these laboratories as a legal professional. If


Nov 11-12, 2013 Crime Scene and Shooting Incident Reconstruction.  2 day seminar at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. See http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold_case.php for more details.


you know of a legal professional who may be interested in taking this course, please direct them to:
https://www.forensiced.org/training/premium.cfm.
In some states, the course has been approved for 1 hour of CLE and MCLE credits
(https://www.forensiced.org/training/clestates.cfm?cid=1128152721).