Dear Colleagues-

**Input on the structure of the SWG’s and a “brief” Survey request**

Please find attached a recent solicitation by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for input into the formation and organization of the Scientific Working Groups (SWG's). The ASCLD Board of Directors welcome your comments regarding this announcement and are requesting that you provide us input. We feel that this is a significant development and want to make sure that the voices of our membership are heard. Our intent is to develop a consensus document that best represents the views of our members within the community. Please send your comments to Past-President Jill Spriggs at SpriggsJ@sacda.org by October 30.

**NIST SWG Survey**

**Understanding the forensic workforce**

The Department of Sciences in Washington D.C. and the College of Business & Economics at West Virginia University are requesting that you and your staff participate in a brief survey (3-4 minutes). This information will be published in our journal, the Forensic Science Policy and Management. Please consider taking this survey and forwarding it to your staff.

This is a request for you to take part in a research project to identify items that characterize strategic understanding of the forensic workforce. The purpose is to better inform managers and the literature regarding effective workplace marketing. Your involvement in this project will be kept confidential. All data will be analyzed and reported in the aggregate. We will not ask any information that should lead back to your identity as a
We hope that you will participate in this research project, as it could be beneficial in understanding the attractiveness of the workplace and how to encourage a diverse population into the forensic field. Thank you very much for your time. Should you have any questions about this letter or the research project, please feel free to contact us at dfsquality@gmail.com.

We thank you for your time and value your responses, and look forward to sharing the findings.

You can start right now by clicking on the link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2PSFKK2

Jay Henry
ASCLD President

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

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.

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

News Around the Globe

Forensic lab hit by lack of necessary items
Himalayan Times
LALITPUR: Decision has been hampered as necessary items as well as their right quantities to be researched and tested in the National Forensic Science Lab ...

North metro crime lab starts DNA testing
Minneapolis Star Tribune
On Sept. 16, forensic scientists at the crime lab in Andover ran their first DNA test for a criminal investigation: They examined a knife retrieved in an assault case.

Australia's police DNA database expands to cover disasters
Government News
Although sometimes controversial, DNA matching is widely regarded as the most significant leap in the forensic science of identification since fingerprinting and ...

Nassau crime lab evidence retested; verdicts likely to stand, adviser ...
Newsday
Nassau has received bids to build a new crime lab -- which is now under the ... Currently, the new forensic lab is operating in the medical examiner's office.

Crime lab delays local death investigations
KIMA CBS 29

Loyola University New Orleans

Designed in response to the growing need for leadership in forensics, the Forensic Science Administration specialization of the Master’s in Criminal Justice Administration (MSCJA) prepares you with the advanced skills needed to lead forensic labs and crime scene investigation departments from the crime scene to the courtroom.

Topics of study include:
• Develop an advanced understanding of operations, management and administration
• Bridge the gap of understanding between scientists and laypersons, judges and lawyers
• Learn the role of ethics in forensic science, including general principles and training requirements
• Learn effective techniques and communication skills to improve expert testimony

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:
Deputies have been waiting for results from the state crime lab. ... There are about 40 forensic scientists working to examine the evidence for all of Washington ...

**Crime lab getting help from robots**
KGET 17
Staff says with new equipment, DNA evidence will be looked at sooner and the number of ... Each year, the crime lab receives hundreds of DNA cases. But now ...

**CH Police Department partners with state crime lab**
Cottonwoodholladayjournal
CH Police Department partners with state crime lab ... But the big high-ticket items, such as DNA analysis and drug analysis, can't happen in our lab,” ... with the Utah Bureau of Forensic Services, a division of the Department of Public Safety.

**Hennepin County crime lab cuts DNA testing time in half**
Minneapolis Star Tribune
The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory has cut its DNA testing turnaround time by half. At the same time, scientists have increased the number of ...

**Exclusive: DWI Blood Samples Mixed Up in Nassau County Lab ...**
NBC New York
Nearly three years after the Nassau County police crime lab was shut down because of testing errors there, prosecutors this week alerted several defense ...

**Ohio crime lab processes 1500-plus rape kits**
Akron Beacon Journal
Attorney General Mike DeWine says Ohio’s crime lab has processed more than 1,500 untested rape kits from police and found hundreds of ...

**Calgary police armed with new lab for gun crimes**
Calgary Herald
The Calgary Police Service's new forensic firearms lab will help investigators get forensic results more quickly and efficiently than ever before. The lab, 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](http://sorensonforensics.com)

**Calibrate, Inc.**

Calibrate, Inc. founded the pipette calibration industry in 1983 and remains North America's leader in the business. No one knows pipettes better. ISO 17025 Accredited since 2004 (by the American Association of Laboratory Accreditation, or A2LA, a signatory to the ILAC MRA), our focus is on quality.

We work nationwide and in eastern Canada, either on-site or in one of our three mail-in laboratories.

Pipette service is available for all makes and models of pipettes as well as bottle-top dispensers and pipet-aids. We offer an extended warranty on all parts and labor, and are known for delivering high quality work and excellent customer service. We solve problems. It was for these reasons that we were recently chosen by Business Leaders magazine as a 2009 Business Champion.
ISP Looks to Update Pocatello Lab
KPVI News 6
Shannon Larson is the lab manager of the Idaho State Police Department’s Eastern Idaho Forensic Lab. Each year her team of 5 scientists processes thousands ...

Roanoke lab not seeing problem of rape kits left untested
WSLS
Here in the Commonwealth Forensic Labs are seeing a backlog as well. We checked with Virginia’s Department of Forensic Science and they tell us that the ...

Digital forensics help officers solve crimes
WEAU
To help investigators look at digital evidence the department utilizes the Chippewa Valley Regional Computer Forensic Laboratory. The CVRCFL is a joint effort ...

State of the art forensics lab could help crack cold cases
Newstalk ZB
A world first is included in a state of the art science centre being officially opened in Auckland today. $5 million has been pumped into the Mount Albert Science ...

Big backlog, staff crunch ailing forensic lab: Govt
Times of India
Backlog of over 10,000 cases, delay of more than three years in furnishing reports and staff crunch plague the city’s sole state-run forensic science ...

Two former ex-forensic experts convicted of falsifying report
Indian Express
Two days after the Delhi High Court pulled up the government for the huge pendency and the long period taken by the forensic science laboratory to complete ...

Visit us on the web at http://www.pipetpeople.com or email us at forensics@pipetpeople.com for more information about how our quality pipette services can help you create a bullet-proof pipette calibration program at your facility today.

Employment Opportunities

Firearms Examiner Supervisor, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore, MD, Expires: October 26, 2013
Criminalist Supervisor, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore, MD, Expires: October 26, 2013
Crime Laboratory Technician I, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore, MD, Expires: October 12, 2013
Forensic Science Faculty, Arcadia University, Glenside, PA, Expires: November 29, 2013
Latent Print Examiner Supervisor, Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Orlando, Florida, Expires: December 5, 2013
Tenure Track Faculty Position in Forensic Biology, Indiana Univ Purdue Univ Indpls (IUPUI), Indianapolis, IN, Expires: December 31, 2013
Assistant/Associate Professor in Forensic Sciences, Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona, Expires: December 6, 2013
Forensic Scientist (DNA/Serologist), Montgomery County Police Department, Gaithersburg, Maryland, Expires: October 26, 2013
Crime Scene Sciences Supervisor (Unit Manager), 202 727-8239, Washington, DC, Expires: December 23, 2013
Forensic Toxicologist & Quality Control Coordinator, Indiana State Department of Toxicology, Indianapolis, IN, Expires: October 15, 2013
Forensic Scientist V (DNA), Texas Department of Public Safety, Austin, Expires: October 8, 2013
Forensic Science Full-Time Faculty Position,
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/](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.


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 Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA, Expires: December 23, 2013
Forensic Scientist, Department of Justice, Missoula, MT, Expires: October 16, 2013
Faculty (Rank Open) Trace Evidence Analysis, University of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD, Expires: December 6, 2013
Forensic Scientist – Firearms Examiner, DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: October 9, 2013
Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor, Criminalistics (Generalist Position), California State University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: December 1, 2013
Latent Print Section Supervisor, Austin Police Department, Austin, Texas, Expires: October 18, 2013
Security Systems Manager, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: November 15, 2013
Criminalist, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, Expires: November 6, 2013
Director, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, Expires: November 6, 2013
Forensic Scientist- Toxicology Unit, Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013
Forensic Scientist- Firearm and Toolmark Unit, Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013
Forensic Scientist- Drug ID, Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013
Latent Print Examiner Supervisor, Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Orlando, Florida, Expires: October 22, 2013
and the best practices for interacting effectively with these laboratories as a legal professional. If 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).

## Conferences


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


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.

