Dear Colleagues,

During our 2015 ASCLD Business meeting, the Board of Directors presented the 2015-2016 Strategic Plan to the members in attendance. I am including it so that it is available to the entire membership. Upon review, you will see the Board has recognized several key areas of importance for this next year including initiatives for ASCLD’s Forensic Research, Training & Education, and International committees.

Additionally, the ASCLD BOD has identified several key topics for consideration and publication in the form of position/policy statements including grant reform, defining a forensic service provider, examiner certification, rape kits, and work products/recommendations of national bodies such as the National Commission. The International Committee will also be incredibly busy this year with IFSA and ISO TC 272 initiatives. Finally, the other ASCLD committees have full agendas to ensure ASCLD’s mission is continually supported.

The ASCLD BOD is very excited about the upcoming year and is committed to seeing the goals and initiatives included in our strategic plan come to fruition!

Thanks!
- Jody

Attorney General renewed the charter for the National Commission on Forensic Science for two more years. As part of that renewal, it was also announced that the Commission is soliciting applications for additional members, including a Commissioner and subcommittee members. A primary focus for the expansion is in the area of digital forensics. All interested parties are encouraged to apply.
Applications are due no later than **May 28, 2015**. All applications should be submitted to: Andrew Bruck, Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20530, by email at Andrew.J.Bruck@usdoj.gov, or by phone at (202) 305-3481. The subject of the email should be NCFS Membership 2015.

Some of the 2015 ASCLD Symposium presentations are available on the ASCLD website. More will be added in the upcoming week. Click [here](#) to view a list of available presentations.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Manhattan District Attorneys Funding to Test Backlogged Rape Kits. **Completed applications are due by June 1, 2015.**

- View the full RFP [here](#)
- Complete a profile and submit your application through our grant application [here](#).

Click [here](#) to learn more about the IACP Forensic Committee’s 2015 Vollmer Awards.
Top-Rated Technical Leadership Short Courses Presented Live at Crime Lab Facilities.

Bring these nationally acclaimed 2-day courses to your lab and help to quickly transform your crime lab managers, forensic supervisors, and technical professionals into outstanding technical leaders and teams:

- Effective Leadership of Scientists, Engineers & the Technical Team
- Assertiveness Training for Technical Professionals
- Building A Winning Scientific & Technical Team
- Improving Communication Effectiveness
- Performance Management Excellence
- Conflict Management Techniques
- Presentation Skills Workshop

Learn more by visiting our website www.davidgootnick.com.

Contact us to discuss your needs and how these technical leadership short courses can help your people to quickly develop the critical leadership and people skills that drive technical success.

Advanced Topics for Human Identification & Data Interpretation

December 1-5, 2015 | Philadelphia, PA

This 4 day course will offer world-class training for experienced forensic biology practitioners, technicians, and technical leaders involved in testing and testimony for forensic serological and human identification related testing. Each day will focus on issues of current interest in the field and conclude with an open dialogue panel discussion. Topics Include: Current issues with variability in the interpretation of complex mixtures; strategies for the implementation of Rapid DNA technology and sexual assault backlog reduction; alternate novel approaches to biological fluid identification; evaluation of statistical models and probabilistic modeling for mixed sample sources; improved methods for recovery of low template DNA; and legal implications of new strategies and developments in the field. Distinguished faculty include: John Butler, PhD, Niels Morling, MD, DMSc, Michael Coble, PhD, Mechthild Prinz, PhD, Jack Ballantyne, PhD, JoAnne Bright, PhD, and other forensic biology professionals.


News Around the Globe

FBI review finds a hair-analysis tangle
Northwest Arkansas News

PHILADELPHIA -- Before DNA testing became the gold standard in forensic science, hair analysis was often a prosecutor's trump card. Developed by ...

Errors helped stall serial killer investigation
Newbritainherald
However, the state crime lab at the time was falling into disorganization. Although DNA was extracted from Jane Doe 1 and Jane Doe 2, they didn't ...

Govt sets up cyber forensic lab to protect identity credentials from hackers
Web India
In order to tackle the rising instances of cyber crimes in financial transactions, Government has set up cyber forensic training and investigation labs in ...

Hands off my DNA!
BioEdge
Michael Usry Jr., a young filmmaker, was arrested by police last year based on supposed DNA links to the 1996 murder of a young woman.

Metro police crime lab receives accreditation
WSMV Nashville
"This will allow a quicker turnaround time because the TBI does not have all of the cases coming from Metro," said Ann Talbot, director of the crime lab

New lab will aid fight against crime
Columbus Dispatch
Columbus residents can expect better law-enforcement thanks to a much-larger, state-of-the-art police crime lab opened last month on the South Side.

Gov. Inslee signs bill to encourage testing of rape kits
Bellingham Herald
Additionally, it will require the State Patrol crime lab to track how many kits await testing, which will help the Legislature determine whether more lab ...

New test uses single fingerprint to detect drug use
Fox News
Previous testing methods were limited to finding if cocaine had been handled, but the new technique finds whether the drug has actually been ...

Learn more: www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBio Course

Ron Smith And Associates, Inc. is your #1 source for:
- Forensic Evidence Training
- Forensic Consulting Services
- Backlog Reduction/Elimination Services
- Attorney Services
- Multi-Level Competency Testing for LPE's
- Proficiency Testing for LPE's
- ISO Accreditation Mentoring

Need a custom solution? RS&A is the answer!
Contact us today to discuss your specific needs.
1-866-832-6772
www.RonSmithandAssociates.com

Click Here to Learn More about RS&A Services
Click Here to Email RS&A Directly
Click Here to Follow RS&A on Linked In
Click Here to LIKE RS&A on Facebook

Employment Opportunities

Forensic Serologist, Austin Police Department, Austin, TX, Expires: May 28, 2015

Firearms Examiner, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 31, 2015
Flaws of earlier forensic science growing evident
Columbus Dispatch
His experience is but one example of flawed forensic science from the pre-DNA era, a problem apparently far more widespread than once thought.

State to collect thousands of DNA samples under new law
Stevenspointjournal
Felons and sex offenders have undergone DNA testing for years, but the new ... that the Wisconsin Crime Lab data bank has helped police match DNA left at ... Wisconsin has about 14,000 samples of DNA in its forensic database, ...

State launching review of convictions to find faulty hair forensics
WCVB Boston
Cases where the hair analysis was used would then be reviewed by prosecutors together with the state's public defender's office and the Innocence ...

Jefferson Parish sues contractors over leaky crime lab
The New Orleans Advocate
It was touted as a state-of-the-art facility when it was unveiled in the fall of 2010. But the $16.8 million crime lab set up in Harvey for the Jefferson ...

Cuts to state forensic science labs, closures, to have local impact, says county coroner, prosecutor
Anniston Star
Local officials worry that cuts to state forensics labs, which seem likely if lawmakers in Montgomery don't find new revenue, could mean trouble.

US Announces New Way to Ensure Accuracy of DNA Tests
New York Times
WASHINGTON — The federal government opened the door to a new era of genetic medicine on Thursday by introducing a standard way to ensure the ...

Forensic Analyst - Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 31, 2015

Crime Scene Investigator, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 31, 2015

Forensic Scientist (Crime Scene), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: May 18, 2015


Associate Medical Examiner (Forensic Pathologist), GA Bureau of Investigation, Decatur, Georgia, Expires: August 7, 2015

Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Norfolk, VA, Expires: May 21, 2015

Crime Scene Unit Supervisor, City of Wilmington, Wilmington, NC, Expires: May 21, 2015


Quality Assurance Manager – Police Laboratory, New York City Police Department, New York, NY, Expires: August 3, 2015

DIRECTOR: Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS), Government of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC, Expires: July 31, 2015
DNA expert shows how evidence is found
WTNH
(WTNH) — Nuclear DNA is how investigators were able to identify six of the seven human remains found behind a New Britain shopping plaza.

Oakland police: Too many robberies, too few detectives
San Jose Mercury News
The department is short-staffed in the crime lab and also in the field, where police evidence technicians sweep scenes for DNA and fingerprints.

Georgia Authorities Uncover Thousands of Untested Rape Kits #EndTheBacklog
Blue Nation Review
He cited previous policies that allowed officer discretion, saying they were not required to submit kits to the crime lab if they did not believe the victim ...

Tobiko Wants State to Build Forensic Lab
The Star
Director of Public Prosecutions Keriako Tobiko has urged the state to revive plans to set up a forensic laboratory. He also asked the government to set ...

Retention of offenders' DNA profiles not illegal, supreme court rules
The Guardian
Retaining DNA profiles of convicted adults indefinitely is not an illegal breach of their privacy, the supreme court has ruled in a test case involving a ...

New KBI Crime Lab Called Needed
Investment In Public Safety
WIBW
The Kansas Bureau of Investigation says a $55 million crime lab taking ... Each forensic specialty can expect double to triple the space, with features ... each discipline in the forensic lab will have an intern who'll work with them

Huntington Station residents to get DNA kits in Suffolk program to combat burglaries
Newsday
Legis. William Doc Spencer (D-Centerport) said on Friday, April 10, 2015, his district is partnering with Applied DNA Sciences to bring its ...

Bacteria on shoes could help forensic teams catch suspects
The Conversation UK
This is also what makes them excellent as a forensic tool. In fact, like DNA and fingerprints, a suspect can unknowingly leave microbes behind on a ...

7th Circuit: Man wrongly imprisoned for 29 years can sue prosecutor, crime lab workers
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (blog)
A man freed after 28 years in prison on an unlawful homicide conviction can sue the prosecutor and some crime lab workers who destroyed evidence ...

Gov. Inslee signs law on post-conviction preservation of DNA
TheNewsTribune.com
A DNA preservation bill is seen before being signed by Gov. Jay Inslee, Monday, May 11, 2015, in Olympia, Wash. The new law requires DNA ...

Next Steps for Eastern Montana Crime Lab
KULR-TV
The state crime lab's administrator, Phil Kinsey, says they'll be making a trip to ... They will need space for two forensic chemists and one evidence ...

Atlanta Police get new crime lab
MyFox Atlanta
A murder at a popular Atlanta bar stymied investigators for months. Using crime scene investigative tools, detectives quickly got the ballistics ...

New star scientist heads Atlanta crime lab
Atlanta Journal Constitution
Candace Walker, the new director of the Atlanta Police Department forensic lab, in Systems Department, Kirksville, MO, Expires: June 30, 2015

FORENSIC UNIT SUPERVISOR, Washington County Sheriff's Office, Hillsboro, OR, Expires: May 31, 2015

Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice, Gannon University, Erie, PA, Expires: June 22, 2015

Director of Methods and Validation, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

Forensic Analyst- Audio/Video, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

Forensic Scientist 3- Firearm and Toolmark Identification Unit, Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory, Madison, TN, Expires: June 18, 2015

Firearms and Toolmarks Lab Supervisor, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiners Office, Cleveland, OH, Expires: May 23, 2015

Crime Scene Investigator, Flagler County Sheriff’s Office, Bunnell, Florida, Expires: May 22, 2015

Bode Cellmark Forensics provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.
Bode’s newest offerings include:
the gun room — which keeps a multitude of firearms to help with ...

House Gives Early OK to Expanding DNA Testing
Texas Tribune
The Texas House on Monday gave early approval to expanding DNA ... Morton was exonerated in 2011 when forensic analysis of a bandana found ...

A decade after Katrina, New Orleans eyes new DNA crime lab
The New Orleans Advocate
Nearly 10 years after Hurricane Katrina inundated the New Orleans Police Department’s crime lab, city officials are finalizing plans to build a new lab ...

Why securing forensic proof at crime scene is crucial for strong case
Economic Times
But factoring in a staff crunch at Bengaluru’s recently-upgraded forensic sciences laboratory - it has 85 technical staff against a sanctioned strength of ...

Why I oppose DNA law
Jamaica Gleaner (subscription)
In this photo taken January 11, 2012, forensic scientist Heather Feaman tests samples at the Portland Metropolitan Forensic Laboratory in Clackamas, ...

Forensic Training
Itiel Dror’s “Cognitive Factors in Forensic Decision Making” 2-day workshop June 30 & July 1 at the Houston Forensic Science Center. Click here for additional information.

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction Program streamlines processes to eliminate backlogs of untested sexual assault kits.

Bode Buccal 2™ is uniquely designed to improve DNA databanking collecting and automate processing. The Bode Buccal 2 is a DIRECT COLLECTION SYSTEM that requires minimal training. There is NO Transfer Step Required.

Independent Validation Services are customized to meet your laboratory’s needs. Validation services provide completely unbiased analysis on your equipment, chemistries, or process.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: Bode’s 2015 DNA Technical Conferences, providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

Accreditation Training

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB)
ANAB is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands. ANAB provides accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025 forensic test laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 forensic inspection agencies and a wide variety of training, workshops, and academic programs.

ISO/IEC 17020 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Police Agencies
June 22-23, 2015, Durham, NC
October 29-30, 2015, Alexandria, VA
Cost: ASQ member $600, non-ASQ member $650

ISO/IEC 17025 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Test Agencies
October 26-28, 2015, Alexandria, VA
Cost: ASQ member $750, non-ASQ member $800

For more information about these workshops,
The application period for admission to the 2015-2016 session of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) National Firearms Examiner Academy (NFEA) is open to all qualified candidates. It is important to note that in addition to personal qualifications, trainees must be assigned to an established firearms section within the State and local agency laboratory. Agencies must also have an experienced firearm and toolmark examiner on staff to mentor and continue training upon completion of the NFEA.

The NFEA provides training for apprentice/entry level firearm and toolmark examiners from Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The Academy curriculum is composed of the fundamentals of firearms & toolmark examinations and serves as a basis for the trainee, under supervision, to develop into a qualified firearm and toolmark examiner. The application deadline for the 2015 - 2016 session of the NFEA is August 21, 2015. It is anticipated that the class will start in October 2015 however the training schedule is dependent on the receipt of funding and may be adjusted accordingly.

Additional information and the application form can be found at: [http://www.atf.gov/content/firearms/firearms-enforcement/national-firearms-examiner-academy-course-id-frms-pg-0002](http://www.atf.gov/content/firearms/firearms-enforcement/national-firearms-examiner-academy-course-id-frms-pg-0002)

Questions can be directed to either:
Sheila Hopkins  
NFEA Program Manager  
202-648-6061  
Sheila.Hopkins@atf.gov  
or  
Jodi Marsanopoli

contact ANAB 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*.

**ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Testing Laboratories**

**ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Breath Alcohol Calibration**

**ASCLD/LAB-International Internal Auditor Training Course**  
**ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Testing Laboratories**

**ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Calibration Laboratories**

**American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)**

A2LA’s Training Program provides a variety of courses designed to help organizations achieve and maintain accreditation to international standards.

**Forensic Conferences**

May 18-22, 2015: Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientist in Chesapeake Bay  
Cambridge, MD
The American Society of Crime Lab Directors, along with RTI, have made the below webinars available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Webinar Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>False-Positive and False-Negative Error Rates in Cartridge Case Comparisons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Webinar Series: Case Acceptance Policies and Guidelines – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Webinar Series: Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Webinar Series: Efficiency Improvements – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Webinar Series: How to Increase your Staff without Increasing Budget – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCLD Webinar Series: Managing Customer Expectations and Education – Archival Version</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASCLD Webinar Series: Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction – Archival Version

October 19 - 23, 2015: Southwestern Association of Forensic Science (SWAFS) in Oklahoma City, OK.


October 2015: Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists in Spokane, WA

April 3-8, 2016: International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Orlando, FL.
