President’s Message

Dear Colleagues:

ASCLD Board of Director’s Meeting
We will be having a Board of Director’s meeting this Friday, September 26th, at 1:00 PM CST. We have several items to discuss and also some great committee work to report. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our activities.

NIST Announces Competition to Create Forensic Science Center of Excellence
The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has announced a competition to create a Forensic Science Center of Excellence dedicated to collaborative, interdisciplinary research. The Center’s mission will be to establish a firm scientific foundation for the analytic techniques used in two important branches of forensic science, pattern evidence and digital evidence. NIST anticipates funding the new center at about $4 million annually for five years, with the possibility of renewing the award for an additional five years. Funding is subject to the availability of funds through NIST’s appropriations. For more information go to: http://www.nist.gov/coe/forensics/forensic-081914.cfm

National Conference of State Legislatures - Forensic Science Database
The National Conference of State Legislatures has a forensic science database online. I wanted to share this great resource to the membership. It contains a lot of information as many of us move into our state legislative sessions.

NIJ and FBI Partner to Help Labs Test Sexual Assault Kits (SAKs)
To help find the best strategies, methods and procedures for dealing with SAKs, the FBI and NIJ have formed a research partnership to develop improved practices and policies for law enforcement and crime labs.

State and local law enforcement agencies will submit their eligible SAKs to the FBI, and NIJ will gather facts and data about the processing of the cases. The goal is to develop more effective tools and strategies for evaluating the methods and procedures now used, improve practices, and inform future policies and decisions.

The FBI will enter eligible DNA profiles into the National DNA Index System (NDIS), a component of the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). Experts believe that increasing the number of profiles in CODIS will
increase the potential to solve other crimes.
Learn more about the partnership and how to submit sexual assault kits. [http://nij.gov/topics/law-enforcement/investigations/sexual-assault/Pages/nij-fbi-sak-initiative.aspx](http://nij.gov/topics/law-enforcement/investigations/sexual-assault/Pages/nij-fbi-sak-initiative.aspx)

Have a good week,

Brady Mills
ASCLD President

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**Advocacy Corner**

COVERDELL Information

In this week’s Advocacy Corner I want to give you an update on the status of the Paul Coverdell grant. With any grant from the Federal government there are two actions that must occur for the funding to move forward. First, the legislation must be created that authorizes the grant and then it must be re-authorized approximately every 5 years or the grant expires and technically can no longer be funded. Secondly, it must be funded each year by Congress or “appropriated.” In the case of the Paul Coverdell Act, both are at stake this year and we need your help.

First, Coverdell’s authorization expires this year and it needs to be re-authorized. That authorization is part of the larger Justice for All legislation. Unfortunately, like everything else in Congress right now, it is mired in politics. The Debbie Smith Act has been pulled from the larger Justice for All bill and was made into a stand alone piece of legislation. Since the Debbie Smith Act is the largest component of the Justice for All Act (JFA) its removal has made JFA vulnerable. On Thursday of last week the Debbie Smith Act passed the Senate and since it had previously passed the House it will now be sent to the President for Signature. Let me be clear - we don't mind Debbie Smith passing separately and we are very supportive of it! We are deeply concerned, however, about the fate of the Paul Coverdell grant now that Debbie Smith is no longer part of the JFA. We urge you to write your Congressman and Senator asking them re-authorize the Paul Coverdell Grant.

Secondly, the budget process (as you hear every day in the news) is stalled and Congress has passed a continuing resolution to fund the Federal government until December 11th. There are additional rumors that it “may” last until March! The Department of Justice, again, did not fund Coverdell nor did the House of Representatives, but the Senate funded it at $12 million for FY15. The House and Senate will have to reconcile the difference in their numbers for a final budget, whether it is in December or March. To that end, we ask that you write your Members of Congress and request that they recede to the Senate number of $12 million.

That's all for this edition of the Advocacy Corner. Have a great week!

Jeremy Triplett
ASCLD Advocacy Chair

Please mark your calendars; the **2015 symposium is April 26th-30th, 2015** at the **Washington Marriott Wardman Park**, 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, D.C. 20008.

If you are interested in serving on the Symposium Planning Committee, please contact President Elect Jody Wolf at jody.wolf@phoenix.gov.

**Employment Opportunities**

Vis Analytic Forensic Toxicology Specialist,
UIC, Chicago, IL, Expires: November 15, 2014

Grand Junction Forensic Laboratory-Assistant Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety, Grand Junction, Expires: October 8, 2014

Forensic DNA Network, Member Manager, Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis, Greenville, NC, Expires: December 16, 2014

Criminalist II, San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office Forensic Laboratory, San Mateo, CA, Expires: September 25, 2014

Advanced Topics for Human Identification & Data Interpretation
December 2-5, 2015 | Philadelphia, PA

This 4 day course will offer training for forensic biologists and technicians involved in testing and testimony for forensic human identification. 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, designing internal validation studies and interpretation guidelines, alternate approaches to mixture interpretation for challenging samples, evaluation of statistical models for mixed sample sources, and the use of novel techniques.

Distinguished faculty include: John Butler, PhD, Niels Morling, MD, DMSc, Michael Coble, PhD, Charles Brenner, PhD, Charlotte Word, PhD, and other forensic biology professionals.


Learn more: [www.ForensicScienceEducation.org](http://www.ForensicScienceEducation.org)
News Around the Globe

NIST Webinar on the Forensic Science Center for Excellence

Columbus buying software to improve crime DNA analysis
Columbus Dispatch
Columbus will upgrade technology to fix problems with how the Police Division's crime lab processes DNA. The Columbus City Council yesterday ...

DNA of sex offenders being tested in cold cases
KIRO Seattle
There's a new effort to find cold-case killers and rapists, including whoever was responsible for the rapes and murders of Michella Welch and Jennifer ...

Houston Forensic Science Center awarded high-level accreditation
Your Houston News
The lab, formerly known as the Houston Police Department Crime Lab, has been managed by Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc., a separate legal ...

Synthetic LSD a deadly new drug in Omaha
KETV Omaha
“(It) increases the heart rate tremendously and causes respiratory problems,” said Mike Sanders, an assistant special agent for the Drug Enforcement …
URI Center for Chemical, Forensic Sciences to Benefit from Generosity of Global Scientific ...
Lab Manager Magazine
The instruments will become part of the Center for Chemical and Forensic ... labs and an additional visit each year to the research laboratories.

Bill stuck so cannot create DNA data bank: Centre to SC
Indian Express
The Centre has informed the Supreme Court that the Human DNA Profiling Bill was currently held up and hence it ... personnel who are capable of handling forensic DNA testing for identification of unidentified dead bodies,” it said.

Scientists mapping coffee’s DNA get a jolt
The Courier-Journal
Scientists who analyzed the DNA of coffee found that what people love about it — the caffeine — is a genetic quirk, not related to the caffeine in ...

Review of old rape cases turns up three evidence kits worth testing
Salt Lake Tribune
New details of unprocessed rape kits in Salt Lake City show potentially valuable DNA evidence was not tested in one child rape case and two cases of ...

Ohio’s Innocence Protection Act expands access to DNA testing after conviction
Jackson County Times-Journal
Its goal was to help prevent wrongful convictions and make it easier to obtain DNA testing when testing might undermine confidence in a “guilty” ...
Forensic Training

NIST DNA Analyst Webinar Series: Probabilistic Genotyping and Software Programs (Part 2) September 18, 2014, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm (EDT)

California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center has partnered with the California District Attorney’s Association to offer the
below listed webinars. Please click the [here](#) for additional information.

Touch DNA in Sexual Assault Cases: Practical Considerations and Unanswered Questions
Date: September 30, 2014 Time: 12:00 pm—1:30 pm

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](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!

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**Forensics@NIST 2014 to take place Dec. 3-4 in Gaithersburg, Md.**

**ASCLD Webinars:**
Links to these webinars can also be found on the ASCLD [Training Opportunities](#) webpage.

**Detecting mismatched DNA**
EurekAlert (press release)
The discovery, they say, could increase the ability of forensic scientists to match genetic material in some criminal investigations. It could also prevent ...

**Forensic scientists and police investigators gather in Albany**
WNYT
Many of the best forensic crime scientists and police investigators from across the country and Europe are gathering in Albany Monday. They come to..

**Inside an Iraq morgue, where forensic pathologists seek answers in a land of death**
Sydney Morning Herald
The only solid information about his death was in a vial that Dr Aysa, a forensic pathologist, was holding in the air. “Two bullets in the chest and one in ...**ADP Showcase the Mobile Ballistic Lab at ADIHEX**
Business Wire India (press release)
The Machinery and Firearms Section at the Forensic Evidence Department showcased the Mobile Ballistic Laboratory for the first time as part of its ...

**Barsley named to forensic science panel**
Knoe.com
NEW ORLEANS (AP) - Dr. Robert Barsley has been appointed to the crime scene/death investigation scientific area committee by the National Institute ...

**Exonerating the innocent**
Toledo Blade
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

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine started calling for old DNA evidence in late 2011, encouraging Ohio’s 800 law enforcement agencies to clear ...

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GC/MS/MS Speed, Sensitivity, and Selectivity Beyond Comparison
Triple quadrupole GC/MS/MS has emerged as a powerful technique for trace-level analysis of drug residues. Shimadzu’s GCMS-TQ8030, providing exceptional sensitivity, selectivity, and specificity for detection and quantitation of targeted drugs in the presence of background interferences, is the most powerful choice for your toxicological applications.

Key features include:
• MRM and simultaneous Scan/MRM acquisition modes
• Ultrafast 600 MRM transitions/sec
• True scan speed of 20,000 u/sec
• Fully optimized collision energy for each MRM transition
• Single software platform for all Shimadzu GCMS
• Front-access source for easy maintenance

Learn more. Visit http://www.ssi.shimadzu.com/ASCLD
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=fdff9c6-4d9e-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).

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

As the innovative market and technology leader, QIAGEN creates sample and assay technologies that enable access to content from any biological sample.

Our mission is to enable our customers to achieve outstanding success and breakthroughs in life sciences, applied testing, pharma, and molecular diagnostics. We thereby make improvements in life possible.

Our commitment to the markets, customers, and patients we serve drives our innovation and leadership in all areas where our sample and assay technologies are required.

The exceptional talent, skill, and passion of our employees are key to QIAGEN’s excellence, success and value.


October 19-23, 2014: 36th Annual Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (SWAFS) in South Padre Island, TX.


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


May 24-29, 2015: The Association of
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 to forensic labs improving efficiency, increasing throughput, reducing turnaround time and eliminating backlogs.**

Visit [www.bodetech.com](http://www.bodetech.com) or email bode.service@bodetech.com for more information.

**Accreditation 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](http://www.a2la.org/training/course_schedule.cfm)

Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) in Dallas, TX.

July 20-24, 2015: [NIST to Host International Symposium on Forensic Science Error Management](http://www.a2la.org/training/course_schedule.cfm) in Gaithersburg, MD.

August 2-8, 2015: [100th International Association for Identification (IAI)](http://www.a2la.org/training/course_schedule.cfm) in Sacramento, CA.

August 8-13, 2015: The [2015 Annual General Meeting](http://www.a2la.org/training/course_schedule.cfm) of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE) will be held in Toronto, Canada.


The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis (CAFDA) would like to thank all the attendees that came to...
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.

  September 22-24, 2014, Alexandria, VA

- 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.

  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.

their Genome ID Forum 2014 - Emerging Forensic Genomic Applications held on September 9 and 10, 2014 in Greenville, North Carolina. Thought leaders from forensic science, research, academia, law enforcement, legal and technology development came together for an open dialogue regarding emerging science and technology applications and adoption through the forensic community. Over 65 forensic scientists, lawyers and researchers across the United States and England attended to discuss the implementation of new technologies and scientific applications in forensic human identification, new challenges in adoption, compliance and acceptance in a court of law. The presentations focused on research on emerging science and technology and the effect these emerging science and technology applications may have on forensic science practitioners. The program included thoughtful roundtable discussions that provided a meaningful exchange of ideas related to the direction of the forensic community concerning emerging technologies. The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis™ plans for the 2015 Genome ID Forum have already begun.