President's Message

Dear Colleagues;

Do you know a student who is in the process of obtaining a degree related to the field of forensic science and may need financial assistance? If so, ASCLD’s annual scholarship solicitation is now open and accepting applications. The annual award is in the amount of $1000.

Please reach out to prospective applicants as soon as possible as the due date (April 15) is quickly approaching. The application can be found on the ASCLD website http://www.ascld.org/outreach/student-resources/

Eligibility

Applicants must be a junior or senior in a baccalaureate program or a graduate student (masters or doctorate) at an accredited university who is pursuing a degree in forensic science, forensic chemistry, a physical or natural science. Applicants from FEPAC accredited programs will be given additional consideration. High school students or college/university students in their freshman or sophomore years will not be eligible for application. As the scholarship program was created to provide opportunity to students intending to enter the forensic field, scholarships will not be granted to current forensic science laboratory employees pursuing graduate degrees.

Selection criteria

• Award recipients will be selected on the basis of:
• Overall scholastic record
• Scholastic record in forensic science coursework
• Motivation or commitment to a forensic science career
• Personal statement
• Faculty/adviser recommendation

Thank you
Brady W. Mills
ASCLD President

If you have any ASCLD documents, pictures, and/or historical ASCLD items please contact us at office@ascld.org to have them sent to the office at our cost.
2015 Symposium April 26th-30th, 2015

Symposium Agenda

Click here to view the updated new member candidate list.

The only way to register this year is online, click here to complete your registration.

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) is the largest, multi-discipline accreditation body in the U.S., having accredited over 3,500 labs to various ISO standards over its 35-year history. A2LA is a non-profit, membership organization and its accreditations to ISO standards are recognized and accepted world-wide. The A2LA Forensic Accreditation Program offers accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 for forensic testing laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 for crime scene units. In addition, A2LA offers a diverse training program. Don't miss A2LA’s workshop, "ISO/IEC 17025: Non-conformances and Strategies to Prevent Recurrence" which will be presented by Program Manager, Karin Athanas, at 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.

Employment Opportunities

Forensic Scientist, Attorney General of Ohio, Richfield, Ohio, Expires: April 10, 2015
Chief Forensic Toxicologist, State of Utah- Department of Health, Tayorsville, UT, Expires: April 19, 2015
Lead Forensic Scientist (DNA) Grant Funded, DC
the ASCLD Symposium in April.

Jailers, not police, will do DNA collection
Green Bay Press Gazette
The ACLU isn't opposed to forensic use of DNA, he said, just taking it from people who, at the point of arrest, are still considered innocent. "We're not ...

MISSOULIAN EDITORIAL: Show support for crime lab in Missoula, too
The Missoulian
So it was curious that a bill establishing a new crime lab in Billings received such ... Perhaps these legislators finally recognize that forensic analysis in ... Ten years ago, the lab

Temporary Part-Time Lecturer in Justice Systems, Truman State University – Justice Systems Department, Kirksville, MO, Expires: June 30, 2015
FORENSIC UNIT SUPERVISOR, Washington County Sheriff's Office, Hillsboro, OR, Expires: May 31, 2015
Additional Director General, Punjab Forensic Science Agency, Pakistan (Lahore), Expires: April 30, 2015
Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice, Gannon University, Erie, PA, Expires: June 22, 2015
Forensic Toxicologist or Trainee, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: April 10, 2015
Crime Lab Director, Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division, Reno, NV, Expires: May 4, 2015
Director of Methods and Validation, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015
Forensic Analyst - Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 15, 2015
Evidence Technician, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 30, 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
Supervising Criminalist, Sacramento County, Sacramento, CA, Expires: April 6, 2015
Latent Print Examiner II, Oakland Police Department, CA, Oakland, California, Expires: April 10, 2015
Sheriff's Supervising Forensic Scientist – Fingerprint Comparison, Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura, Expires: April 10, 2015
Forensic Analyst – Trace, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 10, 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,
NW Indiana sheriff enlists team of forensic dentists
FOX19
VALPARAISO, Ind. (AP) - A northwestern Indiana sheriff has enlisted three dentists as forensic investigators, filling a need that includes matching bite ...

Law enforcement agencies seek faster DNA turnarounds
The News Herald
Because of the high demand, state labs do not accept touch DNA in non-violent crime cases such as burglaries. In a burglary, touch DNA would ...

Television show to pay for sex crime kit testing just after backlog located
Kentucky Post Pioneer
Kits sent to Michigan State Police crime lab are absolutely free for regional police, but the new law limits the form of kits the lab can take, the Journal ...

Flakka: The New Designer Drug You Need To Know About
Forbes
A man rushes out of his house in Miami last month, ripping his clothes off in a rage, screaming violently, after smoking a crystal-like drug. Five police ...

Lawmakers Push For More DNA Samples From Offenders
CBS Local
DENVER (CBS4)– Some state lawmakers are pushing to get more samples from offenders in Colorado’s DNA database. A bill proposed at the state ...

Doubts about failed DNA technician surfaced in 2010
San Francisco Examiner
Complaints about the conduct of a technician in the San Francisco Police Department’s crime lab who failed a key competency test last year surfaced ...

Electronic forensics lab at University of Alabama aids law enforcement agencies
Daily Journal
Electronic forensics lab at University of Alabama aids law enforcement agencies ... The new Joint Electronic Crime Task Force, which officially began ...

Senator proposes DNA sampling -- of some middle school

Bode Cellmark Forensics provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.

Bode’s newest offerings include:

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.

Forensic Training

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
An Alaska state senator suggested in a hearing Tuesday that criminal behavior -- and the need for future DNA testing -- could be predicted ... DNA backlog causes agencies to look for alternatives The Northwest Florida Daily News

Anyone who has watched a crime show knows that in TV-land, DNA is collected ... Because of the high demand, they are not accepting touch DNA on ... Jeffrey B. Martin, D-ABMDI's director and chief of forensic investigations, said ...

(AG) — House Speaker Michael Madigan wants to increase funding for state crime labs to address ... Crain's Chicago Business

The Chicago Democrat introduced legislation to provide an additional $6 million for forensics laboratories in the budget year that begins July 1.

State to preview new crime lab plans Hendersonville Lightning

EDNEYVILLE — The public is invited to attend an informational session next week on plans to build a new Western Regional Crime Laboratory to ...

UH Law Center's Thompson Releases COPS IN LAB COATS Broadway World

As a former prosecutor who now serves on the board of directors that oversees Houston's new, independent crime lab, Thompson knows more than a ...

Area law enforcement work to catch online predators WEAU

The Chippewa Valley Regional Computer Forensics Lab is where law enforcement agencies work to catch online predators. Captain Dan Bresina ...

Supervisors Assert Themselves Against DA on ACLU Loss and DNA Collection VoiceofOC

A majority of Orange County supervisors publicly asserted themselves against District Attorney Tony Rackauckas this week, forcefully questioning why ...

New DNA technique means pointing the finger at the right identical twin just got easier
DNA profiling (or genetic fingerprinting) has proved a revolutionary tool for forensic investigators as a means to identify potential suspects, exonerate ...

Metro crime unit does more than box up evidence
The Daily Advertiser
Three of the crime scene unit's officers have been deemed experts on latent fingerprint examination by district and U.S. courts and one is an expert in ...

Wyoming Police crime lab technician resigns after allegedly falsifying his credentials
MLive.com
WYOMING, MI -- A Wyoming crime lab technician tied to at least two violent crime cases has resigned amid allegations he falsely described his ...

House passes bill to create eastern Montana crime lab
Great Falls Tribune
HELENA (AP) – The Montana House has overwhelmingly passed a bill providing funding for an eastern Montana crime lab. House members voted to ...

New Metro crime lab receives accreditation
The Tennessean
The Metro police department’s new full-service crime laboratory will begin processing evidence from active criminal cases in April. The crime lab has ...

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

Accreditation Training

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board/FQS
FQS is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands. FQS 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 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 of the more important concepts will be reviewed such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement and method witnessing.

September 7-9, 2015, 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. Individual elements of the standard will be reviewed; the
Robert Durst, Handwriting and Judging Forensic Science
New York Times
A National Commission on Forensic Science is considering changes in procedures and techniques. How can forensic science be made more ...

Can't Fix the System's Use of Forensic Science Without Fixing the Science
New York Times
As the Innocence Project's review of D.N.A. exonerations shows, unvalidated or the improper use of forensic science contributed to approximately half ...

Strengthen Forensic Science Without Undermining It
New York Times
Forensic science is not monolithic. The field of "forensic science" encompasses multiple and diverse areas of science, subdisciplines and ...

SAPS forensic backlog dramatically reduced
Times LIVE
The SA Police Service (SAPS) had managed to reduced its forensic backlog ... This included backlogs in DNA and drug analysis as well as trichology.

Arson Cases Show the Need for Better Training in Forensic Sciences
New York Times
Although the situation has improved dramatically since 2000, fire investigation is a forensic science discipline that still lags far behind the rest of ...

Dh370m forensic laboratory in Dubai nearing completion
Yahoo! Maktoob News
Dubai's state of the art, Dh370 million laboratory of forensic science and criminology will soon see the light of day, with the Dubai Police saying 85 per ...

NOPD ballistics lab clears big backlog
FOX 8 News WVUE-TV
"Once we fire the weapon, the water will stop the projectile to help us recover pristine projectiles," said officer and Crime Lab examiner Sean McElrath ...

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.

June 22-23, 2015, Durham, NC
September 10-11, 2015, 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.

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

April 19-24, 2015: International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Newport, Rhode Island
May 18-22, 2015: Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic
Superior Telegram
To prepare for the increase in DNA sample analysis, the Wisconsin Department of Justice expanded the State Crime Lab in Madison with 4,857 ...

Sindh gets an official lab... in Jamshoro
The News International
There are a number of molecular genetics laboratories in Karachi and ... he said, the health department planned to build its own forensic laboratory for ...

Foremost DNA expert in US to lead Griffin Bell Lecture
Americus Times-Recorder
He is best known as the volunteer forensic DNA expert on Innocence Network cases around the world including that of Amanda Knox. Hampikian has ...

Scientist in Chesapeake Bay Cambridge, MD
May 24-29, 2015: The Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) in Dallas, TX.
May 26-29, 2015: 14th Annual DNA Technical Workshop - Bode East in Orlando, FL
July 20-24, 2015: NIST to Host International Symposium on Forensic Science Error Management in Gaithersburg, MD.
August 2-8, 2015: 100th International Association for Identification (IAI) in Sacramento, CA.
August 8-13, 2015: The 2015 Annual General Meeting of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE) will be held in Toronto, Canada.
August 31- September 5, 2015: The 26th Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics (ISFG) will be held in Krakow, Poland.
September 20 - 25th, 2015: Midwestern Association Forensic Scientist fall meeting will be held in Mackinac Island, Michigan.
October 6-9, 2015: 14th Annual AFQAM Training Conference will be held in Pensacola Beach, FL.
October 12-16, 2015: Southern Association Forensic Scientist (SAFS) Annual 2015 Meeting in Atlanta, GA.
October 18-25, 2015: Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) in Atlanta, GA.
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 (IACF) in Orlando, FL.

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