President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

During our Officer's Retreat last week, we finalized the chairs for the 2015-2019 ASCLD Committees. Our Board of Directors and members will chair the following committees. If you are interested in volunteering on a committee, please send an email to office@ascld.org.

- Advocacy - Director Andrea Sweich
- CFSO - Director Matthew Gamette
- Communications - Director Sabrina Cillessen
- Ethics and Bylaws - Director Jeff Salyards
- Training and Education - Director Kris Deters
- Membership - Director Ray Wickenheiser
- Nominating and Awards - Secretary Cecilia Doyle
- Symposium Planning - President Elect Jeremy Triplett
- Vendors - Director Adam Becnel
- International - Past President Brady Mills
- Ad Hoc Policy Committee - Past President Brady Mills and Past President Jay Henry
- Forensic Research Committee - Ms. Stephanie Stoiloff and Mr. George Herrin

Thanks

- Jody

NIST Seeks to Fill Three Vacancies on Forensic Science Standards Organization

The Organization for Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) has announced the intention to fill three vacancies in the organization. There is one vacancy on each of the following committees: the Forensic Science Standards Board, the Legal Resource Committee, and the Biology Scientific Area Committee. Please see the information at the following link for additional information, including how to apply.

http://www.nist.gov/forensics/osac-vacancies.cfm

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.

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.

Learn more: www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse

News Around the Globe

Dover DNA lab to help ID WWII remains
The News Journal
Edward Reedy, a forensic pathologist and as DPAA’s medical examiner, the ... Combined with advances in DNA science, he said they expect a high ...

Washington man imprisoned by flawed FBI forensic evidence exonerated
Salt Lake Tribune
But DNA testing in 2012 ruled out claims at trial by the prosecution and an FBI laboratory forensic hair expert that a hair
found in a stocking near the ...

**SDPD has nearly 3000 untested rape kits**
CBS 8 San Diego
Jennifer Shen, the department's crime lab manager, says that when someone reports a rape or sexual assault, the victim undergoes an exam and gets ...

delegation to meet with GBI about crime lab complaints
McDuffie Mirror
George Herrin Jr., the deputy director of the GBI's forensic sciences division, said the crime lab remains efficient and that cases like Dunn's are a rarity.

**State's new $30 million-plus crime lab ready**
Jackson Clarion Ledger
The state's new $30 million-plus Crime Lab has opened in Rankin County. With about 90,000 square feet, the new building triple the size of the old ...

**DNA tests, technology and justice: A brave and uncertain new world**
McClatchy Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON — The power of DNA evidence to put someone behind bars or keep ... Trace DNA – tiny amounts of genetic material – is saddled with ... of courtrooms and prompting a new realization: Forensic science can't always ...

**Forensic photography, through a medical lens**
Bend Bulletin
A series of forensic photographs can be a window back in time — and crucial in criminal investigations. Jennifer Schindell, a nurse, Benton County ...

**The World's Only Wildlife Crime Lab**
Jefferson Public Radio
Just about every criminal case involves physical evidence, and that physical evidence is often processed by a crime lab. There are more than 400 ...

**TBI applies for grant to help reduce backlog in crime labs**
WJHL
"Cases have been dismissed or cases
have been lost, due to the time it's taken to get the lab results back," First Judicial District Attorney Tony Clark ...

**Sexual Assault Advocate Speaks Out About Rape Kit Backlog**
WICS-TV
"What we need to do is ensure the state police crime labs have the necessary, the financial resources and personnel resources to make sure we ...

**Crime lab solves crimes, solved community problem**
Valdosta Daily Times
A locally based crime lab rarely earns accreditation from the American Society of Crime Lab Directors. In Georgia, only state and federal crime labs ...

**Kansas City, MO, police crime lab has thousands of untested rape - KCTV5**
KCTV Kansas City
"The No. 1 plea that we hear from our state police crime labs and forensic scientists is that they are overwhelmed," said Illinois Attorney General Lisa ...

**Law to help crime victims get justice**
IllinoisHomePage.net
The bill would almost double the amount of money state crime labs received in 2015. Labs face a backlog in the thousands and it can take almost a ...

**Prosecuting predators: Behind-the-scenes look at AG’s Forensic Computer Lab**
WRIC
Herring gave 8News rare access into the Forensic Computer lab. ... a mobile forensic lab so they can obtain the evidence faster at crime scenes.

**Secondhand Pot Smoke Can Make You Fail a Drug Test**
Live Science
People who are exposed to secondhand marijuana smoke may feel a bit of the "high" that comes with using the drug, a new study finds. They may also ...

**DNA charge unconstitutional for some convicted of misdemeanors**
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (blog)
Thousands of Wisconsin residents could

**Laboratory**, New York City Police Department, New York, NY, Expires: August 3, 2015
**Forensic Science Instructor or Assistant Professor**, Marian University, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, Expires: May 26, 2015
**Crime Lab Quality Assurance Manager**, Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory, Nashville, TN, Expires: July 22, 2015
**Director of Forensic Toxicology**, NYC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, New York, NY, Expires: July 21, 2015
**Training Specialist**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 15, 2015
**Forensic Analyst- Biology**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015
**Digital/Computer Forensic Examiner**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015
**Digital/Computer Forensic Examiner**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015
**Crime Lab Director**, City of Canton, Canton, OH, Expires: May 29, 2015
**Division Director, Forensic Science**, Kern County, Bakersfield, California, Expires: June 9, 2015
**Analytical Statistician**, Harris County Institute of Forensics, Houston, Texas, Expires: June 12, 2015
**Deputy Forensic Toxicologist ( DOH/SLD #55101)**, State of New Mexico – Department of Health – Scientific Laboratory Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Expires: July 8, 2015
**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
**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
be expecting $200 refunds from the state, after the Court of Appeals ruled that a DNA surcharge imposed on ... Department- Crime Laboratory, Madison, TN, Expires: June 18, 2015

Special Operators Are Using Rapid DNA Readers
Defense One
TAMPRA — Fingerprints are so 20th-century. For special operations forces conducting midnight raids in places like Pakistan or Syria, DNA is becoming ...

Kansas City, MO, police crime lab has thousands of untested rape - KCTV5
KCTV Kansas City
“The No. 1 plea that we hear from our state police crime labs and forensic scientists is that they are overwhelmed,” said Illinois Attorney General Lisa ...

County to get more resources to process DNA
Kern Golden Empire
BAKERSFIELD, CA- County Supervisors have agreed to provide the District Attorney’s office with some big bucks for DNA analysis. Supervisors voted ...

Our View: New crime lab will speed the wheels of justice
Fayetteville Observer
Fayetteville and Cumberland County have each chipped in $150,000 to create a county crime lab. It will have three analysts working full-time to ...

Jana Champion named state crime lab director
Madison.com
She started working at the crime lab in 1987 after being with the Drug Enforcement Administration in Chicago, Schimel said in a news release. In 2006 ...

Gun, badge, laptop: Anoka deputies tap mobile tech to solve crimes
Minnesota Public Radio News
The Anoka County Sheriff's Office mobile digital forensics lab is the state's first. ... Increasingly, he said, the signature elements of a crime are digital.

Cold Case: Crime lab receives grant to help solve Cold Cases
FOX CT

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.

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
Lt. John Varone, of the Groton Police department believes, “that having that resource with the forensic lab, makes our job so much easier...the...

**ACMT Seminar in Forensic Toxicology to Focus on Marijuana and Alcohol**

PR Web (press release)
The American College of Medical Toxicology will present A Legal “PotPourri” as part of its Seminars in Forensic Toxicology series. This course, which ...

**Crime lab opening in Cumberland County**

WTVD-TV
A crime lab opening in Fayetteville next month is expected to significantly cut ... officers and prosecutors announced the new lab on Monday morning.

**3 INVESTIGATES: More than 250 sexual assault kits never sent to crime lab**

WRCB-TV
HAMILTON COUNTY, TN (WRCB) - More than 250 sexual assault kits were never sent off to the state's crime lab at three of the area's largest law ...

**State Police reinstate forensic scientist after alleged cheating scandal**

Albany Times Union
A State Police forensic scientist who was facing termination has been ... Kevin P. Rafferty, a supervisor who has worked in the laboratory since 1996, ...

---

**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.

---

International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
Women's Leadership Institute
Branson, Missouri
August 2-7, 2015
Click [here](#) for additional information.
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

---

**Forensic Conferences**

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 (SOFIT) in Atlanta, GA.
Jodi Marsanopoli  
NFEA Laboratory Coordinator  
Firearms and Toolmark Examiner  
202-648-6116  
jodi.marsanopoli@atf.gov

The American Society of Crime Lab Directors, along with RTI, have made the below webinars available.

**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**

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.