President’s Message

Mark your calendars!

The ASCLD 2016 symposium will be held April 24-28, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue in Bellevue, Washington. Bellevue is the largest suburb of Seattle and boasts beautiful scenery along with major corporate and retail development in recent years. The Hyatt Regency Bellevue hotel is 17 miles from the SeaTac airport and is surrounded by more than 45 local eateries, 250 retail stores, and plenty to see and do!

The theme for the 2016 symposium is “INSPIRED LEADERSHIP: Developing a Culture of Excellence.” We are currently working on an exciting and educational week of content including the plenary session as well as full and half-day workshops. Additional symposium details and a full itinerary will be published later this year on the symposium website at www.ascldsymposium.com.

Stay tuned for additional information and we hope to see you in Bellevue!

Please join Johnson County Sheriff Frank Denning and Lab Director Gary Howell for the National Forensic Science Week special guest speaker on August 12, 2015, featuring John M. Collins, Jr., author of “The Wrongful Conviction of Forensic Science.”

Mr. Collins shines a light on the accusations made against crime labs and their scientists by investigating the actual circumstances of the convictions and the eventual exonerations. These headline cases all resulted in a national condemnation of forensic science based on biased review and reporting.

Click here for additional information.

The Marshall University Forensic Science Center, in cooperation with its FEPAC-accredited M.S. Forensic Science Graduate Program, has been providing specifically-trained DNA interns to crime labs since 2007. We encourage you to consider one of our TAP interns for Summer 2016.

Click here for the Technical Assistance Program (TAP) description and here for its accompanying TAP Request Form. By completing and returning the Request Form, you are not committing to hosting a TAP intern but rather initiating the conversation.

Please note that while a technical assistant may be assigned to your project now or in the near future, the individual will remain at the MU Forensic Science Center for training from August 2015–May 2016 with an expected arrival...
Once completed, the survey may be emailed to staton1@marshall.edu or faxed to 304-691-8929. This information may also be found on the MU MSFS website at www.marshall.edu/forensics, Technical Assistance Program.

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**Forensic Training**

International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

Women's Leadership Institute Branson, Missouri
August 2-7, 2015 Click [here](http://www.marshall.edu/forensics) for additional information.

2015 Impression, Pattern and Trace Evidence Symposium
August 25 - 27, 2015
San Antonio, TX
Click [here](http://www.marshall.edu/forensics) for additional information.

MAFS is announcing a Forensic Anthropology Workshop hosted by the Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory in Olathe, Kansas on September 1st - September 3rd. Click [here](http://www.marshall.edu/forensics) for additional details.

The Forensic and Investigative Science Outreach, at West Virginia University, is offering many onsite forensic science courses and workshops through September 30, 2015, as part of an award from the National Institute of Justice. Click [here](http://www.marshall.edu/forensics) for additional information.

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**Employment Opportunities**

Ron Smith & Associates – National Latent Print Examiner Training Academy. October 2015 Camp Shelby, MS
Click [here](http://www.marshall.edu/forensics) for more information.

The NFEA provides training for apprentice/entry level firearm and toolmark examiners from Federal, state

Shimadzu’s triple quad GCMS-TQ8040, 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. It enables the analysis of more than 400 compounds in one run, and features automatic method creation, scan/SIM acquisition mode, and an MRM optimization tool.

The Smart Forensic Database includes hundreds of compounds with optimized transitions and collision energies, CAS registry numbers and retention indices (RI). The database supports simultaneous high-sensitivity analysis of samples using GC-MS/MS, eliminating the need to configure complicated analysis conditions.
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

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

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival

Webinar Series:

**Advanced Topics for Human Identification & Data Interpretation**

December 1-4, 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

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 Conferences**

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.
News Around the Globe

India can learn from the UK's mistakes with DNA
Daily News & Analysis
Although many claimed that taking innocent people off the UK DNA ... The author is Director of GeneWatchUK and a participant in the Forensic ...
Crime scene chemical used to kill malaria in blood cells
UPI.com
7 (UPI) -- A chemical used by police to detect blood at crime scenes was used ... In the lab study, researchers combined it with an amino acid and the ...
Senate chairman demands action on rape kits
USA TODAY
At least 70,000 rape test kits collected by more than 1,000 law enforcement agencies have not been sent to crime labs for testing, the USA TODAY ...
Forensic lab to operate from Bhawani Mandap temporarily
Times of India
Kolhapur: District collector Saini has made a temporary provision of providing two rooms for the upcoming forensic science laboratory at the old ...
Crime lab analyst's lifelong obsession with artist A.D.M. Cooper goes on display at Stanford
Santa Cruz Sentinel
Criminalist Edward Peterson poses for a portrait next to the Astley D.M. Cooper painting "Burning Arrow," at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford ...
Northern California Coast Guard Crew Makes $181M Drug Bust
ABC News
The U.S. Coast Guard based in Northern California seized 12,000 pounds of cocaine from a vessel in the Eastern Pacific in one of the largest busts of ...
New forensics laboratory on campus nearly complete
Washburn Review
The Washburn website announced that the new Forensic Science Center will house the state crime lab and will give space to things like biology, DNA, ...
Webinar Highlights: Insights into a Forensic Lab – Mass Spectrometry Beyond CSI
SelectScience.net (press release) (registration)
Screening for xenobiotics is a crucial part of forensic

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
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

September 20 - 25th, 2015: Midwestern Association Forensic Scientist fall meeting will be held in Mackinac Island, Michigan.

October 6-9, 2015: 14th Annual AFOQAM 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 (IACT) in Orlando, FL.

toxicological analysis. Furthermore, comprehensive and reliable screening of human body fluids... Ohio attorney general says more than 8,000 rape kits tested for DNA matches

Akron Beacon Journal
Ohio attorney general says more than 8,000 rape kits tested for DNA matches... COLUMBUS: The state's forensic scientists have tested more than 8,000 sexual assault kits associated with a past crime to a crime lab within a year.

Australia's first body farm aims to answer forensic questions

ABC Online
There are many things about decomposing human bodies that forensic experts still don't know. Australia's first body farm is hoping to answer some of...

Emergency Regulations To Stop Synthetic Cannabinoids

My Twin Tiers.com
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced the passage of emergency Health Department regulations combatting the sale of synthetic ...

Dept. of Forensic Science reveals how long it takes to process toxicology report

WCYB
News 5 looked at why it took so long for prosecutors to get the toxicology report back. Scott County's Commonwealth Attorney Marcus McClung knows...

Advocates laud state's new evidence law

West Hartford News
State law stipulated that all rape kits should be sent to the lab for testing, but until now the law had been silent on the timeline for transfer and testing.

Parish officials commit to testing rape kits

Daily Comet
"We sent off those six to Louisiana State Police Crime Lab, and they're in the process of being tested," Houma Police Lt. Dana Coleman said.

Why Police Need a Forensic Laboratory

AllAfrica.com
The lack of a forensic laboratory compromises prosecution of terror and other criminal cases, an expert has said. Speaking during a counter-terrorism...

Is DNA profiling worth the effort?

onmanorama
The Union government will need all the financial and technical backing to implement the Human DNA Profiling Bill that was introduced in Parliament...

ACB arrests forensic lab technician for accepting bribe

Business Standard
A lab technician working at the Department of Forensic Medicine in Guntur Medical College in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh was arrested by the...
Dakota County begins collecting DNA from suspects
KARE
HASTINGS, Minn. - A county south of the Twin Cities begins collecting DNA samples Monday from people arrested and charged with violent crimes.

Down to a science: DNA lab increases efficiency after 5 years
Hilton Head Island Packet
Technicians at the Beaufort County Forensic Services Lab continue to become more efficient in analyzing DNA to help the sheriff's office solve cases.

Why Criminal Justice Isn't Just
Chronicle of Higher Education (subscription)
Our approach to criminal justice is failing us. ... evidence of innocence, we should bypass them and have crime-lab reports sent directly to the defense.

Richardson: No more excuses when dealing with sexual assaults
East Valley Tribune
Thanks to the police response and the dynamic work of the Mesa Police crime lab and that department's emphasis on collecting physical evidence ...

Proposed new DNA lab for forensic center in Sedgwick County is on hold
Wichita Eagle
A proposed expansion at the Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science ... DNA tested by the lab can be recovered from just about any surface.

Four problems with the DNA database
Times of India
India's Human DNA Profiling Bill 2015 proposes to set up a national DNA ... Delhi, says that forensic staff need to be trained before the bill is passed

St. Pete Police gets (needed) help on crime lab, traffic
Tampabay.com
ST. PETERSBURG — When crime scene technicians process evidence at the St. Petersburg Police Department, they huddle in a cramped area on the ...

Dallas DA disbands digital forensics lab after 8 months
WFAA
In the fallout, Hawk quietly disbanded the digital forensics lab, not even a year after her predecessor, District Attorney Craig Watkins, created it to ...

Grady Hospital releases rape evidence
The Augusta Chronicle
The flood of evidence has strained resources at the GBI's forensics labs. The agency lacks the manpower and funding to handle the additional ...