Greetings colleagues,

As we head towards late summer, your Board continues ASCLD’s work on behalf of the membership. We are moving forward with planning efforts for next year’s symposium, making preparations for the next ASCLD Leadership Academy, and various ASCLD committees have met to include the Training & Education, the Membership Committee, and the Ethics & Bylaws committee. In addition, Executive Director Jean Stover, President Elect Jeremy Triplett, and I have begun our search for a symposium site for the 2019 symposium. We are very excited about the prospects and I look forward to sharing more information on this in the near future.

Finally, ASCLD’s participation was evident at the 7th meeting of the NCFS in Washington, DC held just a couple of weeks ago. ASCLD has a member on every subcommittee and on the Commission. During the meeting, I invited those Commissioners who are not from the forensic science community to visit their local crime lab to gain an in-person insight into the complexities of how a crime laboratory operates. Many of the areas of interest for the Commission go beyond the core business of forensic science and will impact the financial, quality, and training operations of our laboratories. If you have a Commissioner that is local to your laboratory, please reach out to them and invite them to learn more about forensic science and crime laboratories.

As always, I wish you all the best this week!

Regards,

Jody

Next Board Teleconference: August 28th

Crime Laboratories have earned a position of public trust over time through providing reliable quality results. Keeping public trust includes being self-correcting once an issue is discovered. The Federal Bureau of Investigation allele frequency amendments is an opportunity to demonstrate the capability of forensic science labs to proactively address a challenge to quality.

This is the rescheduled webinar from June 30 that was not able to be completed:

ASCLD: FBI Allele Frequency Amendments - Technical Discussion

Date & Time: August 25, 2015 1:00 pm est

This presentation will assist quality managers, DNA technical leaders and forensic scientists to provide timely assessment, correction, notification, reporting and documentation; enabling Crime Labs to continue to earn and keep public trust. This webinar will provide for a technical discussion of the issue by the authors of the FBI's Erratum. It will also include presentations by a quality manager and technical leader on how they have handled the issue in their laboratories.

Presenters:

• Tamyra Moretti, Ph.D. is a Research Biologist in the DNA Support Unit of the FBI Laboratory in Quantico, Virginia.
• John Buckleton, Ph.D. is the Principal Scientist for the Institute of Environmental Science & Research Ltd in Auckland, New Zealand.
• Bruce Budowle, Ph.D. is the Executive Director of the Institute of Applied Genetics, University of North Texas Health Science Center, and Professor in the Department of Molecular and Medical Genetics, in Fort Worth, Texas
• Alyson Saadi, MNS, DNA Technical Leader for the Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory
• Cyndi Hall, Quality Manager, Idaho State Police Forensic Services Laboratory

Forensic Training

2015 Impression, Pattern and Trace Evidence Symposium
August 25 - 27, 2015
San Antonio, TX
Click here 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 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 for additional information.

Ron Smith & Associates – National Latent Print Examiner Training Academy. October

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.
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

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
VersionASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival VersionASCLD
Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival VersionASCLD Webinar Series:

Employment Opportunities

Forensic Scientist II-Blood Alcohol, Scottsdale Police Department Crime Laboratory, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: September 6, 2015
Assistant Director, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, Expires: September 2, 2015
Forensic Scientist II, LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: October 14, 2015
Forensic Scientist I, LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: October 14, 2015
Technical Writer – II (NIBIN) Opening, NLT Management Services, Beltsville, MD, Expires: November 18, 2015
Forensic Scientist, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Norfolk, VA, Expires: September 4, 2015
Forensic Scientist – Trace Evidence, Virginia
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
**News Around the Globe**

**Crime lab backlog continues to delay death penalty case**
Winston-Salem Journal
Nearly three years after an Ardmore woman was shot to death, only one-third of the physical evidence that Winston-Salem police seized in their ...  

**DWI blood testing policy is inefficient**
mySanAntonio.com (blog)
The county considered establishing a local crime lab to process the blood samples, but abandoned the idea because setting up an accredited lab ... 

**PGC program to offer detailed look at wildlife forensics**
The Dallas Post
Ballistics evidence, such as an empty shell casing, are sent to the Pennsylvania State Police crime lab. Tests are so detailed that they can match the ... 

**Coroner: Cooler needed now, morgue in future**
The Decatur Daily
Morgan County Coroner Jeff Chunn said he needs a $6,000 cooler to hold bodies when the state forensic lab in Huntsville is backlogged. With the ... 

**Indiana lawmakers to consider expanding DNA testing**
Indianapolis Business Journal
Jayann Sepich co-founded not-for-profit DNA Saves to educate lawmakers and the public about the value of forensic DNA testing after her daughter ... 

**Investigative Unit: Hundreds of cases remain open, despite DNA match**

**Forensic Conferences**

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

**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.
WBRZ
BATON ROUGE- Hundreds of positive DNA matches from the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab tied to criminal cases have done nothing to resolve ...

Harvey Settles Lawsuit Over Mishandled Rape Cases
CBS Local
... did not investigate their cases in a timely fashion, and violated their due process by not submitting the rape kits to the Illinois State Police crime lab.

Proposal would allow police to take DNA sample from felony suspects
WSBT-TV
A proposal from State Representative Pat Bauer of South Bend would allow police to take DNA samples from people arrested on felony charges, ...

New partnership cutting number of untested sexual assault kits
WOWK
The DNA profiles generated at the Forensic Science Center laboratory are then sent to the West Virginia State Police Forensic laboratory for further ...

Forensic odontology: a line of work that's not for the overly squeamish
USC News
California has one of the country's highest concentrations of forensic odontologists. ... It's under these circumstances that a forensic odontologist would be called ... “DNA is certainly the gold standard when it comes to making such ...

State crime lab uses technology to help solve gun crimes
Stanly News & Press
Forensic scientists at the State Crime Lab and other agencies nationwide ... the State Crime Lab analyzes digital evidence, drugs, toxicology, DNA, ...

Met Police hunts for MSPs to improve digital forensic investigations
Digital By Default News
The providers will also be required to carry out a range of technical services, such as “the provision of lab-based forensic analysis of digital devices ...

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.


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

For more information about these workshops, 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
Types of analysis
Akron Beacon Journal
Toxicology analysis of blood, urine and tissue are performed by Steve Perch, toxicologist for the Summit County Medical Examiner, using several ...

Editorial: State should expand MU's rape kit work
Huntington Herald Dispatch
With emergence of DNA testing and national databases of criminal ... of kits have been collecting dust on some police department or crime lab shelf, ...

Senator Don Harmon, President Pro Tempore
Oak Park Journal
Because law enforcement agencies in Cook County send recovered substances to the State Crime Lab to determine whether they are in fact drugs, ...

Holland gets toxicology company at MSU
Bioeconomy building
Lansing State Journal
HOLLAND TOWNSHIP – Trident Labs, a toxicology company, offers a service that hasn't been available locally. The lab has the capability to run drug ...

Lab's chemists on front lines of Maine's war on deadly drugs
Bangor Daily News
He and two other chemists work in the state's forensic drug lab, testing controlled substances — from prescription pills to methamphetamine — for all ...

OSBI: Collecting DNA At Time Of Arrest Could Help Solve Crimes
news9.com KWTV
Inside OSBI's crime lab, they process those DNA samples as well as by extracting them from evidence. Then, officials said the samples are put into the ...

Local cases overlooked in national review of flawed hair evidence
Al Jazeera America
“The overwhelming majority of violent crimes are prosecuted by local prosecutors using local crime labs. Those violent crimes are where hair ...

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