Colleagues,

We have had three comments to our proposed Bylaws change and they are posted on the ASCLD website for membership's review (http://www.ascld.org/3-2-1-board-eligibility-proposal/). One of the comments represents a counter-proposal; And, the two other comments are similar and raise questions about how this change would be administered. I have met with the BoD and wanted to share our responses to these two sets of comments.
Comment 1 (A counter-proposal): "I believe that all requirements can be satisfied with attendance at three meetings and three meetings is not enough to understand ASCLD and the needs of the community by interaction with other members. We are looking for active members that make things happen in the best interest of the community. Candidates should demonstrate their willingness and ability to serve as a board member by ASCLD membership for five years, attendance at three meetings and service on two different sub committees."

BoD Response to Comment 1: This member proposes an alternative approach which serves to set a minimum level of experience and service to ASCLD. In this case, it might be referred to as the 5-3-2 approach. Clearly, more experience in forensic science and commitment & service to ASCLD are a good thing. Our concern is that by setting the minimum eligibility standards so high, we could severely limit the pool of eligible candidates. The 3-2-1 standard was discussed during our last Business Meeting in DC and in subsequent Board meetings. Further, BoD Membership Chair Ray Wickenheiser vetted this concept with numerous stakeholders before the 2015 Business meeting when it was initially introduced to the membership; it has received strong support in all of these venues.

Comments 2 & 3 (Questions about how the proposed change will be administered):

Comment 2 – “I think the 3-2-1 is a great idea. This eligibility process will help ensure a smoother transition from general Member to Board of Directors by giving people a chance to learn some of ASCLD’s operating practices prior to serving on the Board. The only part that might be tricky is verifying this eligibility for those nominated from the floor during our business meetings.”

Comment 3 – “My comment is about item #3. This is my own comment, about my own experiences with ASCLD. I have volunteered twice to serve on a committee (don’t ask me to remember which ones!) over the last 4-5 years. In neither case was I contacted
by anyone at ASCLD or by the Chair of the committee I was interested in. No request for any information from me to see if I was suitable for the committee, no conversation to discuss expectations or time commitment required, no "thanks for putting your name in the hat", no "thanks, but we found members elsewhere". If #3 is going to be a requirement for even being nominated to compete for a slot, then a mechanism needs to be put in place to ensure that all who WANT to volunteer be ABLE to volunteer. As this stands now, I would vote NO on this proposal - even though I think those requirements are reasonable. I also think that comments should be an open process, not a "hidden" process. Unlike a discussion at a meeting, my concern will not be heard by anyone else and so I have no opportunity to influence a person's vote."

**BoD Response to Comments 2 & 3:** Both of these members raise an important question. How will the BoD verify and members know if the BoD candidates have met these minimum requirements? In general, it seems to be inefficient and potentially ineffective for future BoDs to need to maintain an authoritative list of volunteers. The BoD has discussed modifying the BoD candidate application requiring the applicant to describe how they meet the 3-2-1 Criteria. Based on the information provided by the candidate, the BoD Nominating and Awards Committee Chair would work with the ASCLD BoD Secretary and ASCLD Executive Director to verify the applicants 3-2-1 information. Based on the historical number of members who seek election to the ASCLD BoD, we do not believe there will be a sudden influx of applicants. So, verifying these claims should be fairly easy to handle on an individual basis.

Another very important point raised in Comment #3 is about the potential for abuse (i.e., a potential BoD applicant could be denied the ability to serve on a committee). Unfortunately, we acknowledge this potential is real. However, we feel that professionalism and collegiality will prevail. Finally, the actual administration of how Committee Members are selected seems too detailed and alterable to be fully described in the Bylaws. But administrative practices will be put into place to ensure all who volunteer will receive communication from ASCLD and every effort will be made to allow them to contribute if they choose to follow through.
We have also discussed the very fair criticism that this member volunteered to serve and was never contacted. The current BoD (now enhanced with an Executive Director Staff Member) has made a commitment that all volunteers will be contacted within 30 days from the end of the Symposium with information about how they can be involved ASCLD.

We would add two friendly amendment by way of housekeeping:

a) If approved this 3-2-1 BoD Eligibility Bylaw change will go into effect for the elections held at the Symposium in 2016, and

b) the requirement: “Attendance at two ASCLD Symposia as a Regular Member” should be amended to, “Attendance at two ASCLD Symposia as a Regular Member prior to completing an application to run for the BoD.”

We are providing an additional two week comment period that will end on November 2, 2015. Please send all comments to asclddirector@gmail.com. We will be posting these comments to the website for memberships review. Once the two week comment period closes, our Board will be working to administer the bylaws vote electronically.

Regards,

--Jody
providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

The Houston Forensic Science Center offers a variety of training opportunities.

**November:**
40-hour Forensic Photography course taught by two IAI-certified instructors will instruct participants on how to best document a crime scene. Click [here](#) for details.

One-day Beretta Armorer Course 90 series. This course will provide participants with a three-year certification. Click [here](#) for details.

Introduction to Fingerprint Comparison course. The course is designed for those with no prior experience with fingerprint comparison. Click [here](#) for details.

**February:**
Crime Scene Investigation class will provide participants with hands-on instruction in a unique training environment, a house specifically designed to teach such courses. Click [here](#) for details.

One-day Sig Sauer Pistols. Armorer Certification. Click [here](#) for details.

The Forensic Technology Center of Excellence Presents
ASCLD: FBI Allele Frequency Amendments - Technical Discussion

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.

IntegenX, headquartered in Pleasanton, California, is the market leader of Rapid human DNA identification technology. IntegenX technology platforms integrate advanced fluidics, optics, and biochemistry capabilities to produce sample-to-answer products for DNA-based human identity testing for forensics and law enforcement applications.
On-Demand (Approximately 75 Minutes)

Click [here](#) for registration information.

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

[False-Positive/Negative Error Rates in Cartridge Case Comparisons](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version](#)

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

[Employment Opportunities](#)
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](http://www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse)

RS&A Quicklinks

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT RS&A ONLINE](http://www.RonSmithandAssociates.com)
News Around the Globe

Delhi cops to have fingerprinting equipment to boost probe capabilities
Economic Times
Cyanoacrylate, popular as super glue, can bring to fore latent prints which could not be seen even after applying magnetic fingerprint powder, said the ...

NSW Police gives out-of-court settlement to officer over drug vault poisoning
Sydney Morning Herald
The instant the plastic drug exhibit bag burst in his hands Andrew McGrath knew he was in serious trouble. Having been seconded from his role in the ...

23andme & Ancestry.com aggregated the world’s DNA; the police obliged them by asking for it
Boing Boing
When 23andme and Ancestry.com began their projects of collecting and retaining the world’s DNA, many commentators warned that this would be an ...

NH crime lab tries to keep up with demand
Concord Monitor
The New Hampshire State Police Forensic Crime Lab has seen a drastic increase in the number of heroin samples it's testing. NH1 News reports the ...

Feds launch nationwide synthetic drug crackdown

Health and Safety Specialist, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston Forensic Science Center, Expires: October 31, 2015

Technical Writer – II (NIBIN) Opening, NLT Management Serives, Beltsville, MD, Expires: November 18, 2015

Quality Assurance Manager, Crime Scene Unit, New York City Police Department, New York, NY, Expires: November 13, 2015

Manager, Case Management, Training and Professional Development Section, New York City Police Department, New York, NY, Expires: November 13, 2015

Forensic Audio/Video Supervisor, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: October 31, 2015

Firearm / Tool Mark examiner, City of Albuquerque Police Crime Lab, Albuquerque, NM, Expires: November 5, 2015

Director (OCME Toxicological Laboratory), NYC CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER, New York, Expires: October 31, 2015

Toxicologist Site Manager, NMS Labs, Jacksonville, FL, Expires: October 30, 2015

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

Bode’s newest offerings include:
Bode’s Annual DNA & Investigators Conference, November 9-12, 2015 in Old Town Alexandria, providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.
WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal drug agents have arrested more than 100 people across the country in the latest phase of a national crackdown on...

**SPAWAR Systems Center Atlantic earns prestigious cyber forensics award**

DVIDS (press release)

CHARLESTON, S.C. - Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SSC) Atlantic's Cyber Forensics Criminal Investigations (CFIX) Laboratory became...

**SJC Commissioners Court approves service contract with Houston Forensic Science Center**

Your Houston News

Dan Garner of the Houston Forensic Science Center spoke next, giving... center, noting their quick turnaround as opposed to the state forensic lab.

**Portland City Council accepts federal grant to send untested sexual assault kits to lab**

OregonLive.com

Until last year, Portland police had no written guidelines that directed detectives when to submit sexual assault kits for testing at the state crime lab.

**Forensic lab flayed for delay in processing samples**

The Hindu

Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) issued a notice to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Rohini on Wednesday for delaying the processing of...

**More focus needed on State Police Crime Lab**

The Exponent Telegram (press release)

(registration)

This isn't the first time the State Police Crime Lab has drawn criticism. In fact, the issue of dealing with evidence in a timely fashion has drawn many in...

**Toxicology: Meet One Of Penn State's Smallest**

**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.

**Forensic Conferences**

Oct 18-25, 2015: Society of Forensic Toxicologists – Atlanta, GA.

Oct 19-23, 2015: Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists – Oklahoma City, OK

Oct 2015: Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists – Spokane, WA


March 14-15, 2016: Genetics in Forensics Congress – London

April 3-8, 2016: International Association for Chemical Testing – Orlando, FL

May 5-7, 2016: 2nd Annual Middle East Congress of the International Association of Law and Forensic Sciences (IALFS) – Istanbul, Turkey
Onward State
Toxicology at Penn State is "the only [toxicology program] that blends molecular/cellular and environmental studies of toxicology and pharmacology.

**Thermo Fisher Scientific Manufacturing Site First in Forensic Industry to Meet Proposed Guidelines ...**
SYS-CON Media (press release)
Although uncommon, DNA contamination in a forensic DNA analysis laboratory can lead to erroneous results and thereby negatively affect the ...

**Your Relative's DNA Could Turn You Into a Suspect**
Wired
Detectives had focused on Usry after running a familial DNA search, ... law professor and the author of Inside the Cell: The Dark Side of Forensic DNA.

**Columbus Police Opens State-Of-The-Art DNA Lab**
10TV
Smith became the first inmate in Franklin County to seek DNA testing. ... Smith's DNA test was done by at a private out-of-state crime lab that took 10 ...

**US: Murder suspect challenging DNA software used to incriminate him by seeking source code**
International Business Times UK
Haber and his colleagues argue their forensic DNA expert, Ranajit ... Most DNA interpretation studies have no validation studies that have been ...

**Forensic pathologist's new job leaves 10 counties in a bind**
The Durango Herald
Grand Junction-based forensic pathologist Dr. Robert Kurtzman has accepted an out-of-state job working for a state medical examiner's office, which ...
Lake County commissioners approve new X-ray analyzer, contract for scanning services
News-Herald.com
The Lake County Crime Lab is replacing a 14-year-old Micro-X-Ray Fluorescence Analyzer (XRF) instrument that is broken and no longer usable.

Bill would set rules for DNA evidence processing
WJXT Jacksonville
Adkins' legislation would require the FDLE to adopt rules for forensic medical evidence collected with an alleged sexual assault. House Bill 179 also ...

At Death Salon, real-world forensic investigations trump TV's CSI
PhillyVoice.com
In the grand hall of the Mutter Museum, a bustling crowd of death enthusiasts gathered last week to hear talks by medical examiners, morticians and ...

States' Shortage of Forensic Pathologists Delays Autopsies
Wall Street Journal
When a 58-year-old man collapsed and died at a convenience store in eastern Montana in August, his corpse had to be driven 300 miles to ...

USF holds forensic workshop to solve cold cases
Bay News 9
Forensic artists from across the country traveled to USF to help solve some of Florida's cold cases. Each artist is reconstructing the face of an ...

Rape kit inaccessibility a hurdle to justice for victims in Canada: advocates
680 News
Instructions sit next to pipettes at a station in the biology lab at the Houston Forensic Science Center in Houston on Thursday, April 2, 2015. Before ...

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 Competency of Testing and Calibration Laboratories.

ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Testing Laboratories

ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Breath Alcohol Calibration

ASCLD/LAB-International Internal Auditor Training Course

ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Testing Laboratories

ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for 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.
No more excuses. Fund the Utah crime lab and test every rape kit
Standard-Examiner
And that means fully funding the state crime lab in every budget, not just in response to crises. Because an understaffed, poorly equipped laboratory ...

Regional crime lab looks at altering fees
MyDaytonDailyNews
But the regional crime lab could avoid losing some business if it starts ... it is not clear how a fee-for-services model would work with forensic testing, and ... BCI also limits the amount of DNA evidence agencies can submit for a case.

Crime lab grant to PCCD
witf.org
(Harrisburg) -- The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency is hoping to bulk up the number of accredited forensic crime labs in the state ...

Drug tests for courts a waste of time says forensic scientist
Irish Times
Drug tests for courts a waste of time says forensic scientist ... “There’s more to forensic science than DNA and you – prosecutors – need to be aware of ...

New Standards for Texas DNA
KFDX
Thousands of criminal cases could be headed back to Texas courts for a second trial soon. The new standards for DNA analysis show crime labs all ...