Greetings Colleagues,

As we head into the final week of October, I’d like to remind you the Abstract Submission deadline is October 31st for the 2016 Symposium in Bellevue, WA. ASCLD is interested in presentations that focus on inspiring managers and employees for maximum performance and how to foster a culture of excellence in a forensic laboratory. The key goal of the 2016 presentations should be to provide crime lab leadership actionable tools and information to take back to their lab and continue the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of operation.

Additionally, this is the final week to offer comment on the 3-2-1 Board Eligibility Bylaws proposal. If you have any comments please submit them to asclddirector@gmail.com. As soon as we close the comment period, we will be working on executing the bylaws vote. This will be completed electronically as we did last year.

This week several of your Board members will be traveling to Chicago, IL to meet with our colleagues who lead the Forensic Committees of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Major City Chiefs, and the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies which is being held in conjunction with the IACP annual conference. This will be the third annual meeting between our organizations and I am looking forward to our continuing dialogue.

Finally, our next ASCLD Board meeting will be held in Austin, TX on November 2nd-3rd. If you have any topics, comments, or concerns you would like the Board to consider/discuss, please email them to our Executive Director Jean Stover at asclddirector@gmail.com.

Have a great week!
Thanks!

--Jody

Forensic Training

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.

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:

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.
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
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. Click here for more information.

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival Version
ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version
ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version
ASCLD Webinar Series:
Advanced Topics for Human Identification & Data Interpretation

December 1–4, 2015 | Philadelphia, PA

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.

ASCLD/LAB is a not-for-profit corporation specializing in the accreditation of public and private forensic laboratories. Since
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

1982, we have been committed to the ongoing accreditation, support, education and oversight of forensic organizations striving for excellence in forensic analysis. Visit our website to learn more about our accreditation programs, the assessment process and training opportunities.

Employment Opportunities

Training and Development Specialist, Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: November 1, 2015

Forensic Scientist (Crime Scene), Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: November 1, 2015

Senior Fingerprint Specialist, IRS National Forensic Laboratory, Chicago, IL, Expires: October 30, 2015

Forensic Scientist-DNA, Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Laboratory, Vernon Hills IL, Expires: November 20, 2015

Non-tenure faculty position, Penn State, Forensic Science, University Park, PA, Expires: December 31, 2015

Criminalist I – Firearms Examiner, Boston Police Dept, Boston, MA, Expires: November 16, 2015

Supervising Criminalist, County of San Diego Sheriff's Office, San Diego, CA, Expires: November 5, 2015

Latent Print Examiner, Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory, Minneapolis, MN., Expires: November 3, 2015

Forensic Scientist, MT Forensic Science Division, Billings, MT, Expires: November 30,
State crime lab getting even slower at processing evidence
Miami Herald
Florida's crime lab is getting even slower at processing forensic evidence as the ... DNA and biology samples that took 85 days to process earlier in the year, are ... If not for crime lab backups, the state could be more
Concerns over DNA analysis spur review of hundreds of Texas cases
MyStatesman.com
Scene inside a crime lab under the Department of Public Safety. ... Now the Texas Forensic Science Commission, which sets

23andMe Discloses Police Requests For Customers’ DNA
Popular Science
Private genetics company 23andMe has published a transparency report, revealing the number of requests for customers’ DNA the company has ...

Bend OSP crime lab analyst scandal widens
KTVZ
Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel announced Wednesday his investigation has uncovered evidence that a forensic analyst suspected ...

Tulsa forensic scientist identifies chemicals in synthetic drug
KOKI FOX 23
Jared Lieser is part of the Tulsa Police Department’s Forensic Lab Division. He and his coworkers are vital to nearly every investigation the department ...

CSI: ISU? University gets millions for forensics center
Iowa City Press Citizen
Rigg said he hopes any new center on forensic evidence will focus on ... The laboratory is government owned, but operated by and located on Iowa ...

Swedish Govt Turns Over Crime Lab to LNP
AllAfrica.com
In the wake of building the capacity of the Liberia National Police (LNP) ahead of the drawdown of the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), the government ...
Police might move confiscated cash into bank
Sioux Falls Argus Leader
Johnson wouldn't say just how much money is kept in the crime lab, but ... "If money itself is a part of the crime, we would need the court's permission ... 

City approves DWI lab extension
StarNewsOnline.com
With the $166,941 in new funds, the Wilmington Police Department Crime Laboratory will cover all agencies in New Hanover, Brunswick, Pender, ...

Budget Impasse Backlogging State Crime Labs
MyStateline.com
Assistant Deputy Chief of Rockford Police Pat Hoey explains, "That's just how long it takes a lot of times with the backlog at the state crime lab to get to ...

FDLE Wants Money For Crime Labs
WGCU News
The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is asking for almost $8 million from the state legislature for its crime labs. Half of that money is to keep ...

Arkansas Pushing To Test All Untested Rape Kits
KARK
It states that all hospitals and law enforcement agencies across Arkansas must send their untested rape kits to the state crime lab to be examined.

Forensic Evidence Isn't As Reliable As You Might Think
ThinkProgress
For decades, flawed forensic evidence has been used to convict innocent people ... DNA is widely considered an accurate indicator of a defendant's ...

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

May 17-20, 2016: Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientist (MAAFS) – Richmond, VA
DNA sheds light on past mistakes
Arizona Sonoro News
As the science around DNA testing advances and becomes more commonplace in courts it reveals weaknesses in other forms of forensic evidence ...

Study Recognizes Value of Forensic Expertise in Facial Identification
University of Texas at Dallas (press release)
"Each forensics lab has its own standards and procedures," O'Toole said. "But they typically don't share information about the type of testing they ...

Vita: Joseph T. Walker
Harvard Magazine
In 1934, chemist Joseph T. Walker, Ph.D. '33, took on the task of creating a crime-detection laboratory for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Backlog of forensics cases mounts
taosnews
"It's hard to rely on the lab to solve a case," said Taos Police Detective Barry ... "With the evolution of forensic science and its ability to answer lots of ...

Sexual assault victim advocate says state lab is a model
SFGate
Rhode Island does not have a backlog of sexual assault kits, according to Cara Lupino, the forensic biology lab supervisor at the state health ...

May 28-June 3, 2016: The Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners – New Orleans, LA
Aug 7-13, 2016: International Association for Identification – Cincinnati, OH
Sep 18-23, 2016: International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences – Auckland, New Zealand
Oct 3-7, 2016: Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientist (MAFS) – Branson, Missouri

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.
DNA-based convictions in Maine may be challenged due to faulty software

Bangor Daily News

“This could be a huge issue, especially in cases where DNA evidence was a significant factor in the case ...

Mercier's attorney, David Paris of Bath, said Friday he has asked the crime lab to recalculate the DNA probability in the case.

Finding child victims in a haystack of forensic images

GCN.com

According to the Homeland Security Investigations agency, one in five girls and one in 10 boys in the United States will be sexually exploited before ...

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.

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