Dear Colleagues,

We have had a productive year so far and many of our committees have been hard at work to achieve the goals our Board developed earlier this year. Two such committees are the Forensic Research Committee and the International Committee, specifically the US Technical Advisory group to the ISO Project Committee 272. Below, please find updates from both of these committees.

In addition, our Symposium Planning and Sponsorship Committees have been hard at work on our 2016 symposium! The Call for Abstracts has gone out to our membership and the vendor website is now active. Please go to [http://www.ascldsymposium.com/](http://www.ascldsymposium.com/) for additional information.

Finally, the public comment time frame for the proposed 3-2-1 Bylaws revision is quickly approaching its deadline of October 1. Please be sure to review the proposal and submit any comments you may have.

Thanks!

--Jody

Next Board Teleconference: October 5, 2015

Message from the ASCLD Forensic Research Committee (FRC)

Have you developed a special procedure in your lab to analyze unusual evidence?
Have you implemented a procedural change in your lab that has dramatically improved quality or throughput?
Have you performed a validation or evaluation of a new instrument platform that is not currently used for casework in other forensic labs?
Have you performed a validation or research study that has not been published or repeated in multiple labs?

If your answer to any of these questions is Yes, then your peers need your assistance! The ASCLD FRC is encouraging the exchange of this type of information within the forensic laboratory community. The new ASCLD website has a mechanism to allow member labs to submit information on methods, validations, or instruments that may not be commonly used across forensic labs. By entering information in this database, which is currently only available to ASCLD members, you are helping disseminate this knowledge beyond an individual laboratory to the broader forensic community. Please log in to the ASCLD website and go to http://www.ascld.org/member-site/rd-validation-library/ to submit the information about your method or project.

ISO TC 272 Forensic Science – New Work Item Proposal Update:
ASCLD, through its leadership in the US-TAG, is committed to engaging its stakeholders in an effort to establish ISO Standards for the global forensic community. We all recognize that forensic science generally starts with the detection and collection of material found at crime scenes. This first body of work is essential and will be beneficial for the global forensic science community.

With this commitment, a New Work Item Proposal has recently been submitted to the ISO TC 272 Forensic Science Committee for consideration. The scope of the proposal is to set out standard practices for the recognition, recording, recovery, transport and storage of physical material from crime scenes in order to preserve its integrity for forensic purposes.
This new proposal will be circulated to all P-members (Participating Countries) and to the O-members (Observing Countries) to review. You can see more details regarding what countries are participating vs observing by visiting the following website:
http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards_development/list_of_iso_technical_committees/iso_technical_committee.htm

Soraya McClung, the US-TAG Secretary will be distributing the New Work Item Proposal as soon as possible for all interested parties to review.
ASCLD will continue to engage its stakeholders and encourage participation and solicitation of new US-TAG members.

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Photo 1: ASCLD Past Presidents Richard Tanton, Carla Noziglia, Brady Mills, and President Jody Wolf.
Photo 2: ASCLD Past President Brady Mills, ASCLD President Jody Wolf, Past ENFSI Chair Ulla Lano, ENFSI Chair Jan de Kinder.

We have another opportunity to use our newly minted electronic voting procedure to consider a Bylaws change that creates eligibility requirements for to serve on the Board of Directors. For those of you who attended our last Symposium in Washington DC, this proposal was presented under the moniker of 3-2-1. It essential requires that candidates for the BoD have: a) been ASCLD Members for 3 years, b) attended 2 Symposia, and c) served on 1 subcommittee.

The proposed language is contained here:

**SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY & COMPOSITION**

Eligibility for nomination and election to the Board of Directors includes the following three requirements:

- ASCLD Regular Membership for 3 years
- Attendance at two ASCLD Symposia as a Regular Member
- Volunteer service on one committee or at one event.

The Board of Directors shall consist of twelve (12) regular Directors, elected from the regular members of the Corporation. In addition, there shall be, two (2) non-voting ex-officio Directors, one (1) who shall be the Executive Director of the Corporation and one (1) who shall be the immediate past President of the Corporation. If the immediate past President of the Corporation has not completed their full four year term of service on the board at the completion of their term as President, they shall retain their voting rights for their full four year term. No two regular Directors of the Board of Directors shall be from the same business, corporation or agency.

This proposed Bylaw change will be posted for 30 days. Please provide any comments for consideration to our Executive Director, Jean Stover, at asclldirector@gmail.com. We will take the official Electronic Vote sometime shortly after October 1, 2015.
Forensic Training
Science Symposium: The Past, Present, and Future of DNA

October 2, 2015 | 9:30 AM–4:30 PM
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

This one-day science symposium will focus on the explosion of knowledge about past and present DNA and will include discussions about possible directions and applications for future research. The event will include experts in ancient DNA, de-extinction, human origins, population genetics, forensic science, ethics, business, future synthetic life, and the personal genome.

Click here for registration information.

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 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 2015 Camp Shelby, MS
Click here for more information.

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.
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 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 Version
- ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version
- ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version
- ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version

ASCLD/LAB 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

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

[Accreditation Program Manager](mailto:ascll-lab.org)
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

**RS&A Quicklinks**

CLICK HERE TO VISIT RS&A ONLINE
News Around the Globe

Another crime lab worker's evidence called into question
OregonLive.com
The work of a second crime lab analyst has been called into question, just a day after Oregon State Police confirmed a forensic analyst was under ...

State Crime Lab Working Through Case Backlog
TWC News
RALEIGH, N.C.—From checking for fingerprints, to testing prop samples, State Crime Lab scientists showed the public the fundamentals of forensic ...

OSP Forensic Specialist accused of tampering with 110 cases from JaCo
KOBI-TV NBC5 / KOTI-TV NBC2
... to several defense attorneys informing them that the analyst quote "is suspected of skimming drugs from the evidence she tested at the crime lab.".

Prosecutor backs expanded DNA testing
The Boston Globe
Suffolk District Attorney Daniel F. Conley backed a bill that would allow police to collect the DNA of people arrested for felonies during booking, calling ...

Govt Lab Stops Shooting Live Pigs in Crime-Scene Experiments
Scoop.co.nz (press release)
PETA US is calling on the universities to stop shooting defenceless pigs in the face and exclusively use advanced, reliable non-animal forensic...

**Grant Money Designed To Help WVSP Crime Lab Work Through Backlog**

WCHS-TV8

Thanks to a 1.7 million dollar grant to designed eliminate a backlog of untested sexual assault evident kits, West Virginia can now get to work on the...

**Forensic review of sexual assault cases ordered after poor practice concerns**

The Guardian

Tully's review comes as forensic scientists warn that Britain's over-reliance on cheap DNA techniques and the country's loss of expertise following...

**Mayor calls Police Bureau's dismal history on handling of sex assault kits 'unacceptable'**

OregonLive.com

How a sex assault kit is processed Behind-the-scenes at Portland Forensic Laboratory, forensic scientist, Chystal Bell, shows us how a sexual assault...

**New state-of-the-art crime lab opens in Laredo**

KGNS.tv

Tuesday morning was the official opening of the Oscar "O.J." Hale Crime Lab. The DPS facility includes equipment for firearms testing, drug analysis...

**DNA Links Repeat Offenders to Unsolved Crimes**

WBay

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

**Firearms Examiner**, Kansas City Police Crime Laboratory, Kansas City, Missouri, Expires: October 1, 2015

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

Bode's newest offerings include:

**Bode 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.

**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.
A Wisconsin law implemented this April requires DNA tests to be submitted to the Wisconsin Crime Lab upon arrest—rather than conviction—for any...

**New DNA evidence guidelines could alter thousands of cases**

WFAA
At issue is thousands of cases in which more than one person’s DNA is ... being held at the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Science in Dallas.

**FDLE seeks $7.8 million to help address crime lab backlogs**

Tampabay.com (blog)
Other needs, like processing DNA has jumped from a 74-day wait to 85 days and finishing a request on trace evidence from a crime scene has gone ...

**Law enforcement agencies trialing technology that analyzes chemical residues on fingerprints**

Biometric Update
... are testing ArroGen Group’s new fingerprint technology to analyze chemical residues on fingerprints taken from a suspect or from latent prints left at ...

**Police Agencies Get Money To Test Backlog Of Rape Kits**

Here And Now
Here & Now’s Peter O'Dowd talks with Kermit Channell, executive director of the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory, which just received a grant from ...

**Highlands County has no untested rape kits**

Highlands Today
Bondi said she will help prioritize legislative funding to add state crime lab capacity, eliminate the pay ...

### Forensic Conferences

- 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 of 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...
AG Bondi: DNA Testing Crucial In Solving Sex Crimes
WFSU
But the state's attorney general is hoping some of that money will be used to support the testing of what she estimates are thousands of untested DNA ...

Cheap Mexican meth fills void as drug production sharply declines in Midwestern states
Fox News
ST. LOUIS (AP) – The manufacture of methamphetamine is sharply down in certain Midwestern states that have had the most trouble with the drug ...

Reading crime scenes
Valdosta Daily Times
The crime lab on North Ashley Street is an interdepartmental effort between seven regional law-enforcement agencies: the Valdosta Police ...

Federal Funds Help State Address Almost 1000 Untested Rape Kits
CT Newsjunkie
A $1.4 million federal grant to the state crime lab means those who have gotten away with rape may have reason to fear a DNA match could help hold ...

Forensic Science survives budget cuts, area agencies relieved
Times Daily
Forensic Science survives budget cuts, area 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 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
agencies relieved ... not force the Alabama
Department of Forensics to close the Huntsville
forensics lab.

DC police take most breath test machines out of
service
Washington Post
But coming on the heels of the DNA testing issue at
the District's $220 million Consolidated Forensic
Laboratory, which opened in 2012 in Southwest ...

Austin Police revisiting 123 crimes following
technician lapse
KXAN.com
This past summer, APD crime lab managers also
audited the files of other crime scene technicians
and found one other situation where a tech had ...

Editorial: The price of shortchanging law
enforcement
Tampabay.com
Fed up with FDLE's slow pace, some Florida
counties have set up their own crime labs. Pinellas
County runs its crime lab at a cost of $1.1 million
a ...

Legislation requires all rape kits to be tested
WJXT Jacksonville
The proposed legislation requires that every rape kit
be forwarded to the state crime lab within three
weeks of having been received by a law ...

Lawyers, Scientists Try to Unravel Thorny New DNA
Standard
Texas Tribune
While there’s no proof that the new standard
adopted by the Texas Department of Public Safety
crime labs and other labs used by DA’s offices ...