Greetings Colleagues,

President Elect Triplett and the Symposium Planning Committee continue to make progress on preparing for the 2016 ASCLD Symposium in Bellevue, Washington. The abstracts that were received have been reviewed and notifications will be going out soon to those who have been accepted for the symposium. Look for registration to open in January 2016 [http://www.ascldsymposium.com/](http://www.ascldsymposium.com/). I want to express my appreciation to all who submitted an abstract and to the members who serve on the Symposium Planning Committee who have been working on planning an amazing symposium for 2016!

Also this past week, the registration for the ASCLD Leadership Academy opened. This will be the third annual offering of this program and we are excited about the amount of interest that has already been expressed in this year’s program. We are looking forward to another great year for the Leadership Academy thanks to the efforts of our Training Committee.

Finally, last week was the 8th meeting of the National Commission on Forensic Science in which seven DRAFT work products were introduced. As a reminder, the NCFS work products will remain open for public comment until December 22nd. Also in this meeting Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates, announced the DOJ’s commitment to laboratory accreditation. [http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-new-accreditation-policies-advance-forensic-science](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-new-accreditation-policies-advance-forensic-science) ASCLD has a long history demonstrating support for laboratory accreditation and values the DOJ’s commitment to quality in forensic science laboratories.

In closing, I would like to express my warmest wishes to all of you for a safe and happy holiday season. May you spend it with friends, family, and loved ones.

Sincerely,

Jody

Next Board Teleconference: December 18th

Registration for the Leadership Academy 2016 has opened. Click [here](http://www.ascldsymposium.com/) to view for additional information about the Leadership Academy, as well as the links for registration.

Registration for the Leadership Academy 2016 also includes registration for the ASCLD
Symposium. Attending the symposium is a great way to maximize your leadership training opportunity. Any questions, please email or give a call to Director Kris Deters at Kristine.deters@state.mn.us and 651-793-2994. Additional information about the symposium is also located on the ASCLD Symposium website.

Fellowship Opportunity: Graduate Research in STEM

Research from science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines can have important implications for the U.S. criminal justice system. NIJ is looking for doctoral students with innovative research that aims to solve problems faced by criminal justice practitioners.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2016 Graduate Research Fellowship program, which provides a student stipend of $35,000 annually, as well as up to $15,000 annually to cover tuition and research expenses. Up to $150,000 and three years of support are possible, with demonstration of continued enrollment and satisfactory progress.

Students from PhD programs in all STEM fields are encouraged to apply, including but not limited to: the physical sciences, life sciences, computer and information sciences, engineering, mathematics and statistics. International students are also eligible. Learn more about the NIJ Graduate Research Fellowship. Deadline: Dec. 15, 2015.

Forensic Training

March 14-18 2016 the Maryland State Police will be hosting the Forensic Management Academy presented by West Virginia University. This one week premier business program was designed for forensic professionals to strengthen their management competencies and be better prepared to meet the increasing demands of forensic laboratories. Contact Martina Bison-Huckaby at martina.bison.

Postmortem Interpretive Toxicology

Where: Philadelphia, PA
When: January 25-29, 2016
Course Fee: $1,500
huckaby@mail.wvu.edu or (304)293-7926 for additional information.

The course registration is $2,250 and the enrollment link is http://wvu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_41L3kIo749uz3RZ

Ron Smith & Associates Training

December 2015
Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge Examination
Location: Glendale, CA
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Understanding Exclusion and Sufficiency Decisions
Location: Clearwater, FL
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 36

Digital Crime Scene and Evidence Photography
Location: Rio Rancho, NM
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

January 2016
Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge Examination
Location: Bethlehem, PA
Class Dates: 01-18-2016 thru 01-22-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

February 2016
Essential Ridgeology Concepts
Location: Bourne, MA
Class Dates: 02-08-2016 thru 02-12-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Forensic Examination of Violent Crime Scenes
Location: Cumming, GA

The Center for Forensic Science Research & Education presents its 4th annual in-depth course in interpretive postmortem toxicology. This is one of the most challenging areas of forensic science, given the complex range of considerations that need to be applied in performing analysis, and reporting and interpreting results. Factors from choice of samples, collections tubes, postmortem redistribution, analytical approach, drug-drug interactions and tolerance all play a part in providing accurate and reliable interpretive input for the pathologist or medical examiner.

Register today: http://forensicscienceeducation.org/postmortem-interpretive-toxicology/

Learn more: www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse

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).
Class Dates: 02-16-2016 thru 02-18-2016
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

Fundamentals of Crime Scene Examination and Evidence Collection
Location: Grand Forks, ND
Class Dates: 02-22-2016 thru 02-26-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

March 2016
Scientific Analysis (ACE-V): From the Laboratory to the Witness Stand
Location: Dallas, TX
Class Dates: 03-07-2016 thru 03-11-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge Examination
Location: Melbourne, FL
Class Dates: 03-21-2016 thru 03-25-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Palm Print Comparison Techniques
Location: Bethlehem, PA
Class Dates: 03-22-2016 thru 03-24-2016
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

New courses and class locations are added daily so be sure to check the website at:
www.RonSmithandAssociates.com/Training

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

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.

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 Webcast: The Public Health Challenge of Synthetic Cannabinoids

This one day symposium, recorded live on September 30th, 2015, addresses different aspects of synthetic cannabinoid use, including pharmacology, clinical symptoms, assessment and treatment of synthetic cannabinoid use and laboratory testing related to these compounds. Click here for additional 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 American Society of Crime Lab Directors, along with RTI, have made the below webinars available.

Forensic Science Expertise Opportunities (DNA, Toxicology/Chemistry, Toolmarks/Firearms, & Latent Prints), National Forensic Science Technology Center, Atlanta, GA and/or various OCONUS locations based on government requirements, Expires: March 11, 2016

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

Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science, Department of Forensic Science, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, Expires: December 31, 2016

Forensic Scientist I-III, DNA, Texas Department of Public Safety, Austin, TX, Expires: December 23, 2015

Forensic Laboratory Director, Solano County, Fairfield, CA, Expires: January 12, 2016

Supervisor – Biology Section, Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Topeka, Kansas, Expires: January 6, 2016

Supervisor – Chemistry Section, Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Topeka, Kansas, Expires: January 6, 2016
RS&A Quicklinks

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News Around the Globe

Aurora, Arapahoe and Douglas counties exploring new joint crime lab
The Denver Post

Arvada City Councilman John Marriott checks out the ballistic water tank at the opening of a regional crime lab in


Forensic Scientist – Firearm Examiner, Fort Worth Police Crime Laboratory, Fort Worth, Texas, Expires: March 8, 2016

Forensic Scientist – Trace Evidence Examiner, Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory, Dayton, OH, Expires: January 22, 2016

Forensic Analyst- Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015

Forensic Services Assistant Manager, Austin Police Department, Austin, Texas, Expires: December 18, 2015

Postdoctoral Research Associate – Genomics, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, Expires: March 1, 2016

Criminalist I, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, ST LOUIS, Expires: December 18, 2015

Toxicologist, Senior, State of Wisconsin Department of Justice, Madison, WI, Expires: December 28, 2015

Chief Toxicologist, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: December 31, 2015

Forensic Scientist, City and County of Denver-Police Department Crime Laboratory, Denver, Colorado, Expires: December 31, 2015


Forensic Analyst- Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015
Some states review flawed hair-analysis convictions — but so far, not Montana
Montana Standard
Spurred by the FBI's admission that its forensic work involving hair analysis — and its training of state crime lab workers — has been deeply flawed, ...

Spain cocaine seizure: Drug disguised as wooden pallets
BBC News
Spanish police say they have seized dozens of pallets made out of 1.4 tonnes of compressed cocaine that was made to look like wood. They also ...

DNA lab plays vital role for military families
Delaware State News
The Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory provides scientific consultation, research and education services in the field of forensic DNA analysis ...

UC San Diego Scientist Looks To Microbes For Forensic Clues
KPBS
UC San Diego Scientist Looks To

Latent Print Examiner I, II, III, or Senior,
Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY, Expires: December 18, 2015

Forensic Scientist (Biology) I, II, or III,
Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY, Expires: December 18, 2015

Forensic Analyst- Biology, Houston
Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015

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

Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science, Sam Houston State University,
Huntsville, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015

Laboratory Manager I – Forensic Chemistry Unit, Delaware Division of Forensic Science, Wilmington, DE, Expires: February 27, 2016

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.

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction Program
Microbes For Forensic Clues ... on our microbial DNA, where we can be 90 percent different from one another." ... to decompose in an outdoor forensic lab at Sam Houston State University in Texas.

**Bill from Senator Hatch would create national DNA crime network**
fox13now.com
SALT LAKE CITY -- Senator Orrin Hatch has powerful support for his latest bill, and the director of the FBI, James Comey, says it would help, "change ...

**Crime lab receiving grant for sexual assault cases**
KBTV Fox 4 Beaumont
The Jefferson County Regional Crime Lab is preparing to tackle more than 1,000 sexual assault ... However, DNA testing was not available at the time

**Lack of crime lab progress frustrates officials**
Neosho Daily News
Independence officials are still waiting for the Missouri State Highway Patrol to take over the crime lab from the Independence Police Department.

**UPDATED: BC's new public safety minister talks drugs, DNA costs**
CKNW News Talk 980
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**
February 22-27, 2016: **American Academy of Forensic Science** – Las Vegas, NV

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

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**
UPDATED: B.C.'s new public safety minister talks drugs, DNA costs ... talked about municipalities now having to pay for processing DNA evidence ...

Right of appeal clause in DNA bill removed
Jamaica Gleaner
Government Senator Lambert Brown on Thursday urged his colleagues in the Upper House to remove a provision in the DNA Evidence Act (2015) ...

Secrets of the Mona Lisa: Forensic examination unlocks history's 'most enigmatic work of art'
International Business Times UK
One of the most famous paintings in the world is giving up her secrets in 'one of the stories of the century', according to art historian Andrew ...

St. Paul lab's evidence not tainted, high court rules
Minnesota Lawyer
The Minnesota Supreme Court declined to create a rebuttable presumption that evidence handled — but not tested — at the crime lab was unreliable.

Sheriff: 309 cases on backlog at state forensic department
WAAY

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
Cost: ASQ member $600, non-ASQ member $650

ISO/IEC 17025 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Test Agencies
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
That is how long it could possibly take according to the Colbert County Sheriff, Frank Williamson, because of state budget cuts at forensic labs.

Vertebrate Decomposition Study Provides Potential New Tool For Forensic Science
UCSD Medical Center
Vertebrate Decomposition Study Provides Potential New Tool For Forensic Science ... Science Facility, a 26-acre outdoor human decomposition research lab. ... But unlike the blowfly method — which is of limited use by forensic ...

DNA Evidence Has A Dark Side
FiveThirtyEight
In fact, there is only a one in 1 million chance that someone else’s DNA ... of forensic DNA and how we use science and statistics in our courtrooms.

DNA lab error may reopen murder case
Lancaster Eagle Gazette
LANCASTER - Tainted DNA evidence may lead to the reopening of a 2012 murder case after the Columbus Division of Police's crime lab retracted ...

New DNA machine yields conviction for Richland Co. Sheriff
Live 5 News
RapidHit 200 is a special DNA machine that Richland County was first to adopt. It's a machine that only takes 90 minutes to find a DNA match, unlike the equation and said the lead investigator, the crime lab, the solicitor's office, ...

**DNA Face Mapping Software Will Reshape Law Enforcement, But Not Yet**
Inverse
Science's grip on DNA has grown strong enough that we can now wring impressive amounts of information out of wayward strands. In his recent talk ...

**KOICA funds to establish specialized computer forensic laboratory**
Ceylon Daily News
With the establishment of a fully-equipped digital forensic laboratory, the Government Analyst's Department will be able to bring its expertise to ...

**St. Paul crime lab didn't taint drugs in conviction, court rules**
TwinCities.com-Pioneer Press
Officers seized bags of a white substance, which were submitted to the crime lab for testing. He was charged with aiding and abetting first-degree sale ...

**Crime lab analyst faulted for poor**
footprint proficiency loses free speech
suit
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (blog)
"On May 15, 2009, the crime labs' administrator wrote Soderlund, indicating Soderlund had wasted an extraordinary amount of DOJ personnel time ...

Crime Lab Scandals the Focus of New DOJ Plan
FRONTLINE
The equipment in the St. Paul Police crime lab was filthy. Technicians accidentally contaminated some samples, and made fundamental mistakes ...

UK to decide whether to join Bond-esque EU DNA database
ITV News
This is like the stuff you see in James Bond or Homeland, one of those ideas where you wonder why on earth we're not part of it already. If MPs vote to ...

Defective or not, government can't recall your gun
CNBC
Because of the Second Amendment guarantee of the right to bear arms, removing a defective firearm from the market is deliberately difficult.
Some states review flawed hair-analysis convictions — but so far, not Montana
Montana Standard
Spurred by the FBI’s admission that its forensic work involving hair analysis — and its training of state crime lab workers — has been deeply flawed, ...

Low numbers for untested rape kits in Mississippi
WJTV
WJTV went inside the state crime lab to see where Mississippi’s numbers ... He says there are about 100 untested rape kits currently in the lab.

MSU helps to fight crime with CSI-style technology
Michigan Radio
The instant DNA match technology CSI’s forensic investigators use isn’t ... of researchers rely on input from the Michigan State Police forensic lab in ...

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