Greetings Colleagues,

Attached to this week's CLM, is the ASCLD Board of Directors Mid-Year Report which summarizes our activities and accomplishments on behalf of the membership. If you have any questions about the information provided, please don't hesitate to send an email to asclddirector@gmail.com.

Thanks!

--Jody

Next Board Teleconference December 4, 2015

Click here to review the 2015 Sexual Assault Kit Summit report prepared by Kris Deters.

ASCLD members,

Recently I attended a half-day workshop hosted by the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), who is interested in forensic science. As a result of that meeting, PCAST has distributed a survey to collect information from forensic science stakeholders. I would greatly appreciate you or the appropriate person of your staff providing answers to these questions, as I believe they will frame further discussions between PCAST, the forensic science community, and stakeholders.
The text of the email requesting feedback along with the survey link is found below.

Kindest regards,
Jeremy Triplett

*Dear Colleague,*

The President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) is interested in hearing from stakeholders on a series of questions related to forensic science.

The questions can be found at: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/webform/pcast-forensic-science-solicitation-questions-0](https://www.whitehouse.gov/webform/pcast-forensic-science-solicitation-questions-0) Please note that the White House email server adds extra characters (> <) which will need to be removed to access the site.

PCAST consists of 20 of the nation’s leading scientists and engineers, appointed by the President to provide direct advice to him and the White House on important ...

[Read more...](https://www.whitehouse.gov/webform/pcast-forensic-science-solicitation-questions-0)

Any comment is subject to public release under the Freedom of Information Act, and may be archived consistent with the Federal Records Act and Presidential Records Act, as applicable.

*I encourage you to share the link with any colleagues that might be interested in providing input.*

Best,
Diana Pankevich, Ph.D.
AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow
President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology
Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President “

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**

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

**December 2015**

- **Essential Ridgeology Concepts**
  - Location: Alachua, FL
  - Class Dates: 12-07-2015 thru 12-11-2015
  - Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

- **Advanced Sequential Processing - A Hands On Workshop**
  - Location: Denver, CO
  - Class Dates: 12-08-2015 thru 12-11-2015
  - Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 32

- **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

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.
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

January 2016
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

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

February 2016
Forensic Examination of Violent Crime Scenes
Location: Cumming, GA
Class Dates: 02-16-2016 thru 02-18-2016
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

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

March 2016
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

March 2016
Palm Print Comparison Techniques
Location: Bethlehem, PA
Class Dates: 03-22-2016 thru 03-24-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

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 1982, we have been committed to the ongoing accreditation, support, education.
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. Click here for details.

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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.

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The Forensic Technology Center of Excellence Presents ASCLD: FBI Allele Frequency Amendments - Technical Discussion
On-Demand (Approximately 75 Minutes)

Click here for registration information.

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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**

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**

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 Services Assistant Manager, Austin Police Department, Austin, Texas, Expires: November 30, 2015

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

Forensic Services Assistant Manager, Austin Police Department, Austin, Texas, Expires: November 30, 2015

Toxicology Discipline – Forensic Scientist 1, Idaho State Police, Pocatello, Idaho, Expires: December 3, 2015

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Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24
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/FBioCours
Senior Latent Print Examiner, PAE, Fort Gillem, Georgia, Expires: December 8, 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 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.

News Around the Globe

Local drug units facing funding cuts
Times Daily
Directors of the Colbert and Lauderdale county drug task forces received notice their requests for funding this year have been rejected. The funding is ...
Bones hold the key to DNA virus history and epidemiology
Nature.com
DNA in human skeletal remains represents an important historical source of host genomic information and potentially of infecting viruses. ... No matching mtDNA or Y haplotypes were found in the forensic in-house database ...

HPD to use new forensic software
Hannibal.net
The new Universal Forensic Extraction Software will offer up to date forensic capabilities to access cell phone and tablet data with most current ...

UCF student hopes to build better police drug test
Orlando Sentinel
The incident, which landed the man in jail for nearly a month, is not the first time a field drug test has identified illegal drugs that turned out to be a ...

Editorial: Regional crime lab still a good idea
Burlington Times News
North Carolina's beleaguered state crime lab is apparently getting better, but is it doing so quickly enough? Indeed, there is probably a very good ...

City fights downloading of crime lab costs
North Shore News
The results from the crime lab are in. Cause of tax increase: Acute federal and provincial downloading causing blunt-force trauma to the budget.

Ancestry.com adds new DNA comparison features
MyAJC
The ancestry.com DNA program recently added two new features that make it possible, for the first time, to really compare results and understand how ...

ETSU's William L. Jenkins Forensic Center earns reaccreditation
Bristol Herald Courier (press release) (blog)

Forensic Conferences


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 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
The William L. Jenkins Forensic Center at East Tennessee State University has earned continued full accreditation from the National Association of ... of training, workshops, and academic programs.

**Criminal investigation: New forensic laboratory established in Swat**
The Express Tribune
A new forensic science laboratory (FSL) has been inaugurated in Swat, stated a press release issued on Thursday. The initiative seeks to support ...

**Conflict Between State, Federal Child Porn Statutes Leaves Authorities Breaking Law**
NBC Bay Area
According to federal and local law enforcement officials who work in the Silicon Valley forensic computer lab in Menlo Park, the conflict in the two ...

**Our View: The best crime lab may be the one that’s closest**
Fayetteville Observer
All those TV series about crime-scene investigators have put a slick patina on the workings of crime labs. Give them some blood and high-tech gizmos ...

**CDs are documents, can be considered as evidence under law, says Supreme Court**
The Indian Express
Shamsher Singh Verma, facing sexual abuse case, had pleaded in the trial court to consider the CD and get it tested in a forensic lab and match it with ...

**Forensic Audit Report Exposes Forgery**
Peace FM Online
A final Forensic Audit Report released by the Criminal Investigations ... Assistant Commissioner and Director of Forensic Science Lab, the alleged ...

**Ancient DNA reveals how agriculture changed our height, digestion, and skin colour**
ScienceAlert
For the first time, researchers have analysed ancient DNA taken from humans who lived before, during, and during 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 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**
after the agricultural revolution, allowing...

**2015 Biometric Identification Award**  
Federal Bureau of Investigation (press release) (blog)  
Grover searched all the latent print evidence against  
Virginia's Automated Fingerprint Identification System but  
got no results. In September 2008, the...

**Chemical Analysis of Latent Fingerprints Can Detect Gender**  
findBIOMETRICS  
Chemical Analysis of Latent Fingerprints Can Detect Gender  
A relatively simple chemical test can determine whether a latent fingerprint is from a man ...

**FSU program, ranked second-best in nation, teaches crime scene instruction**  
Fayetteville Observer  
Barrett, a senior in Fayetteville State University's forensic science program, said she treats the test as if she were working for a crime lab. "I might be ..."

**Board of Supervisors approve $166600 for crime lab improvements**  
Paso Robles Daily News  
The county has four sections of its crime lab: Forensic blood-alcohol lab with one full-time employee, chemistry and toxicology lab with one full-time ...

**Scott's crime lab budget does not include funding for 10000 backlogged rape kits**  
Tampabay.com (blog)  
Rick Scott touted in press releases last week that he was going to ask the Legislature for $8.5 million to improve the state crime lab's turnaround times ...

**NC crime lab: Shorter turnaround time, but attrition an issue**  
WXII The Triad  
The director of North Carolina's once-maligned crime lab says the facility has cut its turnaround time by an average of 150 days to under a year and is ...

**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 refusal: Police take blood from DWI suspects

Texas Examiner
Information from the Jefferson County Regional Crime Lab reports a nearly 40 percent increase in processed Blood Alcohol Content screenings the ...

Forensic science may become new major
BG News
The Faculty Senate recently supported the proposal to make forensic ... students the opportunity to train in a forensic lab before going into the field.

DNA sample charged with rape, in lieu of a suspect
The Seattle Times
DNA sample charged with rape, in lieu of a suspect ... there are nearly 250,000 DNA profiles of known offenders in CODIS and another 6,300 forensic ...

National DNA database for criminals is launched
RTE.ie
The database is launched under the Criminal Justice (Forensic Evidence and DNA Database System) Act 2014, which was enacted today.

Special Report: The DNA Database
14 News WFIE Evansville
Kentucky was recently awarded a $1.9 Million grant to process all untested rape kits. More than 3,000 kits, some which have been sitting in law ...