Greetings Colleagues,

Last week, the ASCLD Board of Directors met in Austin, TX for the Fall 2015 Board meeting. It was a productive meeting and the Board will be issuing a mid-year report to the membership with a re-cap of our activities and accomplishments this year.

Additionally, you will be receiving an email to cast your vote on the 3-2-1 Bylaws proposal this week. The voting period will be open for two weeks. Please be sure to cast your vote by the deadline.

Finally, please join me in honoring the heroism and sacrifices of our service men, women, and their families as our nation celebrates Veterans Day. They have given so much to ensure our freedom and independence.
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.

OSAC Applicants for New Crime Scene Subcommittee

The Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) is currently recruiting applicants for a new subcommittee, the Crime Scene Investigation Subcommittee. Read more...
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.

Root Cause Analysis Workshop
This four-hour class is a combination of lectures and group exercises. It provides participants with processes and techniques to identify factors that may have led to different incidents or problems. Click here for details.

February:
Crime Scene Investigation class will provide

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
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.

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. False-Positive/Negative Error Rates in Cartridge Case Comparisons

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival

VersionASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival VersionASCLD

Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival VersionASCLD Webinar Series:

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 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.
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 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

Employment Opportunities

**Associate Director, Crime Scene Sciences**, MSS-401-15, Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: November 17, 2015

**Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances**, VA Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: November 24, 2015

**Evidence Control Technician**, IRS National Forensic Laboratory, Chicago, Illinois, Expires: November 9, 2015

**Director of Toxicology**, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: February 3, 2016

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

**Criminalist I – Latent Print Examiner**, NH State Police Forensic Laboratory, Concord, NH, Expires: November 14, 2015

**Forensic Scientist III Biology(DNA)**, Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage, Alaska, Expires: November 27, 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 15, 2015

**Forensic Scientist**, MT Forensic Science Division, Billings, MT, Expires: November 30, 2015

**Forensic Lab Manager – Latent Prints**, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Las Vegas, Expires: December 7, 2015

**Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic**
News Around the Globe

DEA: Drug Overdose Deaths Surpass Those From Firearms, Car Crashes

Breitbart News
The number of deaths from drug overdose in the United States has surpassed those from firearms and motor vehicle accidents each year since 2008, ...

Untested sexual assault evidence kits pile up

Science, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015

Assistant Professor of Forensic Sciences, Chaminade University of Honolulu, Honolulu, Expires: November 30, 2015

Experienced Firearms Examiner, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: November 30, 2015

Senior DNA Examiner, PAE, Fort Gillem, Georgia, Expires: December 8, 2015

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

Technical Writer – II (NIBIN) Opening, NLT Management Services, 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

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
Poughkeepsie Journal
... as far back as 2008 stored in police departments throughout Dutchess County that were never sent to the state's crime lab in Albany to be tested.

Australian scientist's CSI-style approach gets results in battle against illegal shark fin trade
Sydney Morning Herald
But for Seattle-based Australian forensic specialist Jenny Giles, the ocean's ... expertise, which is challenging without a federal wildlife forensic lab."

Many rape kits go untested in Canyon County
Idaho Press-Tribune
The panel included representatives from the Idaho Supreme Court, state and local law enforcement, the state ISPFS forensic lab, victim advocates, ...

NH crime lab seeing backlog of drug cases
My Fox Boston
Jeanne Shaheen visited the crime lab to discuss the backlog. ... New Hampshire’s forensic lab processes about 750 cases per month, but it technically ...

Touring N.H. Forensic Lab, Shaheen Discusses Bill to Reduce Drug Case Backlog
New Hampshire Public Radio
These rows of files represent the backlog of cases at the state forensic laboratory — some 3,800 total. The influx of heroin and fentanyl in New ...

Shaheen tours state drug lab
WMUR Manchester
U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen toured the state drug lab Friday as the lab struggles to deal with a growing backlog of cases.

Ohio investigators seek answers to laced-heroin problem
The Newark Advocate

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

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
The supply is rising to meet the demand: The state crime lab detected fentanyl in just 34 submissions in 2010 compared to 387 in 2014 and more than ...

**Ending Wisconsin's rape kit backlog**
WMTV
Right now in Wisconsin 6,006 of those kits full of evidence are sitting on shelves not yet tested at the state crime lab. Jill Karofsky the Executive director ...

**Bar codes keep track of evidence**
Bowling Green Daily News
... a crime lab or a piece of evidence needed for court. Kreilein is the first full-time evidence technician in the sheriff's office. He took the job in February.

**Bibb Co. crime lab gets a drug terminator**
13WMAZ
100 lbs of drugs from the Bibb County Sheriff's Office crime lab was burned Thursday morning with what they call “the drug terminator.” Claire Davis.

**WVU Forensic Students Investigate Mock Crime Scene**
WDTV
Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes of an active crime scene? Well 21 West Virginia University Students got the chance to find ...

**KBI crime lab, built by McCownGordon, opens in Topeka**
Kansas City Business Journal
The new facility will house more than 70 scientists and technicians as well as spaces dedicated to biology, DNA, toxicology, chemistry, firearm and tool ...

**Beaufort County Sheriff's Office updates forensics lab, solve cases**
WTOC
Beaufort County deputies say new technology in their

**Forensic Sciences** – Auckland, New Zealand
Oct 3-7, 2016: **Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientist (MAFS)** – Branson, Missouri
Oct 10-14, 2016: **15th Annual AFQAM Conference** – Little Rock, AR

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**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
forensic lab has made crime fighting more efficient and faster. In October, crime technicians ...

KBI gives public tours of new Forensics Laboratory on Washburn
WIBW
TOPEKA, Kan. (WIBW) -- KBI has been giving tours of the new Forensics Laboratory all week and today was the public's turn. Groups of people were ...

Shortage of funding for staff and facilities creates forensics in crisis
Irish Times
Today forensics is usually a byword for DNA evidence. The country's laboratory, Forensic Science Ireland (FSI) operates the very latest form of DNA ...

GPD trying to get Crime Lab back online quickly
KUAM.com
GPD trying to get Crime Lab back online quickly ... is having to call for backup when it comes to bringing the Crime Lab back up and fully operational.

WDOJ to start testing untested rape kits in local municipalities
WeAreGreenBay.com
Some of these kits get sent to crime labs for testing, but there are hundreds of thousands still in police departments across the country, and thousands ...

State crime labs overwhelmed with more than 10000 untested rape kits
Miami Herald
The number of untested rape kits sitting in law enforcement evidence rooms in Florida is far worse than authorities had believed. The Florida ...

Attorney: Crime labs 'falsified' marijuana reports
Livingston Daily
A Southfield lawyer alleges the Michigan State Police
crime labs have “falsified lab reports on marijuana statewide” and he's asking a judge to ...

Rape prosecution relies on forensic medical exams
Mississippi News Now
The kit is also sealed in a specific way and once it is tested in a crime lab it's opened in a different place to prove after the fact that it wasn't tampered ...

New Study Questions the Validity of Forensic DNA Match Statistic
Business Wire (press release)
For 15 years, crime laboratories have generated CPI statistics on hundreds of thousands of mixtures. However, a new study shows that CPI behaves ...

Ulndy study raises questions about DNA evidence
WRTV Indianapolis
INDIANAPOLIS -- Crime scene investigators have relied on DNA evidence for ... At the Marion County Forensic Sciences Lab, it's something investigators ... masks; sleeves,” said Mike Medler, director at the Marion County Crime Lab. ... So, if there is cross-transference of our DNA, we can identify that.”.

Hearing in alleged false crime lab marijuana reporting dropped this week
Fox17
GRAND HAVEN, Mich. – An evidentiary hearing in a disputed charge originally set for Nov. 5 has been dropped in the case where a medical ...

Rape kits collecting dust across NC
Elizabethtown Bladen Journal
Each year, the state crime lab receives about 250 sexual assault kits for processing from crimes all across the state. That number pales in comparison ...

Special report: OSP crime lab scandal already spurs changes
KTVZ
It's a scandal that's hitting in the heart of Oregon's justice system. Nika Larsen, a forensic analyst with the Oregon State Police crime lab in Bend, ...

Virginia Department of Forensic Science Receives Energy Efficiency Leader Award from Trane
3BL Media (press release)
The award was presented at the DFS Central Laboratory in Richmond, Virginia. Trane is recognizing DFS, a nationally accredited forensic laboratory ...

Arkansas State Crime Laboratory Launches New Website
Business Wire (press release)
The site automatically adjusts to fit a variety of screen sizes, making it easy for citizens to access on mobile devices and learn about the agency while ...

Taos police account for untested evidence
taosnews
In another two cases, Weaver said the kits were only collected as a precaution, not necessarily because a sex crime was confirmed to have been ...