Greetings Colleagues,

January has been a very productive month for ASCLD. Registration for our 43rd annual symposium in Bellevue, Washington was opened where our focus will be Inspired Leadership. President Elect Jeremy Triplett, Executive Director Jean Stover, and the Symposium Planning Committee have been working diligently to bring our members a full agenda. Be sure to visit the symposium website at http://www.ascldsymposium.com/ to get additional information on the agenda and events scheduled for that week.

Our Training and Education Committee launched two very big programs with the ASCLD Directors Series and the ASCLD Leadership Academy. We have had more than 500 participants in the Directors series so far with three webinars still remaining and we have 58 registered for the third annual Leadership Academy. The Leadership Academy started on January 28th and will continue thru April 14th with weekly webinars and will culminate in a two-day in-person capstone session in conjunction with our annual symposium.

Our International Committee has also been busy this month with educating our partners in the Organization or Scientific Area Committees about the ongoing international effort to develop forensic science standards. Kermit Channell, ASCLD’s Chair of the US Technical Advisory Group to ISO Technical Committee 272 on Forensic Science, provided an informational webinar to NIST’s OSAC members early in January and then attended the in-person OSAC meeting last week. This is an important intersection between the efforts in the US and the international community for standards development specific to forensic science. Kermit has also provided an update on the ISO/TC 272 efforts here.

On January 15th, Director Matthew Gamette, Director Jeff Salyards, and Past President Jill Sprigs were members on a panel who were invited to provide a presentation to the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) regarding forensics. The archived webcast of their presentations can be found at http://www.tvworldwide.com/events/pcast/160115/default.cfm.

Additionally, this month we continued our efforts to formally launch our two LJA Foundation projects the FORESIGHT 20/20 – A National “Freeware” Forensic Science Benchmark Initiative and the National Forensic Science Academy. We are excited about the future with these two efforts underway. Finally, we ended the month with an ASCLD Board of Directors monthly teleconference focused on facilitating the business of our organization in pursuit of “Excellence through leadership in forensic science management” and planning for our upcoming Board meeting on March 1st and 2nd.

2016 has gotten off to a great start!
Warmest regards,

--Jody

**Briggs White Award Nominations**

The deadline for nominations has been extended.

The award was established at the direction of past President Bill Hartner to recognize an ASCLD member, past or present, who demonstrated managerial excellence in forensic science. The award plaque will be presented at the annual banquet. Please submit nominations through the ASCLD website by **February 15, 2016** to be considered at this year’s symposium.

If you have any questions please contact Nomination and Awards committee chair Cecilia Doyle at cecilia.doyle@isp.state.il.us.

Nominations for the Board of Directors are now being accepted and will be voted on by the membership during the business meeting at the upcoming symposium in April 2016 in Bellevue WA. There will be three (3) vacancies to fill this year. If you are interested in getting more involved in the organization, this is a great way to do so. Please email your nominations to cecilia.doyle@isp.state.il.us by February 1, 2016.

If you have any questions please contact Nomination and Awards committee chair Cecilia Doyle at cecilia.doyle@isp.state.il.us.

**“Train the Directors” Webinar Series**

ASCLD’s Training and Education Committee is hosting a webinar series titled: ASCLD “Train the Directors” Webinar Series. The series will consist of presentations on six forensic disciplines: Firearms, Toxicology, Controlled Substances, Digital and Multimedia Evidence, Latent Prints and DNA. The goal of the webinar series is to provide education to Directors and Supervisors who may not have performed work in or supervised those disciplines. Each webinar will provide a basic overview of the analysis performed in the discipline. It will also discuss discipline specific administrative/managerial challenges and address current issues and/or challenges facing the forensic science community in the discipline. The webinars will be held Thursdays at 1:00 PM ET from January 14 to February 18, 2016.
The February 4 Digital Multimedia Evidence (DME) speakers will be Rhesa Gilliland, Assistant Lab Director and Charlotte Ware, Laboratory Unit Manager of the Digital Evidence Unit, U. S. Postal Inspection. Click here to register.

The February 11 Latent Prints webinar speaker will be Ken Martin, CFSO Rep for IAI, retired Lt. Detective from Boston PD. Click here to register.

The February 18 DNA webinar speakers will be Kris Deters, Forensic Science Supervisor, and Catherine Knutson, Deputy Superintendent of Forensic Science Services, of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. Click here to register.

The archived webinars are available in the links at the bottom of the Forensic Training column.

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**Forensic Training**

**West Virginia University**

**Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certification for Forensic Professionals.**

The program begins March 22, 2016. It consists of a series of 16 2-hour long webinars delivered over the course of 24 weeks and concluding with a one day face to face finale in Pittsburgh, PA. Click here for registration and additional information.

**Forensic Management Academy.**

Those interested in improving their individual and organizational knowledge of contemporary business practice as it applies to forensics should apply now, space is limited. Training will occur August 28- September 2, 2016 in Pittsburgh, PA at the Hyatt Regency Pittsburgh Airport. Click here for registration and additional information.

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**National Center for Forensic Science**

**Basic Fire Debris Analysis**

February 1 – 28, 2016

Four week course offered through the Web. $750.00

Click here for course description. Click here for registration.
**News Around the Globe**

**Texas leading massive review of criminal cases based on change in DNA calculations**

Houston Chronicle  
DNA analysis on the screwdriver initially showed there was a 1 in 290 ... by crime labs and coordinated by the state's Forensic Science Commission. ... D.C., crime lab lost its accreditation and was forced to suspend operations due to ...

**No downside seen in submitting all rape kits for testing**

Appeal-Democrat  
Perhaps the most compelling reason they cite for not submitting all kits is the fear of overloading the state crime lab, thereby creating a backlog that ...

**Painstaking process can make wheels of justice seem slow**

Ontario Argus Observer  
Over the last few months, several violent crimes have hit the Western ... "The response of the Crime Lab also causes delay with the investigation as ...

**Conn. Justices Hear Arguments in DNA Databank Case**

Connecticut Law Tribune  
It's no secret that the use of DNA evidence and testing has become invaluable in solving crimes. But how far can authorities go in obtaining DNA ...

**Even with advances in technology, hand-drawn forensic sketches are sometimes still a necessity**

WDAY  
Fargo, ND (WDAY TV) - With the advent of technology, the use of hand-drawn forensic sketches is fading. But sometimes, like we saw this week in ...

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**Advanced Fire Debris Analysis**

March 14 – May 1, 2016  
Six week course offered through the Web.  
$750.00  
Click [here](#) for course description.  
Click [here](#) for registration link.

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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-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_41L3klo749uz3pz](http://wvu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_41L3klo749uz3pz)

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**Ron Smith & Associates Training**

**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  
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

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**March 2016**

**Scientific Analysis (ACE-V): From the Laboratory to the Witness Stand**

Location: Dallas, TX
The problem was, the substance that was stored at the state forensic lab as evidence wasn't cocaine. When that evidence was retested, it turned out to ...

Rape kit testing legislation gets boost from Gov.
Bevin's budget

Bevin's budget also calls for pulling dollars from KLEFPF meant for law enforcement training to fund the crime lab. In Bevin's budget he transfers $4.5 ...

Titusville Students Become Crime Scene Investigators For A Day

On Thursday January 28, Titusville Police Department Crime Scene Technicians Stephanie Rosser and Caitlyn Hill visited Coquina Elementary ...

New trial ordered for convicted rapist after flawed FBI hair analysis

New trial ordered for convicted rapist after flawed FBI hair analysis. UPDATED 7:38 PM EST Jan 26, 2016. Tweet · Next Video: Woman beaten with ...

Bad blood at Johannesburg forensic laboratory

SAFETY PROCEDURE: Forensic analysts at the Forensic Science Laboratory in Johannesburg can wait up to eight years to get results. The lab has a ...

Proposal to collect DNA upon arrest is personal for State Sen. Hilkemann

In Nebraska, such DNA samples are required only after a person is ... the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a Maryland law that allowed a forensic DNA ... In California, those arrested for any felony crime must give a DNA sample. ... approach to make it easier for the state's crime lab to manage its DNA files.

Test lab to hinge on costs

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

National Latent Print Examiner Training Academy

April 24, 2016 – September 23, 2016

RS&A now offers an intense 20 week training program designed to provide agencies with a Latent Print Examiner who is trained to competency. This academy, with 800 hours of formal training, will produce graduates that are capable of performing "supervised case work" and once time requirements are met, be ready to apply for IAI Latent Print Certification. It is scheduled to begin April 24, 2016 in Hattiesburg, MS at the Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center. Only 25 academy applicants will be selected to attend so apply today! The total cost for this program including academy tuition, 20 weeks room and board, and 3 meals per day is $27,500.00. Click here for complete details, photos, and the admission application.

National Footwear & Tire Track Training Academy

Coming Fall 2016

RS&A now offers a Footwear and Tire Track Training Academy which includes 4 weeks of footwear examination training followed by 2 weeks of tire track examination training. Applicants can elect to complete the entire 6 week footwear and tire track academy or break it up and choose only the 4 weeks of footwear training or the 2 weeks of tire track training. The academy graduates of this 6 week program will learn the skills necessary to complete supervised footwear and tire track casework and will be ready to apply for a IAI Footwear Certification once time requirements have been met. It is scheduled to begin Fall of 2016 in Hattiesburg, MS at the Camp Shelby Joint
Asa Hutchinson wants a branch of the state Crime Laboratory in Northwest Arkansas, but analysts have yet to determine if the savings would be worth ...

**Mapp Approves Bill Allocating Funds For Future Forensic Lab**

VI Consortium (press release)
31-0145, sponsored by Senators Novelle Francis and Neville James, which will fund the first phase of a forensic crime lab. Local law enforcement ...

**Bill to fund processing of rape kits advances**

Las Cruces Sun-News

Albuquerque police have their own forensics lab to process rape kits. The Bernalillo County Sheriff’s Office also uses Albuquerque's crime lab.

**Middle Georgia State students fight cyber crime**

13WMAZ

Law enforcement around the world has named cyber crime one of the ... The program has incorporated a $50,000 lab that has the same capabilities ...

**Kuwait set to implement DNA testing law this year**

Gulf Digital News

Kuwait City: Kuwait is all set to implement DNA testing law from this year. According to senior officials, the law, first of its kind in the world, will only be ...

**Knoxville’s 'Body Farm' creator now helping UT with new forensic program**

WATE 6 On Your Side

KNOXVILLE (WATE) – It’s very casual for Dr. Bill Bass to talk about skulls, body parts and death. "That is the exit wound, and that is the entrance ...

**Sheriff-elect Garber to serve on Acadiana Crime Lab commission**

The Daily Advertiser

Forces Training Center. Only 20 academy applicants will be selected to attend. For the entire 6 week footwear and tire track academy the cost is set at $11,250.00. The 4 week footwear only academy is set at $7,500.00 and the 2 week tire track only academy is $3,750.00. Cost includes academy instruction, room and board, and 3 meals per day according to training selection.

Click [here](#) for complete details and to apply for admission today.

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)

**Houston Forensic Science Center**

**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.

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 Acadiana crime lab provides technical support, training, and quality scientific analysis of forensic evidence in the areas of chemistry, biology, trace ... The American Society of Crime Lab Directors, along with RTI, have made the below webinars available.

Nonprofit Schuster Institute Sparks First Overturn of a Conviction Based on FBI’s Flawed Hair ...
The Nonprofit Quarterly (blog)
On Tuesday, January 26th, a Massachusetts judge has, for the first time, overturned a conviction on the grounds that hair analysis as a science cannot ...

ASCLD Train the Directors Toxicology Webinar - Archival

ASCLD Train the Directors Firearms Webinar - Archival

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

Research Reports

These research reports have been submitted by the National Institute of Justice especially for their relevance to crime laboratory activities. ASCLD has not reviewed nor does it necessarily endorse the findings of this research.

Low-Template DNA Mixture Interpretation: Determining the Number of Contributors

A biological sample obtained from a crime scene might be a mixture containing DNA from two or more individuals and determining the number of contributors can be challenging in the case of complex, low template samples. To solve this, researchers have developed a computational tool, NOCIt, which calculates the probability distribution for the number of contributors to a DNA sample. NOCIt information can be found at www.bu.edu/dnamixtures.

Development of a SNP Assay Panel for Ancestral Origin Inference

When a segment of DNA known as a short tandem...
New forensic facility moves to west Sydney
Yahoo7 News
But after nearly five decades in action, the Glebe court and Department of Forensic Medicine facilities are being moved to a new $100 million complex ...

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.

Employment Opportunities

Crime Scene Investigator, City of Durham Police, Durham, NC, Expires: February 18, 2016

Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Expires: May 31, 2016

Police Forensic Laboratory Director, Rapid City Police Department, Rapid City, SD, Expires: February 15, 2016

Crime Lab Scientist (Toxicologist), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Decatur, Georgia, Expires: February 8, 2016

LIMS Administrator, St. Louis County Police Crime Laboratory, Clayton, MO, Expires: May 26, 2016

Tenure Track (Open Rank) Professor, Director of Forensic Studies, University of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD, Expires: March 16, 2016


Experienced Latent Print Examiner, Houston Forensic Science center, Houston,
Experience Crime Scene Investigator, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2016

Technical Lead – Forensic Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2016

Manager – Forensic Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2016

Forensic Analyst – Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2016

Assistant Professor in Forensic Chemistry, Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, TX, Expires: March 31, 2016


Forensic Scientist I – Biology DNA Databank, Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Topeka, Kansas, Expires: February 8, 2016

Forensic Scientist I, II or III – Biology/DNA Casework, Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Topeka, Kansas, Expires: February 8, 2016

Assistant/Associate Professor in Forensic Science Department, University of New Haven, West Haven, CT, Expires: April 7, 2016

Criminalist Trainee/I/II (recruiting for one position – open at all levels), Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division, Reno, Expires: February 1, 2016

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

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

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

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

Chief Toxicologist, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: April 30, 2016


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

Learn more: www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse

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.
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.

**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

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* 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.

**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,
May 16-20, 2016: Canadian Society of Forensic Science – Montreal, Canada

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


Oct 16-21, 2016: Society of Forensic Toxicologists – Dallas, TX

Oct 2016: Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists – Galveston, TX

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


Oct 16-21, 2016: Society of Forensic Toxicologists – Dallas, TX

Oct 2016: Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists – Galveston, TX

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

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.