Greetings Colleagues,

Our vendors continue to be a vital component of our financial stability and this week I wanted to invite all of you to visit them by accessing their websites as well as visiting them when they join us for our annual symposium later this year. We're very fortunate to receive their support and I’m grateful they recognize us as worthy of investing time, money, and effort. So, please, if you haven’t already done so, click on the link(s) in the Crime Lab Minute and visit our vendor gallery. Check out their websites and show them our support!

Have a good week.

Regards,

--Jody

Next Board Meeting: February 29th - March 1st

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.
The Office of Research and Evaluation (ORE) has a new solicitation “Research and Evaluation on Drugs and Crime FY 2016.” Click [here](#) for additional information.

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**“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 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.

[ASCLD Train the Directors Controlled Substance Webinar – Archival](#)

[ASCLD Train the Directors Digital Multimedia Evidence Webinar – Archival](#)

[ASCLD Train the Directors Toxicology Webinar – Archival](#)

[ASCLD Train the Directors Firearms Webinar – Archival](#)
Can You Tell Your Ethnic Identity From Your DNA?  
NPR  
The answer as to whether a DNA test can tell you your ethnic identity? Yes — and no. We know that, when it comes to DNA, geography matters.

Forensic Experts in Texas Are Calling on Courts to Stop Accepting Bite-Mark Evidence  
VICE News  
But on Friday, in a first, the Texas Forensic Science Commission (FSC) voted ... by bite mark evidence have later been exonerated through the use of DNA.

News Around the Globe

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.

National Center for Forensic Science  

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.

March 14-18 2016 the Maryland State Police will be hosting a 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.
... If the victim's body has noticeable bite marks on it, the forensic pathologist ...

More wrongful convictions feared as state crime lab review underway
WCWB Boston
BOSTON—Massachusetts State Police have embarked on a review of the same problematic forensic method that led to George Perrot's release from ...

DNA evidence setting more convicted criminals free
wwlp.com
The Netflix series "Making a Murderer" has people across the nation talking about DNA and other testing that can prove someone's innocence, after ...

HPD: No resources to test 1500 sexual assault kits
KHON2
HPD says six people work in the crime lab, so they have to prioritize which cases are the most important. "It is prioritized by cases that are actually ...

Faulty drug field tests bring false confessions, bad convictions
Washington Post
The policy not only puts added pressure on Harris County's perpetually troubled crime lab, but it also gives prosecutors a lot more leverage with ...

Coos County Evidence Team turns fire station into mock homicide scene
KCBY.com 11
The evidence team is made up of volunteers and multiple agencies from around the county. They're there to collect evidence to send to the crime lab.

Commission President Says State Of County Is 'Strong'
WVXU
Details about a new crime lab could be announced soon, too. ... $30 million is budgeted in this year's capital fund for a crime lab and coroner's office.

Forensic lab fails basic facilities test
Chandigarh Tribune
Contrary to the claims of the government, forensic

The course registration is $2,250 and the enrollment link is http://wvu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_41L3klo749uz3pz

Ron Smith & Associates Training

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

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

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
laboratory in the city is functioning only on papers as there has been no electricity supply in the lab ...

Kenya to get first ivory lab
The Star, Kenya
The sequencing technology is part of the Rhino DNA Indexing System (RHODIS) announced last year during the launch of the forensic laboratory at ...

Sex assault survivors seek justice
Squamish Chief
The hospital began offering forensic exams in December. ... Forensic analysis of the seized items is conducted at the police forensic lab. If the identity ...

Montgomery County Coroner's lab granted accreditation
WHIO
The Montgomery County Coroner's Office Forensic Toxicology Laboratory has been granted a Certificate of Laboratory Accreditation in Forensic ...

Rape kit bill wins passage in Ga. House committee
Atlanta Journal Constitution (blog)
Locked Away A bill that would require law enforcement to submit neglected sexual assault evidence to the state's forensic labs won unanimous ...  

Ky. Senate Bill would allow for DNA collection upon felony arres - WDRB 41 Louisville News
WDRB
The legislation allows law enforcement agencies in Kentucky to collect DNA ... The Kentucky State Crime lab in Frankfort enters DNA into a national ...

Work on setting up cyber crime labs across state to start soon | Mumbai NYOOOZ
NYOOOZ
Summary: After much delay, the Home department has finally given administrative approval to setting up of cyber crime labs across the state.

Forensic graduates can now join government labs as interns
Daily News & Analysis
Borwankar, who is currently taking a review of

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 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

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
forensic laboratories in the state, was recently in Nashik to assess the functioning of the set-up in the city ...

'Making a Murderer' exposes limitations of forensic science
WISN Milwaukee
He explained how the film exposes the limitations of the forensic science that ... of Science said the only consistently reliable forensic science is DNA.

OSU's Center For Health Sciences plans to finish building their new forensic laboratory by May
kjrh.com
The lab will allow graduate students entering the forensics field to work with industry standard equipment and under the tutelage of professors and ...

Deposition Shows Mismanagement, Lax Oversight Led to BSO Crime Lab Failure
New Times Broward-Palm Beach
He had been working in the department's crime lab, where drugs seized from ... "Do you think members of the crime lab would start to break down, ...
Weedn, chair of George Washington University's Department of Forensic Sciences, ...

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
**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.

**Analysis of the Effect of a Variety of PCR Inhibitors on the Amplification of DNA**

A common problem in forensic genetic analysis is the presence of Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) inhibitors that contaminate DNA samples and can result in no amplified product or partial profiles that are difficult to interpret. In this study, researchers discovered three specific mechanisms for inhibition and developed methods to reduce inhibition.

**The Role of DNA Repair and Whole Genome Amplification in Forensically Relevant Samples**

Forensic analysis of DNA is limited by the quality and quantity of the sample, and forensic investigators are often constrained by significant damage or alteration to the molecular structure of the DNA. This study explores methods to first damage DNA, then compares methods to either repair damaged DNA or, as an alternative, conduct whole genome amplification (WGA). The researchers conclude that WGA using DOP-PCR (degenerate oligonucleotide-primed polymerase chain reaction), “is a more fruitful avenue for analyzing challenged samples than attempting DNA repair.”

**The Reliability of the ACE-V Process: Accuracy & Precision in Latent Fingerprint Examinations**

In this study to evaluate the reliability of latent fingerprint examiners use the Analysis, Comparison, Evaluation and Verification (ACE-V) methodologies, researchers found that fingerprint examiners make extremely few errors. Even when examiners did not get an independent second opinion about their decisions, they were remarkably accurate. But when decisions were verified by an independent reviewers, examiners had a 0% false positive, or incorrect identification, rate
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


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


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

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 and a 3% false negative, or missed identification, rate. Watch a video interview with the researcher here.

Forensic Toxicology Instrumentation Techniques & Applications

Register today: http://forensicscienceeducation.org/forensic-toxicology-instrumentation-techniques-applications/

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
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

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

for excellence in forensic analysis. Visit our website to learn more about our accreditation programs, the assessment process and training opportunities.

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

Bode’s newest offerings include:

**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 for Forensic Police Agencies**

**March 3-4, 2016, Tampa, FL**
**June 8-9, 2016, Greenville, SC**
October 3-7, 2016: Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (MAFS) – Branson, Missouri

October 2016: 15th Annual AFQAM Conference – Little Rock, AR

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

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

September 15-16, 2016, Alexandria, VA
Cost: ASQ member $600, non-ASQ member $650

ISO/IEC 17025 and Audit Preparation for Forensic Test Agencies
February 29-March 2, 2016, Tampa, FL
May 17-19, 2016, Milwaukee, WI
September 12-14, 2016, Alexandria, VA
Cost: ASQ member $750, non-ASQ member $800

Uncertainty of Measurement for Forensic Agencies
May 20, 2016, Milwaukee, WI
Cost: $500

For more information about these workshops, contact ANAB at 703-836-0025, ext 208. To register, please click on any of the dates above.

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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

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American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)

A2LA’s Training Program provides a variety of