Greetings colleagues. The ASCLD Board of Directors and symposium planning committee are excited to announce that registration is now open for the 43rd annual ASCLD Symposium. The symposium will be held April 24 – 28, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue in Bellevue, Washington.

The 2016 Symposium theme is “INSPIRED LEADERSHIP: Developing a Culture of Excellence.” Once again, we have several high quality full and half-day workshops that will be held on Sunday the 24th and Monday the 25th and the full symposium will open with welcome reception on Monday evening.

Early-bird registration rates are in effect until March 24, so register today for the best pricing! On behalf of the Board of Directors and symposium planning committee, we hope to see you in Bellevue in 2016!

For general information and an agenda of events, visit www.ascldsymposium.com
For registration, visit http://www.ascldsymposium.com/#/registration/c1r11

Finally, vendor partners are an important part of the ASCLD Symposium. If there are any members who know a vendor of goods or services that would be a good fit at the symposium, please contact Adam Becnel at adam.becnel@la.gov.

Kindest regards,
Jeremy Triplett

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The FBI published a notification regarding an upcoming meeting on the CJIS WAN that laboratory directors may want to ask their technical staff about.
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.

It is also that time of year to submit nominations for the prestigious Briggs White Award. 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. Nominations are being accepted and a recommendation from the committee will be forwarded to the Board of Directors. If the Board concurs with the committee’s recommendation, the award plaque will be presented at the annual banquet. Please submit nominations through the ASCLD website by February 1, 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.

“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 January 21 webinar Toxicology speakers will be Ashraf Mozayani, Executive Director
of Forensic Sciences & Professor at Texas Southern University and Peter Stout, Houston Forensic Science Center. Click here to register for the Toxicology Discipline Webinar:

Registration links to follow soon for:

- The January 28 webinar will be on the Controlled Substances discipline and the speakers will be Nancy Crump, Assistant Crime Lab Administrator, and Roger Schneider, Controlled Substances Supervisor, for Phoenix Police Department.
- February 4 (DME)
- February 11 (LP)
- February 18 (DNA)

Please help us in our effort to maintain contact information for our ASCLD members. We are currently searching for information on Emeritus Member Margaret Kuo. We have been unable to reach her to update our contact information. If anyone knows Margaret and could provide us with current contact information, please email Executive Director Jean Stover at asclddirector@gmail.com.

NIJ Forensic Science Research Announcement: Research and Evaluation for the Testing and Interpretation of Physical Evidence in Publicly Funded Forensic Laboratories.

NIJ just released a solicitation specifically dedicated to forensic laboratories: “Research and Evaluation for the Testing and Interpretation of Physical Evidence in Publicly Funded Forensic Laboratories”. NIJ did make a few major changes to the program this year based on lessons learned from last year and conversations with some lab folks. First, there is no limit on funding this year (last year was $150K per project). Second, NIJ will allow labs to hire a Postdoctoral Fellow with grant funds. Third, we are strongly encouraging applicants to seek the guidance from a statistician to ensure a rigorous experimental design.

As many of you know, last year was the first year we implemented the program and below are titles of the seven (7) projects we awarded, but in order to make this program a success and keep it going, we need to see good quality applications with much bigger numbers than seven (7).

1. **Validation of Illumina’s MiSeq FGx NGS Platform for Transition to Casework**

2. **Development and Validation of Two Innovative Quantitative Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry Methods for Forensic Toxicology Laboratories: Novel Analysis of Designer Drugs and**
Simultaneous Method for Cocaine and Opioids in Biological Matrices


4. Optimal Extraction Methods of THC from Infused Products

5. Evaluating the effectiveness of liquid chromatography-time of flight-mass spectrometry (LC-TOF-MS) as a replacement screening tool in a full-service, state forensic toxicology laboratory

6. Improving the sexual assault workflow – efficient sample selection and data interpretation

7. Optimized, Semi-Automated Differential DNA Extraction

This solicitation has been posted: http://nij.gov/funding/Documents/solicitations/NIJ-2016-9011.pdf. We also created a “Hotline” for questions, so please direct all inquiries to the appropriate link provided in the solicitation. The inquiries will then be edited and provided as FAQs moving forward, so ask all of the questions you feel are necessary. As well, I may do a webcast at some point for potential applicants, but we are thinking that through a little more. Good luck to those that apply!

Forensic Training

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.

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 the Forensic Management Academy presented by West Virginia University. This one week premier business program was designed for forensic
News Around the Globe

State Sen. Negron blasts as 'unacceptable' 6- to 8-year FDLE estimate to test rape kits
Miami Herald
... the agency is struggling to retain employees and hire staff for its crime lab. ... Pritt warned it can take 18 to 20 months to fully train a crime lab analyst.

$424,000 spent on legal innocence project, and only 1 person found
MyAJC
Kent D. Johnson Scientist Angel Segrest at the Georgia Bureau of Investigations crime laboratory in Decatur on Dec. 8, 2015. (KENT D. JOHNSON/ ... 

Report: Rape costs Utah $4.8 billion annually
Salt Lake Tribune
... of evidence collected by nurses — possibly containing swabs, blood, semen, hair or clothing samples — had not been reviewed by a crime lab.

Gov't forensic lab needs to meet required standards for DNA testing capability
Stabroek News
Although government wants DNA testing to be a feature of the Guyana Forensic Laboratory, Public Security Minister Khemraj Ramjattan says it first ...

“Police refuse to vacate drug lab building’
Greater Kashmir
The Drug Testing Laboratory building that also houses the Food Testing ... to vacate those premises of the erstwhile Forensic Lab,” the official said.

TN Department of Health Appoints Forensic Experts to Lead Medical Examiner’s Office

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

Ron Smith & Associates Training

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
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
The Tennessee Department of Health announces the appointment of two accomplished medical doctors and forensic pathologists, each with deep ...
Some kits were gathering dust in the local police evidence rooms as the result of "confusing communications" from the state forensic laboratory, ...

Montana must invest in state crime lab
Billings Gazette
Montana's state crime lab came under unusual scrutiny last year, especially for long delays in analyzing criminal drug cases and for a shortage of ...

Canton-Stark Crime Lab making strides
Massillon Independent
The lab still runs fewer tests than it used to and has a cramped budget, but staff members have slashed the time it takes to process samples.

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

Experienced Latent Print Examiner, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2016

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

Forensic Scientist – Breath Alcohol, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: January 27, 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

Crime Lab Scientist, Forensic Chemist, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, Georgia, Expires: January 22, 2016

Forensic Biologist (CLS), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, Georgia, Expires: January 22, 2016

Criminalist II, Miami-Dade Police Department, Doral, Florida, Expires: January 21, 2016

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

< >, Brazoria County Sheriff's Office, Angleton, Texas, Expires: January 31, 2016 Forensic Toxicologist, Travis County, Austin, Texas, Expires: January 17, 2016

Forensic Scientist III – Controlled Substance Unit, City of Scottsdale, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: January 24, 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 with RTI, have made the below webinars available.

False-Positive/Negative Error Rates in Cartridge Case Comparisons

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival Version

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version

Webinar Series:

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Click here for registration link.

March 14-18 2016 the Maryland State Police will be hosting a 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
| **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 – Questioned Documents, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: January 31, 2016** |
| **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** |
| **Postdoctoral Research Associate – Genomics, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, Expires: March 1, 2016** |
| **Senior Scientist, Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc., Lorton, Expires: February 23, 2016** |
| **Laboratory Manager I – Forensic Chemistry Unit, Delaware Division of Forensic Science, Wilmington, DE, Expires: February 27, 2016** |

**Ron Smith & Associates Training**

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Location: Bourne, MA

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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

**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 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 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](#)
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.
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.

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** 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 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

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 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.
Postmortem Interpretive Toxicology

Where: Philadelphia, PA
When: January 25-29, 2016
Course Fee: $1,500

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