Greetings Colleagues,

As we begin this week, the ASCLD Board of Directors are meeting in Louisiana for the Spring 2016 ASCLD Strategic Planning Meeting. Over the course of today and tomorrow, our Board of Directors will be answering how best ASCLD can serve its mission,

“To promote the effectiveness of crime laboratory leaders throughout the world by

• facilitating communication among members
• sharing critical information
• providing relevant training
• promoting crime laboratory accreditation and
• encouraging scientific and managerial excellence in the global forensic community.”

We will be developing a strategic plan that will serve the membership in support of its mission and will also lay a foundation for future initiatives. It is an exciting time for our organization and our industry. It is very important that we work to further our mission through all activities and efforts towards ASCLD’s common goal of "Excellence through leadership in forensic science management." We will be providing our plan to the membership later this year in conjunction with our annual symposium.

I wish you all a great and productive week!

Thanks!

--Jody
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.

Scholarship Opportunity

Do you know a student who is in the process of obtaining a degree related to the field of forensic science and may need financial assistance? If so, ASCLD’s annual scholarship solicitation is now open and accepting applications. The annual award is in the amount of $1000.

Please reach out to prospective applicants as soon as possible as the due date (April 15) is quickly approaching. The application can be found on the ASCLD website http://www.ascld.org/nominations/

Eligibility

Applicants must be a junior or senior in a baccalaureate program or a graduate student (masters or doctorate) at an accredited university who is pursuing a degree in forensic science, forensic chemistry, a physical or natural science. Applicants from FEPAC accredited programs will be given additional consideration. High school students or college/university students in their freshman or sophomore years will not be eligible for application. As the scholarship program was created to provide opportunity to students intending to enter the forensic field, scholarships will not be granted to current forensic science laboratory employees pursuing graduate degrees.

Selection criteria

• Award recipients will be selected on the basis of:
  • Overall scholastic record
  • Scholastic record in forensic science coursework
  • Motivation or commitment to a forensic science career
Forensic Training

Law Enforcement Innovation Center
Expert Witness Online Training
Course Description:

- Factors that influence the selection of an expert
- The importance of investigating an expert's credentials
- How to make an informed decision of an expert's credibility
- Legal standards of admissibility of scientific evidence
- Attorney's ethics in dealing with experts

Click here for additional information and registration.

Ron Smith & Associates Training

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
**News Around the Globe**

**Oregon Senate supports Melissa’s Bill to ensure sexual assault evidence kits get tested**
OregonLive.com
The state Senate Friday unanimously supported a bill aimed at ensuring that sexual assault forensic evidence is submitted for lab testing in a timely ...

**State of the City: Stothert plans to increase street resurfacing budget, pursue crime lab merger**
Omaha World-Herald
Omaha Mayor Jean Stothert plans to increase the city’s street resurfacing budget and pursue a crime lab merger with Douglas County in the coming ...

**New Crime Scene Unit**
Liberty Vindicator
Spearheading the daily operations of this new Crime Scene Unit is Forensic Technician Vita O’Reilly who was already working as a lab technician ...

**MISSOULIAN EDITORIAL: Not a moment too soon for new crime lab**
The Missoulian
At about this time last year, Montana’s Legislature was grappling with whether to approve a second crime lab located in the eastern portion of the state.

**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.

**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
The police maintain a DNA database that they use to search for full or ... Forensic science such as DNA profiling is undoubtedly a valuable resource, ...

Justice Department to Perform Expansive Review of FBI Lab's Forensic Testimony
ticklethewire.com
The Justice Department is performing an expansive review of forensic testimony by the FBI Laboratory to determine whether evidence was overstated ...

Rapid DNA devices provide results in less than two hours; how are they being used?
ABA Journal
Law enforcement and immigration officials are showing interest in new microwave-sized devices that test DNA and return results in less than two ...

DA plans to appeal decision in Perrot case
WCVB Boston
This is the first time in the country that someone has won a new trial because of flawed testimony about FBI hair analysis. It's a case being watched ...

Crime lab examiner leads girls workshop
Brookings Register
BROOKINGS – Eighth-grade girls with an interest in solving crimes can learn from a professional during a one-day workshop presented by the Jerome ...

Police lab's integrity is paramount
Albany Times Union
Since the creation of its first crime lab in 1936, the State Police have maintained a steadfast commitment toward preserving the credibility and integrity ...

APRIL 2016
Understanding Exclusion and Sufficiency Decisions
Location: Dublin, CA
Class Dates: 04-04-2016 thru 04-08-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 36

Palm Print Comparison Techniques
Location: Hoover, AL
Class Dates: 04-05-2016 thru 04-07-2016
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

Fundamentals of Crime Scene Examination and Evidence Collection
Location: Helena, MT
Class Dates: 04-11-2016 thru 04-15-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Fingerprint and Trace Evidence Detection and Collection on Skin
Location: Springfield, MO
Class Dates: 04-19-2016 thru 04-22-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 32

Understanding Exclusion and Sufficiency Decisions
Location: Edmonton, AB
Class Dates: 04-25-2016 thru 04-29-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 36

Advanced Sequential Processing - A Hands On Workshop
Location: Minneapolis, MN
Class Dates: 04-26-2016 thru 04-29-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 32

MAY 2016
Scientific Analysis (ACE-V): From the Laboratory to the Witness Stand
Location: Las Vegas, NV
Class Dates: 05-02-2016 thru 05-06-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge
New ballistics technology helping to solve violent gun crimes
Fox 28
In fact this it's the same machine the Illinois State Crime Lab has. But having one here in the stateline is a huge advantage and not just for Rockford PD ...

Bad blood? Attorneys claim DWI system is broken
KSAT San Antonio
The county used to have a lab, Integrated Forensic Laboratories (IFL), their contract was terminated after blood samples were found to be ...

GCC campus preparing for transformation with new projects
Pacific Daily News
Expansion of forensic lab. GCC plans to expand its forensic lab to support the criminal justice program. A new lab and classroom will be built near the ...

Hawaii lawmakers want details on 1500 untested rape kits
West Hawaii Today
Michigan passed a law in 2014 setting time limits on how long a rape kit can go without testing before it's analyzed by a crime lab. Hawaii's bill ...

Untested rape kit tracking bill moves forward
Idaho Press-Tribune
The Idaho State Police Forensic Services lab in Meridian is responsible for all testing of DNA in the state. Matthew Gamette, the lab's director of ...

Justice Dept. To Do 'Stress Test' of FBI Forensic Sciences
New York Times
That review of lab examiners' testimony found errors relating to hair analysis in at least 90 percent of trial transcripts and covered a period before 2000 ...

State Crime Lab concerned about new synthetic

Examination
Location: Bossier City, LA
Class Dates: 05-02-2016 thru 05-06-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Detection, Documentation and Recovery of Footwear & Tire Track Evidence
Location: Albuquerque, NM
Class Dates: 05-09-2016 thru 05-11-2016
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

Expert Witness Testimony Techniques for Laboratory Analysts
Location: Glendale, AZ
Class Dates: 05-11-2016 thru 05-12-2016
Tuition: $300.00 | Hours: 16

Scientific Analysis (ACE-V): From the Laboratory to the Witness Stand
Location: Bowling Green, OH
Class Dates: 05-16-2016 thru 05-20-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

Digital Crime Scene and Evidence Photography
Location: Clackamas, OR
Class Dates: 05-17-2016 thru 05-19-2016
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

Complex Latent Print Examination
Location: North Charleston, SC
Class Dates: 05-23-2016 thru 05-27-2016
Tuition: $600.00 | Hours: 40

JUNE 2016
Palm Print Comparison Techniques
Location: Daytona Beach, FL
Class Dates: 06-07-2016 thru 06-09-2016
Tuition: $400.00 | Hours: 24

Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge Examination
Location: Albuquerque, NM
Class Dates: 06-13-2016 thru 06-17-2016
Scientists at the Department of Public Safety Crime Lab said they're coming across new drugs they've never seen before, and these drugs are deadly.

Can new Nebraska State Patrol crime lab reduce "frustrating" evidence delays?
NET Website

After years of frustrating delays in processing DNA samples and drug-related evidence from the Nebraska State Patrol crime lab, both prosecutors and ... 

Charles River Associates (CRA) Establishes New Digital Forensics Laboratory

Business Wire (press release)

Located in the firm's Chicago office, the lab is a secure and technically advanced environment for analyzing complex forensic data and digital ... 

We need Legislative leadership, not grandstanding
Hampshire Review

Our overworked and underpaid forensics lab already can't keep up with the demands placed on it. Cutting there will just drive up jail costs as trials are ... 

Nigeria: Lagos to Establish First DNA Forensic Lab
AllAfrica.com

The lab, which would be called the Lagos State DNA Forensics Centre (LSDFC), when fully operational, will fulfill an unmet need for DNA profiling ... 

Local, federal, state agencies join to fight crime in new real-time crime lab in Hartford
FOX 61

On Wednesday, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin and Chief of Police James Rovella joined together with local politicians to unveil a new real-time crime ... 

Buck Newton touts insider's knowledge of state legal
And he said he’s concerned about the backlog at the state crime lab. “The situation with the crime lab is inexcusable and must be solved immediately,”...

E. Montana crime lab past planned opening date, but progress being made
Billings Gazette
An Eastern Montana crime lab, which will be located at Billings Clinic, was tentatively scheduled to open in January. Despite delays, the lab could be ...

New Statehouse Bill Would Codify Idaho Rape Kit Process, Timelines
Boise Weekly
Additionally, Idaho crime labs will issue an annual audit report to the Legislature, detailing the number of kits analyzed. The annual report from Idaho ...

Private forensic lab is a idea whose time has come
Times Daily
The region that would be served by the forensic lab would include Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Marion, Morgan and Winston ...

Scientists claim New York police forced them to fake DNA tests to convict more suspects
Raw Story
Scientists claim New York police forced them to fake DNA tests to convict ... the crime lab that they were fired from at New York State police department. ... Accreditation on all aspects of our forensic biology (DNA) operation and are in ...

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 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

Houston Forensic Science Center
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)
Rape cases fear over ‘tainted’ DNA risk

The Forensic Science Regulator is drafting new guidance on the collection of intimate samples in rape cases, the Gazette has learned, amid ...

A mystery at the state lab

Albany Times Union

The plot thickens, and the cause for public concern grows, in the increasingly disturbing case of alleged cheating at the State Police crime laboratory.

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

Forensic Toxicology Section Supervisor, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: March 28, 2016


Chemist III – Forensic Section Supervisor, Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory, Augusta, ME, Expires: March 9, 2016

Tenure-Track Faculty/Director Position in Forensic Chemical Science, Washburn University, Topeka, KS, Expires: May 5, 2016

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

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, 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

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.

Forensic Toxicology Instrumentation Techniques & Applications

Register today:
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

May 16-20, 2016: [Canadian Society of Forensic Science](#) – Montreal, Canada

Learn more: [www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse](http://www.forensicscienceeducation.org/forensic-toxicology-instrumentation-techniques-applications/)

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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 for Forensic Police Agencies**

- **March 3-4, 2016, Tampa, FL**
- **June 8-9, 2016, Greenville, SC**
- **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**
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 2016: **15th Annual AFQAM Conference** – Little Rock, AR

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

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

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**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

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 courses designed to help organizations achieve and maintain accreditation to international standards.
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.

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