President Message

Colleagues,

Your 2016-17 Board of Directors is off and running on another exciting year for ASCLD. Last week, the executive board met to assign chairs to each committee and jumpstart our planning for the year. From here each committee will begin work on our Strategic Plan.

I’m pleased to announce the committee chairs for this year:

Standing Committees
Advocacy – Matthew Gamette (matthew.gamette@ascld.org)
Communication – Debbie Leben (debbie.leben@ascld.org)
Ethics & Bylaws – Christian Westring (christian.westring@ascld.org)
Finance – Andrea Swiech (andrea.swiech@ascld.org)
International Liaison – Jody Wolf (jody.wolf@ascld.org)
Membership – Brooke Arnone (brooke.arnone@ascld.org)
Nominating & Awards – Tim Scanlan (tim.scanlan@ascld.org)
Sponsorship – Adam Becnel (adam.becnel@ascld.org)
Symposium Planning – Ray Wickenheiser (ray.wickenheiser@ascld.org)
Training & Education – Kris Deters (kris.deters@ascld.org)

Ad hoc Committees / Initiatives
Foresight 20/20 – Jay Henry & Brady Mills (jay.henry@ascld.org, brady.mills@ascld.org)
National Forensic Science Academy – Jody Wolf (jody.wolf@ascld.org)
US TAG to ISO TC 272 – Kermit Channell & Soraya McClung (kermit.channell@ascld.org, soraya.mcclung@ascld.org)

We are also working on a couple exciting new ad hoc committees/initiatives for 2016-17 that I look forward to communicating with you when plans are a little more settled.

We need volunteers! If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please contact the chair directly at the email addresses above. We have a lot that we would like to accomplish this year and can use as many volunteers as possible! Please consider joining one of the committees.

“Great leaders may have the title. What makes them great, however, is that they don’t wear the title.” -Simon Sinek

Kindest regards,
Jeremy Triplett
ASCLD President
Forensic Science Policy & Management Volume 7, Issues 3-4 are now available at www.tandfonline.com/toc/ufpm20/current. New articles include:

- Leadership Decisions Influencing Medicolegal Death Investigation: “We wear a lot of hats.” Stacy A. Drake, Eileen Giardino, Angelo Giardino & Kurt Nolte

- Up from “Arts and Crafts”: Division of Labor in Forensic Science Laboratories, William P. McAndrew & M. Garrett Roth.

Access to the journal comes free with your ASCLD membership. At the journal website, look for the “Sign in” at the top of the page. Submissions are requested from professionals, academics, scholars, and policy makers from science, law, and government. Information for authors can be found by clicking “Submit” at the left of the journal webpage. Questions about the journal can be sent to max@forensicintelligence.us or siegel.jay@gmail.com.

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RS&A Quick Links

CLICK HERE TO VISIT RS&A ONLINE
CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RS&A SERVICES
CLICK HERE TO EMAIL US

Forensic Training

Professional Orientation School for New Crime Lab Scientists - ONLINE!

John Collins with the Forensic Foundations Group is announcing 3 online Professional Orientation Schools for New Crime Lab Scientists: Beginning on May 2, May 10, or July 20. Maximum 20 students per school.

Each school is comprised of 8, 2-hour online sessions over 4 weeks with a final examination. Please visit www.forensicfoundations.com/scheduled-workshops to view the schedule and/or register. Students should first register for free as a “Friend of the Group” to qualify for the discounted $245 registration fee. Please call John at (517) 803-4063 if you have any questions.

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Houston Forensic Science Center

The Houston Forensic Science Center has rescheduled the following two courses to take place later on this year:

- IAI Crime Scene Certification Exam Preparation: CSCSA Level: May 16-20, 2016 - rescheduled
- Intermediate Latent Print Comparison June 15 - 17, 2016 Palm Print Comparison

Thank you for your continued support, and please contact me via email or by phone (713-929-6760) should you have any additional questions.

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Law Enforcement Innovation Center
Research Reports

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

New Solicitation: DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program

NIJ is seeking proposals for funding for the FY 2016 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) program. This program provides funds to eligible States and units of local government with existing crime laboratories that conduct DNA analysis to process, record, screen, and analyze forensic DNA and/or DNA database samples; and to increase the capacity of public forensic DNA and DNA database laboratories to process more DNA samples, thereby helping to reduce the number of forensic DNA and DNA database samples awaiting analysis. The deadline for applications under this funding opportunity is May 23.

Research and Evaluation in Support of the Recommendations of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing

NIJ is seeking research proposals to support the recommendations of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing, this includes research on reducing DNA backlogs. Specifically, NIJ is interested in receiving innovative proposals for research designed to evaluate the efficacy of the protocols that police and investigators can use to triage DNA evidence collected at crime scenes and submitted to forensic laboratories against metrics such as the average turnaround time per case for a forensic analysis; the burden on police investigations with respect to time and effort; how cases are prosecuted; and the number of DNA profiles uploaded into the National DNA Index System (NDIS). The deadline for applications under these funding opportunities is May 17.

New Solicitation: Visiting Fellows Program

NIJ is seeking proposals for innovative research, scholarship, and/or knowledge-building projects addressing high-priority criminal justice issues as part of the 2016 NIJ Visiting Fellows Program. Awards made under the NIJ Visiting Fellows Program will bring leading researchers, practitioners, and/or others into residency at NIJ to make important scholarly and policy contributions with practical application to the criminal justice field, and to work with the NIJ Director, staff, and relevant NIJ stakeholders to help shape the direction of NIJ’s research programs. The deadline for applications under this

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
- Attorneys’ ethics in dealing with experts

Click here for additional information and registration.

Ron Smith & Associates Training

National Forensic Quality Manager Training Academy

It is truly amazing that, until now, there has never been a national training academy specifically designed for Quality Managers. Forensic Quality Managers have been expected to learn from “on the job” training that they may receive from a variety of sources, but none of this training has been consistent in the industry. Organizations like the Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers have been huge in taking up the mantle of providing various workshops and classes, but it was never intended to take the place of a complete training program. With forensics being under such intense scrutiny these days, agencies who perform forensic analysis must ensure that their work is performed under the guiding principles and standards which are now becoming more clearly defined each day. We, in the forensic industry, have not embraced Quality Management training as aggressively as we should.

Ron Smith & Associates, Inc. is known as one of the premier forensic training companies in the world. Our teams of subject matter experts and support staff have successfully designed and offered hundreds upon hundreds of highly sought after training opportunities all across the United States and abroad. RS&A is now ready to take on the challenge of building a National Forensic Quality Manager Training Academy which will soon become the cornerstone of forensic training in this very critical area.

June 20, 2016 through July 1, 2016 in Pearl, MS. Academy tuition is $2,500.00 with only 25 seats available.

Click here for complete academy details and to complete an academy application today!

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
Ancestry Estimation in Forensic Anthropology: Geometric Morphometric versus Standard and Nonstandard Interlandmark Distances

Drs. M. Katherine Spradley and Richard L. Jantz, NIJ-supported researchers, have published a new article in the Journal of Forensic Sciences. This study compares the discrimination ability of standard cranial measurements and 3D digitizers for cranial landmark data collection and geometric morphometric (GM) analyses. The nonstandard interlandmark distances generated the highest classification rates for females (90.5%) and males (88.2%). Using nonstandard interlandmark distances over more commonly used measurements leads to better ancestry estimates for our current population structure.

Learn about how to become a paid peer reviewer, and share this opportunity with colleagues.

News Around the Globe

How Can America Fix Its Crime Labs?

Scandals have plagued crime labs across the country. What can be done to prevent the next one?

Crime lab technicians in Montana and California have been accused of stealing pills and cocaine from evidence. And in Houston, Jonathan Salvador, ...

https://psmag.com/how-can-america-fix-its-crime-labs-329535de1af9#.g9va0xtr0

Mark Norwood, sentenced to life in prison for the infamous 1986 slaying of Christine Morton, was to face a jury last September in the similar killing of Debra Baker. But only weeks before his trial, both of his cases were among thousands in Texas flagged for review because of...
ASCLD Crime Lab Minute May 9 2016

Sheriff’s Office has its forensics division delving into crime scenes
MONICA DATZ has over 30 years of service in forensic sciences with law enforcement. She has worked in the forensics lab at the Bradley County Sheriff’s Office since 2003. Banner photo, ALLEN MINCEY AT THE FORENSICS LAB at the Bradley County Sheriff’s Office is a fume hood area into which any toxic air particles can be drawn while analysis is conducted. Monica Datz, shown working at the fume hood, said the lab also houses microscopes, computers and drying units, among other equipment.

Should rape kit testing be prioritized by victim-offender relationship - See more at: http://journalistsresource.org/studies/government/criminal-justice/rape-kit-testing-backlog-victim-relationship#sthash.U8ik3v4r.dpuf

Many of these kits contain DNA evidence taken from the victims of sexual assault. In 2011, the NJU supported a one-year project to test 1,000 SAKs in New Orleans. The testing yielded DNA evidence that aided police investigations in 13 percent of the cases. Similar backlogs have been found in other cities, including Detroit, where a census of untested rape kits several years ago found almost 9,000 kits that had never been submitted to a lab.

The backlog of untested rape kits in some jurisdictions can be a factor in low prosecution rates, according to a 2014 White House report, and this has led to calls by some policymakers to expedite the testing. A number of states have, in recent years, enacted laws that mandate testing of backlogged rape kits. Among them are Oregon, Michigan, and California. States such as New Hampshire, New York and Massachusetts are considering similar measures. Some state policymakers have argued that rape kits should be prioritized by victim-offender relationship, and that tests should be given lower priority when a rapist is known to the victim.

- See more at: http://journalistsresource.org/studies/government/criminal-justice/rape-kit-testing-backlog-victim-relationship#sthash.3ygyylEsB.dpuf

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.

ASCLD Train the Directors Latent Prints Webinar - Archival
ASCLD Train the Directors DNA Discipline Webinar - Archival
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
ASCLD Train the Directors Digital Multimedia Evidence Webinar - Archival
ASCLD Train the Directors Toxicology Webinar - Archival
ASCLD Train the Directors Firearms Webinar - Archival
ASCLD Tech
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 Scientist – Controlled Substances**, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: June 2, 2016
- **Forensic Scientist III**, Center for Forensic Science Research & Education, Willow Grove, Expires: June 10, 2016
- **Quality Specialist**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 28, 2016
- **Computer Forensic Analyst**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 28, 2016
- **Instructor**, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, Expires: May 9, 2016
- **DNA Technical Leader**, NMS Labs, Willow Grove, Expires: June 10, 2016
- **Criminalist III**, County of San Diego, San Diego, CA, Expires: May 15, 2016
- **Forensic Scientist Supervisor**, Maryland State Police Forensic Sciences Division, Pikesville, Maryland, Expires: May 13, 2016
- **Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology**, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: June 10, 2016
- **Latent Print Examiner**, Durham Police Department, Durham, NC, Expires: July 18, 2016
- **Forensic Scientist II – Drug Chemistry**, Tri County Regional Forensic Laboratory, Andover, MN, Expires: May 13, 2016
- **ICITAP Forensics Experts**, Engility Corporation, Mexico City, Expires: July 1, 2016
- **SEROLOGIST III / ASSISTANT TECHNICAL LEADER**, Serological Research Institute, Richmond, CA, Expires: July 6, 2016

Advances in DNA profiling technologies are enabling faster and more accurate results, in some cases moving procedures from the lab to the crime scene. Emerging tools such as next-generation sequencing are also creating new possibilities in forensic DNA investigation, but with that comes unfamiliar scientific and legal implications.

Cambridge Healthtech Institute’s Inaugural DNA Forensics event will examine new technologies, changing policies, and trends in forensic DNA investigations. Special focus will be given to next-generation sequencing (NGS), including statistical analysis and interpretation of DNA profiles. Optimizing extraction techniques and isolation will also be addressed with an emphasis on challenging samples. Overall, this event aims to address existing bottlenecks while introducing solutions and new concepts in the DNA identification field.

Day 1 | Day 2 | Short Courses | Download Brochure

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[Cambridge Healthtech Institute's Inaugural DNA Forensics event](https://us6.campaign-archive.com/?u=ce3907946f07b89fcd62a4425&id=be9af4dcd86)
Forensic Analyst – Audio/Video, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2016

Crime Scene Investigator, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2016

Manager of Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2016

Technical Lead – Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 5, 2016

Forensic Analyst – Audio/Video, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2016

Crime Scene Investigator, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2016

Manager of Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2016

Technical Lead – Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 5, 2016

Forensic Chemist, ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: July 31, 2016

Forensic Specialist III/Forensic Specialist IV, Kansas City Mo Police Dept, Crime Laboratory, Kansas City, Missouri, Expires: May 31, 2016

Supervising Forensic Identification Specialist, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, Los Angeles, California, Expires: June 22, 2016

SUPERVISING CRIMINALIST I, Los Angeles County Medical Examiner – Coroner, Los Angeles, Expires: May 23, 2016

CHIEF FORENSIC LABORATORIES, Los Angeles County Medical Examiner – Coroner, Los Angeles, Expires: May 23, 2016


Forensic Science Lecturer, University at Albany, Albany, NY, Expires: May 31, 2016

DNA Technical Leader, NMS Labs, Willow Grove, PA, Expires: May 9, 2016

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

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

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.

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
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
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.

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.
Forensic Conferences

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

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.

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.

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