

FORENSIC SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS ACCREDITATION COMMISSION (FEPAC)



Accreditation of Forensic Science Academic Programs Through the FEPAC

Open to all Meeting Registrants

Friday

February 26, 2021

8:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Chair:

Dwight E. Adams, PhD
University of Central Oklahoma
Forensic Science Institute
Edmond, OK

Commissioner:

Jason L. Schroeder, MS
Harris County Institute of Forensic Science
Houston, TX

Commissioner:

A. Karl Larsen, PhD
University of Illinois, Chicago
Chicago, IL

Commissioner:

Heidi Eldridge, MS
RTI International
Research Triangle Park, NC

Commissioner:

Patrick A. Eller, MS
Metadata Forensics LLC
Richmond, VA

Commissioner:

Jeffrey K. Tomberlin, PhD
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Commissioner:

Sarah Seashols-Williams, PhD
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

Accreditation & Outreach Coordinator:

Nancy J. Jackson
American Academy of Forensic Sciences
Colorado Springs, CO

Learning Overview: Upon completion of this session, the participant should be able to understand the process of accreditation through the AAFS FEPAC mechanism and be able to participate in the process as a reviewer of academic programs. Participants from academic programs will also learn about the process of accreditation from different perspectives.

Program Description: This webinar has been developed to assist academic institutions offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs in forensic science and forensic digital evidence to prepare for the accreditation process through the FEPAC. This session will also assist future on-site evaluators (academic and practitioners) to prepare for evaluations of academic programs. Successful completion of this session will qualify participants for consideration to serve as on-site evaluators for FEPAC in the future (please note that participants must still meet other FEPAC requirements, such as membership in the AAFS and designation as either a practitioner or academician).

This training session will highlight updates to the FEPAC Standards for Accreditation and provide valuable information for both program directors and on-site evaluators.

The FEPAC is a standing committee of the AAFS with a membership that includes five educators, five forensic science practitioners, and a public member as voting members. The mission of the FEPAC is to maintain and enhance the quality of forensic science education through a formal evaluation and recognition of college-level academic programs. The primary function of the committee is to develop and maintain standards and to administer an accreditation program that recognizes and distinguishes high-quality undergraduate and graduate forensic science programs. Forty academic programs have successfully completed the accreditation process since 2003. Additional information on FEPAC can be found on the FEPAC website: <http://fepac-edu.org>.



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Program:

8:30 a.m.	-	9:00 a.m.	Introduction and Welcoming Remarks Module 1: What to Know About FEPAC <i>Dwight E. Adams, PhD</i>
9:00 a.m.	-	9:30 a.m.	Module 2: An Overview of the FEPAC Application Process <i>Patrick A. Eller, MS</i>
9:30 a.m.	-	10:00 a.m.	Module 3: A Review of Self-Study Standards 3.0—General for all Programs <i>Jason L. Schroeder, MS</i>
10:00 a.m.	-	10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	-	10:45 a.m.	Module 4: A Review of Self-Study Standards 4.0—Undergraduate Programs <i>Jeffrey K. Tomberlin, PhD</i>
10:45 a.m.	-	11:15 a.m.	Module 5: A Review of Self-Study Standards 5.0—Graduate Programs <i>A. Karl Larsen, PhD</i>
11:15 a.m.	-	11:45 a.m.	Module 6: Accreditation Decisions and Categories, Appeals Process, Annual Reports, Substantive Changes, and Post-Visit Survey <i>Sarah Seashols-Williams, PhD</i>
11:45 a.m.	-	12:15 p.m.	Module 7: FEPAC On-Site Evaluator Training <i>Heidi Eldridge, MS</i>
12:15 p.m.	-	12:45 p.m.	Questions and Answers <i>FEPAC Commissioners and Accreditation Coordinator</i>
