



## Physical Anthropology Section – 2005

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### H91 FAD - A Database Application for Forensic Anthropology in Human Rights

*Ute Hofmeister, MA\**, Porzellangasse 48/12a, Alipasina 45a, Vienna, 1090, Austria; *Anahi Ginarte, Lic., EAAF*, Rivadavia 2443, dpto 3 y 4, Buenos Aires, C1034ACD, Argentina

The goal of this presentation is to introduce the forensic community to a new database application as a tool for forensic anthropology and to show the advantage of using such an application in the practice of forensic exhumations, examinations, and identifications.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by presenting a new tool to facilitate and standardize Forensic anthropological work in a human rights context.

In order to support forensic anthropologists working in a human rights related field, the authors, in cooperation with the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (Equipo Argentino de Antropología Forense – EAAF) created a special database application for exhumation and identification of human remains. The Forensic Anthropological Database (FAD) facilitates the process of identification of skeletal remains and has been instrumental in assisting the EAAF in organizing and processing their world-wide case load. It features modules on exhumation, anthropological analysis, sorting, and re-association of commingled remains, and antemortem information on missing persons that can be matched with the postmortem data obtained from anthropological analysis. In addition, the database supports general conclusions and statistical analysis from examined cases, such as biological and traumatic profile of skeletal populations. In this electronic format, the data also remains available for further scientific research. As such, the FAD is the first system of its kind and, being easy to use and based on easily accessible software, constitutes an important contribution to the forensic anthropological investigation of human rights violations and the identification of the victims.

**Forensic Anthropology, Forensic Archaeology, Database**