



Special Session - 2016

S2 Viva La Forensics

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After attending this presentation, attendees will have a better understanding of casework and solving cold cases within the fields of forensic science. Additionally, attendees will better understand how to create a resume and how to apply and interview for a job.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by demonstrating cases where forensic science was key to case resolution. This will show attendees what real casework is and how real-life cases are solved. Cases will be presented from beginning to end.

Each year at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Scientific Meeting, the Young Forensic Scientists Forum (YFSF) provides a program for students and forensic scientists with less than five years of professional experience. The session allows attendees to interact with peers as well as with the professional speakers and to build professional relationships that foster growth and mentorship opportunities. Special session topics provide attendees with a broad overview of the many opportunities in the field of forensic science. In addition to the special session, the YFSF session offers two opportunities for young forensic scientists to present their own work or research: the YFSF Bring Your Own Posters (BYOP) Session and the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides (BYOS) Session. The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) Emerging Forensic Scientists Award winner is also invited to present her award winning paper during this special session.

For the AAFS 68th Annual Scientific Meeting in Las Vegas, NV, the YFSF Special Session will present *Viva La Forensics!* The special session will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, and will include speakers from many of the AAFS sections who will discuss cases where forensic science was key to solving the case. Through the presentations, attendees will learn how forensic science can be used to change the outcome of a case. Attendees will be exposed to the real life of a forensic scientist and to actual witness testimony.

Following the Tuesday session, the YFSF BYOP Session will be presented in the evening, giving young professionals the opportunity to showcase current cases and research being worked on in a poster format.

The annual YFSF BYOS Session takes place the evening of Wednesday, February 24, 2016, and will include presentations from students and young professionals. YFSF does not require presenters of YFSF BYOS and BYOP Sessions to be members of AAFS and does not require they attend the special session, but it is encouraged that they do so. The program will conclude on Thursday, February 25, 2016, with the annual YFSF Breakfast Session which includes a résumé review panel. Attendees of the breakfast session must be registered for the YFSF Special Session.



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As is the tradition, the YFSF Breakfast Session focuses on developing professional skills for the next generation; however, this year will be a little different. Instead of planned speakers, members of various AAFS sections have been asked to participate in a Q&A Panel to help facilitate conversation between young professionals and professionals already established in their field. After the panel, attendees will have the opportunity to receive résumé assistance and feedback from AAFS members.

The special session provides students, young professionals, and AAFS members with a way to foster career-long relationships. The main goal of the YFSF is to encourage mentorship between young and veteran forensic scientists. Attendees are encouraged to apply for membership in the AAFS and are given guidance on the many opportunities available to aid in career enrichment.

YFSF, Education, Research