

S02 Young Forensic Scientists Forum (YFSF) Special Session—One Academy Pursuing Justice Through Truth in Evidence ... the Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing But the Truth

Zain Bhaloo, MSc, Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), Ottawa, ON K2E 7M6, CANADA; Catherine O. Brown, MSFS*, Center for Forensic Science Research & Education, Willow Grove, PA 19090; Hannah Noël Simmons, BS*, Raleigh, NC 27616; Cheryl D. Hunter*, Florissant, CO 80816; Carl R. McClary, MS*, ATF, Atlanta, GA 30345; Jeri D. Roper-Miller, PhD*, RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; Tobin A. Tanaka, BS*, Canada Border Services Agency, Ottawa, ON K2E 7M6, CANADA; Duarte Nuno Vieira, MD, PhD*, University of Coimbra, Coimbra 3000-044, PORTUGAL; Laura M. Labay, PhD*, NMS Labs, Horsham, PA 19044; Marin A. Pilloud, PhD*, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV 89557-0096; Nikolas P. Lemos, PhD*, Lemos Toxicology Services, San Francisco, CA 94114; Brian S. Clark, MFS*, FBI, Chicago, IL 60608; Dirk Vastrick, BA*, Dirk Vastrick Presents, Spokane Valley, WA 99016; Robert M. Sanger, JD*, Sanger Swysen & Dunkle, Santa Barbara, CA 93101; Emily D. Gottfried, PhD*, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC 29407; Mary L. Hall, MS*, Houston, TX 77002; Vincent J. Desiderio, Jr., MS*, United States Postal Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20260*

Learning Overview: After attending this presentation, attendees will better understand forensic science, how anyone's work can result in testimony, and how the different pressures that different courts impose can impact and shape our work, and vice versa, regardless of the discipline. In addition, attendees will learn about the advantages and importance of proper resume writing and interviewing skills.

Impact on the Forensic Science Community: The YFSF has historically provided a venue for those forensic scientists with less than five years of professional experience to connect with, and further integrate into, their prospective fields as well as to learn about all the other disciplines. The YFSF should provide the space and opportunity for attendees/speakers to grow, develop, network, and learn from one another. This will allow young scientists the confidence to progress in their fields and one day hopefully provide the same opportunity to future young scientists.

This year's special session provides valuable information to young forensic scientists regarding the various disciplines within the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) and will serve as a forum to exchange, discuss, and cultivate new ideas. This full-day program has been put together to cover a wide range of topics and inform attendees as to how these topics relate to downstream disciplines, techniques, and individuals. The YFSF aims to show all young forensic scientists that what makes us special isn't just who we are alone, but how and what we contribute to forensics and the court system.

Every year, the AAFS draws in thousands of globally recognized experts and professionals to present research, hold workshops, and showcase the various disciplines represented within the Academy. This session will feature speakers from many of the AAFS sections who will discuss their work and how this work resulted in their presenting evidence in a court of law—both domestically and internationally.

Through these presentations, attendees will learn how experienced practitioners and professionals have worked to forward their disciplines and forensics as a whole and how their work culminated in presentation of evidence to a court during testimony. Through this special session, forensic experts will provide mentorship to young forensic scientists by conveying their experiences, their successes, their failures, and the lessons they learned.

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