

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration Desk Hours

Sunday	February 12	1:00 PM	-	5:00 PM
Monday	February 13	6:45 AM	-	5:00 PM
Tuesday	February 14	6:45 AM	-	6:00 PM
Wednesday	February 15	6:45 AM	-	5:00 PM
Thursday	February 16	6:45 AM	-	5:00 PM
Friday	February 17	6:45 AM	-	4:00 PM
Saturday	February 18	7:30 AM	-	11:00 AM

Exhibit Hall Hours

Wednesday	February 15	11:30 AM	-	4:00 PM
Thursday	February 16	9:00 AM	-	2:00 PM
AAFS Reception	(Exhibits Open)	6:00 PM	-	8:00 PM
Friday	February 17	8:00 AM	-	2:00 PM

Media Statement: The American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) does not comment on forensic cases or medicolegal investigations. Media releases will be issued by the AAFS Board of Directors only in response to matters deemed pertinent to the business of the Academy. The sitting AAFS President is the only member of the Academy authorized to provide comment on behalf of the Academy. Comments, views, and opinions expressed by all other members of the Academy reflect the comments, views, and opinions of the individual solely.

Registrant Minimum Age: Registrants and presenters at the AAFS Annual Conference must be at least 18 years old at the time of the conference.

Lost Badge Policy: Lost, misplaced, stolen, or forgotten badges will incur a replacement fee equal to the original purchase amount of your registration. If your badge was complimentary, the fee will be the current, on-site rate.

Author Information: The *Journal of Forensic Sciences* encourages authors to submit previously unpublished reports and papers presented at the AAFS annual conference. For full instructions on manuscript preparation, consult the Information for Authors available at: <https://www.aafs.org/resources/journal-of-forensic-sciences/information-for-authors/>.

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically via the *Journal of Forensic Sciences* Manuscript Central site: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jofs>. For questions, please contact: jfs.editor@att.net.

Reminders:

- Video and/or audio recording of any session(s) or parts thereof is not permitted without prior approval from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.
- English is the official language of the AAFS and its meetings; neither oral nor written translations will be provided.
- Although precautions are taken to prevent schedule changes, speakers and program schedules may change due to unforeseen circumstances.
- As a courtesy to others, please silence your cell phone when attending the sessions.

Future AAFS Annual Conferences

2024 AAFS Annual Conference

February 19-24, 2024
Denver Convention Center
Denver, CO

2025 AAFS Annual Conference

February 17-22, 2025
Baltimore Convention Center
Baltimore, MD

2026 AAFS Annual Conference

February 9-14, 2026
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
New Orleans, LA

AWARDS

Distinguished Fellow

Julie A. Howe, MBA

Humanitarian and Human Rights Resource Center's Clyde Snow Award

The Forensic Unit of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award

Helen M. Brandt-Litavec, MS

Ya-Chih Cheng, MS

Jasmine Maxwell, MSFS

FSF Warren-Young Scholarship

Paula E. Slamowitz, PhD

FSF Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance Grant

Tori L. Schaffer, BS

AWARDS

The Section Awards will be presented during Section Business Meetings on Wednesday, February 15.

2022 Section Award Honorees

Anthropology Section's

Ellis R. Kerley Research Award
Outstanding Mentorship Award

Yangseung Jeong, PhD
Peer Moore-Jansen, PhD

Criminalistics Section's

Paul L. Kirk Award
Mary E. Cowan Outstanding Service Award
Meritorious Service Award

Pierre Margot, PhD
Michael Coble, PhD
Marilyn Miller, EdD

Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section's

Outstanding Case Study Award
Outstanding Student Research Award

Joseph Levi White, PhD
Austin Cauley, BS

Engineering & Applied Sciences Section's

Steven Charles Batterman Award

Steven Charles Batterman, PhD
Laura Liptai, PhD

Forensic Nursing Science Section's

Forensic Nurse Scientist Award
Forensic Nurse Innovator Award

Julie Valentine, PhD
Patricia Speck, DNSc

General Section's

Paul W. Kehres Meritorious Service Award
John R. Hunt Award

Gina Londino-Smolar, MS
Katherine Brown, PhD

Odontology Section's

Reidar F. Sognaes Award
Lester Luntz Odontology Award

Charles Michael Bowers, DDS
Paula Brumit, DDS

Pathology/Biology Section's

Milton Helpern Award
Best Resident Paper Award
Award for Achievement in the Forensic Life Sciences

Joyce deJong, DO
Charles Rohrer, MD
Jeff Wells, PhD

Questioned Documents Section's

Maureen Casey-Owens Award

Larry Olson, MFS

Toxicology Section's

Irving Sunshine Award
Rolla N. Harger Award
June K. Jones Scholarship Award
Annual Lectureship in Toxicology

Rebecca Hartman, PhD
Marc LeBeau, PhD
Alaina Holt
Karen McDonald, MPPAL, PMP

BUSINESS MEETINGS

Attend Your Section's Annual Business Meeting for a Chance to Win a Complimentary Meeting Registration!

Do not miss the opportunity to win a complimentary meeting registration for the 2024 AAFS Annual Scientific Conference in Denver, CO! Each section will award one registration to a voting member who attends their Section Business Meeting.

Wednesday, February 15

1:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Criminalistics
1:30 PM	-	3:45 PM	Forensic Nursing Science
1:30 PM	-	3:45 PM	Pathology/Biology
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Anthropology
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Digital & Multimedia Sciences
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Engineering & Applied Sciences
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	General
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Jurisprudence
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Odontology
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Psychiatry & Behavioral Science
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Questioned Documents
2:00 PM	-	3:45 PM	Toxicology

Attend the AAFS Annual Business Meeting for a Chance to Win a Complimentary Meeting Registration!

The Annual Business Meeting of the Fellows and Members of the AAFS will be held on Wednesday, February 15, at 4:15 PM. It is essential that all Fellows and Members attend this very important meeting in order to reach a quorum for the voting process. Agenda items include the election of 2023-24 Officers, consideration of bylaw amendments, a summary of AAFS activities during the past year, and plans for the future.

As an incentive to attend, all Fellows and Members present will automatically be entered in a drawing for a complimentary meeting registration to attend the 2024 AAFS Annual Scientific Conference in Denver, CO.

STUDENT ACADEMY

Open to all Meeting Registrants (\$25/Person)

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The purpose of the Student Academy of Forensic Sciences is to bring to the attention of high school students the vital importance of the application of scientific principles to the administration of justice. It acquaints the participants with the role of the forensic science disciplines in the legal system as well as the education and training required for the career in each discipline.

Chair:

Marilyn T. Miller, EdD

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

Co-Chair:

Lynn A. Schneeweis, MS

Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory
Maynard, MA

Faculty:

Anthropology

Ginesse A. Listi, PhD

Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

Jurisprudence:

Pamela A.W. King, JD

Minnesota State Public Defender Office
Rochester, MN

Criminalistics:

Kelly Knight, MS

George Mason University
Fairfax, VA

Odontology:

Lillian A. Nawrocki, DDS

Office of the Medical Examiner
Suffolk County, NY

Digital & Multimedia Sciences:

Douglas Lacey, BS, MS

BEK TEK LLC
Stafford, VA

Pathology/Biology:

J.C.U. Downs, MD

forensiX, LLC
Savannah, GA

Engineering & Applied Sciences:

Roy Crawford, BSME

R.R. Crawford Engineering
Whitesburg, KY

Psychiatry & Behavioral Science:

Emily D. Gottfried, PhD

Charleston, SC

General:

Brian S. Clark, MFS

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Chicago, IL

Questioned Documents:

Cami Fuglsby, BS

South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD

T.L. Williams, MFS

U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command
Quantico, VA

Toxicology:

TBD

STUDENT ACADEMY

Program:

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM	Introduction <i>Marilyn T. Miller, EdD, Chair</i>
9:20 AM - 9:30 AM	“The Case” <i>Lynn A. Schneeweis, MS, Co-Chair</i>

The Forensic Sciences Group I Disciplines

9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Pathology/Biology <i>J.C.U. Downs, MD</i>
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM	Anthropology <i>Ginesse A. Listi, PhD</i>
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Odontology <i>Lilliian A. Nawrocki, DDS</i>
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Toxicology
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	General <i>Brian S. Clark, MFS; T.L. Williams, MFS</i>
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Q&A, Assignment, and Break

The Forensic Sciences Group II Disciplines

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM	Criminalistics <i>Kelly Knight, MS</i>
11:15 AM - 11:30 AM	Questioned Documents <i>Cami Fuglsby, BS</i>
11:30 AM - 11:45 AM	Engineering & Applied Sciences <i>Roy Crawford, BSME</i>
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	Digital & Multimedia Sciences <i>Douglas Lacey, BS, MS</i>
12:00 PM - 12:15 PM	Psychiatry & Behavioral Science <i>Emily D. Gottfried, PhD</i>
12:15 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch & Student Trivia
1:30 PM - 1:45 PM	Case Conclusion <i>Pamela A.W. King, JD</i>
1:45 PM - 2:00 PM	Wrap-Up

FEPAC SESSION

Accreditation of Forensic Science Academic Programs Through the AAFS Forensic Science Education Programs Commission (FEPAC)

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Pre-Registration Not Required—Open to All Meeting Attendees

8:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Chair:

Heidi Eldridge, PhD

The George Washington University
Washington, DC

Commissioner:

Josh Brunty, MS

Marshall University
Huntington, WV

Commissioner:

Sarah Seashols Williams

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

Commissioner:

Thomas Brettell, PhD

Cedar Crest College
Allentown, PA

Commissioner:

A. Karl Larsen, PhD

University of Illinois, Chicago
Chicago, IL

Commissioner:

Jason L. Schroeder, MS

Harris County Institute of Forensic Science
Houston, TX

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 session 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 on-site evaluations of academic programs. Successful completion of this one-day 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: www.aafs.org/FEPAC.

Program:

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

YOUNG FORENSIC SCIENTISTS FORUM

Open to All Meeting Registrants

S1 Education, Training, and Experiences: The Ingredients to Make Science Work!

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

CE Hours: 6.75

Chair:

Zain Bhaloo, MSc

Canada Border Services Agency
Ottawa, ON CANADA

Committee Member:

Emily Rue, PhD

Iowa Department of Public Safety
Ankeny, IA

Laura C. Fulginiti, PhD

AAFS President
Phoenix, AZ

Brooke W. Kamrath, PhD

University of New Haven
West Haven, CT

Donald E. Shelton, PhD

University of Michigan-Dearborn
Saline, MI

Brandon L. Garrett, JD

Wilson Center for Science and Justice
Durham, NC

Barry K. Logan, PhD

CFSRE
Willow Grove, PA

Dirk M. Vastrick, BA

Dirk Vastrick Presents
Spokane Valley, WA

Denise Gemmellaro, PhD

Kean University
Union, NJ

Elaine M. Pagliaro, JD

Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science
Orange, CT

C. Ken Williams, MSc, JD

New Jersey State Police
Hamilton, NJ

Cheryl Hunter

AAFS Membership Coordinator
Colorado Springs, CO

Carrie Polston, PhD

Universite de Lausanne
Lausanne, Vaud SWITZERLAND

Erin Worrell, BSc

Denver Office of the Medical Examiner
Denver, CO

Gregory E. Laskowski, MPA

Criminalistics Services International
Bakersfield, CA

Dayla Rich, PhD

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Huntsville, AL

Charlotte Word, PhD

Forensic Science Expert
Richmond, VA

Henry C. Lee, PhD

Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science
West Haven, CT

Corey W. Scott, MSFS

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Redstone Arsenal, AL

Paul Yount, MSFS

Phoenix Police Department
Crime Laboratory
Phoenix, AZ

The Young Forensic Scientist Forum (YFSF) provides students and young professionals with less than five years of experience an opportunity to network, collaborate and learn from fellow peers and experts in the field. This session will prepare attendees for a successful career in their discipline of choice and allow them to look from the outside-in as they evaluate themselves and their future impact on forensic science. Our mission is to provide education, mentorship, and resources to students and burgeoning forensic scientists to promote interest and longevity in the field and encourage participation and advancement in the AAFS.

Impact Statement: After attending this session, attendees will better understand how forensic science has evolved over the years and how every forensic science discipline impacts and enhances the field regardless of one's experience and background. In addition, attendees will learn the importance of education, extensive training, and innovative scientific research. Finally, attendees will learn about the "science" behind job interviewing and become adept in resume building in the forensic sciences.

Program Description:

This year the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) is celebrating 75 years of global engagement. The overall theme of the conference is Science Works. In the past few years, science and the scientific method have been under attack, denigrated, and dismissed. AAFS President Laura Fulginiti's plan is to offer scientific content demonstrating that forensic science provides trustworthy, objective data that can be relied upon by the judicial system, Congress, and the public. Our Special Session theme, *Education*,

YOUNG FORENSIC SCIENTISTS FORUM

Program Description cont.:

Training, and Experiences: The Ingredients to Make Science Work!, was chosen to invigorate young forensic scientists and demonstrate how education and training play a vital role in making forensic science work. This full-day session will show young forensic scientists that their contribution matters and that the decisions they make today can have a positive impact on the scientific community at large.

This year the YFSF is excited to present an outstanding group of speakers. These distinguished presenters have been carefully selected to provide exceptional mentorship to attendees through topics such as how to stay true to science, present results in a scientifically correct and neutral manner, manage high-profile cases, and interact with prosecutors and defense attorneys. The session will also include thoughtful demonstrations on assessing one's professional goals, establishing what success looks like for a young forensic scientist, and thinking about one's responsibilities as a mentor and leader as they advance into a career.

The YFSF Special Session provides an inclusive atmosphere for young forensic scientists to have the opportunity for professional growth/development and scientific engagement with esteemed colleagues. Through these presentations, attendees will hear from experienced practitioners as they discuss their extensive education, training, and experiences that have led to success in their field of study. These presentations include case-driven research, innovative methodology, scientific studies, and personal stories. Additionally, each presenter will include thoughtful discussions on their struggles and setbacks that have ultimately made "science work." Through this session, the YFSF aims to integrate young professionals into the field as they begin their journey into forensic science. The YFSF offers two additional opportunities for young professionals and students: the Bring Your Own Posters (BYOP) Session and the Bring Your Own Slides (BYOS) Session. We are excited to announce that this year we have collaborated with The Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE) to honor and award two outstanding scientists for their contributions to forensic science. Finally, the session will end with a resume review workshop, so do not forget to update your resume and bring several printed copies with you to the session!

Program:

8:00 AM - 8:20 AM	Introduction to the YFSF <i>Zain Bhaloo, MSc</i>
8:20 AM - 8:40 AM	Membership in AAFS <i>Cheryl Hunter</i>
8:40 AM - 9:00 AM	Stand Up for Science <i>Laura Fulginiti, PhD</i>
9:00 AM - 9:20 AM	When You Wish Upon a Star <i>C. Ken Williams, MSc, JD</i>
9:20 AM - 9:40 AM	Lessons Learned During the Evolution of Forensic DNA Testing <i>Charlotte Word, PhD</i>
9:40 AM - 10:00 AM	From Farmboy to Forensic Scientist <i>Paul Yount, MSFS</i>
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Break
10:15 AM - 10:35 AM	Professional Growth: Stages in the Arc of Your Career in Forensic Science <i>Barry K. Logan, PhD</i>
10:35 AM - 10:55 AM	Four-Plus Decades in Forensic Science: Adapting to a Changing Environment <i>Gregory E. Laskowski, MPA</i>
10:55 AM - 11:15 AM	Forensic Science and Legal Education <i>Brandon L. Garrett, JD</i>
11:15 AM - 11:35 AM	Forensic Science Experts—What the Judge and Jury Expect <i>Donald E. Shelton, PhD</i>

YOUNG FORENSIC SCIENTISTS FORUM

Program cont.:

- 11:35 AM - 11:55 AM **Recovering Scientific Credibility in the Courtroom: The Effects of Less-Than-Expert Testimony and How to Mitigate Effects in a Particular Case or Future Testimony**
Elaine M. Pagliaro, JD
- 11:55 AM - 1:00 PM **BREAK**
- 1:00 PM - 1:40 PM **“The Past, Present, and Future” of Forensic Science and Forensic Education**
Henry C. Lee, PhD
- 1:40 PM - 2:00 PM **Complications of Additive Manufacturing in Forensic Science**
Corey W. Scott, MSFS
- 2:00 PM - 2:20 PM **Traces for Reconstruction and Investigation Leads**
Brooke W. Kammrath, PhD
- 2:20 PM - 2:40 PM **Using Forensic Entomology to Promote Multidisciplinary Involvement and Collaboration in the Forensic Sciences**
Denise Gemmellaro, PhD
- 2:40 PM - 2:55 PM **BREAK**
- 2:55 PM - 3:15 PM **Redefining Failure: The “Ingredient” in Scientific Success That You Never See**
Carrie Polston, PhD
- 3:15 PM - 3:35 PM **So You Want to be a Medicolegal Death Investigator**
Erin Worrell, BSc
- 3:35 PM - 3:55 PM **Starting Off With a Bang!: My Experience in Becoming an Explosives Chemist**
Dayla Rich, PhD
- 3:55 PM - 4:15 PM **The Science of Going to Work Faster and Better: Improve Your Results Tomorrow**
Dirk M. Vastrick, BA
- 4:15 PM - 4:55 PM **Resume Review Workshop**
Dirk M. Vastrick, BA
- 4:55 PM - 5:00 PM **Closing of the YFSF Special Session**
Emily Rue, PhD

INTERDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM

Pre-Registration Required—\$75

S4 The Formation of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

1:15 PM – 5:15 PM

3.5 CE Hours

Chair:

Paul Messner, JD
Dry Ridge, KY

Co-Chair:

Jessica Volz, DNP
Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center
Brunswick, MD

Faculty:

G. David Annas, MD
Forensic Psychiatry Consulting, LLC
Syracuse, NY

Carl R. McClary, MS

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
Atlanta, GA

Barry A.J. Fisher, MS, MBA
Indio, CA

Kenneth E. Melson, JD

The George Washington University Law School
Kinsale, VA

Corina Freitas, MD
Freitas and Associates
Alexandria, VA

Christopher Milroy, MD

Eastern Ontario Regional Forensic Pathology Unit
Ottawa, ON CANADA

George W. Hime, MS
Miami-Dade Medical Examiner Department
Miami, FL

Learning Overview: The Symposium will provide a historic context for the formation of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, describe the impetus for its formation, and examine the effects of its members on forensic science.

Impact Statement: Attendees will learn about the state of forensic science before, during, and shortly after the formation of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences through the perspective of the six founding Sections: Criminalistics, Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, Questioned Documents, and Immunology/Toxicology

Program Description: The 2023 Interdisciplinary Symposium will examine the post-WW II state of the forensic sciences leading to the American Academy of Forensic Sciences' formation in 1948 and that defined its early years. In 1948, there were six founding AAFS Sections: Criminalistics; Jurisprudence; Pathology/Biology; Psychiatry & Behavioral Science; Questioned Documents; and Immunology/Toxicology. Speakers from each of these Sections will discuss their Section's forensic concepts, research, and applications before, during, and shortly after the Academy's founding (roughly 1945 through 1965). How the Academy's formation and its members helped advance the forensic sciences during those early years will also be addressed.

We will examine how during this era life, law, and forensic science looked so much different than today. This retrospective view of the Academy's founding will help us understand the AAFS' continued efforts today to improve the trustworthiness of forensic science through objective data that can be relied upon by the judicial system, Congress, and the public.

INTERDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM

Pre-Registration Required

Program:

1:15 PM – 1:30 PM	Welcome and Introduction of Faculty <i>Paul Messner, JD</i>
1:30 PM – 2:00 PM	Jurisprudence <i>Kenneth E. Melson, JD</i>
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Criminalistics <i>Barry A.J. Fisher, MS, MBA</i>
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Pathology/Biology <i>Christopher Milroy, MD</i>
3:00 PM – 3:15 PM	BREAK
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Psychiatry & Behavioral Science <i>Corina Freitas, MD; G. David Annas, MD</i>
3:45 PM – 4:15 PM	Questioned Documents <i>Carl R. McClary, MS</i>
4:15 PM – 4:45 PM	Toxicology (formerly known as Immunology) <i>George W. Hime, MS</i>
4:45 PM – 5:15 PM	Panel Discussion/Questions and Answers <i>Jessica Volz, DNP</i>

PLENARY SESSION

Open to All Meeting Registrants

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM



Welcoming Remarks

Forensic Pathology and Forensic Anthropology: An Update on Their Roles in the Criminal Justice System

Laura C. Fulginiti, PhD

President

American Academy of Forensic Sciences

Phoenix, AZ

Plenary Session Chair:

James R. Gill, MD

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Farmington, CT

Plenary Session Co-Chair:

Vincent J. Desiderio, Jr., MS

U.S. Postal Inspection Service
Lovettsville, VA

Speakers

Christian Crowder, PhD

Tarrant County Medical Examiner
Fort Worth, TX

Joyce L. deJong, DO

WMU Homer Stryker School of Medicine
Kalamazoo, MI

Pamela A.W. King, JD

Rochester, MN

Overview: Medicine is the science or practice of the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. Although considered part of the forensic sciences, forensic pathology and forensic anthropology are medical specialties. They use history, anatomic findings, and laboratory results to make diagnoses that are used by the public health and criminal justice systems. Unlike other forensic science disciplines that rely primarily on analytical tests (e.g., toxicology, DNA, fingerprint comparison) to obtain objective results, forensic anthropologists and forensic pathologists interpret both subjective and objective information to formulate their medical opinions.

Forensic pathologists and anthropologists give unpopular opinions and can come under a great deal of criticism and pressure. The National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) published a position paper on medical examiner independence. Their survey showed that 82% of the forensic pathologists had experienced pressure regarding their medical opinions.

They noted: “No one should be made afraid to testify to the truth of their scientific convictions, when based on their direct examination of the evidence or their knowledge of the peer-reviewed literature. It is never appropriate for an authority, whether a litigating attorney, law enforcement officer, or an elected official, to threaten a forensic pathologist with loss of a job, position, or compensation based on testimony that is perceived to be counter to the authority’s wishes or to have resulted in the loss of a case.”

This pressure risks undermining the opinions of these professionals. The criminal justice system in the United States is indeed an adversarial system. This process, however, only should occur in the courtroom. Threats and retaliations against forensic science providers risk compromising our system of justice. The day when medical professionals are unwilling to participate in this adversarial process, whether called by the prosecution or the defense, or the plaintiff or defendant, is the day that we no longer have the best system of justice in the world.

PLENARY SESSION

Open to All Meeting Registrants

Forensic Pathology and Forensic Anthropology: An Update on Their Roles in the Criminal Justice System

Overview cont.

Questions that will be addressed include: How do these specialties fit into the Academy? How do they differ from the basic sciences? What challenges are they facing? In order to highlight the many challenges, high-profile trials, work-force shortages, social media and activism, roles in investigations, and bias will be explored.

To address these issues, there will be presentations by Dr. Joyce deJong, a forensic pathologist, and Dr. Christian Crowder, a forensic anthropologist. In addition, we will have a legal perspective from a sitting judge, the Honorable Pamela King.

Program:

10:00 AM - 10:10 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Laura C. Fulginiti, PhD; James R. Gill, MD</i>
10:10 AM - 10:35 AM	The Forensic Pathology Perspective <i>Joyce L. deJong, DO</i>
10:35 AM - 11:00 AM	The Forensic Anthropology Perspective <i>Christian Crowder, PhD</i>
11:00 AM - 11:25 AM	The Judicial Perspective <i>Pamela A.W. King, JD</i>
11:25 AM - 11:30 AM	Panel Discussion <i>Laura C. Fulginiti, PhD, James R. Gill, MD, Joyce L. deJong, DO, Christian Crowder, PhD, and Pamela A.W. King, JD</i>

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

Pre-Registration Required

LS1 The Lindbergh Kidnapping Suspect No. 1—The Man Who Got Away

Thursday, February 16, 2023

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

CE Hours: 1.0

Lise A. Pearlman, JD* (Ret.)

Author

Oakland, CA

Learning Overview: Attendees will gain insight into how key forensic evidence was suppressed and physical evidence altered to convict an innocent man of “the crime of the century.”

Impact Statement: The anticipated impact on the forensic science community is greater awareness of ways in which members’ forensic analysis and testimony can be misused (e.g., suppression of pretrial notes, overstating conclusiveness of findings, denial of a fair opportunity to the other side to test physical evidence) to cause a miscarriage of justice. This talk will also provide an example of how forensic scientists can play an important role in revealing the truth and exonerating the wrongly convicted.

Program Description: Luncheon talk by author Lise Pearlman on a proposed shocking solution to the 90-year-old mystery of the 1932 kidnap/murder of Charles Lindbergh, Jr. based on the best-selling 2020 true crime book, *The Lindbergh Kidnapping Suspect No. 1—The Man Who Got Away*. The talk will describe the framing of Bruno Richard Hauptmann for the murder of Charles Lindbergh, Jr. and the revelation of Suspect No. 1 whom the New Jersey State Police let get away with the crime. The talk will focus on wood evidence, fingerprints, and handwriting analysis, and address disparities between the “evidence” presented at trial and related contradictory evidence that was concealed by the prosecution and consequently not presented to the jury.

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

Pre-Registration Required

LS2 Forensic Sciences and Popular Poetry: A Lighter Way of Teaching People How Science Works

Friday, February 17, 2023

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

CE Hours: 1.0

Jose A. Medeiros, PhD

Brazilian Federal Police

Cabedelo, PB, Brazil

Learning Overview: Upon completion of this luncheon seminar, the participant should be able to know how the dissemination of forensic sciences among people can be efficient and lighter through popular poetry, based on this Brazilian testimony.

Impact Statement: Showing the international forensic community how the dissemination of forensic sciences through popular poetry is effective among the general public and has encouraged Brazilian forensic scientists to identify themselves with their labor as well as with a literature genre (including woodcutting illustrations) that has become essentially Brazilian and that today is an example of national intangible cultural heritage.

Program Description: This work is about an initiative that has been developed since 2012: to bring together Forensic Science and popular poetry in a simple and accessible format and share it with the lay public. The path used was “Literatura de Cordel”, a form of literature originally European, but which found fertile ground in the Northeast of Brazil, especially from the 19th century onwards. Like a Limerick, the cordel booklet presents a story usually in a humorous tone and in colloquial language. Today there are already 14 stories about CSI, Forensic Engineering, Genetics, Jurisprudence, Environmental, Toxicology, Children’s History, etc. and more than 18 thousand copies distributed free of charge to people from all Brazilian regions at forensic events, criminalistics units, schools and institutions.