President’s Message

It is amazing to me how quickly a year as President of the American Academy of Forensic Science goes by. It seems like just yesterday that I was writing the first of these six columns and outlining my goals for the year.

One of my primary interests for many years has been ethics. Clearly ethics must be at the center of how we conduct ourselves in our professional careers and it is also essential that the AAFS is viewed as having a strong ethical code. In my last column I outlined the ongoing work that is underway by the Long Term Planning Committee and the Ethics Committee to review the code and the operating procedures. This work will continue at the San Antonio meeting and be introduced to the membership by the incoming President Bruce Goldberg. A dynamite Interdisciplinary Session on ethics has also been arranged for the upcoming annual meeting.

I also have been particularly interested in advancing forensic science internationally. A project to accomplish this has been initiated by the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS). A session aimed at discussing common forensic issues and advancing cooperation was held at the last IAFS meeting in Hong Kong. This was followed by another meeting of international representatives at a European meeting in Helsinki which was part of the AAFS tour last summer. IAFS President Ron Singer continues to support this work and the AAFS and American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD) are coordinating the North American effort. This work certainly may lead to ongoing educational sessions that discuss common issues and problems worldwide and share best practices. It also has the potential to act as a very important resource for the developing world. Additionally, increasingly world events such as the Tsunami and the Bali bombings require many countries to work together, and such a forum promotes relationships which can be invaluable in solving these problems.

We all recognize that the future of forensic science and of the AAFS lies with our new members. I have tried to increase both the exposure of and communication with the Young Forensic Scientists Forum this year. It is important this group feels that the Academy is serving their needs and that they have a say in the future directions of the AAFS.

The president also has the honor and pleasure of representing the Academy at various meetings such as the Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP). I attended and spoke at two of the three seminars organized to teach high school teachers about forensic science. These sessions were started by Mary Fran Ernst during her presidency and are an excellent example of the goal of each president trying to leave a mark in making the Academy a stronger and more relevant organization.

continued on page 4

LAST CHANCE TO PRE-REGISTER!

The 2007 AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting Pre-Registration Form is provided in this issue of Academy News, on page 27. Attendance at all special functions (breakfast seminars, luncheons, special sessions, workshops, and workshorts) is available by pre-registration only.

The deadline for pre-registration is January 24, 2007. The deadline is firm.

Pre-registration forms received after January 24, 2007, will be processed as on-site registrations which will VOID your registration/attendance for all special functions (breakfast seminars, workshops, etc.). To ensure your full participation, don’t delay! Send in your registration form today, or go to the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) and register online!
Inside This Issue

President’s Message ..................................................................................................................1
Legislative Corner ..................................................................................................................3
CSSP Presents Sagan Award to Court TV ............................................................................4
Planning and Development ..................................................................................................6
White House Solicits Fellowship Applications ..................................................................7
San Antonio Accommodations ..............................................................................................8
2007 Program Information ....................................................................................................10
San Antonio Tours Information ............................................................................................16
Continuing Education Helpful Tips ....................................................................................20
Section News ..........................................................................................................................21
Foundation News ..................................................................................................................25
FSF Travel Grant Essay Winners .........................................................................................26
2007 AAFS Annual Meeting Pre-Registration Form ..........................................................27
FSF Contributors ..................................................................................................................28
Applicants ................................................................................................................................32
In Memoriam ..........................................................................................................................37
Young Forensic Scientists Forum Newsletter ......................................................................38
Employment Opportunities ..................................................................................................41
Meetings & Conferences .......................................................................................................47

Future Annual Meeting Dates

Marriott Wardman Park Hotel  Denver Convention Center  Washington State Convention & Trade Center
Washington, DC  Denver, Colorado  Seattle, WA
Legislative Corner

In mid-November, representatives of the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO) met in Washington, DC, with Academy members who are at the early stages of planning the 2008 AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting to be held in Washington, DC. The meeting was called by AAFS President-Elect Bruce Goldberger and was very productive.

You recall that the original site was to be in Atlanta. However, the hotel which would have been the meeting location is undergoing a major renovation and will not be available. The Marriott chain offered the Academy a hotel property in Washington, DC, with a contract. This change presented an unexpected opportunity for us. We will be able to highlight forensic science to members of Congress, the Administration, and the public with an AAFS annual meeting held in the nation’s capitol.

CFSO legislative consultant Beth Lavach has begun to hold meetings with key persons in the Congress to ensure that the Academy meeting will serve as a backdrop for some key announcements. We hope to have a senior member of Congress or a key member of the Administration announce a major program or new legislative initiative at our meeting. Beth feels that because of the lead time we have available to us, we may be able to use the 2008 meeting as a spring board for some major new initiatives.

The next day, following our planning session, several of us visited members of congress to press our legislative agenda. One interesting note: we arrived following Election Day and as you know the Senate and the House will be in the control of the Democrats. During our visits, Beth was contacted by a key Democratic Senator wishing to work with the CFSO on its agenda for the next Congress.

At this writing, we yet have no word about the National Academies Forensic Committee. The budget as it concerns forensic science funding has not been resolved. News of these two key issues will have to wait to the next issue.

continued on page 5
In other closing addresses, I have noted that retiring presidents always thank the Academy staff. I have discovered that it is not just pro forma or good manners, but rather a genuine recognition of the fabulous work that Anne Warren and the entire staff do. They make the job of being president a pleasure and they make the president look good. I have belonged to many professional organizations over the years and have been the president of several. I have never worked with a more dedicated, professional, and efficient group before. Thank you one and all. I also want to wish Charlene Albertson well in her new life in St Louis. She and her husband moved recently and the Academy lost a long term and very valued employee.

The AAFS Board of Directors is functioning very well. The sections are all well represented on the Board and the Executive Committee. Discussion of issues at the board is full, frank, and fair. The Board has been able to reach strong consensus on issues.

In leaving any job one always hopes to be replaced by someone who will continue to build on the successes of the past. I am very pleased to be replaced by Bruce Goldberger. We have served together for many years on the Board and on committees such as the Program Committee and the Long Term Planning Committee. Bruce is an excellent choice as president of the Academy. In his professional life he is Professor and Director of Toxicology at the University of Florida College of Medicine at Gainesville, FL. He belongs to and is active in many toxicology and chemical organizations and has played leadership roles in them. He has received many awards including two Society of Forensic Toxicologists Educational research awards and the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists Mid-Career Achievement Award. Bruce is a sought after expert witness in court cases in Canada and the United States. I am very pleased to be passing the presidency to Bruce.

Finally, I would like to thank the membership for having the confidence to elect me president. It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to serve as president of this organization.

Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP)

Presents Sagan Award to Court TV

On December 4, 2006, at the Army-Navy Club in Washington, DC, the CSSP presented the CARL SAGAN AWARD to Linda A. Finney, Vice President of Marketing at Court TV in New York City. Linda is the architect of Court TV’s award-winning, public affairs program, Forensics in the Classroom. Also present was John Domesick, Senior Marketing Manager at Court TV, who was instrumental in late 2002 in bringing the Forensics in the Classroom program to the attention of high school science teachers across the country. More than 40,000 teachers have participated in this program.

In 2001, the Academy began the Forensic Science Educators’ Conferences (FSEC) initiative. The first FSEC took place in July 2002 at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. Involved with the Forensics in the Classroom project from its earliest stages, John Domesick attended that first conference in St. Louis. It was at the FSEC/STL too where he and AAFS Director of Development Jim Hurley met and began discussions which resulted in the forging of an educational partnership between Court TV and the AAFS. That partnership continues to this day.

From Fall 2002, Court TV has been a dedicated partner to the AAFS by providing financial support to eight of the eleven Forensic Science Educational Conferences held to date: Pace University in New York City, the University of Texas at Arlington, Chaminade University of Honolulu, Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge), Cedar Crest College in Pennsylvania, the University of West Virginia, Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers, and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. More than 800 science teachers have benefited from the Forensic Science Educational Conferences over the past four years. Three additional conferences are scheduled for 2007.

Carl Sagan was an astronomer, educator, and author. He popularized science, inspiring millions of Americans to open their minds to the wonders of the universe. He was thought to be the best science educator in the world in this century. His PBS series, Cosmos, became the most watched series in public television history. It was seen by more than 300 million people in 60 countries. This award is given for distinguished contributions in the application of science to the public welfare.

(Left to Right): Haskell Pitluck, Mary Fran Ernst, Linda Finney, John Domesick, and Ken Melson
One of the important things we have learned over the past five years in our advocacy efforts is the important role of public relations. The Consortium has retained the services of Melissa Milburn, a media consultant who assists us in our efforts to get our message out to newspapers, radio, TV and magazines. I've asked Melissa to write a short piece on working with the media since many of us often appear in the news, you may find this information helpful.

Learn to Manage the Media
When a reporter calls, there’s no need to panic. If you have the knowledge and training, you can turn the interview into an opportunity that benefits your agency or organization.

Remember, when you are interviewed, you have a chance to tell your story in the news report. If you decline an interview – you lose the chance to get your story across. Think of the interview request as a chance to inform your audience, whomever that may be – other government agencies, politicians, and, of course, the general public.

Before you agree to an interview, make sure you take time to prepare for it. The best strategy is to return their call and make an appointment. If a reporter tries to pressure you to do an interview immediately, let them know you need to get permission or have to take care of something first, and that you will call them back. Be sure to ask what their deadline is for the interview.

After you agree to the interview, ask the reporter what subjects they want to cover, who they are reporting for, when the story will appear, and who else is being interviewed for the story. The more information you have about the request, the more in control you will feel.

To prepare for the interview, determine the two or three most important aspects of what you are going to discuss. Decide on the key points YOU want to get across, the types of questions that could be asked, and have your answers ready.

Consider these helpful tips:

• Speak in a language everyone understands, and don’t use forensic jargon. Try to explain things as you would to a student. Effective communication means being understood.

• Take control. Don’t be afraid to steer the interview to your key points.

• Be sure of your facts, and know what stories relating to the subject have recently been reported. You might want to “Google” the topic.

• Avoid going “off record” with a reporter; assume everything you say might be used in one way or another.

• Try not to use “no comment” because it will reflect badly on you.

• Be honest and direct. If you don’t know an answer to a question, just say so. Let them know you are not sure about that one, and that you will get back to them on that question.

• Be brief and concise. Talk in statements. If it’s a TV or radio interview, try to keep your answers to less than 10 seconds.

• Be friendly, and never argue with a reporter. They always have the last word!

In past situations, you might have taken a hit by the news media. Don’t let that guide your future interactions with reporters. In the future, you might consider responding to inaccurate articles by writing a “Letter to the Editor” and sending it to the newspaper’s editorial staff as well as the reporter. You can find email addresses and word limits listed on newspaper websites.

Being Pro-Active
One of our goals, as forensic service providers, should be to build a trusting, long-lasting relationship with the news media. This will help advocacy efforts tremendously, at a grass roots level.

You might consider holding an “open house” and inviting local news media to visit your lab. Let them know what your top three concerns are, and what you are doing to improve the situation. Reporters love to be kept ‘in the loop’ about things, so if possible, keep the media informed by adding them to mailing lists, or contacting them with story ideas.

If a reporter does a good job telling the story, be sure to let them know that you think so. A reporter appreciates the feedback, and you’ll make a valuable contact.

Remember, when you are prepared for a media interview, you’ll be confident, concise and informative – which will help both the reporter and your agency or organization.

Melissa Milburn has spent more than 25 years in strategic public relations, public affairs, and television news. She works as an independent communications consultant for private and public organizations. Services range from strategic communications and corporate positioning to international media relations. She has won numerous awards, including two Emmy Awards from N.A.T.A.S. and a Totem Award from P.R.S.A. For more information, visit www.milburncommunications.com.
Planning and Development

AAFS 2007 Israel Tour

In early November, AAFS President-Elect Bruce Goldberger and I traveled to Toronto, Ontario to meet with the tour organizational teams at the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto in that city, and, via teleconference in Jerusalem. Before I share with you details of our meeting, I do want you to know just a little about the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. It is not a travel agency and it is not charging the AAFS commissions or fees for our tour. The UJA is a well-known and well-respected organization based in the Province of Ontario. One of the missions of the UJA is to provide access (planned travel) to Israel to hundreds of Canadian citizens each year. Thanks to AAFS President James Young, who participated in one tour in the recent past and who recommended the UJA, Bruce and I have been able to establish a very good partnership, the kind, we hope, that will afford the opportunity of a lifetime for you to experience many of the cultural and historical riches of Israel.

Our UJA hosts in Toronto were Morris Zbar, Vice-President for Operation and Corporate Relations, and Adam Minsky, Director, Israel and Overseas and Senior Fund Developer. (It is Adam who is coordinating the June 8-17 AAFS 2007 Tour to Israel.) Several thousand miles away, but just a matter of a few feet in distance to a giant monitor, Bruce and I were also introduced to the three gentlemen who will play major roles in the implementation of both the sightseeing and professional meeting segments of our itinerary. They are Victor Yagoda, UIA Missions Director, and Franck Azoulay, our tour site coordinator, and, Brig. General Dr. Elazar “Azi” Zadok, Director of the Division of Identification and Forensic Science (DIFS) of the Israel Police. Our teleconference meeting in Jerusalem and Toronto allowed us the time to discuss the various components of the draft itinerary and then to make the necessary alterations in order to assure the very best options for travel and for professional exchanges. (Please note: The latest tour schedule has been posted to the AAFS website.)

Suffice it to note that Bruce and I came away from that meeting more steadfast in our commitment to the AAFS 2007 Israel Tour and with a genuine feeling of confidence in the fine folks who will be greeting us on Israeli soil next June. We are hoping that one or two from the UJA Toronto office will be able to join us in San Antonio for the afternoon 2007 Israel Tour meeting on February 22 to elaborate on the specifics regarding the schedule and to answer questions relating to all facets of the tour.

The AAFS 2007 Israel Tour application and package may be accessed at www.aafs.org (left column under “What’s New”). Please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance (jhurley@aafs.org; 719-636-1100).

FEPAC

Five years have come and gone since an ad hoc committee of AAFS members (forensic science academicians and practitioners) first began exploring the possibilities of creating a framework for evaluating and accrediting undergraduate and graduate programs in forensic science. Along the way, that ad hoc group, the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC), became an AAFS standing committee. In Fall 2003, the Commission reviewed five programs and in January 2004 made its first awards of accreditation. To date, eleven colleges and universities have been accredited. As this issue goes to press, four other programs, three undergraduate and one graduate, await decisions by the Commission on their status.

As a recap to members and as a preface to what has transpired of late, I include the duties and responsibilities of the director, drafted by the Commission and presented to the AAFS Board of Directors: “The Director of Accreditation has major responsibility for conducting reviews of accreditation reports, program data management, assisting the commission during meetings, coordination and scheduling of site visits to
applicant programs, and coordination of training and qualifications.” In addition to the basic job description are the duties of communicating with the many constituencies who have an investment in accreditation. Among them are program directors who are either in the process of launching forensic science programs or revising existing curricula to come into compliance with the standards developed by the Commission.

As Director of Accreditation, I am the contact person for such queries and 2007 has been especially busy for these kinds of communications. Just this year alone, I have heard from 43 program directors who plan to submit applications over the next several years. The questions, though specific for each institution, have some basic components which illustrate the importance that many forensic science faculty are placing on FEPAC accreditation: “What are the curricular and institutional expectations of a FEPAC-accredited program?” “Our university is launching a forensic science major and I’m interested in what standards must be met to be accredited by the AAFS/FEPAC?” “I would like to know the courses or topics necessary for FEPAC accreditation.”

To meet eligibility requirements, some programs will have to wait, of course, until they have graduated at least two classes. (As of January 1, 2007, FEPAC will no longer make awards of provisional accreditation. That designation heretofore has been granted to programs that have met all FEPAC standards except for two graduated classes.) In any case, with the 20+ program directors from the previous two years who are currently making alterations to curricula added to the 43 programs noted in the previous paragraph, commissioners, on-site evaluation teams, and I will have “our hands full” over the next several accreditation cycles to meet the demand. That is what is called “a good dilemma,” but it will be a dilemma, for sure, since the Commission may only be able to accept a maximum of seven applications each year.

Commissioners are committed to the dissemination of information relating to all facets of accreditation and have also tasked me to keep AAFS members and the public at large apprised of changes to the important goings-on of FEPAC. Since the process of accrediting forensic science undergraduate and graduate programs requires many documents, and those documents must be revised annually, I provide summaries of the FEPAC Minutes which explain and clarify needed substantive changes. Latest document revisions and announcements are posted to the FEPAC link on the AAFS website in a timely manner and also included in the bi-monthly Academy News articles.

Forensic Science Educational Conferences (FSEC)
The first of the three FSECs is still six months off; however, Susan Myster, (Arth) the conference coordinator at Hamline University and her team have identified several key components of the program for the FSEC/MSP scheduled for June 21-23, 2007, in St. Paul, MN. Of course, Sue is receiving solid support from the conference oversight chair, Andrew Baker (Path), who will not only be on hand to welcome attendees, but will also speak to the group on the role of the chief medical examiner and his staff.

The three-day FSEC/MSP will include sessions which promote the following objectives: crime scene investigation and evidence collection (bloodstain pattern interpretation, fingerprints, documents, and firearms), blood evidence and forensic chemistry (forensic biology, DNA, forensic chemistry/drug chemistry, and trace evidence), and medico-legal forensic science (pathology, odontology, entomology, and anthropology). The medico-legal session will culminate with a presentation on wrongful conviction. Moreover, over the three days, teachers will receive guidance on how to develop appropriate curriculum, how to devise practical course modules, and where to go to find forensic science resources that will fit the secondary school science core requirements.

There is no shortage of Academy members who work in a variety of agencies throughout the Twin Cities area, including the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (state lab), the Minneapolis and St. Paul Police Department Crime Laboratories, the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office Crime Laboratory, and the Hennepin County Medical Examiner’s Office, who will be called upon to contribute to the presentations and hands-on workshops. A final schedule of events for the FSEC/MSP, as well as schedules for the two other conferences in July 2007 (the FSEC/CUH II in Honolulu, HI and the FSEC/VCU in Richmond, VA) will be posted to the AAFS website and included in the Spring 2007 issues of the Academy News.

White House Solicits Fellowship Applications

The President’s Commission on White House Fellowships is now accepting applications for the 2007-08 class. Founded in 1964, the White House Fellows program is America’s most prestigious program for leadership and public service.

White House Fellowships offer exceptional young men and women first-hand experience working at the highest levels of the federal government. White House Fellows typically spend a year working as full-time, paid special assistants to senior White House Staff, the Vice President, Cabinet Secretaries, and other top-ranking government officials. Fellows also participate in an education program consisting of roundtable discussions with renowned leaders from the private and public sectors as well as trips to study U.S. policy in action, both domestically and internationally.

Applications must be postmarked by February 1, 2007. Fellowships are awarded on a strictly non-partisan basis. Employees of the federal government are not eligible unless they are career military personnel. There are no age restrictions; however, the program was created to give remarkable young Americans this experience early in their careers. Most competitive applicants have completed their graduate studies and are working in their chosen professions at the time of consideration.

For more information, call (202) 395-4522, or go to www.whitehouse.gov/fellows to download an application. The American Academy of Forensic Sciences has no influence over the application evaluation process and is announcing this invitation for information purposes only.
We’re just a month away from the 59th Annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in San Antonio, February 19–24. As we have come to expect, the quality of the meeting will be exceptional – due largely to the innovative thinking and insight that characterizes the people that work in this field. The abstracts have been reviewed, authors notified, and the Academy staff has been hard at work compiling the final program. Program Chair Doug Ubelaker and I are extremely grateful to them, and to all the Academy Members, Fellows, and young forensic scientists for their submissions. The preliminary program is available on the Academy’s website at www.aafs.org.

The program theme chosen by AAFS President Jim Young, Forensic Science in a Global Community: Issues and Advances, reflects the international dimension of our field and its growth in developing and emerging countries. In spite of the diversity of resources and approaches we might have, we have a common goal of the highest quality of work and ethical standards. This theme, and how we achieve it, will be presented during the plenary session, special sessions, and workshops, throughout the week.

To ensure the smooth running of the conference, please arrive early for your presentation, meet with the session moderator and make sure your presentation will run properly. If you have any questions about what equipment is available for the program sessions, please contact your Section Program Chair.

I hope you have already taken advantage of the easy online registration process available through the AAFS website, but if not, you still have a few more days to register for the meeting. Registrations must be completed by January 24th in order to be able to attend any of the workshops, breakfasts, luncheons, or special sessions. It will not be possible to register for those once you arrive in San Antonio.

We all look forward to seeing you in San Antonio for another great week of science, learning, and networking.

Barry K. Logan, PhD
2007 Annual Meeting Program Co-Chair

A Word From Your 2007 Program Co-Chair

Register For the AAFS Annual Meeting Online at www.aafs.org

The AAFS 59th Annual Meeting is just three months away and the AAFS staff is busily preparing the printed materials for the Advance Program, scheduled to be mailed in late November. The same information will be posted to the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) in early November - just follow the meeting link! The program information will be available on the web and AAFS will continue to update the website information weekly, even after the paper copy is mailed, so you'll want to check www.aafs.org for the most accurate and up-to-date meeting materials. You will be able to view, download, and print the .pdf session descriptions directly from the web. Best of all you, will be able to register online at the same time! Through the secure server, this is a safe and convenient way to register. Don’t forget the pre-registration deadline is January 24, 2007!
Guidelines For Speakers Using Slide Support

- To present using a slide projector, the projector should have been requested in the abstract submission process and the expense approved by the section in which you are presenting. Notification regarding “other” AV equipment requests will be emailed to the presenting author in December.

- Limit the information on each slide to a single point or idea. Slides should be used to supplement what you have to say, not as notes for you to learn on when giving your talk.

- Keep slides simples with plenty of open space. Space between lines should be at least the height of capital letters.

- Limit messages to seven lines or less. Do not use more than seven words per line.

- You should be able to convey slide information in 10 seconds. Avoid advancing the slide before 10 seconds; however, most slides should not remain on the screen longer than 2 minutes.

- Do not crowd the slide. Two or more simple slides are better than one that is complex and crowded.

- In using illustrative materials, try to use simple graphs with a limited number of captions. A picture is worth a thousand words.

- Never apologize for the quality of a slide. If you don’t like the way it looks, don’t use it.

- A good rule of thumb is if you can read the information on your slide held at arm’s length against a bright background, then it will be readable to your audience. Slides should be clear, with great enough contrast to be seen without turning off the room lights.

- Simplify-Simplify-Simplify: Your entire presentation should not be on the slides. The slides should support your talk and add emphasis to your important points.

- Avoid backing up the slide lectures. If you need a slide twice, make a duplicate slide.

- Audience perception of slides: WORST = text on a slide; BETTER = graphs/tables on a slide; BEST = image on a slide.

Guidelines for Poster Presentations

Each poster session presenter will be provided with a 4’ (height) x 8’ (width) poster board and an ample supply of push-pins. The board will be labeled with the presentation title and pre-assigned AAFS presentation number. Presenters are responsible for posting their material at least one hour prior to the opening of the session and removing the material within one-half hour after the session closes. Volunteers will be available to assist the presenters. The AAFS is not responsible for material posted early or left after the session is over. Materials left will be disposed of after presentation hours.

The presenting author and/or co-author is expected to remain with the display during the entire session to be available to discuss their study with the attendees. AAFS or its representatives will verify poster presentations. Authors who display a poster but do not present materials will not get credit for the poster presentations. Authors are also encouraged to bring reprints for distribution during the session and may wish to bring sign-up sheets for attendees who desire additional information.

CONTENT

The poster presentation should cover all key aspects of the work and contain the following items:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions
- References

PRESENTATION FORMAT

- Extensive narratives are not necessary. Short, “bulleted” statements are preferred.

- Results presented in the form of figures, diagrams, graphs, etc., are preferred, but may be presented in clear, concise tabular format.

- Statistical data should be titled and summarized in a clear, concise format.

- Material should be displayed in a logical sequence from top left to bottom right. Number all poster panels or use arrows so that the sequence of presentation is clear.

- All type should be a minimum of 14 pt and readable from a distance of 3-4 feet. Use standard type styles (e.g., Arial, Helvetica, Times New Roman).

- All poster panels should be printed with a laser or other high quality printer.

- The display does not need to be “arty,” but the overall effectiveness of a poster presentation can be enhanced by using techniques such as mounting poster panels on colored paper or crescent board. Colors may be used to highlight important points.
Official Airline

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences has chosen Delta Air Lines as its official airline in 2006 and 2007. Discounts vary depending on the cabin and available airfare level. Take additional benefit of gaining Delta SkyMile frequent flyer bonus miles, 500 round trip, 250 one-way, for bookings via the methods noted below.

To Make your Delta Air Lines Travel Reservations:
- First, access the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) and navigate to the AAFS Annual Meeting page.
- Click on the “Air Travel Discounts” link and then the Delta Air Lines logo. Once you click on the Delta Air Lines logo, it will launch you to the Delta Air Lines website where you can make your reservations and have your tickets issued as usual.
- The applicable discount will automatically apply and the total airfare noted including all taxes and fees – convenient, fast, and NO MEETING CODE NEEDED.

NOTE: YOU MUST FIRST ACCESS THE AAFS WEBSITE AND LINK ONLY ACCORDING TO THE PROCEDURES ABOVE. If you go to the www.delta.com website directly, without having first accessed the AAFS conference/meeting “Air Travel Discounts” page, you will not get the discount.

By making your bookings in this manner you will also avoid airline or agency booking fees, skip airport lines for check-in as you can issue your own boarding pass from home and manage your flight itinerary.

San Antonio International Airport is approximately 8 miles from downtown and is directly linked via US Hwy. 281. (210) 207-3411.
Special Accommodations

If you have a disability that may impact your participation at the 59th AAFS Annual Meeting, please check the appropriate box on the AAFS Pre-Registration Form (page 27), and include a statement regarding your special needs. Someone from the AAFS headquarters will contact you prior to the meeting to discuss accommodations. Please also notify the AAFS office if you have special dietary needs. Availability of appropriate accommodations cannot be ensured without prior notification of need.

Need to Share a Room in San Antonio?

If you would like to have more spending money to take in the “must see” sights while in San Antonio during the AAFS 2007 Annual Meeting, then share a room! The AAFS office is maintaining a list of meeting attendees who would like to share a room with a colleague. For more information, please contact the AAFS office at (719) 636-1100.

2007 Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting of the Fellows and Members of AAFS will be held Wednesday, February 21, at 4:15 p.m., at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, TX. All Fellows and Members are encouraged to attend this very important meeting. Agenda items include the election of 2007-08 Officers and recognition of all Members being promoted to Fellow status. You will be briefed on AAFS activities during the past year and plans for the future.

The Section Business Meetings will also be held on Wednesday, February 21. Please consult the Advance Program for specific times. Attendance at your Section’s Business Meeting is strongly encouraged.

The AAFS Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, February 19, at 8:00 a.m.

Cyber Café

While at the meeting, do you need to access the Web or check your email in between scientific sessions? Looking for another meeting attendee? Trying to meet for lunch? Can’t find your spouse? Want to take the AAFS Meeting Survey? Visit the AAFS Cyber Café which will be located in the East Registration area of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. For your convenience, there will be 10 cyber café kiosks available Monday through Friday of the meeting week to keep you connected free of charge.

To log on and access personal messages or connect online, you will need your unique identifying number which will be located on the reverse side of your meeting badge.
Continuing Education

Continuing professional education credits are offered for physicians, dentists, attorneys, psychologists, and chemists. Continuing education credit applications have been submitted for physicians, dentists, attorneys, psychologists, and chemists. Nurses may use the AAFS CME Credit Reporting Forms for filing CERP hours with their state accreditation agency. Please check with your state agency for details.

To register for continuing education credit, please complete the appropriate section on the Meeting Registration Form. An individual must be a paid registrant to obtain continuing education credits. Fees charged for continuing education credits are based on projected costs of supplies and other materials needed to comply with requirements of the various continuing education accreditation councils. The AAFS has adopted a user-pay approach so that those individuals who benefit from the specific continuing education program are responsible for the costs incurred.

In order to be in compliance with the various accrediting organizations, introductions, breaks, and lunches have been deducted from the total hours. Please note that continuing education credit is not available for all sessions. All continuing education credit recipients will receive documentation regarding the number of continuing education hours awarded. Attendance reports are supplied to the appropriate state or national agency, as required.

Chemistry: Application has been made to the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Inc., for ACCENT® credit. Credit will be awarded on an hour-for-hour basis. Awarded credit will be filed with AACC following the meeting.

Dental: The American Academy of Forensic Sciences is an ADA CERP recognized provider. The Academy of General Dentistry considers CE providers recognized through the national ADA CERP process approved sponsors, and credits they offer are accepted toward the FAGD and MAGD awards.

Legal: Continuing Legal Education credits are being sought from only Colorado and Texas. Credit will be awarded on an hour-for-hour basis. Please contact the AAFS Membership & Continuing Education Coordinator before January 1 if you are licensed in the states of Ohio or Delaware and would like AAFS to apply for approval as a sponsor of continuing legal education.

Medical: The American Academy of Forensic Sciences is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The American Academy of Forensic Sciences designates this educational activity for a maximum of 50 hours in category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician’s Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the activity. The AAFS also offers continuing medical education credit to those who are not MD/DOs.

Psychology: The American Academy of Forensic Sciences is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education for psychologists. The AAFS maintains responsibility for the program. Credit will be awarded on an hour-for-hour basis.

CE Helpful Hints

A few reminders about Continuing Education (CE) procedures which may be helpful to meeting attendees:

- If you would like to receive CE credits for medical, dental, legal, psychology, chemistry, or general attendance, you must check Box 4 on your 59th AAFS Annual Meeting Registration Form. Only registered attendees may request continuing education credits.

- Continuing education materials will NOT automatically be placed in the registration packets of all registrants who have a DDS or DMD degree. In order to obtain dental credits, registrants must check Box 4. Those who register for CE credits will receive a CE Packet in their onsite meeting bag.

- The Continuing Education Packet must be completed and returned to AAFS by March 5, 2007. In order to comply with the various accrediting agencies, AAFS requires completion of evaluation forms to obtain CE credit.

- All comments and suggestions provided on evaluation forms are kept anonymous and are reviewed by the Program and Continuing Education Committees to detect program problems and facilitate improvement. Your input is needed.
A very full program awaits attendees at the upcoming meeting of the Academy. ASTM Committee E-30 will meet commencing Saturday, February 17, with E-30.01 (Criminalistics), E-30.91 I (Interdisciplinary) and E-30.02 (Terminology) all on Saturday and a closing Main Committee Session Sunday afternoon.

Workshops on Monday will cover topics from the highly technical mitochondrial DNA and digital evidence, to the practical homicide investigation, to DNA for Officers of the Court.

Tuesday will run the gamut from a breakfast session on the Malvo shootings, to workshops on research design, to ethics, to fire debris analysis, and a FEPAC Evaluator Training session for good measure. The traditional Welcome Reception, at which we all get a chance to renew acquaintances and catch up with good friends, is Tuesday evening.

Wednesday will challenge our brains with the current ABC Examinations and pilots of the new ABC Examinations, the always interesting Plenary Session, the Criminalistics Section Business Meeting and Luncheon, and the Academy Business Meeting and awards presentations.

By now you should have seen the Advance Program for the 2007 AAFS Annual Meeting. If you haven't received a print version in the mail, the up-to-date version is available online through www.aafs.org.

We begin on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. with the Section Luncheon and Business Meeting. Later, join us for the evening reception. The presentations follow with two full days, Thursday and Friday, with over 50 presentations.

On Thursday, one session is devoted to environmental presentations, the other to accident reconstruction, including pedestrian-walkway safety, in the afternoon. Additionally, on Thursday morning we are participating in a Multidisciplinary Session on head and brain trauma, where we will present with colleagues from the Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology, and Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Sections.

On Friday, accident reconstruction continues, along with digital evidence, standards, material properties and failures, electrical and explosions, and pedestrian-walkway safety.

Some presentations that may be of interest to section members include Thursday’s Criminalistics Session, where Walter Goldstein and Adam Guillecault of UNLV will present on DNA analysis and forensic microscopy. Friday’s Jurisprudence Session will offer presentations on water rights, challenging forensic experts in court, and a mock Daubert hearing that will be presented from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year in San Antonio!
GENERAL

Source: Paul E. Kish, MS, Section Secretary

Section Chair John Gerns and Section Secretary Paul Kish continue reviewing General Section applicants as well as those applying for promotion within the section. We have reviewed 138 applicant and promotion packages. Section members are encouraged to continue working towards fulfilling the requirements for promotion.

Program Committee Chairs Julie Lecea and Mary Sullivan have been diligently working to assure we have an educational and enlightening session. You should consider registering for the section luncheon. It’s a great opportunity to meet the members of your section.

If you are planning to attend the annual meeting in San Antonio, you should also plan to attend the General Section Business Meeting which follows the luncheon on Wednesday. You do not have to attend the luncheon to take part in the Section Business Meeting. Attending the Section Business Meeting is a requirement for promotion. In addition, during the business meeting the list of volunteers for committee work and scientific session moderators is created.

The positions of General Section Chair and Secretary for the year 2007 are open for election during the General Section Business Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, February 21. The General Section Nominating Committee, chaired by Robert Freed, received no petitions to place individuals on the ballot for any of the Section Officer positions. Consequently, the Committee has nominated Paul Kish for Section Chair and Robert Gaffney for Section Secretary.

A brief résumé from each candidate nominated by the Committee will be mailed to section members before the business meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the business meeting. To be eligible for nomination, an individual must be a Fellow in good standing in the General Section.

JURISPRUDENCE

Sources: Margaret L. Tarver, JD, Section Chair

In addition to the Jurisprudence Section’s informative program planned for the annual meeting, the section luncheon speaker is one of our own and is the first judge in the nation to receive a PhD in Judicial Studies. The Honorable Dr. Stephanie Domitrovich was awarded a doctoral degree in Judicial Studies from the University of Nevada, Reno on May 19, having also previously earned two master’s degrees in the same field.

Dr. Judge Domitrovich serves as faculty for both the National Judicial College and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in a wide variety of areas, including ethics, campaign ethics, scientific evidence, and the summer and fall core college curriculum for Juvenile Court Judges. Dr. Domitrovich’s dissertation, The Factors Affecting the Appointment of Experts by State Trial Judges: An Exploratory Study, involved a survey of state trial court judges in four states - Arizona, Indiana, Michigan, and Texas - about their experiences with, and opinions about, the use and utility of court-appointed experts. Congratulations Judge Domitrovich!

Judge Roderick Kennedy has been giving lectures on DWI law to the New Mexico State Health Department Scientific Lab Division and on DWI science to the staff attorneys of the New Mexico Court of Appeals in the wake of some controversial DWI decisions in New Mexico. The New Mexico Court of Appeals held in one case that in an on-the-line per se DWI case with a test some time after driving, evidence of retrograde extrapolation to the time of driving would be required to constitute substantial evidence of DWI and in another case the Court held that the state Implied Consent regulations for certification and operation of breath test devices exist as a lowest common denominator quality assurance/quality control program, which without proof of compliance with, a foundation is not properly laid for a breath test. Judge Kennedy, for the second time in the past 20 years, was not on the November ballot. With a term that has six years left in it and no further judicial aspirations the Judge is glad to be out of politics.

ODONTOLOGY

Source: Richard A. Weems, DMD, MS, Section Program Chair

By the time you receive this newsletter the annual meeting in San Antonio will be a mere few weeks away. The poster session on Wednesday and the scientific programs on Thursday and Friday hold great promise for increasing our collective knowledge with approximately 40 high quality presentations submitted to the section.

For the first time in several years there will be a dental-oriented workshop on Monday. This in response to numerous suggestions by section members that such a program be available early in the week of the meeting. The workshop will be related to the effects of incineration on teeth and dental restorations and will also update existing research involving state-of-the-art techniques to ascertain the chemical structures of various composite restorations. Also, Curt Dailey has graciously agreed to be this year’s speaker for the Annual Thomas Krauss Bite Mark Breakfast Seminar. Curt will explain the newly revised ABFO Bite Mark Guidelines and describe the modification process used.

Edward Herschaft and the rest of his editorial staff have been working diligently on the much needed revision of the Manual of Forensic Odontology. This text will be peer reviewed and will include the latest forensic information and techniques. The editors are doing an exceptional job of merging material submitted by numerous authors into a consistent and cohesive format. The manual will hopefully be returned from the printers in a timely manner and should be available for purchase at the meeting.

The ASFO 37th Annual Meeting, under the direction of President-Elect John Williams, is held concurrently with the AAFS meeting and should also be quite interesting and informative. Be sure to register for the scientific program and the annual business luncheon.

On a sad note, E. Steven Smith who was a Fellow of the Academy and known well by many section members passed away several weeks ago. He will be remembered by all as an educator and leader in the field who was also a friend to all. Please remember Steve’s family during these difficult times.

See ya’ll in San Antonio!
Greetings to all Pathology/Biology members from your section leaders. All of the section’s leaders, especially Craig Mallak, have been working through the fall and winter with the intrepid AAFS staff to put together a wonderful meeting in San Antonio.

Section Program Chair Craig Mallak has put together a scientific program that includes 116 presentations – 68 platform presentations and 48 poster presentations. Highlights of the Pathology/Biology Scientific program will include multidisciplinary sessions with colleagues from the Engineering Sciences, Jurisprudence, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, and Toxicology Sections. We are especially pleased that no fewer than 12 international presenters are included in the Pathology/Biology Scientific Session. The always popular Jay Dix Memorial Bonus Day will also be presented again.

The inaugural Pathology/Biology Section Luncheon promises to be very interesting, featuring UCLA Sociology Professor Stefan Timmermans. Dr. Timmermans is the author of the recently published book, Postmortem: How Medical Examiners Explain Suspicious Deaths (Fieldwork Encounters and Discoveries). Pathology/Biology Section members should look for this event when registering for the meeting. The cost will be $36. Special thanks to section chair Victor Weedn for putting this luncheon together.

The section leadership would like to encourage all section members, regardless of rank, to attend the Section (and Academy-wide) Business Meetings Wednesday afternoon following the luncheon. This is the best way to learn what the AAFS is doing for you, find out what you can do for the AAFS, have your voice heard, and hear what issues are important to your fellow forensic scientists.

By now most of you will have seen that the NAME Interim Meeting will be on The Medical Examiner and Mass Fatality Management, chaired by Vincent DiMaio. Corinne Stern and Joyce DeJong have assembled a program that will include Craig Mallak from the Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner, Paul Sledzik from the NTSB, Todd Ellis from DMORT, Larry Bedore from the Florida Emergency Mortuary Operational Response, and James Mendoza from San Antonio Emergency Management speaking on the National Incident Command System. Registration for this event is separate from AAFS meeting registration. A registration form can be downloaded from NAME at http://thename.org/.

Jamie Downs points out that the United States Senate completed markup of the FY07 CJS appropriations bill. The medical examiner community should be thrilled with the results of this bill as it includes Coverdell funding, which is the only funding available to our community. However, this is only half of the battle, as the United States House has not recognized the importance of appropriately funding this legislation. The final outcome of Coverdell funding is directly a result of our combined efforts. Dr. Downs urges all member of the medical examiner community to contact their Senators and Representatives and advise them of the importance of the Coverdell funds (in the Senate to be maintained at the current level of $18 million). Also of note, the National Academies of Science has begun active work on the National Forensic Sciences Commission. This prestigious panel, an effort spearheaded by the Consortium of Forensic Sciences Organizations (CFSO), is charged with determining the needs of all the forensic sciences, including medical examiners. The group will hopefully follow the remarkable success of The DNA Commission in raising the national citizen and governmental interest in all the forensic disciplines. Several members of the Pathology/Biology Section have been nominated to serve in this effort. Finally, the Forensics Technology Fair, an annual Washington, DC event sponsored by the CFSO, will be held in May of 2007. This effort presents an assortment of the latest and greatest equipment available to practitioners in all the forensic disciplines. Typically hosted by our Senate advocates, the fair includes celebrity appearances to generate increased interest. Past invites have included mystery writers and several starring cast members of CSI. Your presence is requested, as this will be an excellent opportunity to meet and greet the legislative staff from your area on their home turf. More information will follow as the details take shape.

PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Source: Todd W. Fenton, PhD, Section Chair

The 59th AAFS Annual Meeting in San Antonio promises to be another outstanding meeting. Program Chair Laura Fulginiti (drfulgi@cox.net) reports that the Physical Anthropology Section will be addressing this year’s theme, Forensic Science in a Global Community: Issues and Advances with the Friday afternoon scientific session. Other sessions of note include: A Symposium on The Fourth Era of Forensic Anthropology: Examining the Future of the Discipline; and A Symposium in Honor of Richard L. Jantz, PhD.

The Section Business Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21. Section Chair Todd Fenton is now accepting agenda items (fenton@msu.edu). Todd and Section Secretary Mike Warren (mwarren@ufl.edu) are requesting input from members on “New Business,” including items involving the following four ad-hoc committees: Nominations; Graduate Program; Meeting Program; and Ethics. The Nominations Committee, chaired by Beth Murray (elizabeth_murray@mail.msj.edu), continues to examine how the section nominates and selects officers. The Graduate Program Committee, chaired by Ann Ross (ann_ross@ncsu.edu), is working to generate a list of graduate programs in forensic anthropology and skeletal biology that we can endorse as a section and submit to the Academy. The Meeting Program Committee, chaired by Tom Holland (Thomas.Holland@JPAC.PACOM.MIL), has been formed to examine strategies to deal with the increasingly large number of abstract submissions every year. Finally, the Ethics Committee, chaired by Norm Sauer (nsauer@msu.edu), continues to discuss whether the section needs its own standing ethics committee. If members of the section have any comments or questions regarding these committees, please contact the appropriate chairs.

2006 has been another banner year for the section membership, as Todd and Mike have reviewed 55 new applications, and total of 84 applications overall. See you all in San Antonio!
QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Source: Jane A. Lewis, MFS, Section Secretary

It is time to book your hotel room, register for the AAFS 2007 Annual Meeting at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, and sign-up for the QD workshop being presented on Tuesday, February 20th.

The 2007 Section Program Co-chairs are Dennis Mooney who may be reached at etfde@sbcglobal.net, and Fred Panhorst whose e-mail address is frederick.h.panhorst@army.mil. They have developed an interesting meeting. Contact Dennis or Fred with any of your questions.

The QD workshop offered at the AAFS Annual Meeting is Management Issues in Forensic Document Units, presented by Diane Tolliver and Thomas P. Riley. Examination of Typographic Documents and Effective Presentation of These Types of Cases, presented by William Flynn will be presented as part of the Questioned Documents program Thursday afternoon.


TOXICOLOGY

Source: Peter R. Stout, PhD, Section Program Chair

As everyone reading this is aware, the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences is approaching in February. We are all looking forward to an excellent meeting in San Antonio, TX. We have 25 poster and 27 platform presentations to be presented from the Toxicology Section. These were selected from approximately 65 submissions this year.

Thanks to Jeri Ropero-Miller, the 2007 Workshop Chair, the Toxicology Section has five great workshops offered, Jeffery Jentzen, Thomas Kupiec, and Steven Wong have a joint workshop with the Pathology/Biology Section on Pharmacogenomics as Molecular Autopsy. Larry Bowers, Richard Hilderbrand, and Jeri Ropero

Miller are chairing a workshop on The World Anti-Doping Program and the Role of Medical Care Providers in Doping and Anti-Doping Efforts. Marc LeBeau and Laureen Marinetti are chairing a workshop on Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault Issues. Diana Wilkins and Christine Moore are chairing a workshop on Newer Analytical Techniques (newer than LC/MS/MS). Lastly (certainly not least), Ruth Winecker and Ron Backer are chairing a workshop on Pharmacogenomics for Addiction and Pain Management. Many thanks to all of the workshop chairs and faculty for assembling these workshops.

Many thanks also to those who have helped to this point (your jobs are not over) with the program and reviewing and editing of abstracts, Jeri Ropero-Miller, Frank Esposito, Thomas Kupiec, Ernest Street, Lee Hearn, Jenny McReynolds, Michael Corbet, John Wyman, and Michael Wagner all have given their time and efforts to preparing the Proceedings from the submitted abstracts.

For all those presenting, Nikolas Lemos will be assembling and coordinating the AV support of the presentations. This is a challenging job and all presenters are encouraged to get their presentations in to Nik as soon as possible to help ensure your presentation runs correctly when you need it to run.

The program again this year contains several joint and special sessions. Thursday morning will have a special session on DUID. This session is largely the result of the efforts of Michelle Spirk who will moderate the session with the DUID Committee Chair Sarah Kerrigan. Thursday will also have a joint session with the Jurisprudence Section covering issues of discovery and deposition for the toxicologist. Also Thursday, will be the Pediatric Toxicology session.

Thursday evening will have an addition to the program immediately before the open session. We will have a session remembering Irving Sunshine. Please come with your memories of Dr. Sunshine. If you have any photos (images in today’s electronic world) to share please forward them to Peter Stout at pstoat@rit.org. We are hoping to be able to put together an album for Dr. Sunshine’s family.

Friday will have a joint session with the Pathology/Biology Section and also the Annual Lectureship, John Neuner, the ASCLD-LAB International Program Manager, will be speaking about Global Issues in Laboratory Accreditation.

We are fortunate to have so many people in the field willing to work to produce an excellent program again this year. It is the faculties and participants who truly make the quality of the program. We are also fortunate to have the support of numerous sponsors, who are generously supporting the section again this year. Please thank Aegis Sciences, Agilent, Cerilliant, Immunalysis, International Diagnostic Systems, NMS, Neogen, Orasure, Shamrock Glass, United Chemical Technologies, and Waters for their continued support of the section.

It is also my pleasure to announce in this issue of the Academy News the Toxicology Section’s award winners. This year’s Alexander O. Gettler Award for analytical achievement in forensic toxicology is awarded to Daniel S. Isenschmidt. This year’s Rolla N. Harger Award for outstanding contributions in forensic toxicology is awarded to John T. Cody. Congratulations to both on their achievements.

Thanks to the efforts of all involved we have a packed program with many aspects of toxicology. I look forward to seeing y’all in Texas.
I am again convinced that there is no more generous group than is the membership of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Donations to the FSF Endowment Fund are rapidly approaching those of previous years. If this trend continues, we should exceed previous years’ contributions in the very near future.

Because of the Academy membership’s donations to the FSF during 2006 (hopefully continuing into 2007), it is anticipated that we will again be able to fund a large number of projects through the Lucas and Acorn Research Grants, the Student Travel Grant, and the Bashinski Grant. Without your kind donations, the Forensic Sciences Foundation could not function at the level that it does.

As you all know, the purpose of the FSF is to serve the American Academy of Forensic Sciences’ membership by sponsoring and coordinating research and educational activities for the betterment of the forensic sciences. Quality research in the forensic sciences improves the scientific level of our specialties and subspecialty areas; society in general benefits. Your contributions make fulfilling the Foundation’s mission possible.

During your section business meeting this year, ask the section to approve a contribution to the FSF Endowment Fund. For several years, the General Section has contributed $5,000 to the Foundation. Imagine if all ten sections followed suit! Any contribution is appreciated, but the larger sections can easily afford to make a significant donation to the FSF. Section donations will be announced during the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, February 21.

I again want to give a “thank you” from the FSF Trustees to all of the individuals who have made contributions to the FSF, especially those individuals who have participated in the “I Gave an Hour” campaign. I hope that each of us can find it possible to contribute at least the financial equivalent of one hour of our time to the Foundation.

In an effort to better promote the importance of forensic science research and education, the FSF has officially launched its own website. Please visit www.forensicsciencesfoundation.org where you will find all the information you need to know about the Foundation. Visitors may also make a contribution online directly to the Foundation.

This issue of the Academy News contains meaningful information about the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting to be held February 19-24, 2007, in San Antonio, TX. From personal experience, I can tell you that San Antonio is one of the best American cities for food and fun. I anticipate that the San Antonio FSF auction will certainly fall into the “fun” category. It is my additional anticipation that it will be productive as well. “Fun” aside, the auction has historically been one of the most worthwhile and enjoyable activities that occurs during our annual scientific session. “France Casting” has once again made a generous donation. A museum quality cast of a scoliosis victim with severe curvature of the spine and associated skeletal changes will be up for bid. This complex and highly-detailed cast is set onto a stand for display and study.
The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) is proud to announce the winners of the “FSF Travel Grant Award for Students” essay contest. This Travel Grant will assist with travel expenses in attending the 2007 American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX. The FSF Board of Trustees was able to approve the expenses, not to exceed $600 per student, for five students this year. A complimentary meeting registration is included with the $600 grant for travel expenses. It is hoped more student support will become available in the future.

This year’s winners are:

**Jarrod R. Champagne**
Criminalistics Section

**Heather Garvin, BA, BS**
Physical Anthropology Section

**Chelsey Juarez, MA**
Physical Anthropology Section

**Kristen E. Lewis, MS**
Criminalistics Section

**Wendy E. Potter, MS**
Physical Anthropology Section

Additionally, four books have been donated for this year’s FSF auction:

*The Science of Sherlock Holmes* by E.J. Wagner

*Flesh and Bone* by William M. Bass and Jon Jefferson

*The C.S.I. Effect* by Katherine Ramsland

*Forensics DeMystified* by Barry A.J. Fisher; David R. Fisher; and Jason C. Kolowski

Many of you have already made contributions to support the 2007 auction and I hope that each Academy member will fully participate in the annual auction to be held in San Antonio.

Finally, please remember to get your grant applications in to the FSF as soon as possible. Check the Academy’s and Foundation’s websites for grant details. Your research application cannot be funded unless you apply.
The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc., gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made to the Foundation and its Endowment Fund. Please accept our apologies if your name has been inadvertently omitted and contact the AAFS office as soon as possible with the correction. This listing reflects contributions received from 8/01/06 through 12/01/06.

The Fund’s balance through 12/01/06 was $495,918.71. Additionally, the Endowment has provided $80,162.50 in awards and grants since its inception in 1990.

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In Memoriam

E. Steven Smith, DDS, Fellow of the Odontology Section, October 2006.
Morris Wiener, MD, Retired Member of the General Section, unknown.