President’s Message

Although it has only been a few months into my term as President, much official business has been conducted. The position is demanding at times, but I enjoy fulfilling the obligations of the Presidency. I have corresponded with many of you and look forward to hearing from others.

Now onto the official business! For the past five years, the Board has been working with Carrie Whitcomb of the General Section regarding the formation of a new section devoted to Digital and Multimedia. During this time, Carrie, Zeno Geradts, Dave Baker, and Mark Pollitt have assembled the required number of Associate Members and Fellows. At the February Board meeting, Carrie presented a slate of members and policies and procedures for consideration. The Board will meet by teleconference in early May to discuss and vote on the proposal, and if it passes, proposed Bylaws changes will be prepared and circulated to the Academy membership. A vote to create the new section would take place at the next annual business meeting.

The scope of the proposed Digital and Multimedia Section includes: forensic examination of digital and multimedia evidence such as digital device examinations, network analysis, and examination and comparison of digitized numerals, images, analog and digital audio and video. The section will facilitate the development of scientific foundations for the practice of digital forensics; promote research and publication in the areas of digital forensics; assess the forensic aspects of new forms of multimedia used for information exchange that could become evidence; and represent practitioners who provide forensic examinations, testimony, training, education, and research in digital forensics.

The next area of business is policy-making. Recently, a member of the Pathology/Biology Section had requested assistance from the Academy because she had been named as a defendant in the case of Mark Albrecht, et al., v. Brian Treon, M.D., et al. The suit is a class-action against coroners and/or medical examiners in the State of Ohio which have removed, retained, and disposed of body parts without prior notice to the next of kin. The implications for those engaged in medicolegal death investigation is obvious.

In response to this request, in February the Board agreed to establish policy on specific issues of... continued on page 4
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Did You Present a Paper at the 2007 AAFS Annual Meeting?

The Journal of Forensic Sciences reserves the right of first publication to all previously unpublished reports and papers presented at the AAFS annual meeting in San Antonio. Please submit your manuscripts to:

Michael A. Peat, PhD, Editor
Journal of Forensic Sciences
6700 Woodlands Parkway
Ste 230-308
The Woodlands, TX 77381
Email: jfs.editor@att.net

Future Annual Meeting Dates

February 18-23, 2008
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Washington, DC

February 16-21, 2009
Denver Convention Center
Denver, CO

February 22-27, 2010
Washington State Convention & Trade Center
Seattle, WA

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Academy News
Legislative Corner

At the AAFS annual meeting, the CFSO honored Joe Polski, Chief Operations Officer for the International Association for Identification and Chair of the Consortium for the past three years, for his dedicated service and leadership during his term in office. Joe completed his term as Chair and is succeeded by Peter Marone, Director of Virginia Department of Forensic Sciences and the ASCLD/LAB representative to the CFSO.

The CFSO’s 4th Annual Forensic Science Technology Fair on Capitol Hill will take place on May 22, 2007. The event will be held in a Senate office building and will feature about a dozen vendors. We are hoping to have one of the stars from the TV show CSI: Crime Scene Investigation and Jan Burke has lined up a couple of well known mystery writers to attend as well. Our efforts have been to have major players in Congress attend our annual event so we have an opportunity to make our case for more resources for forensic science. If you are available and in the neighborhood, contact me directly and I will give you the details.

We have recently begun a new initiative with the help of our lobbyist Beth Lavach. The Department of Defense has taken an interest in forensic science and we are trying to find cooperative ways to assist them in their new mission. Many of the areas they are involved in are familiar to State and local crime labs and medical examiners/coroners. Obvious areas include the analysis of exploded devices and the identification of remains by DNA typing. We hope over time to establish a dialog with the DoD and to work together in areas of common interest.

With the change in leadership in Congress following the last election, we are finding new friends in forensic science while keeping our old ones. We have discovered that forensic science is a bipartisan issue and members of both parties are interested in helping us. Beth has been in contact with the staffs of several and we are working on a future legislative agenda.

In past articles I mentioned that some of you may know someone who knows someone ... in Congress. These contacts may be very helpful. If you have the ability to communicate with members of the Senate or Congress and would share those contacts with us, we would be most grateful.

Thanks for Completing the Meeting Survey!

The AAFS Staff would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the 2007 Annual Meeting Survey. The information has been tabulated and will serve as a beneficial resource in planning future AAFS programs.

Congratulations to Claudia Delgado Aguchia, MSc, Student Affiliate of the General Section. Claudia is the winner of the complimentary registration for the 2008 60th Anniversary Scientific Meeting in Washington, DC.

Academy News
importance to the forensic science community. This would occur on rare occasions only. In addition, the Board agreed to file an amicus curiae brief in the State of Ohio which included an expenditure of up to $20,000. However, recently the Board reconsidered its initial position after consultation with members of the Academy, and while there was consensus from all sections regarding the support of the Pathology/Biology Section in this endeavor, there was concern about the Academy acting prematurely without policy-making provisions in place. Thus, the actions of the Board were rescinded.

Following the actions of the Board, I formed two ad hoc committees. One committee, chaired by Betty Layne DesPortes, will be responsible for developing guidelines that the Academy would follow in the future when developing policy on specific issues. The second committee, chaired by Tracey Corey, will be responsible for developing a policy statement on organ and tissue retention. Dr. Corey was directed to request assistance from the Pathology/Biology, Toxicology, General, Physical Anthropology, and Odontology Sections. An upcoming article will detail the work of these two committees.

Finally, just a brief note regarding the Forensic Science Disciplines Milestones Committee. Many of you have been contacted by Carla Noziglia, the Committee Chair, and have been asked to compile noteworthy forensic milestones in your respective section. If you have not been contacted and want to contribute, please speak with Carla. I encourage you to use this opportunity to showcase your discipline’s accomplishments.

In the coming months, I will be visiting the Academy Office and attending the joint LTPC/Ethics Committee meeting, the FEPAC meeting and the CFSO Technology Fair. Also, I will be leading the Academy-sponsored trip to Israel in June.

Please feel free to contact me at bruce-goldberger@ufl.edu regarding your thoughts about these significant Board actions. Your input is desired and will be forwarded to the Board for discussion at an upcoming meeting.

Fourth National SART Training Conference
SART: Promoting Justice, Health, and Hope
May 30 - June 1, 2007
Tampa, Florida
www.sartconference.com

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences is pleased to announce its co-sponsorship of the Fourth National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference scheduled for May 30 - June 1, 2007, in Tampa, FL.

We anticipate that 1,000 SART professionals from across the nation will gather in Tampa for this unique multidisciplinary training conducted by leading experts from each of the SART disciplines. The three day conference will feature 60 workshops, six keynote addresses, and an exhibition hall of non-profit and corporate exhibitors. The conference will provide a valuable learning experience for law enforcement, sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs), and other medical examiners, advocates, prosecutors, and crime lab specialists.

All conference details are available at www.sartconference.com, where you may register online and pay by credit card. You may select your breakouts online as part of your registration process. A conference brochure may be downloaded at the registration website.

The registration fee is $415. We encourage you to register early as a capacity turnout is anticipated.

E-mails regarding the conference may be addressed to admin@sartconference.com.
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AAFS 2007 Israel Tour
Last minute details for forensic science visits in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv are being worked out as this Academy News issue goes to press. There are still a few spaces available for any members whose schedules may allow them to join AAFS President Bruce Goldberger and the other 24 travelers who have signed on for this wonderful AAFS international trip. The application and tour package are available on the AAFS web Home Page (left column under “What’s New”).

AAFS 2008 Italy Tour
What images come to mind when you muse upon the words Rome, Tuscany, and Florence? Musings become reality when you choose to join President-Elect Carol Henderson next year, for she has chosen those three destinations for the AAFS 2008 Italy Tour. If you have not yet contacted me to have your name added to the list for the June 6-15, 2008 tour, please do so. Spaces are going quickly. I hope to have a “ball-park” price for the package in my next “Planning & Development” article and on the AAFS web (AAFS 2008 Italy Tour).

FEPAC
Significant goings-on, or the lack thereof, at the U.S. Department of Education have many accrediting bodies in a quandary about pending federal requirements. Currently proposed regulatory language being developed by the Education Secretary may prove problematic for accrediting agencies such as FEPAC that are posturing themselves, in the near future, for submission of applications for recognition. Therefore, the FEPAC Chair has asked that commissioners plan to address this issue at the FEPAC Spring 2007 meeting which will take place in Colorado Springs on May 19 & 20.

The previous serves as a fitting segue to the following announcement. In this May/June Academy News article, I am pleased to introduce you to the 2007/2008 FEPAC Chair, Max Houck, who will provide insight into this AAFS standing committee. As the Commission moves forward with its mission and goals, it is important for all constituencies to have access to developments and progress of this accrediting body.

From FEPAC Chair Houck
Most people have a basic understanding of what accreditation is. It’s often described as something like the Good Housekeeping seal of approval. It is generally seen as a good thing, and there is a mark of quality associated with whatever is accredited. Colleges and universities are accredited. Specific programs those colleges and universities offer are accredited. Even entire units within those colleges and universities - like a law school or a medical school or a school of business - are accredited.

In the context of the AAFS’s Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC), the only type of accreditation that is relevant is that which applies to higher education. According to U.S. Department of Education (USDE), “accreditation is a status of public recognition that an accrediting agency grants to an educational institution or program that meets the agency’s standards and requirements.” A couple of the phrases in the definition are particularly important. First, “accreditation is a status of public recognition,” which means that the accrediting agency makes available to the public the information that a particular institution or program is accredited by that agency. The phrase about accreditation being granted to an institution or program only if it meets the agency’s standards and requirements is something that one would
expect to see in a definition of accreditation, but it is especially important because it emphasizes the evaluative component of accreditation: There is a judgment by someone other than the institution or program that what the institution or program offers meets certain standards of quality. This evaluative aspect of accreditation is one of its defining characteristics. The other three characteristics of accreditation are that it is private, non-governmental, and self-regulatory. Another characteristic of accreditation is that it is based on peer review; that is, those involved in accreditation typically come from the colleges and universities themselves. This is the aspect of accreditation that seems strange to those who don’t understand how accreditation works. To them, accreditation seems to be just another example of the “good old boys’ network” in action: You evaluate my school and give me a good review because you know that in a few years when it’s your turn to be evaluated I might be the one to evaluate your school. But that’s not how accreditation works. All accrediting agencies have strong conflict-of-interest policies that are essential to making the peer review system work.

FEPAC has worked very well, in my opinion: We now have 16 forensic science educational programs accredited throughout the U.S. We have much work ahead of us to improve and enhance our processes, as well as our service to the forensic science community. In the coming months, I will be updating you on many of FEPAC’s efforts and initiatives. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at max.houck@mail.wvu.edu.

FSEC/MSP: Schedule of Events

Thursday, June 21, 2007 - Crime Scene and Criminalistics 1
Objectives of Day 1:
- Crime Scene Investigation and Evidence Collection
- Bloodstain Pattern Interpretation
- Fingerprints
- Documents
- Firearms

Friday, June 22, 2007 - Criminalistics 2: Blood Evidence and Forensic Chemistry
Objectives of Day 2:
- Forensic Biology
- DNA
- Forensic Chemistry/Drug chemistry
- Trace Evidence
- Informal workshop: curriculum development and class modules

Saturday, June 23, 2007 - Medico-Legal Forensic Sciences
Objectives of Day 3:
- Forensic Pathology
- Forensic Odontology
- Forensic Entomology
- Forensic Anthropology
- Wrongful Conviction (“Innocence Project” of Minnesota)
- Curriculum development, course module, science teaching resources

Forensic Science Educational Conferences
A preliminary draft of the Forensic Science Educational Conference at Hamline University in Saint Paul, Minnesota on June 21, 22, and 23 is provided for your consideration. Andrew Baker, Hennepin County Medical Examiner, Susan Myster, anthropology professor at the University, and their team are putting the finishing touches to the program and completing other logistics. Middle- and high-school science teachers from Minnesota, as well as many other states and neighboring Canadian provinces, have already enrolled for the three-day event. As always, thanks to the support of the Academy’s partner, Court TV, dozens of them will receive tuition-free admission to the conference.

Per AAFS protocol regarding presenters at the conferences, speakers at the FSEC/MSP are forensic scientists from a wide variety of agencies, including the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (state lab), Minneapolis and St. Paul Police Department Crime Laboratories, Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office Crime Laboratory, Hennepin County Medical Examiner’s Office, as well as private consultants.

The program consists of lecture-based presentations and breakout sessions that offer practical hands-on experiences. The evenings focus on informal gatherings and forensic science-based films that will foster discussion of the CSI effect and what makes good forensic science in the secondary school science programs.

Two other conferences follow in July: The FSEC/CUH II at Chaminade University of Honolulu on July 9-11 and the FSEC/VCU in Richmond, Virginia on July 19-21. Schedules for these events will appear in the July 2007 Academy News.
A Word From Your 2008 Program Co-Chair

Everyone is encouraged to prepare their seminars and workshops for the 2008 60th Anniversary Scientific Meeting, February 18–23 at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, DC. One of the most exciting things about having the annual conference in Washington, DC is that the Supreme Court of the United States will be in session and most likely will be reviewing cases in which some of you have been involved. As you know, the theme for the 2008 meeting is The Forensic Sciences - An International Treasure.

The program is starting to take shape and looks to be a wonderful conference. If any of you are in a position to invite U.S. government officials or representatives, let us know and we can assist in making contacts. It would be great to invite people in government who help with acquiring funding for forensic science programs and research.

August 1 is the deadline for submitting abstracts to the Academy office. This deadline is non-negotiable, so do not wait until the last minute. Get your papers in well before that date because your Section Program Chair has to review all the abstracts before finalizing the program. The Program Chairs also have a deadline for submitting the program to the Academy for inclusion in the Advance Program. Finally, the AAFS staff will have to put everything together and finalize the program to meet their deadline for the printer!

It is very important to let the Section Program Chairs know what facilities you will need for your presentation, such as number of rooms you will need to accommodate your section’s expected audience. You will be responsible to provide your own computers for Power Point presentations. If any of you want to have continuing education credits, let your Section Program Chair know. It is a long and detailed process to get the approval for these credits from your state educational association.

We look forward to seeing you in 2008 in our nation’s capital for this exciting and educational experience. Good luck to you all in your research efforts to give law enforcement better tools with which to solve crimes and convict criminals.
AAFS Topics of Interest And Continuing Education Needs Identified

The following is a comprehensive list of recommended abstract topics based on the continuing education needs of the 2007 annual meeting attendees:

- Child abuse
- Peri-natal pathology
- Congenital heart disease
- Unique regional forensic problems
- Gamma hydroxybutyrate
- Ethics
- Firearm and accident reconstruction
- Underwater death scenes (i.e., boat accidents, etc.)
- Ongoing retention and upcoming legislation (how to lobby local governments for funds, legislative, etc.)
- How to maintain good relationships with families, law enforcement, press
- Return of taser workshop (not single lecture)
- Financial accounting forensics
- Child fatality issues
- Toxicology
- Medical ethics
- Statistical analysis of STE/MT DNA database matching
- Good devices for forensic pathologists
- Basic fire/arson scene investigations and fire behavior
- Synoptic reporting in forensic pathology
- Quality assurance in forensic pathology
- Post blast/explosion topics
- Educational needs for forensic science subspecialists
- Mass disaster planning
- Presentations on Katrina processing & suggestions for improvement
- Savage dog bite attacks
- Psychological autopsy, serial murders, jury psychology
- Sexually motivated homicide
- Legal ethics
- Pathology autopsy
- Mass disaster
- Forensic photography
- Expert trial testimony

ABSTRACT FORM AVAILABLE TO SUBMIT ONLINE

The Call for Papers deadline is fast approaching! Do you have an interesting and educational topic to present at the AAFS 60th Annual Meeting, February 18-23, 2008, in Washington, DC? The deadline for submission of all abstracts is August 1, 2007. Please submit your abstracts now and keep in mind the meeting theme, “The Forensic Sciences - An International Treasure.” The AAFS Call for Papers form may be found on pages 19-22 of this issue of Academy News. HOWEVER, did you know you may also submit an abstract online? The online process is faster, easier, and provides immediate feedback from the AAFS office.

What are the requirements? Only that you have an email address to receive your password and future communications from AAFS headquarters.

What are the advantages? You will receive immediate confirmation of receipt of your abstract, the assurance that your paper has been received at the AAFS headquarters, and best of all, access to your abstract for editing.

Remember, the deadline for receiving your abstract is August 1, so have your abstract and curriculum vitae ready to attach and send electronically. Visit the AAFS website at www.aafs.org, and follow the links to the AAFS Online Abstract Submission Form.
CRIMINALISTICS

Source: Lucy Davis Houck, BHS, Section Chair

It seems that as time pushes ahead, we get caught up in the bustle, and forget to smell the spring flowers. As we say good bye to the winter cold, we have a little bit of time to rest before we start working on the 2008 meeting in Washington, DC. Again, thank you to all attendees and participants for making the 2007 meeting such a success. The meeting is only as good as the willingness of the members to share and participate, and the support received from the Criminalistics Section was, as always, outstanding.

There were many highlights from the Criminalistics Section meeting. First, the section would like to congratulate Bruce McCord for receiving the Paul D. Kirk Award and John Lentini for receiving a Meritorious Service Certificate for unselfish dedication to the section. The section also authorized $2000 for support to training by regional associations. A couple of requests for support have been received so far. Please let Lucy Davis Houck know as soon as possible if your organization is interested. You should submit a written request stating the training opportunity and how you would use the funding. Thank you to Matt Wood and Max Houck for volunteering to serve on the Program Committee for the 2008 meeting. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact Section Chair Lucy Davis Houck or Jay Siegel, chair of the Nominating Committee.

ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Source: Peter Alexander, PhD, Section Chair

Engineering Sciences, in conjunction with other sections of the Academy, is planning a timely and exciting full-day Interdisciplinary Session for the 2008 meeting in Washington. The topic will be Sick Building Syndrome. A tentative list of topics follows. These topics will likely be adjusted as new areas of interest and additional speakers are illuminated. We would like feedback from Engineering Sciences Section members and members of other sections regarding what topics you would find most interesting.

STRUCTURAL CONSIDERATIONS
- Sick Buildings—Identification, Remediation, Limitations, and Needs
- Cost of the Problem and Various Solutions, Impact of Building Design and Construction

TECHNICAL ISSUES
- Contaminants of Concern
- Propagation of Molds on Surfaces in Different Environments
- Environmental Chemistry—Production of Secondary Metabolites, their Toxicity and Measurement
- Measurement Considerations
- Identification, Detection, and Analysis of Mold by Genetic and Phenotypic Means

MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS
- Medical and Psychiatric Aspects of Mold and Other Organisms
- Toxicology and Medical Health Issues

REGULATORY AND LEGAL ISSUES
- EPA and OSHA Perspectives
- Legal Considerations and Case Histories

WRAP UP
- Remediation Solutions
- Summary and Recommendations - Panel of Speakers

ADDITIONAL TOPICS BEING CONSIDERED
- Identifying Mold Culprits in Sick Building Syndrome Through Sequencing and Real Time PCR Analysis
- Definition of the Health Issue and Remedies to Protect the Populace
- How Does One Culture and Study a Sick Building Mold
- New Instrumentation

If you would like to provide feedback, receive additional information about the session, or if you wish to present a paper, contact Walter Goldstein (walter.goldstein@unlv.edu), who is organizing the session with Engineering Sciences Program Chair Kurt Weiss (kurt.weiss@asr-engineering.com).
The two workshops on Monday and the scientific program on Tuesday will mark a new award, the Robert “Bob” Thibault Award. The 2007 Odontology Section meeting allowed those present to participate in the various presentations already proposed (see last newsletter) or have a presentation of your own, please contact "behind the scenes" for the advancement of the General Section, but the entire Academy. Consider presenting a paper during the 2008 AAFS meeting. The names of those who volunteered to be session moderators for the Washington meeting have been forwarded to Program Committee Chair Joanna Collins.

The General Section Officers encourage those of you seeking promotion to Member or to Fellow status to present a paper. If you need more time than typically allotted for a paper presentation, consider proposing a workshop or workshop to share your knowledge. The deadline for workshop and workshop proposals is August 1.

General Section Committee appointments for 2007-08 are as follows: Minutes Review Committee: Paul Kish (Chair), Angela Birt, Lauren Ware, and Donna Garbaz-Bader; Nominating Committee (appointed by James Adcock): Robert Freed (Chair), Catherine Daughters, and Neal Haskell; Scholarship Committee: Steven Gilbert (Chair), David Baker, Jennifer Steel, Jake Kunkle, and William Lucas; Awards Committee: Alan Boehm (Chair), Robert Thibault, Patricia Speck, Namnepaga Zacharias, Joyce Williams, and Betty James; Disciplines Committee: Julie Howe (Chair), Frank Horvath, Claire Shepard, Dan Matticks, Mark Pollitt, Laura LaCagnia, and Herbert Blitzer; Regional Representative Ad Hoc Committee: Nancy Cabelus (Chair), Jack Sudimack, David Pauly, Amy Carney, and Edgar Collins; Reception Ad Hoc Committee: Mary Fran Ernst (Chair), Richard Walton, Jane Bock, Frank Ciacco, Kimberly Hill, James McNamara, and Mary Ellen O'Toole.

Awards Committee Chairman Alan Boehm reminds all members it is not too early to start thinking of nominees for the General Section Awards for 2008. The General Section meeting in Washington, DC, will mark a new award, the Robert “Bob” Thibault Award. Like its namesake, this award will be given to those who work ceaselessly "behind the scenes" for the advancement of the General Section, the Academy, and forensic science.

JURISPRUDENCE

Source: Joseph J. Maltese, JD, Section Secretary

The time to send in proposals for presentations (August 1) for the 2008 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC is fast approaching. The Jurisprudence Section Program Chairs for 2008 are Robert Forrest (robertforrest@mac.com) and Paul Singer (paul.singer@oag.state.tx.us). If you would like to actively participate in the various presentations already proposed (see last newsletter) or have a presentation of your own, please contact them as soon as possible.

GENERAL

Source: Robert C. Gaffney, MFS, MBA, Section Secretary

Now is the time to start planning your presentation for the 2008 AAFS meeting in Washington, DC. Program Committee Chair Joanna Collins and Co-Chair Ron Meyer need you to be completing your research and/or case studies for presentation in Washington, D.C. The success of the scientific paper section is dependent upon the membership submitting high quality and relevant abstracts in a timely manner. The diversity of the section members allows for an intellectually stimulating scientific session, which not only benefits the section, but the entire Academy. Consider presenting a paper during the 2008 AAFS meeting. The names of those who volunteered to be session moderators for the Washington meeting have been forwarded to Program Committee Chair Joanna Collins.

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There are two books that are highly recommended to lawyers who are interested in science. The first is entitled How Doctors Think by Jerome Groopman, MD from the Harvard Medical School. Dr. Groopman suggests that most errors are mistakes in thinking not skill and that part of what causes these cognitive errors is the inner feelings that physicians rarely admit and often don’t realize. Dr. Groopman’s book is not a typical doctor book. He shows how medical training in differential diagnoses sometimes misleads the clinician from the correct diagnosis of a patient. Groopman claims that specialization in medicine confers a false sense of certainty in the global care of a patient. This book is recommended to any attorney interested in medical practice.

The other book is A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson. It is as the title describes how “we went from there being nothing at all to there being something, and then how a little of that something turned into us, and also what happened in between and since.” Bryson is truly amusing and full of facts - to gain the full enjoyment of this book listen to it on tape. You will leave it with added knowledge and a smile.

ODONTOLGY

Source: Gary M. Berman, DDS, Section Secretary

The 2007 Odontology Section meeting allowed those present to honor two of its members with awards. The Lester Luntz Award was presented to Haskell Askin, and the Reidar Sognnaes Award for Excellence in Forensic Dentistry was presented to John McDowell.

During the Wednesday business meeting Robert Durion was elected as Odontology Section representative to the AAFS Board of Directors. Gary Berman was elected for the position of Section Secretary. On behalf of the Odontology Section, a thank you and congratulations to Bob Barsley, who was the Section Representative to the AAFS Board of Directors these past six years. The countless number of volunteer hours it takes to represent the section and the Academy, is often unseen, but appreciated by us all. Dr. Barsley was elected Treasurer of the American Board of Forensic Odontology during their meeting in San Antonio. Harvey Silverstein who served two years as Odontology Section Program Chair and one year as Section Secretary resigned his position because of personal matters. The section would like to thank Dr. Silverstein for all his time and efforts these past three years.

The remainder of the meeting focused on committee reports and recommendations. The Ad Hoc Committee charged with evaluating the training courses in Forensic Odontology and seeing how they related to our membership requirements in section 2.3.5 C. 3 of the AAFS Policy and Procedure Manual gave their report and will continue to try and measure these courses in an objective way. A proposal was made by Dr. McDowell, voted on, and passed that reads, “the Odontology Section shall contribute 10% of its special fund account to the Forensic Sciences Foundation and that this contribution be reviewed yearly.”

The two workshops on Monday and the scientific program on Thursday and Friday were extremely informative. To assure an equally excellent session next year in Washington DC, please begin working on your papers now and ready them for submission before August 1.

continued on page 12
In the short time since the last newsletter and close of the very successful annual meeting in San Antonio there have been some new happenings. The informal reviews for the Pathology/Biology program organized by the immediate past Program Chair Craig Mallak clearly show that he deserves a big high-five for all the hard work and long hours in making the program a success. New Program Chair Kim Collins will surely do just as well, but she can’t do it without the submission of quality abstracts from our section. It is not too early to start organizing a project or recruiting a resident to research and present your office’s work at the next meeting in Washington, DC.

The Best Resident Paper competition is always a highlight of the meeting and Jack Frost and his award committee are gearing up for another round of judging presentations from the newest recruits into our profession. Keith Pinkard still awaits a research proposal so his committee can award our section’s grant money.

Section Chair Andrew Baker and Secretary Scott Denton have agreed to examine the proposed membership categories that were initially presented at the last Business Meeting and were tabled for further review. The proposed changes to the membership categories should be distributed soon and we encourage all input in continuing the discussion that was started at the meeting.

CSU – Chico is gearing up to offer its 5th Annual Mini-Conference in Forensic Anthropology on the anticipated dates of November 10-11, 2007. The conference allows a number of renowned speakers in forensic anthropology to interact with participants in lectures and workshops on the CSU – Chico campus. This conference is open to the public, local, state and federal officers, attorneys, judges and any student interested in forensic anthropology. For more information, contact tmurad@csuchico.edu.

There are several exciting announcements from the membership this month. Peer Moore-Jansen writes to say that an 8 acre “skeleton acres” decomposition experimentation site and law enforcement training facility has been established in Wichita, KS. Similarly, Jerry Melbye is setting up acreage in San Marcos, TX for a comparable type of research facility.

John Williams would like to extend an invitation to any forensic anthropology association to place copies of written documents and/or photographs into the growing archives of the Physical Anthropology Section. He can be reached at jawilliams@wcu.edu.

CSU – Chico is gearing up to offer its 5th Annual Mini-Conference in Forensic Anthropology on the anticipated dates of November 10-11, 2007. The conference allows a number of renowned speakers in forensic anthropology to interact with participants in lectures and workshops on the CSU – Chico campus. This conference is open to the public, local, state and federal officers, attorneys, judges and any student interested in forensic anthropology. For more information, contact tmurad@csuchico.edu.

The special Keynote Session Co-Chair for the 2008 annual meeting is Tracy Corey. She also succeeds Julia Goodin who served the section on the AAFS Board of Directors in an outstanding capacity during her two terms.

In other news, the immediate past Pathology/Biology Section Chair and organizer of the successful Section Business Luncheon Victor Weeden has been appointed the Chief Medical Examiner of the State of New Jersey. Congratulations, and we all wish him the best as he takes on the new responsibilities. Edmund Donoghue, past AAFS President and chair of the Nominating Committee, also has our best wishes as he assumes his new post “retirement” responsibilities working alongside Jamie Downs as a regional medical examiner in Savannah, GA. Past Section Chair John Hunsaker is leading the ongoing Medical Review Panel for the National Institute of Justice’s study of electromuscular disruption devices (EMDD), which should hopefully provide some guidance in certifying these controversial in-custody deaths. The lawsuit against the coroners of Ohio regarding the necessary practice of organ retention continues, and hopefully will come to a successful resolution with the support of the Academy and its newly formed ad hoc committee.
PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Source: John L. Young, MD, Section Secretary

For this issue there are some worthwhile publications by members. First, AAFS Vice President J. Arturo Silva has written an editorial entitled, The Relevance of Neuroscience to Forensic Psychiatry in the current issue of the Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL). In the same issue there is a biography of Alan Felthous marking his presidency of AAPL and incorporating several engaging accounts and anecdotes by colleagues. The issue also includes an interesting commentary by Greg Leong comparing his and others’ experiences with competency restoration against statistically derived prediction. To see the journal, visit www.aapl.org.

Robert Weinstock has co-authored a new book, Forensic Ethics and the Expert Witness, published by Springer. It is a pleasure to call this one to your attention for reasons well stated in his forward by Paul Appelbaum.

The American Psychiatric Association has announced this year’s Guttmacher Award winner and lecturer, Carl Malmquist of the University of Minnesota, long-recognized forensic psychiatric expert on homicide. It is scheduled for Sunday, May 27, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 33 on the upper level of the San Diego Convention Center.

News from members is always welcome at jlyoung@pol.net.

TOXICOLOGY

Source: Robert A. Middleberg, PhD, Section Chair

Please remember that your section officers are here, in part, to address the wants and needs of section membership. So, if you have a suggestion for improvements within the section, or ideas for program development or the like, please let us know. We are looking forward to an exciting remainder of the year.

One of the pleasures of Section Chair is to appoint committee Chairs or members. In that regard, the following individuals have graciously agreed to serve: The 2008 Nominating Committee is comprised of Adam Negruz (Chair), Graham Jones, and Mike Peat. Brad Hepler will serve as Chair of the Awards and Scholarship Committee; serving three year terms as Awards and Scholarship Committee members are Dan Isenschmid, Tony Costantino, and Laureen Marinetti (who was nominated to the Awards and Scholarship Committee at the San Antonio meeting); Sarah Kerrigan has agreed to continue in her position as Chair of the Drugs and Driving Committee; The Professional Standards and Accreditation Committee is combined with the SOFT Laboratory Guidelines Committee with a single Chair who will continue to be Lee Hearn; Vickie Watts will be recommended to the AAFS Student Academy Chair to continue as Toxicology Section representative; Bob Bost will maintain Chair of the History of Toxicology Committee; Jack Kalin will continue as Chair of the Policy and Procedures Committee; and Graham Jones will continue to serve as our “link” to the Mass Spectral Data Base Committee. Additionally, we have begun the underpinnings of a new committee on Pediatric Toxicology. All interested individuals, in addition to those who have already expressed interest, should contact Robert Middleberg. But for a few of the Committees mentioned above, all Toxicology Section membership is welcome to be involved with a committee; just contact the appropriate committee chair. The younger members of the section are especially encouraged to do so.

One of the primary tasks of the Nominating Committee this year will be to nominate a new section representative to the AAFS Board of Directors. This is the third and final year for Barry Logan in that position. He has served the section more than admirably in that capacity and the section thanks Barry for all his diligence and active involvement. Anyone interested in being considered for this Board position should contact Adam Negruz.

All section members are urged to read the Section Business meeting Minutes when they become available since there is a lot of good information buried within the document. One of the interesting tidbits that came out of the business meeting is the ageing of our section. The average age of our 441 member section is 54 years. It doesn’t seem so old, however, we do need to be stewards of the section and the profession. In this regard, we all have an obligation to ensure the health and longevity of our profession as represented within AAFS. You are encouraged to act as citizens of the Toxicology Section and have those practicing in our field, or those training in the field, that are not current members to join. The AAFS offers individuals opportunities to interact with many people from all the different disciplines within the forensic sciences. And since all of us know that no single forensic science discipline can act in a vacuum, any collaborative interaction and education opportunity is indispensable. This is something other relevant organizations cannot offer. So, don’t be late, participate and help choose our fate!
John D. McDowell, DDS, MS
FSF Board of Trustees Chair

Foundation News

It has been another very rewarding year for the Forensic Sciences Foundation. Contributions to the FSF have increased to the point that our Endowment Fund is in excess of $500,000. I want to thank everyone who has worked so effectively on behalf of the Foundation and its various programs. I especially want to thank the General Section and the Criminalistic Section for the tremendous contributions made at the San Antonio meeting. I would encourage every section to follow their lead. In addition to the individual and section financial contributions, many great fundraising ideas have come from members of the Academy regarding how to support the FSF Endowment Fund. Keep up the good work, everyone!

Most of you know about the recently developed FSF website. You may now go directly to www.forensicsciencesfoundation.org to read about the FSF and its programs, as well as access FSF grant information.

The FSF maintains its relationship with the International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICTTAP). Through the efforts of Carla Noziglia and others, this program is beginning to make an impact on countries that are greatly in need of instruments, equipment, and supplies that our laboratories and facilities no longer need. If you are aware of materials that may no longer be needed by your lab but still might be useful to others, please contact the Academy office to start the transfer process.

Because of the success of the “I Gave and Hour” program, the FSF would like to continue this fundraiser. Please consider donating the equivalent of one hour of your salary or fees as an expert witness or consultant to the FSF. Your support will certainly contribute to the growth or forensic sciences. A contribution form may be found on page 27 of this issue of the Academy News.

Consistent with the previous fundraising idea of Gil Brogdon (“I Gave and Hour), Jack Kenney has challenged every Odontology Section member to contribute the equivalent of the fees charged for one restoration to the FSF Endowment Fund. Great idea, Jack! Now let’s see if the dentists follow through.

Please remember the Lucas and Acorn grants are available. You cannot be named as an award recipient unless you apply! See page 15 for details.

Thanks again for all your support of the FSF.

FSF DEADLINES

<table>
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FSF Lucas Grants Available

The FSF Lucas Grants are large grants ($501-$5,000) intended to help the investigator in original in-depth problem oriented research. These grants are open to members and affiliates (at any level) of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Proposals should include:

- Current curriculum vitae for each applicant
- Brief (up to 5 pages) description of the project
- cites for current or previous FSF Research Grants awarded to any of the investigators/researchers
- cites of appropriate references
- Budget for project, including amount requested from FSF
- Plan for dissemination of the results
- Timetable for project

Issues related to the use of live humans or animals as research subjects must be dealt with explicitly in the proposal. Similarly, your plan for accommodating any issue related to privacy, appropriate permissions, and the harvesting, transport or disposal of human tissues or body fluids must be included.

Funding requests for bibliographic preparation, travel, equipment, routine agency operation, including salary of investigators/researchers or assistants, are not normally approved and are discouraged.

Brief proposals (original and two copies) should be sent to the FSF headquarters (410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904, Attention: Nancy Jackson) by June 15. The deadline is firm with no extension. A progress report for the research must be sent to the FSF by December 1 of the following year.

Note: FSF Lucas and Acorn Grant proposals on the same subject, differing only in scope and budget, may not be submitted by the same investigators in the same year.

FSF Acorn Grants Available

The FSF Acorn Grants are small grants (up to $500) intended to help the investigator initiate original problem oriented research. These grants are open to members and affiliates (at any level) of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Proposals should include:

- Current curriculum vitae for each applicant
- Brief (approximately one page) description of the project
- cites for current or previous FSF Research Grants awarded to any of the investigators/researchers
- cites of appropriate references
- Budget for project, including amount requested from FSF
- Plan for dissemination of the results
- Timetable for project

Issues related to the use of live humans or animals as research subjects must be dealt with explicitly in the proposal. Similarly, your plan for accommodating any issue related to privacy, appropriate permissions, and the harvesting, transport or disposal of human tissues or body fluids must be included.

Funding requests for bibliographic preparation, travel, equipment, routine agency operations, including salary of investigators/researchers or assistants, are not normally approved and are discouraged.

Deadline for Acorn Grant proposals is June 15. A progress report for the research must be sent to the FSF by December 1 of the following year. Brief proposals (original and two copies) should be sent to the FSF headquarters (410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904, Attention: Nancy Jackson) by June 15 in order to be considered by the FSF Research Committee. The deadline is firm with no extension.

Note: FSF Lucas and Acorn Grant proposals on the same subject, differing only in scope and budget, may not be submitted by the same investigators in the same year.
FSF Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance Grant Available

Purpose: The purpose of the Jan Grant Fund is to provide Graduate Students with financial assistance to complete their thesis or independent research project as required for a graduate degree in Criminalistics/Forensic Sciences. The thesis or research project must be in the field of Criminalistics/Forensic Sciences.

Eligibility: The applicant must be a full or part time student completing his or her graduate degree requirements by conducting a research project at an educational institution accredited in the U.S. by a recognized academic body. This project must, in the opinion of the FSF Awards Committee, make a significant scientific contribution to the field of Criminalistics/Forensic Sciences.

Grant Amount: The Jan Grant award for this year shall be in the amount of $500. The funding must be used to complete the research project. The recipient must identify in the published abstract and in the presentation the fact that the research was supported by a grant from Jan’s Forensic Science Fund - Grant.

Application: Please complete the application and submit with the required attachments outlined in Part II on the application form.


Please forward your application (found on page 17 of this issue of Academy News) and required supporting documentation to the Forensic Sciences Foundation office in care of FSF Executive Director Anne Warren, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904, no later than the submission deadline of June 15, 2007.

FSF Travel Grants Available

The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) is proud to offer five (5) Travel Grants this year for Students to assist with travel expenses in attending the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity, and members are encouraged to promote it.

Travel Grant Guidelines:
- The applicant must be a fourth year undergraduate or a graduate student at an accredited four-year college, university, or professional school whose accreditation is acceptable to the FSF Board of Trustees.
- The applicant must have a letter of recommendation from his/her advisor or professor.
- The applicant must submit a 400-600 word essay explaining how attendance at an AAFS meeting will impact his/her career decision.
- The applicant must submit a curriculum vitae including information such as forensic science areas of academic study and practice, academic record, forensic science activities, membership and participation in professional organizations (such as the AAFS), presentations at professional and academic meetings, as well as any publications and other pertinent data related to his/her forensic background.
- The deadline for submission of the completed applications is October 1st of each year. Please forward a cover letter of application containing detailed contact information, your letter of recommendation, your essay, and your curriculum vitae to Anne Warren at AAFS, 410 N 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

Applications are judged by the FSF Student Travel Grant Award Subcommittee. Selection of Grant recipients is based solely on the information provided in submitted documents.

The successful grant recipients are notified by November 15, and will be acknowledged in the January issue of Academy News.

The FSF Board of Trustees is able to approve the expenses, not to exceed $600 per student, for up to five (5) students this year. It is hoped more student support will become available in the future. Good luck!
Jan Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Grant Application

Please print legibly or type all information. Add additional sheets as necessary.

**PART I - Background Information**

Last Name_____________________________  First Name_________________________  M.I._____   Social Security No.___________________ 

Mailing Address_______________________________  City___________________  State_______ Zip__________  Country___________________

Home Phone___________________  Daytime Phone___________________  Cell Phone___________________  Email______________________

Marital Status (optional)___________   # of Dependents (optional)_______ Date of Birth___________________   Citizen of _________________

Employment - May include permanent or part-time employment, internships, military experience, or volunteer work.

Current (or last) Employer ________________________________________________  Position Held_____________________________________

Employer’s Address ___________________________   City___________________  State_______ Zip__________  Country__________________ 

Supervisor’s Name_____________________________   Work Phone___________________________  Email______________________________

Education - List your education accurately and completely. Submit your most recent cumulative college/university transcripts for your undergraduate and graduate degree(s).

Name of Undergraduate School ___________________________________  Dates Attended From (mo/yr) _____________________  To (mo/yr) ____________________

Major ____________________________________  Dates Attended From (mo/yr) _____________________  To (mo/yr) ____________________

Level of Degree Earned_______________________   Graduation Date (mo/yr) _______________________

Name of Graduate School ________________________________________  Dates Attended From (mo/yr) _____________________  To (mo/yr) ____________________

Major ____________________________________  Dates Attended From (mo/yr) _____________________  To (mo/yr) ____________________

Level of Degree Earned_______________________   Graduation Date (mo/yr) _______________________

Name of Graduate Advisor ________________________________   Address ________________________________________________________

Advisor’s Phone _____________________________________    Advisor’s Email _____________________________________________________

*The applicant must be a full or part-time student completing his/her graduate degree by conducting a research project at an educational institution accredited in the USA by a recognized academic body.

**PART II - Thesis/Research Information**

(Attachment I) Provide a concise three (3) to six (6) page double-spaced thesis/research proposal which addresses the following:

*Title
*Introduction, background, and significance of the proposed research
*Experimental procedure
*Expected results and contributions to the criminalistics (forensic science) knowledge base
*Budget for the total project
*Description of how support from the grant would contribute to the completion of the project

(Attachment II) Provide a concise one (1) to two (2) page double-spaced statement of qualifications explaining why you believe you will be successful in completing your research. Include reasons why you require financial assistance to complete your research.

(Attachment III) Curriculum Vitae. Provide your curriculum vitae of no more than three (3) pages.

(Attachment IV) Letter of Recommendation. Provide a letter of recommendation from your research advisor.

**PART III - Certification/Acknowledgement**

Statement of Applicant

I, the undersigned, certify that all information provided by me in this application is true and factual. I further agree that should I receive a “Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Grant”, I shall acknowledge the grant in any publication resulting from the research supported by the grant.

Signature of Applicant ___________________________________________________                            Date ____________________ __________
9th Annual FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Offered

PURPOSE: To nurture a productive dialogue between emerging judicial and forensic standards of reliability and validity, the Forensic Sciences Foundation is pleased to offer the 9th Annual Emerging Forensic Scientist Award. The award will be presented to the author of the best paper on any topic focusing on the reliability and validity of techniques, processes, or methods in a forensic area of the author’s choice.

HOW TO ENTER: Entrants should submit an abstract of the proposed paper to the AAFS Program Committee by the August 1, 2007 deadline, in compliance with AAFS abstract criteria, and indicate that the abstract is submitted for the Emerging Forensic Scientist Award. Initial review and acceptance/rejection of the abstract will be done by the AAFS Program Committee which will focus specifically on the abstract’s treatment of reliability and validity issues.

SELECTION PROCESS: Abstracts accepted by the AAFS Program Committee and the EFSA Program Committee will be scheduled for presentation during the scientific session of the section which accepted the abstract, and evaluated by representatives of the Multidisciplinary Awards Committee appointed by the Forensic Sciences Foundation Board of Trustees. Announcement of the winning entry will be made in the Academy News following determination of the winner by the Awards Committee. The Award will be presented during the 2009 Academy Business Meeting in Denver, CO.

CRITERIA TO ENTER: An eligible entrant need not be an AAFS member. However, entrants who are AAFS members must be a Student Affiliate or Trainee Affiliate. All entrants must be within three years of completion of formal training (must submit proof from laboratory director or university professor) at the time the paper is presented in 2008. Only the presenter is eligible for the award; no substitutions will be accepted after the application is submitted. The decision of the Awards Committee is final and the amount of the award is firm. The form below must be completed and sent with the abstract submission to the AAFS office by the August 1, 2007 deadline.

THE AWARD: The award will cover the expense of the recipient’s attendance at the 2009 meeting, including registration, airfare, five nights lodging, and $75/day per diem. A commemorative plaque will also be presented to the award winner at the 2009 AAFS Annual Meeting in Denver, CO.

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FSF EMERGING FORENSIC SCIENTIST AWARD ENTRY FORM

I am submitting an abstract to the FSF Review Panel to be considered for the Emerging Forensic Scientist Paper Award. The AAFS Section in which I wish to present is: ____________________________________________.

I entered the field of forensic science in ________.

Name _________________________________________________________________________________________

Employer ______________________________________________________________________________________

Street Address __________________________________________________________________________________

City/State/Province ______________________________________________________________________________

Postal/Zip Code ___________________________ Country ____________________________________________

Telephone _____________________________________   Fax __________________________________________

E-mail _________________________________________________________________________________________

Send this form by August 1, 2007, to: AAFS 2008 Program Committee
410 N. 21st Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and comply with the requirements noted above and that the information provided is true and correct. Attached is a letter from my affiliated laboratory/university. My resume and completed “Call For Papers” form also are attached.

_________________________________________________ ______________________
Signature Date
The 60th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) will be held February 18-23, 2008, in Washington, DC.

The Program Committee solicits the submission of abstracts on topics of interest to the forensic science community. **August 1, 2007**, is the deadline for the submission of abstracts.

Scientific papers selected for presentation will be divided into two groups:

- Platform Presentation (standard scientific session)
- Poster Session

The Program Committee will select appropriate abstracts from those **submitted by the August 1, 2007 deadline**.

Abstracts of papers must be submitted on the official abstract form which accompanies this announcement. Specific format and content requirements for the abstracts are noted on the form. A current copy of the presenting author’s curriculum vitae must be attached to the original abstract form.

If you wish to submit your abstract on-line, go to the AAFS website at: www.aafs.org.

### Notification of Acceptance

Notification of Acceptance will be mailed to all presenting authors by November 15, 2007. Meeting registration materials will be sent to presenting authors.

### Oral Presentations

**Content**

1. The presentation must cover the material reported in the abstract.
2. The opening statement of the presentation should acquaint the audience with the nature and purpose of the paper.
3. Sufficient time should be allocated to the results of the study, and should be stated simply and clearly so that the significant facts can be readily identified.
4. The presentation should be concluded with a concise summary of the essential findings or results.

**Time**

The final determination as to the length of time that will be allocated to a specific paper rests with the Section Program Chair. However, 15 minute presentations are standard.

### General Information

**Key Words**

Each author is to provide three key words or terms in the space provided on the abstract form.

**Oral Presentation**

Each scientific session meeting room will be equipped with a lighted pointer, podium, microphone, LCD projector, and screen. 35mm projectors must be requested. A limited number of slide trays will be available. Speakers are encouraged to bring their own slide trays.

Requests for additional audio-visual equipment will be reviewed by the Program Committee and are subject to approval by the Section Chair. Speakers will be notified of the disposition of their requests.

**Poster Presentation**

Each author selected for poster presentation will be provided with a 4’ x 8’ tack board on which to display material related to his/her presentation. Thumb tacks will be provided. If material is better suited as a table top display, please indicate on the abstract form.

### Meeting Registration

All speakers and presenters (oral or poster) are required to register for the annual meeting. If your abstract is accepted for presentation, you will be required to pay the normal registration fee for the annual meeting.

The *Journal of Forensic Sciences* has the first publication rights to all previously unpublished reports and papers presented at the Academy’s annual meeting. The *Journal’s* right of this publication is limited to six months from the date of presentation.

### Poster Presentations

**Content**

A well-designed poster should:

1. Inform the observer as to the subject matter, the information contained and the conclusions drawn;
2. Indicate how the experiments were designed and how the results were obtained; and
3. Facilitate discussion between the author(s) and the viewers.

**Preparation**

Authors have complete freedom to choose ways of displaying their information in figures, tables, text, photographs, etc. However, they should avoid crowding too much information into a limited space. The poster may be augmented by the use of manuscripts and sketch pads with marking pens.
Instructions for Abstract, 35mm Slides, & LCD Projection

General Instructions

Content of Abstract
Your abstract should be informative, containing:

1. A short specific title.
2. The Learning Objectives.
3. A sentence statement of the paper’s hypothesis or proposition.
4. A brief synopsis of the content, or statement of the methods, whichever is pertinent.
5. A summary of the results obtained, if pertinent.
6. A general statement of conclusion, if possible.
7. A minimum of one-half page (approximately 500 words) to a maximum of one full page (approximately 700 words) in length. Abstracts which do not meet the one-half page minimum will not be printed in the AAFS Proceedings.
8. Three key terms.
9. A brief statement of what impact the presentation or research findings will have on the forensic sciences and/or humanity. Abstracts should NOT be written in the first person.

Format of Abstract
Your abstract must be typed and submitted in a legible format following the instructions provided below:

1. The title, names of authors with respective degree(s), and addresses must be stated exactly as you wish them to appear in the program. Indicate with an asterisk (*) who will be presenting.
2. Type abstract single spaced, 10 point type size, and return it along with a copy on disk.
3. Type all copy, including title, in upper and lower case; capitalize and punctuate exactly as you wish the abstract to appear.
4. Exercise care in preparing the abstract. If unsuitable for publication as received, the abstract will be returned to the author for correction, revision, or completion.

35mm Slides
35mm slide projectors are not part of the standard AV package and must be reserved. Please indicate your request for a slide projector by checking “other” and stating so on item #8 Audio/Visual Requirements on the next page. Noted below are the official guidelines in preparing 35mm slides for presentation at the 2008 AAFS Annual Meeting:

- Limit the information on each slide to a single point or idea.
- Keep slides simple with plenty of open space between lines.
- Do not crowd the slide. Two or more simple slides are better than one that is complex and crowded.
- Use simple graphs and illustrations with a minimum of captions.
- Avoid using thin lines, dots, dashes, or other specialty lines unless they are very bold and black.
- Avoid backing up the projector. If you need a frame twice, make a duplicate frame.
- Check your computer resolution by going to your computer’s control panel, selecting “Display” then “Settings.” Recommended resolution is 1024 x 768 (XGA).
- Avoid red and blue, or other non-contrasting color combinations.
- Limit the number of text lines per frame to a maximum of seven.
- Use simple graphs and illustrations with a minimum of captions. Avoid using thin lines, dots, dashes, or other specialty lines unless they are very bold and black.
- ARIAL “Bold” is the recommended font style. Avoid using fonts that project poorly because the line width is too thin.
- Use as large a font as possible. Anything below 24 pt. is too small. Suggested font sizes are Titles: 48-54; Main text titles: 32; Smallest text lines: 24.
- Do not crowd the frame. Limit the number of text lines per frame to a maximum of seven.

LCD Projection
Computers may not be provided as part of this package. It is your responsibility to provide the laptop or computer used for your presentation. A LCD projection unit will be available in the Speaker Prep Room. Please make certain your computer is compatible with the projector and that all is in working order and tested before your presentation.

Below are recommended guidelines for preparing your presentation:

- Dark background and light text give good contrast and show up well in the meeting room; however, a background too dark may blacken the room too much. Avoid color combinations such as red and blue, yellow, and green, etc.
- Check your computer resolution by going to your computer’s control panel, selecting “Display” then “Settings.” Recommended resolution is 1024 x 768 (XGA).
- Use as large a font as possible. Anything below 24 pt. is too small. Suggested font sizes are Titles: 48-54; Main text titles: 32; Smallest text lines: 24.
- Do not crowd the frame. Limit the number of text lines per frame to a maximum of seven.
- Use simple graphs and illustrations with a minimum of captions. Avoid using thin lines, dots, dashes, or other specialty lines unless they are very bold and black.
- Avoid backing up the projector. If you need a frame twice, make a duplicate frame.
- Check your computer resolution by going to your computer’s control panel, selecting “Display” then “Settings.” Recommended resolution is 1024 x 768 (XGA).

Word Processor Preparation
An electronic copy of your abstract submission is required. Please follow the format guidelines provided below:

1. Software: Microsoft® Word for Windows is preferred.
2. Type size: 10 pt (10 characters per inch).
4. Margins: top: 1”, left side: 1”, right side: 1”.
5. References/Footnotes: do not put in the header or footer of the document.
6. Do not embed objects, pictures, tables, or charts within document.
7. No boxes, frames, or lines.
8. Remove editing comments, notes, etc., and accept tracked changes in the document prior to saving and submitting.

Specific Instructions
1. Complete attached form.
2. Follow instructions provided in typing abstract.
3. Proofread all information provided.
4. Attach one current copy of presenting author’s curriculum vitae to original abstract form. Return the original abstract, with attached c.v., and a copy on disk, by August 1, 2007, to:

Mailing Address: AAFS
410 North 21st Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Sample Abstract

Injury Pattern Analysis in Fatal Traffic Crash Investigation

Michael D. Freeman, PhD, DC, MPH*, Oregon Health and Science University
School of Medicine, 3071 Dogwood Drive South, Salem, OR 97302; and Clifford Nelson, MD, Medical Examiner Division, Oregon State Police, 301 Northeast Knott Street, Portland, OR 97212-3092

After attending this presentation, attendees will understand some principles of crash investigation, the necessary elements for the application of Injury Pattern Analysis, characteristic injury patterns of certain types of crashes, and an example of a practical application of Injury Pattern Analysis.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by serving as a key aspect of fatal crash investigation as it can augment traditional means of investigation in a systematized format via interdisciplinary communication and collaboration.

Reconstruction of a fatal crash can be augmented, in certain circumstances, by information gleaned from the postmortem evaluation. Further improvement of the scope and accuracy of an investigation can result from evaluation of the injuries of crash survivors, taking into account the conformity of individual vehicle interiors as well as the movement of the occupants during the crash.

The term “Injury Pattern Analysis (IPA)” is proposed as a description of a fatal crash investigation technique that utilizes accident investigation, and reconstruction techniques, occupant kinematics, postmortem records, hospital and healthcare provider acute injury records, and other evidence as an adjunct to the investigation of homicides resulting from fatal crashes.

The authors will present a case study in IPA as an example of the practical application of the technique. It is recommended that medicolegal death investigators become familiar with the principles of IPA.

Crash, Fatal, Investigation
Complete all of the Following Information

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Time Was

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There was a time, not too long ago, when forensic science took a back seat in the courtroom to other avenues of proof. The frequent "he-said, she-said" courtroom give and take was often deemed sufficient evidence to resolve a dispute, depending on which expressed point of view was credited.

For good or ill the advent of DNA profiling has scuppered those days of yore, providing the legal system with greater certainty and surer justice in the outcome. With that desirable and long sought systemic shift of focus has come rank mundanity and the hum-drum in judicial decision-making. No longer are we bewildered and even bemused by cases of the ilk of the Pennsylvania decision in Commonwealth v. Appolloni. DNA profiling has seen to that. Much the shame!

Although captioned Commonwealth v. Appolloni this litigation was civil not criminal, unless a suit in Pennsylvania to determine the paternity and consequent support obligations of a child born out of wedlock bears the imprint of criminality. The controversy in Appolloni was straight-forward and its resolution would have been uncomplicated in today’s DNA world. But the case arose in 1963, well before DNA had begun to strut its forensic stuff.

The complainant, Dolores Naumowicz (Dolores), age 19, first met the defendant, Marine Corporal William Appolloni (William) on his 21st birthday in 1963. That meeting was the start of a dating spree between them which included at least one overnight stay at the Naumowicz’s home.

That the couple were romantically involved, even intimately, could not be gainsaid. But the fact of Dolores’ pregnancy was adamantly said by William not to be his doing. To him, his denial was irrefutable since both he and Dolores agreed on the question of whether they had ever had sexual intercourse. Without copulation, logically he argued that he could not be the father of Dolores' child. But Dolores saw things differently.

Although she admitted that the Corporal had never “known” her in the Biblical sense or in the more modern usage of having had sex, they had, she asserted, engaged in repeated, consensual and vigorous love-making of the foreplay variety. William’s testimony was fully in accord with Dolores’s version of their active romanticizing.

Why William even recalled that on one occasion, which happened to be his last visit to the Naumowicz’ home, they had had “sexual relations (without penetration, however) … while standing” in the downstairs of the Naumowicz’ residence. He was vehement in claiming that his penis, although “close to her private parts” was “unexposed.” He did assert, however, that at that time Dolores had exposed herself to him by sliding her pants down.

William was quite forthright in his testimony in conceding that he had engaged in “petting” Dolores while lying side by side on a couch in the downstairs area of the Naumowicz’ home, which was, from the trial testimony, the couple’s favorite playing field. These were times, so he explained, when “his penis” was never “exposed” and he “never had an orgasm” (presumably he meant he had not ejaculated). These petting encounters would last “between 15 and 30 minutes” while he “molested” Dolores “everywhere” with his hands in her pants. The trial judge, Juanita Stout, issued a written opinion in 1964 revealing that her eyes had glazed over in incredulity on hearing the testimony of William. His “denial of physical contact with (Dolores)...is unbelievable,” her honor declared. Notwithstanding her saying so, that still left the pregnancy of Dolores without penetration by William disturbingly unexplained.

The explanation, however, was not elicited from either of the litigants’ direct testimony. It came,
instead, from medical sources cited by Judge Stout. Dr. Szal, a
gynecologist, had testified he was consulted by the Naumowicz family
about various physical complaints of their daughter, Dolores. Initially
he excluded the possibility of pregnancy since his examinations showed
that Dolores’ “hymen was intact.” However, after surgery on Dolores
to remove “a cystic left ovary” he notified the family that their daughter
was pregnant and that “conception had occurred between the 13th and
the 23rd of March 1963.” His testimony drew the net of paternity
more tightly around William. But could pregnancy be reconciled with
an intact hymen, without resort to a miraculous intervention?

Dr. Szal propounded that pregnancy could occur in spite of a finding
of an intact hymen and that, in his medical practice, he had had one
other such case in the past. But sperm would be essential to
conception, he agreed - all of which seemed to mean that pregnancy
was a real possibility without penetration of Dolores’ vagina. Yet
William had testified unequivocally that he had not ejaculated.

Judge Stout cited medical authorities in support of Dr. Szal’s opinion.
They all, however, did require “ejaculation close to the vulva” releasing
semen which can be shown to have “migrated into the vagina” even
presumably through or by passing an intact hymen. (See Williams,

That authoritative text together with Judge Stout’s referencing two
decisions from courts in Great Britain (*Clarke v. Clarke*, (1943) 2 All
E.R. 540 and *Russell v. Russell*, 131 L.T. 482 (1924)) convinced the
judge that “plaintiff’s impregnation occurred by *fecundation ab extra*.
The clear meaning of that finding was that William was “responsible
for that impregnation.” Furthermore, the judge reflected that this case
“appears to be the first legally recorded case in this Commonwealth in
which the rare phenomenon known as *a fecundation ab extra* had
been found to have occurred. *Fecundation ab extra* is not to be
confused with *parthenogenesis* which is the production of offspring
without fertilization by a male. Although *parthenogenesis* does occur in
about 70 vertebrate species, (such as the Komodo dragon) it is not
known to be a factor in reproduction among the genus hominid nor,
happily, are there any paternity cases where *parthenogenesis* was
argued to exclude a man’s being the father of a child. Scientifically that
claim would be hogwash, but one never knows what might happen in a
court of law, not science.

The fact that William could not convincingly show that Dolores’ had
consorted with other men during her courtship by William as well as
the fact that she emphatically and credibly denied having any close
attachment to another man or men settled William’s fate, which was
the extended financial support of the child he had been found to have
fathered without the proof by forensic DNA “fingerprinting” (as is
today misleadingly described) nor with the results of human leucocyte
antigen typing (a forerunner of the forensic uses of DNA in paternity
disputes) to inculpate him.

The decision in *Commonwealth v. Appolloni* was appealed but that
appeal was withdrawn leaving the Judge Stout’s decision, like Dolores’
hymen, intact.

A note on the origins of the word “hymen”
Curiously the word hymen had its origins in the Greek legend of
Hymen or Hymenaeus who was a male masquerading as a female. He
could do so quite convincingly since his was a “delicate beauty” such as
had been rarely observed.

Hymen’s disguise was of little help to him when, being taken for a
woman, he was captured by a band of brigands who had also
kidnapped a group of authentic maidens. The unfortunate group was
spirited away to a foreign shore.

Hymen’s opportunity to escape, so the tale goes, came when the
kidnappers, being as weary as their victims, fell into a deep sleep.
Hymen, however, did not sleep. Throwing off his female disguise
Hymen seized a weapon and put his captors to the blade. Leaving the
maidens, thereby, in safety he returned to Greece where he negotiated
an exchange with the reigning citizens of Athens.

In return for his restoring the maidens to their families and to their
homeland he was promised the hand in marriage of his erstwhile
beloved. With that understanding he restored the maidens to the
shores of Greece. From that time forward Hymen was venerated in the
bridal songs of his homeland, called hymeneal songs, and was crowned
“The God of Marriage.” That reputation, of being a savior of the
maidens, spread so widely that it was not unexpected that the female
protective tissue guarding the portal to her vagina should be known as
the hymen.

The prequel to *Commonwealth v. Appolloni*
Judge Stout’s decision came to the attention of this writer courtesy of
two letters appearing in the advice columns of Ann Landers.

The first letter, posted on January 9, 1997, was from a 28-year-old
woman identified only as “mystified in Mississippi.” She wrote that she
had conceived a child while she and her boyfriend were in bed naked
with him on top of her but without his having an erection and without
any penetration of her vagina or even any “noticeable ejaculation.”

This correspondent was less concerned with her bearing a child after
this fashion than with the fact that she had not incurred “a sexually
transmitted disease” as a consequence of her naked frolicking with her
boyfriend.

The letter from “mystified in Mississippi” was followed by a March 16,
1997 Ann Landers column with a letter from another 20-year-old with
words of caution for Landers’ “teenage readers.” Her pregnancy, she
affirmed, occurred while she and her boyfriend were indulging in a
“hot, bulling, chlorinated jacuzzi.” She professed that “there was no
actual penetration” and that her boyfriend desisted from further
amorous advances which appeared to portend sexual penetration when she
“insisted he stop.”

This second letter on the subject came from a Honolulu woman who
said she was “mortified.” Ann Landers appended her advise to the
effect that “Thanks for your wisdom, born of experience. I hope
somebody listens.”

Judge Stout apparently espied Ann Landers’ printing of the letter from
“mystified in Mississippi” for the judge wrote Ann Landers, also in
March of 1997 to acquaint her with the facts and disposition in
*Commonwealth v. Appolloni*. Not to be left out of the mix I wrote the
then retired Judge Stout at her Philadelphia home of my desire for
any additional insights or enlightenment she could shed on these
almost paranormal methods of conceiving a child. She replied on,
of all prophetic dates, April 1, 1997.

continued on page 30
In her letter Judge Stout informed me that her Appolloni opinion had had considerable reader attention and impact. A journalist from Boca Raton, Florida was said to be scheduling an article on the subject of "superfecundation" and her judicial colleague, 80-year-old Judge Boyle, was quite taken aback by the circumstances in Appolloni. When asked by fellow Judge Stout, "how did you like it?" her octogenarian confere replied, "Well, I'll tell you – from here on out, I'm going to be careful."

L'envoi

The emergence of forensic DNA profiling in paternity matters has not radically changed the landscape of conception by superfecundation or the need to be cautious during one's more vigorous romantic interludes, wherever they might occur and at whatever age. But opinions like that in Appolloni were nurtured at a time when science, not yet cloaked in DNA' raiment, did not reign supreme in the courtroom and the emphasis could therefore be on less sober but more intriguing facts as well as on more engrossing court opinions, right or wrong though they might be. A diurnal reading of the decisions from the courts can be a painful and dispiriting experience, all the more so when the rewards are more in the prosaic accompaniment of science rather than in the more humanistic and even titillating aspects of the underlying facts. Then again decisions on the order of that in Appolloni do give one the choice opportunity to reflect and delight in the fact that "Time was."

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AAFS Chronicles — Do You Remember When?

Source: Ken Field, Academy Historian

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... the Academy’s roots were partially formed in Cuba. The Academy’s genesis actually occurred in the spring of 1947 in the Havana office of the Director of the Cuban National Bureau of Identification. At that meeting, Dr. Rutherford B. Hayes Gradwohl and his long-time friend Dr. Israel Castellanos agreed to co-sponsor a multidisciplinary conference involving all the disciplines of the forensic sciences. The site would be St. Louis and the date would be January 1948. They were firm believers that the resolution of many forensic science cases was holistic in nature; that issues were seldom resolved by the actions of a single discipline. Yet most forensic science conferences involved single disciplines. Thus, this meeting would be open to all forensic scientists - from all disciplines - and, as it turned out, it was.

In 1957...
... Pathology Section Chairman Sam Gerber announced that the Pathology Section’s petition to the American Board of Pathology (ABP) had “borne fruit.” The ABP had approved the creation of a Forensic Science Division to grant Board certified Certificates to qualified pathologists.

In 1967...
... the AAFS annual meeting was held in Hawaii at a four-star Waikiki Beach Hotel. Sensibly, all scientific sessions were limited to the morning hours of the six-day meeting. The afternoons and evenings were devoted to the application of science to the three S’s: sun, sand, and sightseeing - with absolutely no objections from the 250 attendees. This is the only annual meeting of the Academy held outside the contiguous 48 states.

In 1977...
... the Executive Committee discussed the status of a proposed new section on forensic engineering. It was noted that the recommended scope for the new section would include engineering and the physical sciences. After considerable discussion, the Executive Committee returned the proposal to the three initiators of the plan, William Mazer, Kenneth Feder, and Charles Nagler, stating that the scope of the section should be limited to engineering.

In 1987...
... the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office approved the registration of the Academy’s logo as property of the Academy. In granting this request the Patent Office noted that the logo was first used in the mid-60s. Bob Joling was one of the creators of the logo and he described it as a scale of justice resting on a shaft on which are a pair of wings (symbolizing Justice) and a medical caduceus. At the base of the design is a bound Lexis (also called a faggot) symbolizing the unity of purpose of all the disciplines within the forensic sciences.
The following individuals have submitted applications for Associate Member, Trainee Affiliate, or Student Affiliate. Applications that are received and completed by October 1, 2007, will be considered for approval at the February 2008 Board of Directors Meeting. Due to space constraints, AAFS does not list members who are applying for promotion to Fellow or to Member. Comments or concerns regarding an applicant should be submitted in writing to: Kimberly Wrasse, Membership & Continuing Education Coordinator, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. Comments must be received by February 15, 2008.

Applicants

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**CRIMINALISTICS**

**Associate Member**
- Ademaj, Xhemajl, PhD
  Prishtina, Kosovo
- Anozi, Micah, MBA
  Los Angeles, CA
- Atwood, Susan L., BA
  Harrisburg, PA
- Bille, Todd W., MS
  Ammendale, MD
- Boyd, Shannon, BS
  Sarasota, FL
- Bullock, Tabitha A., BS
  Nashville, TN
- Buzzini, Patrick, MSc
  Dorigny-Lausanne, Switz.
- Christensen, Lisa, MFS
  Sterling, VA
- Collins, Dorothea S., BA, BS
  Sudbury, MA
- Coitcione, Sulekha, PhD
  Fort Myers, FL
- Daughetee, Jamie, MS
  Los Angeles, CA
- Dixon, Mark D., BS
  Oklahoma City, OK
- Ethridge, Alison, MFS
  Hoover, AL
- Evans, John E., BA
  Harrisburg, PA
- Fisher Sargent, Heather, MFS
  Redlands, CA
- Flint, Kevin E., BS
  Roanoke, VA
- Frohwein, Amanda K., BS
  Ankeny, IA
- Gabig, Christine, MS
  Omaha, NE
- Gardiner, Felicia A., BS
  Santa Ana, CA
- Gardiner, Kent, MS
  Pontiac, MI
- Gaiananco, Chantel M., BS
  Costa Mesa, CA
- Golden, T., PhD
  Denton, TX
- Green, Camilla, BS
  Salt Lake City, UT
- Hall, Ashley, MS
  Palm Bay, FL
- Hamburger, Adam, MSFS
  New Orleans, LA
- Hatler, Jennifer, BS
  Pensacola, FL
- Hoogewerff, Jurian A., PhD
  Norwich, United Kingdom
- Hungerford, Sarah E., MSFS
  Hoover, AL
- Johnson, Donald J., MS
  Los Angeles, CA
- Jonnaire, Kenneth, BS
  Lockport, NY
- Just, Rebecca, MFS
  Rockville, MD
- Kappeller, Jennifer C., MSFS
  Rockville, MD
- Li, Richard, PhD
  Indianapolis, IN
- Lockhart, Colleen M., MS
  Yonkers, NY
- Malachowski, Lisa L., PhD
  Hurst, TX
- Mayer, Michael J., BS
  Ft. Worth, TX
- Mueller, Laura, BS
  Phoenix, AZ
- Mungai, John K., BSc
  Nairobi, Kenya
- Oberle, Jessica J., BA
  Harrisburg, PA
- Oomen, Zachariah, PhD
  Albany, GA
- Pangeli, Elizabeth, BS
  Saint Paul, MN
- Perez, Phoenix, MSFS
  Hoover, AL
- Porada, Viktor, DSc
  Praha 13, Czech Republic
- Powell, Tamar, BS
  Houston, TX
- Przepyszny, Lisa M., BA
  Cleveland, OH
- Rak, Roman, PhD
  Kladno, Czech Republic
- Reid, Penny M., MS
  Los Angeles, CA
- Shafique, Muhammad, MSc
  Lahore, Pakistan
- Souder, Kimberly L., BS
  Harrisburg, PA
- Stagnaro, Venessa, BA
  Richmond, CA
- Thomas, Carina, BS
  Morrisville, NC
- Wagner, Jeffrey A., BS
  Harrisburg, PA
- Weader, Jonathon D., BS
  Harrisburg, PA
- Wojnaw, Sarah, MS
  Fairfield, OH
- Yu, Chi Chung, PhD
  Huntsville, TX

**Trainee Affiliate**
- Bagley, Brittany M., PhD
  Reno, NV
- Brubaker, Emily, BS
  London, OH
- Crawford, Dustin L., BS
  Bradhead, KY
- De Jesus, Jessica, MS
  Miami, FL
- Garver, Adam M., MFS
  London, OH
- Hussain, Manzoor R., MSc
  Lahore, Pakistan
- Hussain, Safdar, DVM
  Lahore, Pakistan
- Nestor, Kristin N., MFS
  London, OH
- Oleyar, Carolyn, MS
  Harrisburg, PA
- Rodier, Denise N., MSc
  Seattle, WA
- Stolp, Richard, BS
  Fremont, CA
- Vo, Carol, MS
  Lynnwood, WA
- Worst, Travis J., PhD
  London, OH
- Zurad, Christina, BS
  Harrisburg, PA

**Student Affiliate**
- Albury, Tereah A.
  Raleigh, NC
- Cabrera, Geraldine, BS
  Rowland Heights, CA
- Cossota, Kristen P.
  Southlake, TX
- Dickover, Ruth, PhD
  Davis, CA
- James, Valerie
  Brooklyn, NY
- Jensen, Kirsten Erika, BS
  Rochester, MN
- Lovejoy, Marco C.
  Willoughby, OH
- Moses-Thatcher, Hillary, BS
  Davis, CA
- Pabarue, Melissa L.
  Macomb, MI

**continued on page 32**
Applicants cont.

Richardson, Samantha
Gresham, SC
Scott, Michelle, BS
Schaumburg, IL
Vernoy, Dorothy J.
Raleigh, NC

ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Associate Member
Dulgerian, Nishan, MS
Woodbridge, VA
Kroll, Mark, PhD
Crystal Bay, MN
Quick, Leonard C., BS
Mandeville, LA

Perez-Avila, Julieanne, MSFS
ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Lucas, Philip W., MBA
DeBerry, Melissa, BS
Hornickel, Mandi A., MFS

Struckel, Robinette, BA
Scala, John R., MS
Stull, Kyra E., BA

Skalnik, Val, MD

Streeter, Margaret, PhD
Boise, ID

Strohmeyer, Dawn, MSc
Rice Lake, WI

Trainee Affiliate
DeJong, Jocelyn Elise, MSc
Greenville, SC

Trainee Affiliate
Sifers, C. Jeffrey, JD
Oklahoma City, OK

Student Affiliate
Bock, Sarah B.
Erie, PA

Student Affiliate
Goldwaser, Alberto M., MD
Hackensack, NJ

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Associate Member
Alvarez Duran, Ramses, MA
Trijulio Alto, PR

TOXICOLOGY

Associate Member
Cumba, Jacinto A., BS
Maputo, Mozambique

Easterling, Glenda, BS
San Pablo, CA

Ho, Joyce Y., BSc
Fort Worth, TX

Medina, Cecilia O., BS
South San Francisco, CA

Pace, William M., MS
Kingwood, TX

Santiago, Wendy W., BS
Austin, TX

Trainee Affiliate
Streeter, Margaret, PhD
Boise, ID
Alternative Careers and Education in the Forensic Sciences

We are all familiar with the traditional careers in forensics such as criminalists, crime scene investigators, and toxicologists. However, there are many other unique careers which have a foundation in forensic science. These jobs require special education and training but offer distinctive alternatives to traditional forensic careers. The YFSF Newsletter will periodically feature a few of these positions. The AAFS also maintains a website on forensic careers.

Disclaimer: Websites are provided for informational purposes only. By listing these links the Young Forensic Scientist Forum does not intend to endorse or support these entities.

Wildlife/Veterinary Forensics

Often criminal cases involve animal evidence. Wildlife or Veterinary forensic scientists specialize in animal evidence by categorizing skin, hair, and blood samples. Careers in this field also involve specialized work in identifying cases of animal abuse, theft, or mauling. Specialization in this area requires a basic knowledge of evidence collection/preservation, microscopy, genetics, and serology. For additional information: University of California, Davis Veterinary Forensic Laboratory; http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/forensics/.

Forensic Engineering

Forensic Engineers specialize in many types of civil and criminal cases. When a building collapses and there is a question of structural integrity or design defects, a forensic engineer may be called to review the case. Also, forensic engineers work in crash cases involving autos and aircrafts. Anything built could have a potential defect resulting in injury and cases are often directed to engineers with a forensic background. Specialization in this area requires extensive education in the engineering sciences and knowledge of forensic principles. For additional information: National Academy of Forensic Engineers (NAFE)®; http://www.nafe.org/.

Forensic Nursing

A forensic nurse can work in many roles. Many large county coroners’ offices employ a forensic nurse to assist in medicolegal death investigations. Forensic nurses may also specialize in abuse cases learning how to properly collect evidence, evaluate/treat a patient, and testify in court. A forensic nurse may also serve in a criminal psychiatric ward. Specialization in this area requires a degree in nursing and additional education in the area of forensic nursing. For additional information: International Association of Forensic Nurses; http://www.iafn.org/.

Forensic Accountant

A forensic accountant is a specialized accountant called to review cases of financial crime. They will be called to do forensic audits and support the investigative team in white collar crimes such as insurance/medical fraud, business fraud, and tax evasion. Specialization in this area requires a degree in accounting, CPA licensing and additional education in forensic accounting. For additional information: http://www.acfe.com/.

The Internship Corner

Internships in the Forensic Sciences, featuring opportunities with government organizations

Disclaimer: Websites are provided for informational purposes only. By listing these links the Young Forensic Scientist Forum does not intend to endorse or support these entities.

Central Intelligence Agency

Undergraduate and Graduate Internships
• Applications for summer 2008 employment will be accepted until November 1, 2007
• Applications for winter, spring, and fall employment should be sent 6-9 months before the desired start date
• https://www.cia.gov/careers/student.html

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Honors Internship
• Application Deadline October 10, 2007
• http://www.fbi.gov/careers/231.asp
YFSF Newsletter cont.

Research Participation at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Counterterrorism/Forensic Science Research Unit
- Applications accepted year-round
- http://see.orau.org/ProgramDescription.aspx?Program=10063

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (Office of Homeland Security)
College Intern Program
- Applications accepted year-round, with deadlines throughout the year
- http://www.fletc.gov/student-information/college-intern-program

United States Secret Service
Work-Study Program
- Applications only accepted for current job openings
- http://www.treas.gov/usss/opportunities_co-op.shtml

US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
Student Temporary Employment Program
Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) (Formerly Co-op Program)
College Work-Study Program
- Application deadlines vary

My Journey Through Forensic Science

I knew that I wanted to work in Forensic Science from the moment I read my first Nancy Drew book. In 1999, I read that West Virginia University (just 2.5 hours from my hometown) was starting a new major in Forensic Sciences. My fate was set. It has been a short journey so far, but it is one that I would like to share.

Like many students, I had no concept of what forensic science was besides what I had read in books and seen in movies. I hungered for crime scenes and intense courtroom testimony. What I found, during my first two years of college, was one of the most challenging, science based tracks at WVU. In my first two years, I took four Chemistry classes (introductory and organic), three Biology classes, three Calculus classes, two Physics classes, Statistics, Computer Science, Sociology, Psychology, and ONE Introduction to Forensic Sciences class. I agonized over my grades, the competitiveness of the application process, and how to dress for my interviews. I wondered how any major could possibly be worth all the work and stress, but I knew that once I started taking the Forensic sciences, all the work would be worth it.

My sophomore year, I decided to find out more about my future job. I called up the West Virginia State Police Crime Lab and asked for volunteer and internship opportunities. The 1st Rule of internships is: Don’t be afraid to ask. They directed me to a summer program (West Virginia Governor’s Internship Program) which places students at summer jobs with a variety of State offices and even pays minimum wage. The 2nd Rule of internships is: Don’t expect to get paid, you need the experience. Through a fortunate mix-up, I was mistakenly assigned to assist the Toxicology and Trace Evidence Sections (most forensic science majors are assigned to the Fingerprinting section). The 3rd Rule of internships is: Don’t be afraid to try something new. I loved the Toxicology section, the analyses, the instruments, the interpretations, and the laboratory setting. I called my advisor after two weeks and told him to change my major from the Crime Scene and Fingerprinting track to the Forensic Chemistry track, I had found my calling.

Once I knew that Forensic Chemistry was what I wanted to do, it made school much easier. Even though my classes were challenging (Analytical Chemistry almost broke me!) I knew that if I could just persevere, I would love my job. Fortunately, during my senior year, Dr. Suzanne Bell joined the faculty at WVU and pioneered classes in Applied Instrumental Analysis and Forensic Chemistry. She invited me to stay at WVU and perform doctoral research with her. Sometimes you just have to be in the right place at the right time. Since joining Dr. Bell’s group, I have participated in three research projects, published four manuscripts, mentored four undergraduate students, and attended three AAFS Annual Meetings.

At my first AAFS meeting, I attended the Young Forensic Scientists Forum. Once again, I knew that I had found something special. After the meeting, I asked for the President’s contact information (remember the 1st Rule, it has a lot of applications!) and e-mailed her a few months later. I was invited to chair the annual YFSF Poster Session under the guidance of the former chair. Being active with YFSF has opened many doors for me and I’m always looking for new members. This year, I recruited two new Poster Session chairs as I will be working on speaker recruitment for the YFSF special session.

Forensic Science educational programs are new and growing. Fortunately many of them are led by exceptional and experienced Forensic Scientists ready to help the next generation. The journey through this field is not easy and requires students to reach out to the forensic community and their mentors in order to make their own opportunities. Don’t be afraid to try something new!

If you would like to know more about YFSF, please visit http://www.aafs.org/yfsf/index.htm. To find out more about Dr. Bell’s research group at WVU, please visit http://www.wvu.edu/~forensic_chem/.

— Jennifer W. Mercer, BS

AAFS Membership Applications

For approval at the AAFS 60th Anniversary Meeting, February 18-23, 2008 in Washington, DC at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel

Application deadline is October 1, 2007. However, early submission by July 1 is recommended for the following membership categories:
- Associate Member
- Trainee Affiliate
- Student Affiliate

Please inquire with the AAFS regarding applications, requirements, membership classification, and benefits at www.aafs.org.
Do you know someone who may be interested in AAFS membership?

Please provide the information below and AAFS will send an application to:

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ______________________________________________________________

State: __________________________ Zip: __________________________

Please provide your name so the potential applicant will know who requested the application. AAFS will also recognize you by placing a Sponsor badge in your 2007 Annual Meeting registration packet. Please detach form and return to AAFS. Thank you.

Your name: ________________________________________________________

AAFS promotes the advancement of the Forensic Sciences and Forensic Scientists

AAFS Benefits
Your inclusion in the AAFS will give you access to the most talented forensic scientists in the nation via personal contact, workshops, seminars, an the AAFS annual scientific meeting, to be held February 18-23, 2008, in Washington, DC.

You will receive the Journal of Forensic Sciences devoted to the publication of original investigations, observations, scholarly inquiries and reviews in the various branches of the forensic sciences. This is the official bi-monthly publication of the AAFS.

Your involvement will contribute to the advancement of the forensic sciences.

You will receive the bi-monthly Academy News which will keep you informed of professional issues, upcoming forensic meetings, and conferences, job opportunities, section news, and Forensic Sciences Foundation activities.

For more information:
Phone: (719) 636-1100
Fax: (719) 636-1993

New Applicant Services Only:
(800) 701-AAFS

E-mail: membership@aafs.org

Website: http://www.aafs.org