President’s Message

As time marches steadily toward our AAFS 2015 Annual Meeting in Orlando, I am happy to report on some of the Academy’s exciting new developments. First, I would draw your attention to Program Co-Chair Andrew Baker’s article on page 7, where he discusses the theme for the 2015 meeting, Celebrating the Forensic Science Family. In addition, both the Pathology/Biology and Jurisprudence Sections have special articles dedicated to the meeting theme in this issue of the Academy News.

My focus in this message is the first of the three planks of the program platform, “Honoring Our Mentors and Traditions.” We are all indebted to our mentors, those who have taken a special interest in shaping our careers, and this year I would encourage all of us to reach out to our mentors and just say thanks for the role they have played in our professional development. At the annual meeting in Orlando, Thursday will be “Take Your Mentor to Lunch Day,” but if you can’t do lunch, hopefully you can buy them a drink or otherwise acknowledge all that they have done for you.

In the spirit of practicing what you preach, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge just some of the AAFS members who have been mentors to me, starting with Park Dietz, Richard Rosner, Robert Weinstock, and Stephen Billick from the Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section as well as Carol Henderson from the Jurisprudence Section, Joseph Bono from the Criminalistics Section, and Douglas Ubelaker from the Anthropology Section. Each of them has been both a mentor and a role model to me, and I would not be where I am today without their guidance and support.

In keeping with the notion of honoring those who have helped us become who we are, the Past Presidents of the AAFS will be a major focus this year. As I noted in my last message, the 2015 Interdisciplinary Symposium will feature our past AAFS presidents sharing the latest techniques from the laboratory, theoretical advances, emerging technologies, and discussing the impact of this new science on the law and our place in it, with an eye toward where the field will be a decade from now. “Past Presidents – Future Science: Hot Leads in Contemporary Forensic Research” will be an exciting interdisciplinary centerpiece of the program. In addition, the past Academy presidents will also be serving as discussants during the scientific program for the best papers in each section by our young forensic scientists.

AAFS Past Presidents Council

I am also very pleased to announce the formation of the AAFS Past Presidents Council (PPC). Our Past Presidents are an amazing group of forensic scientists, and are a great asset and resource for the Academy. The PPC will be a new, permanent fixture of the AAFS that will allow our past presidents’ voices and opinions to be heard on matters of Academy history, policy, award nominations, and future directions. The Immediate Past President will serve as the Chair of the PPC and as such will provide a direct conduit between the PPC and the AAFS Board of Directors. One centerpiece of the PPC will be the establishment of the AAFS Early Career Achievement in Forensic Science Award.

AAFS Early Career Achievement in Forensic Science Award

Beginning this year, the AAFS Past Presidents Council will bestow the first AAFS Early Career Achievement in Forensic Science Award. This award will be one of the most important awards given by the Academy, in recognition of those individuals who have made the most significant early-career contributions to forensic science research or practice. Details of this new Academy-wide award and the application process will be presented in the next issue of the Academy News.

Government Relations Committee

I also want to acknowledge the monumental work currently being done by the AAFS Government Relations Committee, comprised of AAFS Past Presidents from the Criminalistics Section, and...
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Future AAFS Annual Meeting Dates

February 16-21, 2015
Hyatt Regency Orlando
Orlando, FL

February 22-27, 2016
Rio Las Vegas Hotel
Las Vegas, NV

February 13-18, 2017
Hyatt Regency New Orleans
New Orleans, LA

February 19-24, 2018
Washington State Convention Center
Seattle, WA

February 18-23, 2019
The Baltimore Convention Center
Baltimore, MD

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We will devote this note to two pieces of legislation being considered in Congress at this time. Although as you read this, the nominations process for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) should be proceeding, the work of the National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS) is proceeding, and the Justice for All Reauthorization Act has been reintroduced by Senators Patrick Leahy and John Cornyn.

Senator Leahy (D-VT), Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, introduced his Criminal Justice and Forensic Science Reform Act (S. 2177) on March 27. The Leahy bill creates an Office of Forensic Science within DOJ, Forensic Science Board, and Committees; mandates accreditation and certification; establishes standards and best practices; creates research grant programs (NIST); creates training and education programs for judges, attorneys, and law enforcement; makes recommendations for forensic science education; creates recommendations for medicolegal death investigation; creates an anonymous reporting system; plans for interoperability of databases and technologies; creates a code of ethics; and generates a needs assessment.

Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV), Chair of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, introduced his Forensic Science and Standards Act of 2014 (S. 2022) on February 11. A subsequent working draft, dated March 7, was shared with the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO) for review by its members. The Rockefeller bill creates a National Forensic Science Research Initiative, a National Forensic Science Coordinating Office within the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), an Interagency Forensic Science Committee (NSF, NIST, DOJ, and others), Scientific Area Committees under NIST, and a National Commission on Forensic Science; generates a report on forensic science; creates a Unified Federal Research Strategy and a five-year roadmap; creates research grant programs (NSF); develops research centers and a center of excellence; creates research challenges; establishes forensic science standards; and promotes accreditation and certification.

We believe that each bill would be valuable to the forensic science community. Both bills offer certain advantages over the other, but each would advance interests of the forensic science community, is friendly to the forensic science community, and would permit broad participation of state and local practitioners. The bills are not necessarily mutually exclusive, as one is directed primarily to the OSTP, NIST, and NSF, and the other is directed primarily to DOJ and NIST. The Rockefeller bill focuses on research and standards setting, the Leahy bill focuses on mandatory accreditation, mandatory certification, standards setting, research and several other items. In general, the Leahy bill is more specific, is more mature, and probably has greater political support, while the Rockefeller bill is less specific. At this moment, it appears that Senator Leahy’s bill has bipartisan and bicameral support, while Senator Rockefeller’s bill has neither. It should be noted that Senator Rockefeller will retire at the end of this session.

continued on page 31
In Memoriam: Distinguished Fellow Gil Brogdon

It is with great fondness that we remember Byron “Gil” Brogdon, our colleague and friend, who died March 28 at his home in Mobile, AL, at the age of 85. Dr. Brogdon, recipient of the AAFS Distinguished Fellow in 2001, was a Fellow in the General Section and beloved mentor. During his outstanding career of more than 50 years, Dr. Brogdon became a leading international authority on radiology. He attended the University of Arkansas where he earned the degree Doctor of Medicine in 1952. A Medical Officer (Radiologist and Flight Surgeon), Dr. Brogdon was discharged from the Air Force in 1961 bearing the rank of Major. From the time of his discharge, he served the medical community both in academic and administrative appointments to notable institutions such as the Johns Hopkins University, the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, and the University of South Alabama, College of Medicine. Dr. Brogdon’s distinguished career included visiting professorships, guest lectureships, and consultations worldwide, and he authored or co-authored over 275 publications and scientific papers, including Forensic Radiology (1998). This benchmark was a milestone in the forensic community and became a standard reference for practitioners and educators alike worldwide. Dr. Brogdon was an active participant and speaker at AAFS annual meetings following his election to the AAFS in 1988; he was promoted to Member in 1990 and to Fellow in 1992. Just as his contributions to the field of medicine were numerous, so were his dedication and service to the AAFS and the Forensic Sciences Foundation. Dr. Brogdon served on the Journal of Forensic Sciences Editorial Board for 15 years and as a valuable member of the FSF-AAFS Continuing Education Committee for ten years. His many contributions to the General Section and AAFS were recognized in 1995 with the presentation of the prestigious General Section’s John R. Hunt Award. He served on the Forensic Sciences Foundation Board of Trustees for eight years and was co-editor of the ever-popular FSF Career Brochure, “So You Want to be A Forensic Scientist.” Dr. Brogdon was an accomplished singer and enjoyed ballroom dancing with Babs, his wife of 33 years, who died two-and-a-half years ago. Gil is survived by his children, several grandchildren, and his beloved rescue dog “Fergus.”

President’s Message cont.

President Barry Logan (Chair), President-Elect Victor Weedn, Treasurer Betty Layne DesPortes, and the Criminalistics Section’s Representative on the Board of Directors Lucy Davis. This committee is networking at the highest levels of our government in Washington, DC, to promote the interests of the AAFS in current legislation that will shape the future of forensic science in the United States. For more details, see Victor Weedn’s “Washington Corner” article in this issue of the Academy News.

New Traditions
In keeping with the idea of honoring our traditions, I would like to solicit your ideas for some new Academy traditions. Some of the events that make the Academy meetings so exciting and unique are traditions like the Bring Your Own Slides, the Last Word Society, and the Annual Thomas Krauss Memorial Bitemark Breakfast. I would like to see the Academy create some new traditions along those lines that can become part of our legacy for the future. All ideas are welcome. How about Cereal Homicide for Breakfast? You can submit ideas directly to me at dan.martell@aafs.org.

AAFS Headquarters Visit
Finally, I had the great pleasure to visit the AAFS headquarters in Colorado Springs during the last week of March. The Academy staff, led by Executive Director Anne Warren, gave me a grand tour of the facility and offered me the opportunity to sit down with each of them individually to discuss plans for the coming year. We shared a pizza lunch in the Hall of Presidents and they treated me to a very warm and fun visit. I cannot say enough about how hard the Academy staff works to ensure the smooth operation of our organization. They make enormous tasks seem easy by virtue of their diligence, organization, and talent. I want to extend my personal thanks to each of them. Thank you!
Celebrating The Forensic Science Family

Jurisprudence: Learning From Each Other

Source: Christine Funk, JD, Jurisprudence Section Chair

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in the articles contained in the Academy News are those of the identified authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Academy.

At the Academy meeting in Seattle, the Jurisprudence Section was delighted to play host to speakers from almost all of the other ten sections of the Academy. In speaking with others, it is clear that the Jurisprudence Section was also host to many attendees from other sections.

With Donald Shelton and Lauri Traub as Section Program Chair and Co-Chair, it is expected that this tradition will continue in Orlando at the 2015 meeting.

The theme of the 2015 meeting, Celebrating the Forensic Science Family, is particularly meaningful to the Jurisprudence Section. While other sections focus on their specialty, be it Pathology/Biology, Questioned Documents, or Digital & Multimedia Sciences, the lawyers need to be familiar with all of the disciplines in order to effectively evaluate the strength - or weaknesses - of a given case. In recent years, the Jurisprudence Section has worked hard to foster a relationship with the other sections of the Academy, inviting speakers from various disciplines to educate us, enlighten us, and yes, occasionally engage in spirited debate.

Like any family, we have our share of differences, misunderstandings, and perhaps lost opportunities for growth in the past. However, at the end of the day, every member of the Academy wants to achieve the same core value - making sure the forensic science admitted in court is based on sound, scientific principles and the work done in each case is of a quality above reproach. At the same time, we all want to make sure that “bad science” is not admitted for consideration.

In celebrating President Daniel Martell’s vision, we focus on honoring the mentors and traditions, learning from each other, and stimulating our future. I am grateful to my many mentors in the Academy, who by and large were quite patient with me as I took my first wobbly steps into the forensic science sandbox. Concepts such as, “If it isn’t written down, it didn’t happen;” “Science is reproducible;” and, “Science is verifiable” were foreign to me when I left law school. Being mentored, both by fellow lawyers interested in forensics and forensic scientists, slowly brought me along.

The Academy meeting is one of the best ways I know to learn from others in our extended forensic science family. Each year, I am honored to see program submissions to the Jurisprudence Section from various other sections. It has taken a bit of time to get the word out, but I believe this past meeting in Seattle has left no doubt, the Jurisprudence Section welcomes programming from all disciplines. There is so much to learn. And who better to learn it from than our fellow Academy members? Likewise, I was delighted to see the large number of non-Jurisprudence members listening to talks in the Jurisprudence Section meeting rooms. By learning from each other, we begin to stimulate our future.

Our future, of course, is determined by our choices today. We seem to be on a path where we are ready and willing to engage in open discourse about our disciplines, including our strengths and our weaknesses. As long as we remain transparent, as long as we remain in conversation with each other, our future is certain to include our shared goal – good science. As with every spring, I look forward to seeing the submissions to the Jurisprudence Section for program consideration. If you haven’t presented to our section in the past, please consider doing so this year. There is so much for us to learn. Your voice can stimulate our future.

In Memoriam

B.G. “Gil” Brogdon, MD, Fellow of the General Section, March 2014
Joseph P. McNally, Jr., BA, Associate Member of the Questioned Documents Section, September 2013
John Pless, MD, Fellow of the Pathology/Biology Section, March 2014
Celebrating The Forensic Science Family

Pathology/Biology: Honoring Our Mentors and Remembering Our Roots

Source: Kathryn H. Haden-Pinneri, MD, Pathology/Biology Section Chair

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in the articles contained in the Academy News are those of the identified authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Academy.

The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.
-William Arthur Ward

The ever-changing and evolving field of forensic science creates an environment of lifelong learning. The uniqueness of each case, despite any initial similarities, adds depth to the fundamental knowledge base of forensic scientists allowing them to build upon their experiences and apply that knowledge to future casework. Along those same lines, the experience and knowledge of seasoned, more established scientists is critical to training those new to the profession. Many important skills, techniques, and decision-making tools can only be learned from the experiences of others in our field. These mentors, dedicated to the education and recruitment of future generations, are critical for the inspiration of others and the continued growth of the forensic science family.

The definition of a family typically involves co-habitation of some sort, usually between parents and their children or between other blood-related relatives. Since most of us are not blood relatives, nor do we live together, our “family” is better defined as a group of people who share common attitudes, interests, or goals.1 Another definition that loosely fits is “all those persons considered as descendents of a common progenitor.”1 Our forensic family tree has a thick, well-defined trunk with deeply embedded roots that have fostered the growth of many branches, which in turn, have grown new branches, and so on. The depth and strength of our roots continue to hold our tree strong allowing for more and more new growth in modern times.

Alan R. Moritz, MD, president of AAFS in 1956-57, is considered one of the founders of forensic pathology in the United States. His publications dating back to 1956 and 1957 are still referenced today. The Handbook of Legal Medicine, published in 1936, was one of the first of its kind and his paper “Classical Mistakes in Forensic Pathology,” published a year later in the American Journal of Clinical Pathology, is required reading in most forensic pathology fellowships.2 At Harvard Medical School, he helped organize the Department of Legal Medicine and began training future forensic scientists including homicide detectives and forensic pathologists. Those pathologists who had the privilege of his tutelage have since gone on to train many other forensic pathologists. Close to half of all American forensic pathologists can be traced back to Dr. Moritz. Thus, he forms not only one of the deepest roots of our tree, but also part of the thick, solid trunk. “Descendants” of Dr. Moritz have gone to other countries and undoubtedly helped educate forensic scientists all over the world.

One of Dr. Moritz’s students forms a large part of the trunk of our forensic family tree. Russell S. Fisher became a world-renowned forensic pathologist, serving as the chief medical examiner for the state of Maryland from 1949-1984, president of the AAFS in 1960-61, and author of one of the most well known forensic pathology textbooks. He was described as a “hands-on” educator and many of the forensic pathologists he trained became chief medical examiners across the country.3 Among those are Charles Hirsch, Charles Petty (AAFS President 1967-68) Vincent DiMaio, Joshua Perper, Cyril Wecht (AAFS President 1971-72), Werner Spitz, and Dr. Stanley Durlacher. Dr. Durlacher, who was appointed as the first chief medical examiner in Miami, FL, went on to train another forensic great, Joseph Davis (AAFS President 1981-82). A forensic pathologist lineage diagram developed by Randy Hanzlick and William (Bill) Oliver in 2010 showed that Dr. Fisher directly trained a total of 15 forensic pathologists - a large number given that few forensic pathology training programs were in existence at that time.4 Those 15 forensic pathologists trained approximately 70 other forensic pathologists who then trained almost 200 more forensic pathologists...and the trend continues for two more generations.4

Another trainee of Dr. Moritz is Lester Adelson, who became the pathologist and chief deputy coroner for Cuyahoga County in Cleveland, OH, a position he retained until his retirement in 1987. He spoke out in support of gun control and the need for child abuse laws. As Professor of Forensic Pathology at Case Western Reserve University, he instructed many students through the medicine and law program. Dr. Adelson trained nine forensic pathologists, who then trained 17 more, four of whom became training program directors. Of those four, three of their trainees became training directors. It is evident that the love of teaching and mentoring was passed down through the generations.

The third influential trainee of Dr. Moritz is Richard Ford who succeeded him at the Department of Legal Medicine at Harvard University. Dr. Ford was influential in training Richard Page Hudson who then trained 13 forensic pathologists, three of whom subsequently became training directors. This branch of our family tree continues on for two more generations, producing at least 13 more pathologists. The list of generations and number of individuals trained is summarized in the table on page 31, along with five other important hierarchy groups. An article of this size does not allow for a complete listing of the forensic pathologist lineage. Suffice it to say that many have made significant contributions to our field through their training and education of others and a lack of specific mention in this article should not diminish that fact.

continued on page 32
A Word From Your 2015 Program Co-Chair

What an opportunity it is to comment and expand upon the theme of our upcoming 2015 meeting in Orlando, Celebrating the Forensic Science Family. It seems wholly appropriate that we will be celebrating our metaphorical family of forensic scientists in one of the most family-friendly venues in America. Why not plan to join our family of colleagues at, and perhaps bring your own family to, our 67th Annual Scientific Meeting, February 16-21, 2015?

Expanding on our meeting theme, President Daniel Martell has outlined three major subthemes: honoring our mentors and traditions, learning from each other, and stimulating the future. It’s uncanny how faithfully our figurative forensic family mirrors our more traditional families. We honor our forensic family traditions and the knowledge passed down from our mentors—much in the way we might regard the wisdom imparted by our parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. As we grow and develop as scientists and practitioners, we learn from each other—not unlike the formative years of our lives when we learned from our siblings and cousins. And as we continue on in our careers, who among us would not want to be that special mentor that sparked the interest in a bright young mind and helped launch that next generation of future forensic scientists?

I’d like to focus on one particular sub-theme: “Learning From Each Other.” The Academy, unlike almost any other professional association, represents such a broad array of disciplines that it is impossible to attend a meeting and leave without being awed, inspired, and enlightened by the work in fields far from your own. Making my way through the various sections’ scientific sessions at our recently concluded meeting, I was struck by how many interdisciplinary presentations were being given. Learning from each other is one of the most important functions of the Academy’s annual meeting, and we should strive to maximize this in 2015. As you prepare your abstracts, ask yourself if perhaps reaching out to another section might result in cross-pollination, elicit a vigorous discussion, or trigger a whole new line of inquiry in an unexplored area of forensic science. As ideas for workshops germinate, why not think laterally as far as possible, engaging scientists and speakers from as broad a range of sections as you can imagine? And when you attend the meeting, why not take the time to attend another section’s scientific session or a workshop in a field far-removed (or so it seems) from your own. It is this collaborative spirit that will not only enhance our learning, but be the birthplace of new ideas.

Like family members I don’t get to see as often as I’d like, so it goes with me—and perhaps you as well—that our annual meeting represents an opportunity to enjoy the company of some of my favorite colleagues across many different fields. While the science of what we do is what drives each of us every day, there is no denying that the personal bonds we have formed with our fellow AAFS members over the years, and the collegiality we share, is the family-like atmosphere that makes our meetings so pleasurable.

continued on page 8

Andrew M. Baker, MD
2015 Annual Meeting Program Co-Chair
Program Co-Chair cont.

Make a note that our abstract submission deadline is firmly set for August 1. Please think about how you can share your knowledge—as presentations, on posters, in workshops—as widely as possible with your forensic family as you prepare for our 2015 meeting. As always, detailed instructions for abstract submissions and meeting registration will be on the AAFS website (www.aafs.org), and the intrepid AAFS staff is never more than a phone call or email away.

I could not be more honored than I am to be working with our 2015 Program Chair, Ken Williams, from whom I have already learned much and who is quickly becoming a mentor to me as his co-chair. Ken and I look forward to seeing you in Orlando!

AAFS Continuing Education Needs Identified

Attendees at the 66th Annual Scientific Meeting in Seattle, WA, identified the following comprehensive list of recommended abstract topics needed for the upcoming annual meeting in Orlando:

- Best practices for each discipline, especially collaborative efforts between the Pathology/Biology and General Sections;
- Child abuse assessment/macroscopic findings and aging of fractures;
- Culture sensitive considerations - how to understand other cultures in order to better understand problems/solutions;
- Demonstration of cardiac dissection;
- Elder abuse, neglect, sudden death, cause of death;
- Ethics;
- Fire debris research;
- Forensic microbiology that focuses on organisms that cause/contribute to death – old and new methods to identify these organisms – emerging infections and technology;
- Forensic psychiatry and the prison system and victims of crimes;
- How to deal with law enforcement at DA offices;
- How to perform bitemark analysis with Photoshop;
- Improving safety procedures for autopsy and/or body handling personnel;
- Molecular pathology;
- Professional liability when performing identifications;
- QA projects and PI activities;
- Questioned documents - updates regarding paper, ink, pens, toners, type faces, printing, new techniques and methods;
- Required instruction for Rx prescribing;
- Systemic review of forensic pathology cases;
- Toxicology - effects (possibly fatal?) of super concentrated cannabinoids aka “wax;”
- Training in CISD and other take-home techniques;
- Using science in civil court presentations – cases and techniques; and,
- Veterinary.

AAFS Topics of Interest and CE Needs Requested

What topics should be addressed at the Academy’s 67th Annual Scientific Meeting? AAFS members are asked to send suggestions for topics of interest and continuing education needs for the AAFS 2015 Annual Scientific Meeting to the Academy headquarters. All responses received will be communicated to the program committee members when they commence their review of abstract submissions. Take this opportunity to have a voice on the program content in Orlando, FL; send your suggestions today. Please contact Sondra Doolittle (sdoolittle@aafs.org) at the AAFS office.

20th World Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences

Source: Daniel A. Martell, PhD, AAFS President

The 20th World Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) will convene in Seoul, Korea, from October 13-18. The theme of the meeting is “New Horizons in Forensic Sciences.” AAFS has a long tradition of participation in the IAFS meetings, and we look forward to continuing that tradition in Seoul. IAFS President, Heesun Chung, has extended a personal invitation to members of the AAFS to present their research during a special AAFS showcase during the meeting.

As president of the Academy, it will be my great privilege to lead our delegation to this historic meeting. Anyone interested in presenting a paper at the IAFS meeting is encouraged to contact me directly in order to coordinate the submission of abstracts for the program. Send your submission to: IAFS@aafs.org.

The deadline for submissions is May 31, with acceptance notifications to be sent by July 9. The official IAFS website can be found at www.wf2014korea.org.
AAFS Guidelines for Poster Presentations

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

AAFS Poster Presentation Format Is As Follows:
- Presenting authors are asked to have their posters ready for display at 9:00 a.m. for attendee viewing.
- Presenting authors will be required to be present from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to answer questions.
- Posters should be removed no later than 1:15 p.m.
- AAFS or its representatives will verify poster presentations during the hours of 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Authors who display a poster but do not present materials during required hours will not get credit for the poster presentations.
- Presenters should make arrangements with a co-author to cover lunch or breaks, or the presenting author should lunch or break before or after the 11:30 – 1:00 time period.
- Authors are also encouraged to bring reprints for distribution during the session and may wish to bring sign-up sheets for attendees who desire additional information.

Content:
The poster presentation should cover all key aspects of the work and contain the following items:
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions
- References

Presentation Format:
- Extensive narratives are not necessary. Short, “bulleted” statements are preferred.
- Results presented in the form of figures, diagrams, graphs, etc., are preferred, but may be presented in clear, concise tabular format.
- Statistical data should be titled and summarized in a clear, concise format.
- Material should be displayed in a logical sequence from top left to bottom right. Number all poster panels or use arrows so that the sequence of presentation is clear.
- All type should be a minimum of 14 pt and readable from a distance of 3-4 feet. Use standard type styles (e.g., Arial, Helvetica, Times New Roman).
- All poster panels should be printed with a laser or other high quality printer.
- The display does not need to be “artsy,” but the overall effectiveness of a poster presentation can be enhanced by using techniques such as mounting poster panels on colored paper or crescent board. Colors may be used to highlight important points.

AAFS Policy On Abstracts and Presentations

Presentations at AAFS Annual Scientific Meetings and corresponding abstracts must be formulated to promote education and to elevate accuracy, precision, and specificity in the forensic sciences. Presentations or abstracts which promote a commercial product, company, entity, or service are not allowed at AAFS Annual Scientific Meetings. Presentations by commercial entities shall be limited to the science and not to an advertisement or promotion of their products over that of a competitor. Any abstract or presentation that is perceived by a section program chair or the Academy Program Chair as a product endorsement will not be approved for presentation at the meeting. A presentation given at a meeting that, in the opinion of the section program chair or the Academy Program Chair, is a product endorsement may result in the presenter and corresponding company being barred from making presentations at future AAFS meetings.

Under the pre-condition that, in the submission process, authors must still disclose any specific references to products with commercial names, presentations and abstracts are allowed to mention a product by name only in the context of describing a scientific methodology or the source of sample. For example, specimens often have unique physical or chemical properties that are the key to their identification or analysis (e.g., Dacron fibers, Glock rifling, 3M tapes, explosive formulations, coating materials, etc.). It is appropriate for those materials to be specifically identified since they are relevant to the scientific results or references to specific reagents or instrumentation validated for use in the analytical procedure being presented where the use of a different product may affect the outcome of the analysis (e.g., Identifiler™ Amplification Kit, Agilent 5860 GC, HP-1 column, Olympus BHP microscope, etc.).

AAFS reserves the right to remove commercial references not disclosed by the author.
AAFS Guidelines For Presentations Using An LCD Projector

IMPORTANT MESSAGE:
Computers are not automatically provided by the AAFS. However, the section you are assigned to present before may coordinate this effort and have a computer available for your use at the meeting. Otherwise, it will be your responsibility to provide a laptop computer for your presentation. All inquiries should be addressed to your presenting section’s program chair.

PREPARING YOUR PRESENTATION:
- Microsoft PowerPoint® 2003 or later is highly recommended. Other versions of PowerPoint and programs may be difficult to support at the conference. If the current version of Microsoft products is used to create the presentation, save the file as a PowerPoint 2003 version. If using MS Word, do not save the document as a “.docx” file (extension). Save the file as a “.doc” file (extension).
- Dark background and light text provide acceptable contrast and display well in the darkened meeting room. Avoid distracting or otherwise hard to read color combinations such as red and blue, and yellow and green.
- Arial, Times New Roman, or Helvetica are the recommended font styles. Avoid using fonts that project poorly. Unusual or custom fonts may not be available on the host computer.
- Use as large a font as possible and fill the screen. Anything less than 24 is too small. Suggested font sizes are Titles: 48-54, Main text titles: 32, Smallest text lines: 24.
- Keep your presentation simple. Do not crowd the frame. Limit the number of text lines per frame to a maximum of seven lines, with no more than 30 characters per line.
- Use simple graphs and illustrations with a minimum of captions. Avoid using thin lines, dots, dashes, or other specialty lines.
- Verify your computer resolution by going to your computer’s control panel, selecting “Display” then “Settings.” The recommended resolution is 1024 x 768.
- Avoid the use of commercial messages (e.g., logo), and video and audio clips unless requested previously in the abstract submission.
- Save your presentation on a CD-ROM or jump/flash drive. Always test your presentation on another computer to verify file compatibility, layout, and style.

IF YOU PLAN TO USE YOUR OWN COMPUTER WITH THE LCD PROJECTOR AT THE MEETING (ONLY IF ALLOWED BY SECTION):
- Test your presentation with the LCD projection unit provided in the speaker ready room.
- You must report to your assigned room at least 30 minutes before the session is scheduled to begin (not your scheduled presentation time). Introduce yourself to the session moderators. Bring your presentation on a USB Drive or CD-ROM that is clearly labeled with your name. Please contact your presenting section’s Program Chair for these details.
- If allowed, each section will provide specific instructions by email prior to the meeting.
- You will be given instructions on when to connect to the LCD projection unit.

2014 FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Winner:
Nicolene Lottering, BS

The 15th Annual FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award paper competition was hosted in Seattle, WA. Nicolene Lottering, BS, was selected as the 2014 winner by a panel of judges for her oral presentation entitled, “Temporal Characterization of Ossification of the Crania in Australian Subadults: New Standards for Age Estimation Using Computed Tomography.” Congratulations to Ms. Lottering who will receive expense reimbursement to attend the 67th Annual Scientific Meeting in Orlando.

The deadline for paper submission of the 16th Annual FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award is August 1. Please see page 14 for submission guidelines.
FSF Acorn and Lucas Research Grants: June 15 Deadline

The FSF Acorn Grants (up to and including $1,000) and Lucas Grants (up to and including $5,000) are intended to help the investigator/researcher initiate original in-depth problem-oriented research. These grants are open to members and affiliates (at any level) of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Each research proposal must include:

• An abstract - not to exceed three pages for Acorn Grants or five pages for Lucas Grants. Abstracts must contain a well-developed title and the research question. Research must be creative and unique. Research conducted as a follow-up to a previous study is discouraged. 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. 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.
• A brief literature review of not more than 10 references pertinent to the subject of the research.
• A detailed budget. Funding requests may not include requests for travel, equipment, bibliographic preparation, routine agency operations, including salary of investigators/researchers or assistants. Applicants must disclose if funding for this project is being sought from other/additional sources.
• A timetable and a specific plan for dissemination of results. The dissemination plan and timetable must be compatible with the annual schedule of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and its meeting date in February. The grants are awarded in the late fall; presentation will be at the meeting in two years. Example: If the grant request is submitted in 2014, and awarded in late 2014-15, the presentation cannot be made until the 2016 meeting or (if two years in length) at the 2017 meeting.
• Disclosure. Applicants must disclose current or previous FSF research grants awarded to any of the investigators.
• CVs from all involved. One investigator, preferably the Principal Investigator, must be an affiliate or member of the AAFS.

All submissions must be received and completed by June 15. All research proposals must be submitted by the individual conducting the research. If a proposal is submitted for funding of a master’s thesis, the proposal must be submitted by the student NOT by the academic advisor or other academic supporter.

Submissions that do not meet the aforementioned requirements or deadline will be automatically disqualified.

Please submit the aforementioned Acorn Grant or Lucas Grant Requirements electronically to Kimberly Wrasse at kwrasse@aafs.org, or by mail to: Kimberly Wrasse, FSF, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance Grant: July 31 Deadline

Purpose: The Jan Grant Award 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.

Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance Grant Eligibility Requirements:

• 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 is $1,700. In addition, up to $1,300 is available for travel expenses to attend a future AAFS Annual Meeting where the awardee has an approved platform presentation of the completed research. The funding must be used to complete the research project.

Application: Please complete the application (on page 33) and submit with the required attachments outlined in Part II on the application form.

All submissions must be received and completed by July 31. Please submit the aforementioned Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance Grant Eligibility Requirements electronically to Kimberly Wrasse at kwrasse@aafs.org, or by mail to: Kimberly Wrasse, FSF, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

Academy News
FSF Henry C. Lee Scholarship for International AAFS Annual Meeting Attendees: August 1 Deadline

Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

- Only members or affiliates of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences who have never attended an annual meeting and who reside outside of North America are eligible for the Scholarship Award.
- The member or affiliate awardee must, at a minimum, have been voted into the AAFS at the preceding meeting (if not previously) and must have at least one year of experience in forensic science.
- The applicant must have submitted an abstract for the AAFS 2015 program through the online submission system or Call For Papers form. In the awards section, check the box indicating “the paper should be considered for the FSF Henry C. Lee Scholarship.” Once requested, the abstract will be reviewed by the FSF Henry C. Lee Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship Amount: The FSF Henry C. Lee Scholarship is $1,000.

The committee chair will notify the AAFS no later than October 25, and the Awardee notification will be transmitted no later than November 1.

FSF Student Affiliate Scholarships: August 1 Deadline

The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) will fund a limited number of AAFS Student Affiliate registrations for the 2015 American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Meeting through a “Scholarship Program.”

To qualify for the scholarship, AAFS Student Affiliates must submit an abstract for the AAFS 2015 program through the online submission system or Call For Papers form. In the awards section (5b), check the box indicating “FSF Student Affiliate Scholarship.” Applicants for the Student Affiliate Scholarship may apply only once each year (e.g., the applicant must designate only one abstract as the SA Scholarship entry in the submission system). The abstract will then be reviewed by the FSF Student Affiliate Scholarship Committee.

The scholarship abstracts need not be selected for presentation at the meeting, though this could be deemed advantageous by the selection committee. The scholarships will be awarded through the committee’s evaluation of the quality and relevance of the abstracts to the advancement of forensic science by AAFS Student Affiliates. The deadline for submission is August 1.

FSF Travel Grants: October 15 Deadline

The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) is pleased to offer Travel Grants for students to assist with travel expenses in attending the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL. The FSF Board of Trustees has allocated $10,500, not to exceed $1,500 per student, including complimentary meeting registration. This is a wonderful opportunity, and members are encouraged to promote it.

Travel Grant Eligibility Requirements:

1. The applicant must either be an AAFS member/affiliate or an AAFS applicant for membership.
2. The applicant must have submitted an abstract either as a presenter or co-author for the annual meeting he/she will be attending.
3. 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.
4. The applicant must have a letter of recommendation from his/her advisor or professor.
5. The applicant must submit a 400-600 word essay explaining how attendance at an AAFS meeting will impact his/her career decision.
6. The applicant must submit a curriculum vitae to include specifics regarding their involvement in forensic science and their current grade point average.

All submissions must be completed and received by October 15. The deadline is firm with no extension. Incomplete submissions will not be reviewed. Please submit the aforementioned Travel Grant Requirements electronically to Kimberly Wrasse at kwrasse@aafs.org, or by mail to: Kimberly Wrasse, FSF, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.
Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance 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.

Name of Undergraduate School ___________________________________ Full/Part Time _______ Hours Earned Sem _______ Qtr _______

Major __________________________________________ Dates Attended From (mo/yr) ___________ To (mo/yr) ___________

Level of Degree Earned ___________________________ Graduation Date (mo/yr) ___________

Name of Graduate School __________________________________________ Full/Part Time _______ Hours Earned Sem _______ Qtr _______

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.

(Attachment V) Most recent cumulative college/university transcripts for your undergraduate and graduate degree(s).

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 ___________________________

Academy News
16th Annual FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award (EFSA) Competition

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 16th 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 August 1, 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. Multiple abstracts may be submitted for the Program Committee’s review; however, once the Program Committee approves abstracts for presentation, one abstract must be designated by the presenter as an EFSA entry. If multiple abstracts are submitted for review and one abstract is not designated by the presenter as an EFSA entry, none of the abstracts will be considered by the EFSA Review Committee.

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 2016 AAFS Annual Business Meeting in Las Vegas, NV.

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 2015. 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 August 1.

THE AWARD: The award will cover the expense of the recipient’s attendance at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV, including registration, up to $1,000 for airfare, lodging while in attendance at the annual meeting not to exceed five nights, and up to $75 per diem. A commemorative plaque will also be presented to the award winner at the 2016 AAFS Annual Business Meeting in Las Vegas.

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 __________________________

Email __________________________

Send this form by August 1 to: AAFS 2015 Program Committee

410 North 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 __________________________

Academy News
Announcement and Call For Papers
67th Annual Scientific Meeting
February 16-21, 2015 — Orlando, Florida

2015 Annual Meeting
The 67th Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) will be held February 16-21, 2015, in Orlando, Florida.
The Program Committee solicits the submission of abstracts on topics of interest to the forensic science community. August 1, 2014, is the deadline for the submission of abstracts.
Scientific papers selected for presentation will be divided into two groups:
• Plottform Presentation (standard scientific session)
• Poster Session
The Program Committee will select appropriate abstracts from those submitted by the August 1, 2014 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.
To submit your abstract online, 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, 2014. Meeting registration materials will be sent to presenting authors.

Oral Presentations
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.

Poster Presentations
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.

General Information
Abstract Length
A single spaced, one page length document containing a minimum of 400 words to a maximum of 700 words is required. Please attach additional sheet(s) if needed.

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.

General Information cont.
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.

Illustrations
All tables and graphs should be converted to grayscale.

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 basic registration fee for the annual meeting.

Commercial & Conflict of Interest
Commercial Interest
Commercial Interests are any proprietary entity producing goods or services, as well as any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services, used on, or consumed by, patients. Providers of clinical service directly to patients are not considered commercial interests.

Conflict of Interest
Circumstances create a conflict of interest when an individual has an opportunity to affect CME content about products or services of a commercial interest with which he/she has a financial relationship.

Journal of Forensic Sciences
The Journal of Forensic Sciences encourages authors to submit all previously unpublished reports and papers presented at the Academy’s annual meeting. Please submit your manuscripts electronically to http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jofs.

AAFS Abstract Policy
Presentations at AAFS annual meetings and corresponding abstracts must be formulated to promote education and to elevate accuracy, precision, and specificity in the forensic sciences. Presentations or abstracts which promote a commercial product, company, entity or service will not be allowed at AAFS annual meetings. Presentations by commercial entities shall be limited to the science and not to an advertisement or promotion of their product over that of a competitor. Any abstract or presentation that is perceived by a section program chair or the Academy Meeting Program Chair to be a product endorsement will not be approved for presentation at the Meeting. A presentation given at a Meeting that in the opinion of the section program chair or the Academy Meeting Program Chair to be a product endorsement may result in the presenter and corresponding company being barred from making presentations at future AAFS meetings.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION & LCD PROJECTION

Presentations and abstracts will be allowed to mention a product by name only in the context of describing a scientific methodology or the source of sample. For example, specimens often have unique physical or chemical properties that are the key to their identification or analysis (e.g., Dacron fibers, Glock rifling, 3M tapes, explosive formulations, coating materials, etc.). It is appropriate for those materials to be specifically identified since they are the relevant to the scientific results. Or references to specific reagents or instrumentation validated for use in the analytical procedure being presented where the use of a different product may affect the outcome of the analysis (e.g. Identifier™ Amplification Kit, Agilent 5860 GC, HP-1 column, Olympus BHP microscope, etc).

General Instructions

Content of Abstract
Your abstract should be informative, containing:
1. Abstracts should NOT be written in the first person.
3. The Learning Objectives.
4. A sentence statement of the paper’s hypothesis or proposition.
5. A brief synopsis of the content, or statement of the methods, whichever is pertinent.
6. A summary of the results obtained, if pertinent.
7. A general statement of conclusion, if possible.
8. A minimum of one-half page single spaced (approximately 400 words) to a maximum of one full page (approximately 700 words) in length. Abstracts exceeding the full page maximum will not be printed in the AAFS Proceedings.
9. Three key words.
10. A brief statement of how your presentation will impact the attendees in terms of: competence (ability), performance (competence put into action), or patient outcomes (if applicable).

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.

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

NOTE: In order for your paper to be considered for presentation you are required to complete ALL areas of this form. Incomplete information will be returned to the author for completion. To submit his/her abstract online, go to the AAFS website at: www.aafs.org.

1. Presentation Choice:  □ Oral  □ Poster  □ Breakfast Seminar  □ Luncheon

2. Section Selection: Please circle the session in which you desire to present a paper: Anthropology, Criminalistics, Digital & Multimedia Sciences, Engineering Sciences, General, Jurisprudence, Odontology, Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, Questioned Documents, Toxicology, Last Word Society.

3. Amount of Time Required: ____________________________________________________________

4. Presenting Author, Name, & Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

   Telephone # (______)  Fax # (______)  Email ____________________________________________

5. Is the presenting author an AAFS member/affiliate or applicant?  □ Yes  □ No  If yes, AAFS ID # ____________________________________________

   a. If AAFS member/affiliate/applicant, please list section affiliation:

   b. Is abstract a candidate for: Anthropology Ellis R. Kerley Award?  □ Yes  □ No

   Anthropology J.L. Angel Student Award?  □ Yes  □ No

   FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award?  □ Yes  □ No

   FSF Henry C. Lee Scholarship?  □ Yes  □ No

   FSF Student Affiliate Scholarship?  □ Yes  □ No

   General Section Achievement Award?  □ Yes  □ No

   Pathology/Biology Best Biology Trainee Award?  □ Yes  □ No (publication ready manuscript required)

   Pathology/Biology Best Resident Paper?  □ Yes  □ No (publication ready manuscript required)

   Toxicology Section Best Poster Award?  □ Yes  □ No

6. Co-Author(s) Name(s), Address(es), and Business Affiliation: (attach additional sheet if required)

7. Has this paper been presented or published before?  □ Yes  □ No

   If yes, where and when? ___________________________________________________________

8. Audio/Visual Requirements: Each room will be equipped with a screen, electronic pointer, lectern microphone, and an LCD projector. All additional equipment must be requested and is subject to approval by the Section Chair.

   □ Other Equipment Requested: ______________________________________________________

9. AAFS Policy on Full Disclosure of Faculty Financial Interests or Relationships

   It is the policy of the Continuing Education Program of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences to ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all its educational activities. All faculty participating in these programs are expected to disclose to the program audiences:

   (1) any real or apparent conflict(s) of interest related to the content of their presentations, (2) discussion of unapproved (unlabeled) uses of pharmaceuticals/medical devices, and (3) ongoing research (preliminary) data. The intent of this disclosure is not to prevent a speaker with a financial or other relationship from making a presentation, but rather to provide listeners with information on which they can make their own judgments about the presentation. Additionally, disclosure for you and/or your spouse should include any relationships with entities that resell, distribute, and/or market health care products used on or by patients. It is also the policy of the AAFS that all speakers must disclose whether non-FDA approved uses of pharmaceutical products or medical devices are included in the presentation. In keeping with this procedure, the faculty or preserver is required to complete and sign the following disclosure statements:

   I. Will your presentation include any discussion of commercial products or services?  □ Yes  □ No

      If yes, please list all manufacturer(s) or provider(s) and describe the nature of the relationship(s) (attach additional pages as needed):

   II. Is this activity/presentation financially supported?  □ Yes  □ No  If yes, by whom? _________________________________ and in what form? □ Grant Support □ Paid Consultant □ Employee □ Shareholder □ Speakers Bureau

   III. Does this presentation include the discussion or use of unapproved (unlabeled) pharmaceuticals/medical devices and/or ongoing research?  □ Yes  □ No  If yes, please describe (attach additional pages as needed):

      Disclosed information will be made available to participants in the Final Program provided to all registrants.

10. Complete the following:

   a. Representatives of the media are allowed to record my presentation.  □ Yes  □ No

   b. I hereby acknowledge that my abstract will be published in the AAFS Proceedings if accepted for presentation. (Please initial) __________

   c. I acknowledge that I am required to comply with the AAFS guidelines for legible LCD projection and that structured abstracts are required. (Please initial) __________

   d. I acknowledge that all authors contributing on this paper have been properly cited. I understand that only the authors listed on this form and in the online system will appear in the printed materials (e.g., Programs, Proceedings). (Please initial) __________

   e. I acknowledge that any images to be presented will be accurate and will not misrepresent the outcome of treatment. (Please initial) __________

   f. I hereby acknowledge that if the paper described by the abstract is accepted for presentation, AAFS will acquire a non-exclusive copyright of the abstract. (Please initial) __________

   g. I understand that submission of this abstract is made with the commitment of the author(s) to present the paper at the AAFS Annual Meeting.

      Failure to present the paper without a valid excuse may result in its removal from the Proceedings, preclusion from future submissions, or both. (Please initial) __________

   I hereby acknowledge that I have read and comply with the requirements noted herein and that the information provided is true and correct.

   ____________________________________________  ____________________________________________

   Signature   Date

   (Abstract Form on Next Page)
ABSTRACT OF PAPER FOR 2015 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

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

- Type abstract, single spaced, 10 point size (or on attached separate page following format provided in Sample Abstract).
- **Do not type in all capital letters.** Type all copy, including title, author names, and addresses in upper and lower case; capitalize and punctuate exactly as you wish the abstract to appear.
- A single spaced, full-page length document (minimum 400 to 700 words) is required. Please attach an additional sheet if required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUTHORS</td>
<td>Name(s) and Address(es):</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please state what the attendee can expect to learn, retain, or implement into his or her practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT STATEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please state how your presentation will impact the attendees in terms of: competence (ability), performance (competence put into "action"), or patient outcomes (if applicable).

| TEXT |  |

**ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NEEDED**
The International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) Scholarship: Offered Through the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF)

**PURPOSE:** The IAFS is the international association focused on bringing together academics, managers, researchers, and scientists from around the world to discuss and debate issues focal to the forensic science disciplines. The IAFS proclaims its aims and objectives to be: “to develop forensic sciences; to assist forensic scientists and others to exchange scientific and technical information; and, to organize triennial meetings.” The FSF is interested in providing an opportunity for an AAFS member to experience this educational venture.

Therefore, the Forensic Sciences Foundation is offering a scholarship to help defray the expenses involved in attending the 20th World Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences that will be held in Seoul, Korea, October 15-17, 2014.

**CRITERIA TO ENTER:** If you have been a member of the AAFS for less than ten years (includes Associate Members, Members, and Fellows) and have never attended an IAFS meeting, you are eligible for this scholarship. In order to be considered, you must submit to the IAFS, and have accepted, a podium presentation for the 2014 IAFS meeting.

Within five (5) days of receiving the IAFS acceptance notice, the following items should be sent to Susan Ballou (susan.ballou@nist.gov), Chair of the IAFS Scholarship Committee:

1. A copy of your abstract.
2. A copy of the acceptance letter from IAFS.
3. A copy of your (up-to-date) curriculum vitae.

**SELECTION PROCESS:** A committee composed of four (4) FSF Trustees and two (2) AAFS section members will review the submissions. Abstracts will be judged on their technical merit, innovation, and impact to the community.

**AWARD:** The winner will receive up to $5,000 to cover the costs of airfare, registration, housing, and per diem of $75 for five (5) nights while in attendance at the meeting.

**IMPORTANT DATES:** The IAFS deadline for abstract submission is May 31. The IAFS program will send acceptance notification to the submitter by July 9. Once acceptance is received, send the requirements (1, 2, 3) listed under “Criteria to Enter” noted above to Susan Ballou (susan.ballou@nist.gov). The selected scholarship winner will be notified by July 31. The winner notification date is dependent on the static nature of the current IAFS timeline.

For more information on the abstract submission process, go to [www.iafs-2014.org](http://www.iafs-2014.org). For more information on the scholarship, please contact, Ronald Singer, at crimelab@flash.net.
Welcome to the AAFS Staff news page! Information from the staff may be found here throughout the year (e.g., membership, registration, meetings, etc.). This is to help our members and applicants with some of the frequently asked questions that staff receive. Please take a moment to review the topics below:

NEW MEMBERS, UPGRADERS, PROMOTIONS, AND RETIRED STATUS

Congratulations to all of our new Student Affiliates, Trainee Affiliates, Associate Members, Members, Fellows, Retired Members and Retired Fellows.

By now, all Student Affiliates, Trainee Affiliate, and Associate Members have received their welcome letters, along with a dues invoice (if new to the AAFS or upgrading from Student Affiliate). You can now go online to pay your dues and to print your new membership card. Contact the Membership Department (membership@aafs.org) if you need your login information. Please feel free to contact Membership Coordinator Cheryl Hunter (chunter@aafs.org) with any questions.

2014 AAFS DIRECTORY

We will start working on the AAFS Directory of Members and Affiliates in April/May. Please ensure that your directory information is correct by May 15. This includes name, degree(s), address, telephone number, and email address. Your 2014 dues must be paid by May 15 in order to receive and be listed in the AAFS Directory.

STAFF ANNIVERSARY

**Congratulations to:**

April: Debbie Crockett, 17 years
A common question the Forensic Science Education Program Accreditation Commission (FEPAC) receives regards the requirement for a thesis quality research project as opposed to a literature review or a non-thesis option. The FEPAC standards specifically describe the requirement for a formal research project for graduate programs in standard “5.3.1d Research.” The standard details the minimum requirements of a publishable-quality thesis, a research committee, and a dissertation-type presentation.

The need for research in forensic sciences is as important today as it has ever been. In the original drafting of the FEPAC standards based upon TWGED recommendations, purposeful emphasis was placed on ensuring that graduate programs contained a research component.


**Research Component**

The student is expected to conduct a research project, prepare a written report, and present the results of the research in a public forum prior to graduation. The research component of the program may include preparatory coursework in research methods and statistics. The ideal research project is well defined, stands a reasonable chance of completion in the time available, and requires the student to use advanced concepts and a variety of experimental techniques and instruments. Research in forensic science advances the body of knowledge and elevates the status of the profession.

The authors of the TWGED report clearly identified research as an integral part of a well-rounded graduate science education. Well-designed research projects do more for students than simply providing lab experience, they reinforce the scientific method — observation, conjecture, experimentation, and evaluation. It also prepares the future workforce with practical experience. Research projects that incorporate sound experimental design strengthen critical thinking about all aspects of essential tasks in the laboratory. For example, an important component of laboratory work is the development and validation of analytical methods that include considerations such as testing environment, sampling, uncertainty, experimental limitations, reporting, and so on.

An interesting survey article in *BioScience* (2011) 61 (2): 133-138, highlighted the need for graduate research in all scientific fields. The authors found discordance between the perception and strength of preparedness between students and employers in laboratory skills and the need for training in areas such as written communication skills, collecting and interpreting data, and speaking and presenting information. These are all areas that can be ameliorated through a sound research thesis and dissertation.

The vast majority of laboratories are publicly funded and restricted from conducting research by policy, personnel, or budgetary limitations. Some crime labs have managed to overcome this limitation through collaborative projects or agreements with their local colleges and universities. These arrangements generally prove to be mutually beneficial. The program benefits from the interaction and feedback from the professional community, potential placement of interns, and real-world knowledge from practitioners. The

*continued on page 32*
The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc., gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made to the Foundation and its Endowment Fund. Please accept our apologies if your name does not appear below and contact the AAFS office as soon as possible with the correction. This listing reflects contributions received from 07/01/13 through 04/01/14.

The Fund’s balance through 04/01/14 was $954,198.75. Additionally, the FSF Endowment Fund has provided $215,533.00 in awards and grants since its inception in 1990.

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Washington Corner cont.

The AAFS Board voted to support the NIST Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) effort. Both bills support NIST administration of the scientific committees responsible for standards setting. Rockefeller explicitly refers to Scientific Area Committees, but neither explicitly refers to OSAC or a Forensic Science Standards Board. Presumably, the statutory mandate of each bill for NIST administration and oversight of the committees or SACs can be construed to permit NIST to establish the full OSAC structure, while others might argue that the specific language to create the OSAC is not there—at least at the time of this writing.

The Leahy bill places its regulatory bureaucracy in DOJ (over which the Senate Judiciary Committee has jurisdiction) and then mandates a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NIST and a liaison with NSF (over which it does not have oversight). Specifically, Leahy’s bill establishes an Office of Forensic Sciences (OFS) within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General (ODAG), directed by a Director who shall have a background in science and appointed by the Attorney General. A MOU will be created between the DOJ and NIST and a NSF liaison will be appointed.

The Leahy Forensic Science Board (FSB) is composed of 17 members, presidentially appointed for six-year terms (can be reappointed once); 11 voting members are to have “comprehensive scientific backgrounds” > 6 extensive experience and background in scientific research, > extensive and current practical experience and background in forensic science, > board-certified forensic pathologist; the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) applies to the FSB. The FSB reports to the OFS Director. The FSB will develop a list of applicable forensic science disciplines. Rockefeller does not specify an equivalent oversight group, but presumably this is accomplished by NIST through their proposed Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB).

The Leahy Committees are composed of up to 21 members, all scientists, at least 50% of whom are researchers, appointed by NIST in consultation with the FSB and OFS Director. Recommendations of the Committees are approved by the FSB and OFS Director; the FSB and OFS Director can recommend modifications; rejections by the OFS Director must be accompanied by explanations for such to Congress. These committees are not subject to FACA.

The Rockefeller bill places its regulatory bureaucracy in the OSTP and NIST (both of which the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee has oversight). Specifically, Rockefeller creates a National Forensic Science Coordinating Office (NFSCO) within the OSTP and an Interagency Forensic Science Committee (IFSC) - NSF, NIST, DOJ, and others. The Director of the NFSCO is to be a senior manager for three years, rotating from various federal agencies participating in the National Forensic Science Research Initiative. The IFSC is to be co-directed by the NFSCO Director and another senior scientist.

The Rockefeller Scientific Area Committees (SACs) (in a previous draft referred to as Discipline-Specific Guidance Groups) are composed of practitioners, researchers, and statisticians; the size and terms are not specified, but will be determined by NIST. They report to the NIST Director. These committees are not subject to FACA, but they must hold public meetings and disseminate work products for public review. The voting procedures and other specific processes are not spelled out in the Rockefeller bill. Although an Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) is not specifically spelled out, NIST may create their proposed OSAC as part of their administration of the SACs. An OSAC would permit a greater deliberative process and would involve the participation of more state and local practitioners. NIST has declared that it wants to turn over the OSAC to the forensic science community in the future, but this would require a later amendment to this legislation if it is enacted.

The Rockefeller bill legislatively establishes the National Forensic Science Commission (NFSC) as it currently exists (co-directed by DOJ and NIST and reporting to the AG), but removes FACA restrictions; Leahy does not mention this commission. The NFSC is not an equivalent to the FSB as it has no direct authority over the Scientific Area Committees. The Leahy bill does not mention the NFSC and thus the NFSC would sunset as currently chartered, unless the administration decided to continue it.

Both bills create standards, but the Rockefeller bill creates voluntary consensus standards that do not have the same force of law as that of Leahy. The Rockefeller bill encourages accreditation and certification, but Leahy will mandate it and enforce standards through it.

The Leahy bill requires a needs assessment and the development of a national strategy to address the needs every five years; the Rockefeller bill requires a Report on Forensic Science, a unified research strategy, a five-year roadmap, and a biennial report to Congress.

The Leahy bill mandates a code of ethics; there is no such requirement in Rockefeller’s bill.

The Rockefeller bill will place a grant program in NIST and create a comprehensive strategy for scientific research by the OFS; the Rockefeller bill places a Research Initiative in OSTP and NSF. Rockefeller creates a National Forensic Science Research Initiative, a National Forensic Science Coordinating Office within the OSTP, an Interagency Forensic Science Committee (NIST, NSF, DOE, other) and generates a Report on Forensic Science; creates a Unified Federal Research Strategy and a 5-year roadmap; creates research grant programs (NSF); develops research centers and a center of excellence; creates research challenges. There will likely be a larger research effort under Rockefeller. The Rockefeller bill attempts to create a unified research plan and eliminate redundancy (I believe that pluralism is not bad).

continued on page 32
Washington Corner cont.

The Leahy bill would merely add a new grant program within NIST (not normally a granting agency).

The Leahy bill will create training and education for stakeholders and seeks to improve the education of forensic scientists; there are no equivalent provisions in the Rockefeller bill.

The Leahy bill also will create recommendations for medicolegal death investigation, creates an anonymous reporting system, and plans for interoperability of databases and technologies without equivalent provisions in the Rockefeller bill.

It should be remembered that it often takes time for a legislation to be passed and that it seldom remains unchanged during the process. It is quite possible that the two bills will be considered together at some point and blended together in some fashion.

FEPAC News cont.

forensic lab has the opportunity to complete a research project that may have an immediate impact on pending casework, develop or validate new analytical methods, or benefit from the knowledge of the academic faculty. With or without a cooperative agreement described above, many public labs have come to rely on innovation in forensic science to come from academic institutions. An important question that researchers will have to answer is whether to focus their limited research time, funds, and opportunities satisfying immediate needs of their respective forensic science community or to pursue other innovations that may take years to develop.

There are other incentives to having a strong research-centric program. Programs and professors who are active in research tend to gain recognition as a result of their presentations and publications. This elevates their credentials and the regard of their institution, an important factor in recruiting high-level perspective graduate students. Additionally, professors who conduct research are more likely to teach from their research and personal experience rather than from others’ work, taught from textbooks.

It is important that faculty embrace the spirit and rationale of many of the FEPAC standards. Standard 5.3.1d concerning research wasn’t meant to be difficult for programs to achieve but to better prepare students for careers in laboratory settings.

Honoring Our Mentors and Remembering Our Roots cont.

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In New York City, medical examiner history begins with Dr. Charles Norris who was appointed the first chief medical examiner. After his death in 1935, he was succeeded by Dr. Thomas Gonzales, who served as chief for almost 20 years. His successor, Milton Helpern, took over in 1933, around the same time Dr. Fisher was the chief medical examiner in Maryland. Dr. Helpern brought the field of forensic medicine to the forefront of America. Not only did he educate those within his office, he became a mentor of sorts to the public through his books, public speaking, and high-profile court appearances. His statement on the witness stand during a murder trial, “I’m interested in what did it, not who done it,” is a fundamental principle I adhere to.5 Dr. Helpern has three generations of trainees comprised of approximately 36 pathologists, one of whom was John Pless whose recent death has saddened many in our community.

Dr. Pless has been described as an enthusiastic, thoughtful and challenging teacher, inspiring many current day pathologists to pursue a career in forensics. Many of those taught and trained by Dr. Pless have gone on to become leaders in our field, holding offices in both AAFS and NAME. He was an excellent mentor, a kind and caring person, and he will be greatly missed. Thankfully his love of teaching has been passed on to those he trained, so the legacy continues.
It would be inappropriate to attribute the teaching and mentoring of forensic pathologists to just the fellowship program training directors; however, that is the easiest way to track our lineage. In most programs, all staff pathologists participate in the education of the fellows, exposing them to different techniques, thought processes and training methods. The United States has less than 40 accredited forensic pathology fellowship training programs with approximately 80 positions available. Of those, only about half are filled each year. Attracting pathology residents to the field of forensic pathology can be challenging. A 2006 survey of members of NAME found that the most influential factors for inciting interest were exposure to forensic pathology early in residency training and the direct influence of a professor or mentor. Ensuring that residents have a positive exposure to forensic pathology is critical to our future growth. Many practicing forensic pathologists and current residents cite negativity towards autopsies and forensics by their colleagues and supervisory pathologists within their residency programs as deterrents to selecting this subspecialty. It is this attitude and perception that needs to change. The inspiration of mentors is what has and what continues to move our profession forward.

Interest in forensic science was achieved initially through true crime books, high profile cases, and traditional word of mouth. The development of crime scene television shows, such as CSI, brought fictional forensics into millions of homes around the world, peaking interest at much younger ages than ever before. Children going into high school already are considering forensic science as a career choice. More and more colleges and universities are offering degrees in forensic related disciplines.

Within our Pathology/Biology Section, we have seen growth in the number of forensic biologists - particularly entomologists. Forensic applications of entomology were first applied in China in the 18th century. Long after that, French scientist Jean Pierre Meguin published a series of informative papers in the late 1800s alerting physicians and lawyers to the utility of entomological evidence in determining the postmortem interval. University of Illinois Professor Bernard Greenberg is considered to be the father of forensic entomology in the United States. A world-renowned expert on the blow fly family, he became a mentor to many graduate students in Chicago. In the 1980s, the Hawaiian Islands became an important source of information regarding the succession of insect colonization, largely due to the work of Lee Goff, considered a mentor to many today. It is not surprising that the knowledge, dedication, and inspiration of Jeffery Tomberlin, Jason Byrd, John Wallace, Michelle Sanford, and Neal Haskell (General Section) continue the growth of this field. The number of individuals in other fields, such as microbiology, soil science, and veterinary medicine is also increasing within pathology/biology. This continued diversification demonstrates the bridge between the natural sciences, pathology, and forensics.

It is easy to track our progress once the decision is made to pursue forensic science as a career. But, how do we capture what happens before they decide? Perhaps waiting until pathology or biological science is chosen as a specialty is too late. Exposure to forensic pathology in medical school is limited to an interesting lecture here and there. The overall number of hospital autopsies has dwindled and only the morbidly curious and those already dedicated to pathology tend to take electives in medical examiner offices as rotations in medical school. The exposure to this unique learning environment should be promoted more and not pushed aside. What better way for a potential surgeon or emergency room physician to learn about human anatomy and all its variations, trauma and natural disease processes than by viewing autopsies? In order to stimulate our future, we must start mentoring earlier - in medical school and college.

As stated, the key lies in the recruitment of young physicians and scientists. The AAFS Young Forensic Scientist Forum has been instrumental in developing this; however, we are dealing with a group of people who have already decided on a career in forensics. We need to excite and inspire college students, medical students, and biologists to choose this as a career. Mentoring has many forms. We may not know how many people we affect, or in what manner, but we will affect no one if we don't try. Our publications, presentations, and community outreach are tools to get the word out. What if your presentation at the high school career day flipped the switch for a junior or senior, and when asked years later why they chose their profession, they mentioned the career day? In forensic pathology and biology, the experiences gained daily contribute to the gradual never-ending learning process. These experiences must be passed on to others through mentorship and training, no matter what stage of your career you are in, for our learning process never stops. Were it not for the inspiration and dedication of wonderful mentors, many of our most prominent forensic pathologists might not be practicing today. Thank you to those who have come before, to those who are here now, and to those coming in the future, for keeping forensic science alive and prospering.

References:
Section News

ANTHROPOLOGY

Source: Angi M. Christensen, PhD  
Section Secretary

This past fall, Kathy Reichs was awarded the Anthropology in Media Award by the American Anthropology Association. Kathy reports that she will be going on tour with the fourth book in the Virals series, Exposure, that was released on March 4. Kathy also participated in the very well-attended AAFS Public Event presentation on Sherlock Holmes in Seattle.

John Williams advises section members to be on the lookout for two upcoming questionnaires. The first will be requested by the Anthropology Section History Committee regarding various facets of becoming a forensic anthropologist. Diplomates of the ABFA will also receive a questionnaire and possibly be requested to participate in follow-up interviews as part of an effort to develop a history of the ABFA. Please take the time to participate in these initiatives.

Deputy Laboratory Director Derek Benedict is pleased to announce that the JPAC CONUS Annex - Central Identification Laboratory located at Offutt AFB, NE, recently underwent a successful ASCLD/LAB assessment and is now an accredited laboratory.

CRIMINALISTICS

Source: Karolyn L. Tontarski, MS  
Section Program Chair

Being super high achievers, the Criminalistics Section has already managed to get a jump on one of President Martell’s goals – establishing a new tradition. Our inaugural Friday night session, “You Got DNA From WHAT? (YGDFW)” was a hit in Seattle! A cast of intrepid criminalists amazed and delighted the 150+ attendees, filling our evening with laughter (and learning).

Marie Samples (NYC OCME) began the night giving us “Food for Thought, Edible Evidence in the Big City,” ensuring none of us would look at a bagel in the same way again! David Jackson (San Francisco PD Lab) presented a homicide case during which we learned about the volume of warthog reproductive fluid (really!). Donald Hayes (Boston PD Lab) used a super cold case to conclusively demonstrate the identity of the Boston Strangler, while Deborah Haller (USACIL) discussed creative ways of catching aspiring artists and how personal hygiene habits may assist Mother Nature in keeping cells available for testing. Amy Polipeter (Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation) proved there are times when it is perfectly acceptable to use your first born as a science experiment and Terry Melton (MitoTyping Technologies) educated us about the role of yak hair in our lives (who knew??). Anna Wilson, Alison Pierce, and Ethan Smith (Washington State Patrol (WSP)) discussed some of their interesting cases, with the last talk of the evening, “Whose DNA, Where?” leaving us to ponder just exactly what is on people’s hands...

Many thanks as well to the Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis (CAFDA) for feeding our tummies while the presenters were feeding our minds. The Social Hour hosted by CAFDA was most definitely appreciated, thoroughly enjoyed, and ensured the success of the evening! You’ll be glad to know a 2nd Annual “You Got DNA From WHAT?” evening entertainment session is planned for Friday, February 20, in Orlando, to make sure this new Criminalistics Section tradition is firmly ensconced! Start thinking now about fun and interesting cases to present. And hey, Floridians, we’ll be looking to you to be active participants to help your fellow Criminalistics Section members feel welcome in your state. WSP has thrown down the gauntlet having “gently persuaded” three of their examiners to make the inaugural session a success.
Your challenge, should you choose to accept it, is to find at least three FL-based examiners who are equally as entertaining to participate in the YGDFW – 2015 (good luck)! Look for the YGDFW call for speakers email blast sometime in the fall.

Along the lines of planning ahead, the main theme for the annual meeting in Orlando is Celebrating the Forensic Science Family. Your program committee is looking to explore some unique aspects of this theme. In particular, all Crim Section members with a real forensic family member (parent/child, sibling, cousin, etc.) or a manufactured one (spouse/partner) are being asked to consider collaborating with their loved one to submit an abstract for a scientific session paper. As always, the abstract submission deadline of August 1 is firm so start plotting and planning now! You are encouraged to contact Program Chairs Kary Tontarski (ntievidence@gmail.com) or Vinny Desiderio (vformst@yahoo.com) with any and all family-based presentation ideas or general program questions.

DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES

Source: Marcus K. Rogers, PhD, Section Secretary

As far as news goes for the section, there is not a lot to report this round. We are planning on replacing the current list serv used to communicate with section members to a portal approach that should make communications more streamlined. Once we have finalized the portal, we will provide more information on this initiative. The current communications approach has served the section well; however, as the section grows and there is more demand for information, we need to look at new approaches. The membership committee will soon renew its efforts to increase the section’s membership numbers via outreach and other activities. This effort ties in nicely with the move to a portal approach. I am sure we will have more to communicate in the coming months as we grow our section. On another but related note, it is important that all section members keep their email address, that is on file with the AAFS, updated in order to receive section business items (e.g., minutes).

ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Source: John Nixon, MBA, Section Secretary

Congratulations to ESS Fellow James Millette and Member Richard Brown on their completion of a chapter “Environmental Forensic Microscopy” for the third edition of Introduction to Environmental Forensics, edited by Brian L. Murphy and Robert D. Morrison, available January 2015.

Membership: The 2014 edition of the AAFS Policy and Procedure Manual (PPM) will be available as a PDF download at www.aafs.org under the “About AAFS” tab. Basic requirements for AAFS membership are listed in section 2.3. Membership requirements specific to the Engineering Sciences Section (ESS) are listed in section 2.3.4, and ESS requirements for promotion are presented in section 2.6.4.

ESS has few Student Affiliates and Trainee Affiliates members. Historically, most practicing forensic engineers were professionals who had gained many years of experience in their chosen specialty before taking on forensic projects. The current trend is for engineering graduates to move into forensic careers almost immediately; consequently, there is a pool of young potential members out there who may be unaware of the benefits of AAFS membership. If you know of students, or recent engineering graduates, who intend to pursue a career in forensic engineering, please draw their attention to the requirements for the appropriate entry level of membership.

Promotion: A review of the membership roster reveals that ESS is top heavy in Associate Members. Many may be eligible, or almost eligible, for promotion to Member. Whether you are currently an Associate Member or Member, you are encouraged to review the requirements for promotion and actively work towards the next level of membership.

Briefly, the requirements for promotion from Associate Member to Member or from Member to Fellow are very similar and focus on active participation in both the field of forensic engineering and in AAFS. You must attend at least two AAFS annual meetings during the five years preceding your application for promotion and author or present peer reviewed papers. Service on ESS committees is valued.

Retired Member/Retired Fellow Status: Maturing Members and Fellows of our section may be eligible for these categories of membership. You must be at least 60 years old and meet the membership term requirements as detailed in section 2.2. of the AAFS PPM. In exchange for announcing your geriatric status to the world, you receive some personal financial benefits. Retired Fellows do not pay annual meeting registration fees and both Retired Members and Retired Fellows are excused from paying annual membership dues.

If you have questions about membership or promotion procedures please contact one of your ESS officers. The deadline for applications is October 1. We hope to hear from you soon!

GENERAL

Source: Claire E. Shepard, MS, Section Secretary

The minutes of the General Section Business Meeting have been completed and submitted to the AAFS per policy. The Minutes Committee consisting of Claire Shepard, Chair, Jennifer Schindell, Jan Schwartz, Kelsee Bryan, Samantha Neal, and Sharon Plotkin worked to record the minutes during the meeting, draft the minutes after the meeting, and finally proofread the final document. Thank you to all the committee members for their work on this important task. The minutes will be forwarded to the membership for review before the 2015 section business meeting in Orlando.

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Section News cont.

While it seems the 2014 meeting is just behind us, it is time to begin preparing for the 2015 meeting. Section Program Chair Steve Clark and Co-Chair Steve Chancellor are calling for papers that highlight forensic programs, projects, and cases that: (1) detail the integrated strength of the “forensic family” members involved; (2) describe forensic challenges overcome by shared “family” values; (3) demonstrate the application and blending of unique “family member” skills to achieve overall goals; and, (4) provide examples of successful strategies used to avoid “family feuds” during each phase of the program, project, or case.

For members of the AAFS General Section, the 2015 Annual Meeting theme Celebrating the Forensic Science Family is a natural “fit” for nearly all section members with regards to their work in the forensic sciences. Next year, the General Section program is going to celebrate the forensic family by highlighting successful collaborations. It is often said that “knowing what you don’t know” is as important as “knowing what you do know.” In medicolegal death investigation, the ability to say “I don’t know” is often difficult given the external pressures to move forward. We encourage our members to share their research findings and practical experience by reaching out to their forensic family members and collaborating on a presentation for the 2015 General Section scientific program. Celebrating the research, collaboration techniques, and the successful blending of specialties within the forensic family will keep our section vibrant and forward thinking. Abstracts are due August 1 and remember our program is only as good as the abstracts you submit! We hope to see you in sunny Orlando!

Speaking of the 2015 meeting, it is time to submit proposals for the Forensic Sciences Foundation’s Acorn Grants (up to $1,000) and Lucas Grants (up to $5,000). FSF trustees Bill Andrews and Joanna Collins encourage you to submit a proposal for review by the June 15 deadline. More information is available on the FSF website (http://fsf.aafs.org) or can be accessed from the AAFS homepage.

Finally, the General Section recently suffered the loss of an outstanding member, colleague, friend, and leader of the section. Dr. Gil Brogdon passed away on March 28, with his children by his side. Many of you saw and spoke with Dr. Brogdon as recently as the Seattle meeting as he continued his service to AAFS and the General Section despite his failing health. Many refer to Dr. Brogdon as the “father” of forensic radiology and he will be remembered as the epitome of a gentleman and a strong supporter of the forensic sciences, particularly the FSF. He was certainly a mentor to many in the section, as well as to his countless students, and always provided wise guidance due to his breadth of knowledge. Our section certainly will not be the same without Dr. Brogdon.

ODONTOLOGY

Source: Raymond G. Miller, DDS, Section Secretary

As your section program chair for the previous two meetings, I want to thank all of our presenters for their tremendous contributions to the 2014 Scientific Session. The Odontology Section had a banner year in both quantity, and more importantly quality, of our abstracts and presentations. Current Section Program Chair Adam Freeman is enthusiastic about the program in Orlando next year and anxiously awaits the August 1 abstract submission deadline. I also want to thank Scott Hahn for his informative and interesting presentation during our Thomas Krauss Memorial Bitemark Breakfast. Special Agent Hahn’s main goal was to give back to his section and honor a predecessor who did much for forensic odontology. He filled that role and achieved that goal admirably.

Our section is actively encouraging submission of applications for section membership. The educational requirements and recognized courses which qualified for credit are being reviewed by the membership and educational committee. We ultimately hope to increase membership and at the same time maintain standards of quality based on a well-rounded educational history. Courses that provide points toward membership have increased. The Academy website, www.aafs.org, provides membership and promotion information. Please share this with those you mentor. The ABFO is also offering Bitemark Workshop and an Age Estimation Workshop. These workshops provide points toward AAFS membership and also fulfill some required coursework for ABFO certification. Information is available at www.abfo.org.

Academy President Daniel Martell’s theme for the 2015 Meeting is Celebrating the Forensic Science Family. We all learn from our colleagues in our own section. Everyone is a student at the Academy Scientific Sessions. President Martell also encourages interdisciplinary education. We have much to learn from all of the other disciplines and he encourages each of us to take advantage of these opportunities. He is striving for a memorable meeting that will be referenced for years to come. I am sure I will be able to pray myself off a snowbank in Buffalo and make the journey to the magical world of Orlando. Be safe, and I look forward to reuniting in February.

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Source: Kathryn Haden-Pinneri, MD, Section Secretary

Sadly, our forensic science family has gotten a little smaller as we mourn the loss of two forensic science pioneers, John Pless and Gil Brogdon. Dr. Pless (Fellow, Pathology/Biology Section) began his membership in the AAFS in 1970. In the words of AAFS President-Elect Victor Weedn, he “was a superb forensic pathologist and a gentleman” and “someone I aspire to emulate.” Described as a warm, caring physician, a great mentor, and a go-to guy for assistance, his loss is felt by forensic pathologists across the United States. He taught us that you can disagree but not be disagreeable. His love of pathology and ability to inspire others were instrumental in getting medical students and pathologists to enter the field of forensics. As stated by Greg Davis (Kentucky), his “legacy lives on in the good will he has sown” in those he trained.

While not a member of the Path/Bio Section, the contributions and fellowship offered by Dr. Brogdon (Fellow, General Section) to forensic pathology were vital to our understanding of radiological pathology - particularly regarding child abuse. In the words of...
Section Chair J.C. Upshaw Downs, “Gil Brogdon was an inspiration. Gentle soul, devoted husband, dedicated physician. The loss of his wisdom and devotion is profound.” Stressing the importance of proper interpretation of radiographic findings, he gave forensic pathologists the tools and information needed to make the correct diagnosis. “A lovely man and fine physician as I have ever met” are the sentiments of Marcella Fierro. Our condolences to the surviving family members of both Dr. Pless and Dr. Brogdon.

April has come and gone and the August 1 deadline for abstract submissions will be here before you know it! Start planning your projects and abstracts for the 2015 Annual Scientific Meeting, being held in Orlando, FL, February 16-21. The theme of the meeting is Celebrating the Forensic Science Family. Make your plans now to attend!

Forensic Biologists: don’t forget to apply for the Forensic Biologist Trainee Paper Award. Candidates must be a student in the specialty of the biological sciences during the time the subject matter of the paper was under investigation and should be a member of the Pathology/Biology Section. Original biological research pertaining to the forensic sciences can be presented, with the development of a hypothesis which is tested, resulting in a conclusion or a survey of cases with conclusions. The research must be presented at the AAFS Annual Meeting and a complete manuscript in the format of the Journal of Forensic Sciences is required to be submitted for the competition. The current award is a $500 cash award, a memorial certificate, and a year’s dues payment to the AAFS. As this has yet to be awarded, the selected candidate would also be the FIRST winner of this award.

PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Source: Karen Rosenbaum, MD, Section Secretary

In section news, there will be a Forensic-Liaison Committee meeting during the American Psychiatric Association (APA) meeting at Crowne Plaza Times Square, 1605 Broadway New York, NY on Saturday May 3, at 4:00 p.m., in Rooms 405/406. There will be an AAPL reception at 6:00 p.m., for committee members in the Balcony Room located on the second floor. Look forward to seeing you there.

Christopher Thompson, section Fellow and newly elected Chair, is Program Co-Chair for the 2014 American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) Annual Meeting in Chicago. He was also recently made Fellow in APA. He authored Robert Weinstock’s biography in the Journal of American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (JAAPL), which has just been published, entitled “Robert Weinstock, MD, 40th President of AAPL: Elder Statesman of Forensic Psychiatry and Rebel With A Cause.” It is an excellent article and is available online at www.jaapl.org/content/42/1/20.full.pdf.

Karen Rosenbaum was recently part of a panel held on March 17 at the Practising Law Institute in New York City, which covered psychological issues in employment law. The panel was entitled, “Mental Disability Issues Under the Americans With Disabilities Act.” Her affiliation with AAFS is mentioned in her published biography in the event’s course handbook.

We welcome the submission of news items for this column from members. Please submit these items to Section Secretary Karen Rosenbaum at krosenb@gmail.com.

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Source: Thomas W. Vastrick, BS, Section Chair

Ron Morris, our Secretary, is dealing with family issues at this time so I am doing double duty as Chair and Secretary for purposes of this newsletter article. I hope everyone is giving serious thought to coming to the 2015 AAFS Annual Meeting, which will be in Orlando, FL. As a resident of the area, I can brag first-hand as to the gorgeous weather we have in February. As such, this fall when you are packing away your summer clothing, you might consider keeping some of it easily accessible for trip down here. If your spouse or family would like to join you, there is obviously much to do and I will be happy to help with suggestions and logistics. Feel free to contact me.

Jim Lee will likely be contacting you very soon about participating in the section’s program. Our efforts at the Academy can only be successful with the participation of its members. Speaking of members, are you eligible for membership promotion? If you are not sure, or you wish to promote to the next membership level, contact the AAFS offices and our helpful staff will provide you all the information and forms you need.

The theme this year is Celebrating the Forensic Science Family. The theme is designed to be especially uplifting in its message. As many of you may know, the Questioned Documents Section is proud of the level of scientific inquiry we bring to our profession and of the legacy of program research presented during the annual meeting year after year. You can be assured that your officers are keeping a keen eye out for the best interests of the Questioned Documents Section.

In the vein of one of the meeting’s subthemes, “Honoring Our Mentors and Traditions,” we are particularly proud of Ordway Hilton, Maureen Casey Owens, John “Jack” Harris, and David Purcell. Ordway Hilton was instrumental in establishing the Questioned Documents Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) and was a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners. From 1939 to 1960, Mr. Hilton served as the tenth president of the AAFS. He is one of the few AAFS Fellows to be named a Distinguished Fellow and one of only four questioned document examiners to ever receive this honor. In 1980, he was the first recipient of the AAFS Questioned Documents Section Award, which would be named in his honor. Ordway Hilton passed away in 1998.

Maureen Casey Owens is a Retired Fellow and Past President of the AAFS and was the 18th President of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners. Ms. Owen is the only person to ever simultaneously hold the presidency of the ASQDE and the AAFS. She is a Past Chair of the Questioned Document Section of the
Section News cont.

the AAFS. In 1987, Ms. Owens received the Ordway Hilton Award, given by the AAFS Questioned Document Section. She was a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners and served as a Director of the ABFDE.

John “Jack” Harris was instrumental in organizing the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners and served as the board’s first President. He is now a Retired Fellow of the AAFS and served on the AAFS Board of Directors. In 1983, he received the AAFS Questioned Document Section Award and in 1998 he received the AAFS Distinguished Fellow Award. He is one of the few AAFS members and one of only four document examiners to be named a Distinguished Fellow. He was also on the board of trustees of the Forensic Sciences Foundation.

David Purcell was a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners. He was also instrumental in establishing the Questioned Documents Section of the AAFS. In 1981, he received the AAFS Questioned Documents Section Award. In 1994, he became one of the few AAFS Fellows to be named a Distinguished Fellow and is another of the four questioned document examiners to ever receive this honor.

I would like to remind everyone that there is a very active Daubert Group that is available to assist any qualified forensic document examiner regardless of organization membership or certification when facing inaccurate assaults. If you become involved in a Daubert hearing, please contact a member of this group, Jan Kelly, Kathleen Storer, or Kirsten Singer for assistance. In addition, if you maintain a list of testimonies that you have made for discovery purposes, this group is keeping a spreadsheet of testimony given by forensic document examiners. One piece of misinformation pushed by our critics is that since Daubert, our profession has been regularly disqualified from testimony. Yet the numbers say otherwise. How satisfying it must be when a document examiner can plop a large stack of papers listing testimonies of forensic document examiners. But also, how much more satisfying could it be if the stack was that much thicker due to the participation of more examiners. How often it has been noted that examiners have expressed the need for additional research or documentation to support our profession but when that work is attempted, finding examiners to help with the project becomes difficult and the enthusiasm found at meetings cannot be found in the everyday community. If you have the desire to help but don’t know where to start – call me or send me an email. I will provide you with several ongoing projects that need help and whom to contact.

TOXICOLOGY

Sources: Rebecca A. Jufer, PhD and Dan T. Anderson, MS

Section Program Co-Chairs

Thank you for the opportunity to prepare an exciting program for the 2015 meeting in Orlando, FL. Thanks to all involved for a great job coordinating the Toxicology Section’s program of events in Seattle, WA. There were four workshops coordinated by the Toxicology Section, two which were jointly held with other sections. The workshop chairs and presenters worked very hard to ensure that these all were a huge success. The Toxicology Section Luncheon was once again enjoyed by all! This year’s luncheon recognized the mentorship contributions of Barry Logan, Bruce Goldberger, and Marilyn Huestis. We will certainly continue this tradition in 2015, selecting a topic in keeping with the meeting theme Celebrating the Forensic Science Family. Please remember to register for the luncheon in addition to your meeting registration - we wouldn’t want you to miss out! Congratulations once again to the Toxicology Section Award winners: Robert Osiewicz (Alexander O. Gettler Award), Michael Smith (Rolla N. Harger Award), Michael Wagner (Ray Abernethy Award), David Schwope (Irving Sunshine Award), Sarah Himes (June K. Jones Scholarship Award), and Loma Nisbet (Best Poster Award). Also, a big thank you to the Toxicology Section officers, chairs, moderators, abstract reviewers, sponsors, Academy staff and volunteers for making the 2014 Annual Meeting a great success. Your hard work is much appreciated!

We are planning an exciting program for the 2015 meeting which includes coordinating joint sessions with the Pathology/Biology and Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Sections in addition to the traditional special sessions on “Drugs and Driving” and “Postmortem Pediatric Toxicology.” The August 1 deadline for abstract submission, workshop proposals, and award nominations will be here faster than you may think! Please consider submitting workshop ideas and suggestions to us (pihpapr@ocumemd.org or DANderson@coroner.lacounty.gov). Also, John Wyman, Chair of the Toxicology Section Awards and Scholarship Committee (jwyman@cuyahogacounty.us) would love to receive your nominations for the five awards given by the section: the Alexander O. Gettler Award (awarded in recognition of analytical achievement in forensic toxicology), the Rolla N. Harger Award (awarded for outstanding contributions in forensic toxicology), the Ray Abernethy Award (awarded to an outstanding forensic toxicology practitioner), the Irving Sunshine Award (awarded in recognition of outstanding research by a young investigator in forensic toxicology), and the June K. Jones Scholarship Award (awarded in support of the research of students pursuing advanced degrees). The Best Poster Award (awarded for a student or author with no more than five years experience in forensic toxicology) is a relatively new Toxicology Section award. Authors requesting consideration for this award should check the poster award box on the online abstract submission system or on the 2015 Call For Papers Form. Finally, please remember that volunteers play an important role in the success of the annual AAFS meeting - encourage your colleagues and students to participate! We look forward to seeing all of you at the AAFS 67th Annual Scientific Meeting, February 16-21, 2015, in Orlando, FL.

Academy News
The following individuals have submitted applications for Associate Member, Trainee Affiliate, or Student Affiliate. Applications that are received and completed by October 1 will be considered for approval at the February 2015 Board of Directors Meeting. Due to space constraints, AAFS does not list members who are applying for promotion to Fellow or to Member; however, a list of these individuals is found on the AAFS website under “News & Noteworthy.” Comments or concerns regarding an applicant should be submitted in writing to: Cheryl Hunter, Membership Coordinator, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904; chunter@aafs.org. Comments must be received by February 9, 2015.

**Anthropology**

**Associate Member**
- Alsup, Kathleen, PhD
  Ann Arbor, MI
- Andronicou, Photis, MSc
  Nicosia, CYPRUS
- Caruth, Adele, PhD
  Dallas, TX
- Cornelison, Jered B., MA
  East Lansing, MI
- Gray, Alexis A., PhD
  Rancho Cucamonga, CA
- Harrold, Ryan P., PhD
  Anchorage, AK
- Hayashi, Atsuko, MA
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- Isaac, Carolyn V., PhD
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- Mavroudas, Sophia, MA
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- Nor, Faridah M., PhD
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- Ohwaseyi, Idowu G., MBBS
  Borin, NIGERIA
- Phillips, Sara S., PhD
  Carrollton, GA
- Randolph-Quinney, Patrick, PhD
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- Scott, Gary T., MA
  Centennial, CO
- Spencer, Susan D., PhD
  Evansville, IN
- Tipple, Brett J., PhD
  Salt Lake City, UT
- Valencia Caballero, Lorena, PhD
  México, MEXICO

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- Backo, Heather, PhD
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- Bengston, Jennifer D., PhD
  Cape Girardeau, MO
- Curtin, Briana K., MA
  Saint Joseph, MO
- DeVisser, Elizabeth M., MS
  Lansing, MI
- Hall, Katherine M.W., BA
  Seattle, WA
- Hannon, Lauren E., MS
  Saunderstown, RI
- Johnson, Heidi, BA
  Whitefish, MT
- Larson, Laura, BA
  Boise, ID
- Marinho, Luisa, MSc
  Lisbon, PORTUGAL
- Qi Leng, Ao Ri, PhD
  Shanghai, CHINA
- Suckling, Joanna K., MA
  Austin, TX
- Toso, Alice, MSc
  Lisbon, PORTUGAL
- Vidoli, Giovanna M., PhD
  Knoxville, TN

**Student Affiliate**
- Abrantes, Joana, BA
  Porto, PORTUGAL
- Alcantara Russell, Keithlyn E., MA
  Nashville, TN
- Baker, Kristen N., MA
  Wahiawa, HI

Academy News
Applicants cont.

Bangs, Paul M., BS
Saint Gabriel, LA

Bates, Lennon N., BS
San Marcos, TX

Errickson, David A., MSc
Middlesbrough, UNITED KINGDOM

Fu, Carissa
Boston, MA

Gadison, Davette N., BS
Jonesboro, GA

Hiers, Chaney E., BS
Baton Rouge, LA

Jumonville, Beki S., BA
Middleton, ID

Kjerland, Lars Tore, MSc
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Pluchar, Anne K.
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Wheeler, Amanda
Huntsville, TX

Criminalistics

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Adnan, Muhammad, MS
Lahore, PAKISTAN

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West Palm Beach, FL

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Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA

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Dallas, PA

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Smoaks, SC

Bonner, Tara C., BS
Lilburn, GA

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East Brunswick, NJ

Buchmueller, Helio, PhD
Brazilia, BRAZIL

Campbell, Kisha, BS
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Clay, Jennifer
Houston, TX

English, Dana M., BS
Austin, TX

Fymbo, Donald E., BAE
Denver, CO

Gardner, Paige, MS
Raleigh, NC

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Sugar Land, TX

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London, OH

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Houston, TX

Herscher, Kimberly A., MS
Palmer Park, MD

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Huntsville, TX

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Vancouver, BC CANADA

James, Loren, BS
Memphis, TN

Jeudy, St Jean, MS
Kings Park, NY

Karp, Jennifer L., BS
Stony Brook, NY

Kulp, Malone E., BS
London, OH

Larrison, Ryan M., BS
Bridgeport, MI

Lauta, Jennifer
Albuquerque, NM

Lissing, Ariel I., BS
Boston, MA

Long, Stefan A., BS
Las Cruces, NM

Lowe, Cheryl M., MS
Las Cruces, NM

McCutchon, Michael, MS
Londonberry, NH

Naseer, Mudassar, MPhil
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Syracuse, NY

Oliver, Laura C., MS
New Orleans, LA

Peeples, Scott A., BS
Dupo, IL

Peters, Gene, MS
Quintico, VA

Salico, Peter J., MPA
Ennis, TX

Sanchez, Katherine G., BS
Austin, TX

Schleman, Shea, BS
Albuquerque, NM

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Dallas, TX

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Willow Grove, PA

Singh, Sarabjit, PhD
Delli, INDIA

Smith, Shavon, BS
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Sorensen, Christina Rivera, MS
New York, NY

Tiller, Lateisha S., MS
McDonough, GA

Vines, Theron L., III, BS
Redlands, CA

Vogt, Jennifer L., MS
Middleton, WI

White, Katie M., MS
Elgin, IL

Worthen, Catherine A., MS
Garland, TX

Trainee Affiliate
Almeida, Robert M., BS
East Providence, RI

Byrd, Danita A.
Port Saint Lucie, FL

Camarena, Lucy R., MSFS
New Orleans, LA

Cerow, Kathryn M., MS
Dallas, TX

Iorio, Ryan, BS
Washington, DC

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Woodbridge, VA

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Ankara, TURKEY

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Raleigh, NC

Sealy, Jennifer M., MSc
Oakland, CA

Sheehan, Matthew, BS
East Bridgewater, MA

Tait, Sherrie M., MS
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Student Affiliate
Agha, Inayat U., MS
Quetta, PAKISTAN

Akroo, Marelis E.
Orlando, FL

Bell-Brown, Aanisah
Atlanta, GA

Benitez, Juan C.
Marshall, TX

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Clifton, CO

Cook, Erik, BS
Lexington, KY

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Fayetteville, NC

French, Raynisha A.
Cleveland, OH

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Srtyersville, PA

Liao, Kathy
New York, NY
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Samaw, IRAQ
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Lodi, WI
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Hunter, Marcus A., PhD
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ingresso, Diego, MS
Milano, ITALY
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White Plains, NY
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Peshavhar, PAKISTAN
Kocak, Ah, PhD
New York, NY
Lee, Tessa D., BS
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Mangione, Dena M., DVM
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McGillivary, Cynthia S., MS
Miami, OH
McNaughton-Filion, Louise, MDC
Ottawa, ON CANADA
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Phoenix, AZ
Mullin, Joseph, BS
Boalsburg, PA
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Overy, Martin K., MSFS
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Pearce Williams, Elizabeth A., BS
Goldskoro, NC
Pezant, Wanda L., BSN
Denham Springs, LA
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Perth, AUSTRALIA
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Huntington, NY
Shaw, Michael J.
Leander, TX
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Richmond, KY
Smith, Karen L., MS
Gainesville, FL
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San Francisco, CA
Suderman, Darrel, PhD
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Columbia, MD
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Leighton Buzzard, UNITED KINGDOM
Witrock, Matthew C., BS
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West Lafayette, IN
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Kingston, JAMAICA
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Austin, TX
Young, Brian, PhD
Columbus, OH
Zuidervliet, Cynthia R., BA
Orillia, ON CANADA

Trainee Affiliate
Benedict, Suzanne, MFS
Columbia, MD
Blalock, Lecia, BS
Arvada, CO
Farrell, Jamie E., BS
Woodbridge, VA
Gupta, Sejal V., MS
Mumbai, INDIA
Leveille, Diane D., BS
Germantown, MD
Li, Jiazi, MS
Westport, CT

continued on page 42
Applicants cont.

Lucas, Marsha E., MS
Marquette, MI
Purevjav, Tsengeg, PhD
College Station, TX
Rokovitz, Heather A., BS
Lehi, UT
Traveller, Lauren, DNP
St. George, UT

Student Affiliate
Bolding, Trace M., BSCJA
Orange Park, FL
Burris, Sammantha
Indianapolis, IN
Clark, Timothy D.
Catawba, NC
Liu, Chun
Edmond, OK
MacDonald, Lauren
Washington, DC
Reed, Bradley H., BS
Middletown, CT
Rolleri, Lucas N.
Cary, NC
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West Palm Beach, FL
Sohigian, Melisa A., BA
New York, NY
Tsai, Isabela G., BA
Santiago, CHILE
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Artesia, CA

JURISPRUDENCE

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Jersey City, NJ
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New York, NY
Kennedy, Katherine E., JD
Harrishburg, PA
Pulito, Brian J., JD
Meadville, PA
Ratner, Emily, JD
New Orleans, LA

Trainee Affiliate
Garcia, Kellie, JD
Fulshear, TX

ODONTOLOGY

Associate Member
Chaurasia, Akhilanand, MDS
Lucknow, INDIA
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Warrenton, VA
Fox, Joan, DDS
Phoenix, AZ
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Auckland, NEW ZEALAND
Karkalas, Lena D., DDS
Providence, RI
Leary, Paul T., DMD
Kinnelon, NJ
Soliman, Mamdouh S., DMD
North Brunswick, NJ

Student Affiliate
Schaffer, Thomas J., BS
Loma Linda, CA

PATHOLOGY/ BIOLOGY

Associate Member
Adams, Julie, DO
Valley Park, MO
Aleinizi, Mohammad, MD
Kuwait, KUWAIT
Brown, Tory A., MS
Sand Lake, NY
Davis, Brent, MD
Jackson, MS
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Tampa, FL
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Menlo Park, CA
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New Britain, CT
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Trainee Affiliate
Edelman, Lauren, MD
Menlo Park, CA
Kumar, Rajesh, MBBS
New Delhi, INDIA
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Kansas City, MO
Wilson, Paige E., BS
Bloomfield Hills, MI

Student Affiliate
Callahan, Genea E., BS
Arlington, VA
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Syracuse, NY

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Academy News
A Letter from the YFSF President

It has been just over two months since the AAFS 66th Annual Scientific Meeting and the Young Forensic Scientists Forum (YFSF) is already preparing for next year’s 67th Annual Scientific Meeting in Orlando, FL!

In the next several months, you will begin to see requests from YFSF Committee members looking for presenters for the YFSF Special Session, YFSF Breakfast Session, YFSF Bring Your Own Slides, and the YFSF Bring Your Own Poster events. All of these sessions are great ways to get your name out to the forensic science community as well as to showcase your work.

The upcoming YFSF newsletters will announce special session speakers as the information becomes available. If you are interested in speaking or presenting at the YFSF Special Session, the YFSF Annual Breakfast, the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides, or the YFSF Bring Your Own Poster events, feel free to contact the YFSF president or any of the session chairs.

Lara Newell begins her first year as YFSF President and is looking forward to seeing the plans for the 2015 YFSF Special Session unfold.

If you have any questions about the YFSF, please do not hesitate to contact Lara Newell at lafra86@gmail.com.

Lara Newell, MA
YFSF President

A Note from the YFSF Secretary

The YFSF hopes everyone enjoyed this year’s annual meeting in Seattle, WA. If you were unable to attend, we encourage you to attend the AAFS 2015 Meeting in Orlando, FL. The theme of the meeting will focus on the forensic science family and should be a warm and welcoming environment for first-time meeting attendees, as well as, those who have attended past annual meetings. The YFSF looks forward to a great Special Session at the 2015 meeting and encourages all young forensic scientists to attend. It is a great way to meet fellow young forensic scientists and veterans.

The YFSF is happy to announce that all of the 2014-15 committee appointments have been made to include several new members this year. Throughout this newsletter, you will be introduced to each member, new and old, of the YFSF Committee. The committee members strive to provide the young forensic scientists with a great forum in 2015.

Sarah Ellis and Brianna Bermudez fill the positions of Secretary Chair and Assistant Secretary respectfully this year. Sarah (Trainee Affiliate, General Section) has an MS in Forensic Science from Towson University and is currently working at West Virginia University Forensic and Investigative Science Outreach, but will be starting a new position with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation this month. Brianna (Student Affiliate, Criminalistics Section) is currently pursuing a BS in Forensic Science at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, NM. She recently attended her first
AAFS meeting in Seattle, WA, and is excited to be apart of the YFSF!

Sarah J. Ellis, MS
YFSF Secretary
sarahjellis2@gmail.com

Briana Bernudez
YFSF Assistant Secretary
briannahelen@gmail.com

Financial Liaison
Every year, the YFSF relies on the financial contributions and support from the forensic science community to make the special session possible. On behalf of the YFSF, the Financial Liaisons would like to thank the following sections of the Academy for their generous contributions to the Young Forensic Scientists Forum for the upcoming year:

- Anthropology Section - $500
- Criminalistics Section - $1,500
- General Section - $500
- Jurisprudence Section - $500
- Pathology/Biology Section - $2,000

The YFSF Financial Liaisons are responsible for reaching out to the Academy sections, FE PAC universities, and various forensic science vendors to support the activities organized by the YFSF. Katie Knurek and Betzaida “Betsy” Maldonado will be serving as the Financial Liaison Chair and Co-Chair this year. This is Katie’s third year as the financial liaison for the YFSF. Katie is currently employed with the state laboratory in Ohio as a forensic scientist and is excited to continue in her position. Betsy joined the YFSF committee this year as co-chair. Betsy holds a Forensic & Investigative Science Bachelor’s degree from West Virginia University and is currently pursuing a Master’s of Science in Forensic Science at Marshall University. Katie is a Trainee Affiliate and Betsy is a Student Affiliate, both in the Criminalistics Section. Katie and Betsy look forward to the upcoming year and are eager to make it a success! If you are interested in becoming more involved in the Young Forensic Scientists Forum as a financial contributor, please contact either Katie or Betsy at their email addresses below.

Katie Knurek, BS
YFSF Financial Liaison Chair
Kknurek6490@gmail.com

Betsy Maldonado, BS
YFSF Financial Liaison Co-Chair
maldonado2990@gmail.com

YFSF Special Session
The YFSF is pleased to announce the theme for the 2015 YFSF Special Session: YFSF 20th Anniversary: The Past, The Present, and Our Future. In honor of the YFSF 20th Anniversary, the 2015 YFSF Special Session speakers will reflect on their personal experiences, present unique casework, improvements made during their careers, and contributions they have made to the different fields of forensic science.

Christina Hayes is the YFSF Special Session Chair. Christina has a BS in Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Springfield and is working on completing a Master’s of Natural Science in Forensic Chemistry from Southeast Missouri State University. She has worked at the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department for the last three years as a drug chemist. She is ABC certified as a Fellow in Drug Analysis. She is also an Associate Member in the Criminalistics Section and served as the YFSF Special Session Co-Chair last year. She looks forward to the upcoming year in planning the special session with Jessica Smith.

Jessica Smith is the YFSF Special Session Co-Chair. She has a BS in Forensic Science from the University of Findlay and is pursuing her Master’s in Forensic Chemistry at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. She is working as a Formulatious Scientist for Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories at the Eli Lilly site in Indianapolis. Jessica is a Student Affiliate in the General Section and hopes to promote to Trainee Affiliate status in the future. She looks forward to being involved in the YFSF and to being the special session’s co-chair.

Those who are interested in speaking at the YFSF Special Session and sharing their experiences should contact the program chairs at yfsfss@gmail.com.

Christina Hayes, BS
YFSF Special Session Chair

Jessica Smith, BS
YFSF Special Session Co-Chair

YFSF Breakfast Session
Planning has begun for next year’s YFSF Breakfast Session, a morning focused on professional development for young forensic scientists.

This year, Alicia Lanfear and Tiffany Saul will organize the session. Alicia recently earned a PhD in Anthropology from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She currently holds a postdoc position at the Forensic Institute for Research and Education at Middle Tennessee State University and is an Associate Member in the Anthropology Section. This is the second year that Alicia has served on the YFSF Committee; she previously served as the Assistant Secretary.

This is Tiffany’s first year serving on the YFSF committee. She is a Student Affiliate in the Anthropology Section and is working on her PhD in Anthropology at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Both Alicia and Tiffany are excited to take on the new challenge of planning the YFSF Breakfast Session. The Breakfast Session Chairs are always looking for qualified presenters and résumé reviewers. If you or someone you know can help with professional development for the next generation of forensic scientists, please contact yfsfbreakfast@gmail.com.

Alicia K. Lanfear, PhD
YFSF Breakfast Session Chair

Tiffany B. Saul, MS
YFSF Breakfast Session Co-Chair

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Bring Your Own Slides Session
Greetings from the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides (BYOS) Committee! The YFSF is very excited to find young forensic scientists who would like to seize the opportunity to present their research at the AAFS 2015 Annual Scientific Meeting during the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Session in Orlando, FL.

Returning as the Chair of bring your own slides session is Lindsay Saylors. Lindsay is a senior at Loyola University Chicago, majoring in Criminology & Criminal Justice, with a minor in Psychology of Crime & Justice. She is a Student Affiliate of the General Section. After this year, Lindsay plans to continue her education by attending law school.

This year’s YFSF BYOS Co-Chair, Kate Lesciotto, is a new Student Affiliate of the Anthropology Section. She is currently a first-year student at Mercyhurst University, working towards an MS in Forensic and Biological Anthropology. Kate previously earned her BS in Biological Science and Zoology, with a minor in Biomedical Science as well as her JD from Washington University in St. Louis School of Law. She returned to school after practicing as a litigation attorney for four years in Chicago and is thrilled to begin working with the Young Forensic Scientists Forum.

Lindsay Saylors
YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Chair
lindsaysaylors@gmail.com

Kate M. Lesciotto, JD
YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Co-Chair
kmlesciotto@gmail.com

YFSF Bring Your Own Poster Session
The YFSF Bring Your Own Poster Session (BYOP) is the perfect opportunity for students and young forensic scientists to share their research. Being involved in the YFSF BYOP Session will provide young forensic scientists with the opportunity to network with other forensic scientists of all disciplines. The YFSF BYOP Session also helps students and young forensic scientists become more involved with the AAFS.

Jennifer Curnow, the YFSF BYOP Session Chair, is excited to help everyone get involved in the AAFS 2015 Annual Scientific Meeting. This is her second year serving on the YFSF committee. She received her Master’s Degree in Forensic Science from Chaminade University of Honolulu. Jennifer currently works as a Latent Fingerprint Technician for Oak Ridge Associated Universities. She is looking forward to working with interested students and young forensic scientists.

Melanie Boeyer, the YFSF BYOP Session Co-Chair, received her Bachelor’s Degree in Anthropology with a Forensic Concentration from Western Carolina University. Currently, Mel is pursuing her Master’s Degree in Forensic and Biological Anthropology at Mercyhurst University. This is her first year serving on the YFSF committee and she is very excited to see what new adventures the YFSF committee will bring this year.

Jennifer Curnow, MS
YFSF Poster Session Chair
curnow.jen@gmail.com

Melanie Boeyer, BS
YFSF Poster Session Co-Chair
mboeye40@lakers.mercyhurst.edu
Meetings & Conferences

May 2014

14-15
Advances in Forensic Medicine & Pathology
The conference is presented by the Department of Pathology at the University of Michigan.
CONTACT: Angela Suliman
Phone: (734) 615-6371
asuliman@med.umich.edu
www.pathology.med.umich.edu/Forensics/index.php

14-17
7th Annual Forensic Investigations Conference
Presented by Saint Luke’s Hospital of Kansas City.
CONTACT: Saint Luke’s Concierge
(817) 932-5100
saintlukesconcierge@saint-lukes.org
www.saintlukeshealthsystem.org/forensic

26-30
17th International Congress on Oral Pathology and Medicine
To be held in Istanbul, Turkey.
CONTACT: www.iap2014istanbul.org

June 2014

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Fifth Annual Prescription for Criminal Justice Forensics
To be held at the Louis Stein Center for Law and Ethics at Fordham University School of Law
CONTACT: Carol Rose
(202) 662-1519
carol.rose@americanbar.org

2-6
Outdoor Human Remains Recovery
To be held at the Forensic Anthropology Center at Texas State in San Marcos, TX.
CONTACT: Sophia Mavroudas
Phone: (512) 245-1900
FACTS@txstate.edu
www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts

2-6
Evidence Collection, Crime Scene Technology Accelerated Training Program
To be held at Sirchie’s facility in Youngsville, NC.
CONTACT: (800) 356-7311
www.sirchie.com

16-20
The International Symposium on Advances in Legal Medicine
To be held in Fukuoka, Japan.
CONTACT: www.c-linkage.co.jp/islm2014/index.html

23-25
Shooting Incident Reconstruction I
To be held at Northwest University Center for Public Safety in Evanston, IL.
CONTACT: Ruthy
(847) 467-7546

23-27
27th Annual NMHM Forensic Anthropology Course
To be held in Baltimore, MD.
CONTACT: http://hijf.event.com/2014ForensicAnthropology

30-July 4
International Conference on Craniofacial Superimposition
To be held in Dundee (UK).
CONTACT: www.meprocs.eu/iccfis2014

August 2014

19-22
International Conference on Forensic Inference and Statistics (ICFIS)
To be held at Leiden University in the Netherlands
CONTACT: at: www.icfis2014.org

27-31
Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course
To be held in St. Louis, MO.
CONTACT: http://medschool.slu.edu/midi/

Academy News
Do you know someone who may be interested in AAFS membership?

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

Name: _______________________________________________________________________
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Please provide your name so the potential applicant will know who requested the application. AAFS will also recognize you by placing a Sponsor ribbon in your 2015 Annual Meeting registration packet. Please detach form and return to AAFS. Thank you.

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