Near the end of August, I traveled to Hong Kong to attend to the triennial meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS). I was privileged to present the AAFS Douglas M. Lucas Award to Professor Joseph Almog, a forensic scientist at the University of Jerusalem (see page 4). In his Lucas Lecture, Professor Almog discussed the thought-provoking concept of diagnostic field-testing in forensic science. The IAFS meeting, hosted by S.C. Leung of the Forensic Science Department of the Hong Kong Government Laboratory, was held in the spacious and modern Hong Kong Convention Center, and was an unqualified success. At this meeting, AAFS Past President Ron Singer was selected to serve as President of the IAFS for the next three years and will host the 2008 IAFS meeting in the United States.

On August 29th, the day after I returned from Hong Kong, Hurricane Katrina struck Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. It was distressing to see photos of thousands of persons displaced by flooding, as well as the wind damage to the Louisiana Superdome and the Hyatt Regency New Orleans that hosted the Academy’s annual meeting this past February. Hurricane Katrina has been a disaster not only for the residents of the Gulf Coast, but also a particular misfortune for the Academy. A number of AAFS members live and work in the areas impacted by the hurricane. Many had their homes damaged by wind, floods, and wind-driven rain. Others were without water, electricity, and telephones for weeks. Additionally, many AAFS members were also involved in relief and identification efforts and worked under conditions that can only be described as austere: high temperatures and humidity, sleeping in tents with bed rolls, and exposure to snakes and red ants.

On September 24th, a second storm, Hurricane Rita, struck the Gulf Coast between Texas and Louisiana. Rita spared the cities of Houston and Galveston a direct hit, but wind-driven rains damaged the recently repaired levees and re-flooded many parts of New Orleans.

New Orleans has served as the site of AAFS annual meetings in 1980, 1986, 1992, and 2005. With each visit to New Orleans, AAFS has experienced a dramatic increase in the number of meeting registrants. AAFS is considering New Orleans as the site of the 2011 Annual Meeting, and Ron Singer had been planning to have the 2008 IAFS in the Crescent City. It is our sincere hope that New Orleans, a city that AAFS members have truly enjoyed, will be able to accommodate these meetings.

Over the Columbus Day weekend, I attended the AAFS Forensic Science Educators Conference at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, PA. Larry Quarino (Criminalistics), chair of the Forensic Science Department at Cedar Crest, hosted the conference, and many AAFS members participated as faculty members. The audience was made up of high school teachers from all over the United States who were eager to learn about forensic sciences and to take back this knowledge to their students.

The program for the 2006 Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA, has been finalized. Now is the time for you to make your plans to attend. The meeting theme, “Mass Disasters: Natural and Man Made,” has become a particularly timely topic, and I hope that as many of our members as possible will be present in Seattle. Inside this issue you will find a meeting registration form (also available on the AAFS website) as well as airline and hotel reservation information.
The House and Senate passed their respective appropriation bills and we expected these to move to conference committee. Unfortunately, Hurricane Katrina intervened and the appropriations process is stalled. With the new fiscal year nearly upon us, continuing resolution (CR) bills for FY06 will be passed at the previous years’ spending levels to keep the government operating. If there is no resolution by mid-November, another CR or possibly a massive Omnibus Spending Bill will be passed. It is unclear how these events will affect forensic science funding. Complicating matters further is the funding of the war and the cost of hurricane relief and recovery. Conservative calls for cuts to pay for Katrina are very unlikely to be addressed in any of the FY06 spending bills. Subsequent legislation is likely. An Omnibus Bill also offers opportunities to push through amendments with minimal scrutiny. As before, we will take a ‘wait and see’ attitude and do what we can to influence the outcome.

Jan Burke recently reported that the chair of the Mystery Writers of America’s (MWA) public relations committee asked her if he could propose that MWA endorse Jan’s CLP. Jan said yes because MWA represents about 3,000 writers, and this will help spread the word about the project and get other writers’ organizations to follow suit. The proposal has passed the committee vote and was on MWA’s National Board agenda in October. Several of the people on this committee are PR professionals. The Crime Lab Project may be viewed at the following web site: http://www.crimelabproject.com/.

Many AAFS members participated in DMORT efforts during the hurricane disaster recovery operations. We salute these people who gave their all to recover and identify hurricane victims.

The work of DMORT and FEMA is an unprecedented opportunity to review the process for disaster recovery and improve and change elements of that process to do better in the future. AAFS President Edmund Donoghue has been designated by the AAFS and NAME to serve as a point of contact for comments concerning the recovery process following the hurricanes.

Finally, congratulations to immediate Past President Ron Singer for becoming the new president of the International Association of Forensic Science (IAFS). Look for more information concerning the 2008 IAFS Meeting on page 4 of this issue of the Academy News.

**IMPORTANT JFS NEWS!**

*Source: Michael A. Peat, PhD, Editor, JFS*

As mentioned in the September issue of *Academy News*, Blackwell Publishing, Inc. will publish the *Journal of Forensic Sciences* starting with the January 2006 issue. The current publisher, ASTM, will maintain online access to the *JFS* until December 31, 2005. **AAFS members will not have free online access to the *JFS* issues for 2005 and prior after December 31, 2005.** Post transition, AAFS members will have free online access to the *JFS* through Blackwell Publishing, starting with the January 2006 issue.

ASTM is in the process of digitizing the full text of all back issues (1972 - 2005) to include approximately 7,000 papers. ASTM will offer the following options for access to the back issues:

- **Annual subscription for online access** - $410 for institutions and $265 for individuals.
- **Download individual articles without a subscription** - $25 per article.
- **DVD** - $695 (pre-publication price that ends December 31, 2005). The DVD contains the entire collection from 1972 through 2005, approximately 7,000 papers and 195 issues. It is full text searchable (not just title, abstract, keywords, etc, but the entire full text of the papers.) Members can order it by going to www.astm.org/JOFSDVD.htm.

If you have any questions regarding an annual subscription, the DVD, or individual article downloads, please contact ASTM Customer Service: Phone: 610-832-9585; E-mail: service@astm.org; Fax: 610-832-9555.

**For those subscribers who are not members of AAFS, please contact Blackwell at (800) 835-6770 to verify that your subscription will continue without interruption.** You are an important part of our readership and we certainly want to insure that you continue to be a subscriber.

Change is exciting and *JFS* is growing. In our meetings with Blackwell Publishing we have explored a number of ways that we can increase the visibility of *JFS* in the academic communities and by doing so attract authors from the basic and applied researchers throughout the world. This visibility can only help the *Journal* enhance its position as the preeminent journal in the forensic sciences. We are looking forward to some exciting and challenging years.
Congratulations to Dr. Joseph “Yossi” Almog who was selected as the 2005 recipient of the AAFS Douglas M. Lucas Medal. The Lucas Medal was presented by AAFS President Edmund Donoghue during the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) meeting in August in Hong Kong to commemorate Dr. Almog’s significant professional contributions to forensic science/forensic medicine.

The Lucas Medal was first established in 1999 and is intended to be presented by the AAFS triennially at the IAFS meeting to a person who has made internationally recognized contributions to forensic science. The first recipient was Sir Alec J. Jeffreys, the founder of DNA-based testing for forensic purposes, and the 2002 recipient was Dr. Alan S. Curry for his vast contributions to the field of forensic toxicology.

The AAFS Lucas Medal recipient must have distinguished him/herself in the forensic sciences and have a record of meritorious service to the forensic science community and to professional peer group organizations. Additionally, the recipient must have made significant contributions to forensic science research and have been active in the educational field as well as have demonstrated outstanding leadership and management capability, nationally or internationally. And finally, the recipient must have made outstanding contributions in the national or international aspects of public health, welfare and safety as these relate to the forensic sciences.

Dr. Almog presented the “Lucas Lecture” during the IAFS Plenary Session in Hong Kong on “Forensic Science Does Not Start in the Lab: The Concept of Diagnostic Field Tests.”

**UNITED STATES CHOSEN TO HOST 2008 IAFS MEETING**

Source: Ronald L. Singer, MS, AAFS President

I recently had the opportunity to attend the 17th Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) in Hong Kong. As you may know, the IAFS, founded in 1957, holds a scientific meeting once every three years which, like the AAFS meetings, is designed to bring together forensic scientists from the world over for the exchange of technical and scientific information. The AAFS was well represented in Hong Kong. Among the many members present were President Ed Donoghue (Pathology/Biology), President-Elect Jim Young (General), Secretary Carol Henderson (Jurisprudence), Vice President Bob Muehlberger (Questioned Documents), and Directors Joe Bono (Criminalistics) and Barry Logan (Toxicology). In addition, the AAFS presented an award – the Lucas Medal – to an outstanding forensic scientist. The 2005 recipient was AAFS Fellow Joseph Almog (Criminalistics).

The IAFS is an interesting organization in that there is no formal membership. According to its Constitution, the organization coordinates a world meeting every third year. The responsibility for organizing this meeting lies with the IAFS President, who is elected by the governing Council. About eighteen months ago, Anne Warren and I approached the AAFS Board of Directors with a request to support my efforts to become IAFS President and bring the 2008 meeting to the United States. The Board unanimously accepted the request, and consequently Anne Warren, Nancy Jackson, and I made a formal bid before the IAFS Council during the meeting in Hong Kong. I am proud and honored to report that at the meeting’s closing banquet on August 25, 2005, it was announced that I had been elected IAFS President for the 2005–2008 term.

The bid made before the IAFS Council included a meeting to be held the week of July 21, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Superdome in New Orleans. We made this proposal based on the repeated popularity of New Orleans as a venue for our AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting and the potential to draw a large international attendance because of New Orleans’ European flavor. As everyone knows, the week after the IAFS meeting in Hong Kong, New Orleans was devastated by Hurricane Katrina, and the Hyatt made the front page of many international newspapers. We have been in contact with the hotel and with Hyatt’s corporate offices, and have been assured that the hotel will not only be open and available for the IAFS meeting, but will be completely renovated from top to bottom. We’re not leaving anything to chance, though, and are also exploring other venues in the event that the situation in New Orleans changes. I realize it’s early, but you should mark your calendars now and start thinking about making a presentation at the 2008 Golden Jubilee Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences! If you’re interested in participating in the organization of the meeting itself, please feel free to contact either Program Chairman Barry A.J. Fisher or myself.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 17TH TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE IAFS

IAFS Past President Doug Lucas enters the Grand Hall during the Opening Session ceremony.

AAFS Past President Ron Singer and AAFS President Ed Donoghue prepare to attend IAFS Scientific Sessions.

IAFS Past President Barry Fisher and wife Susan dance away the evening during the closing banquet.

Henry Lee pauses to greet old friends at the IAFS registration counter.

IAFS Secretary Carol Henderson stops by the AAFS promotion booth to say hello.

IAFS President S.C. Leung congratulates Incoming President Ronald Singer during the closing banquet.
AAFS 2006 North European Tour
June 9-18, 2006

Information and photos highlighting the three North European Capitals of Helsinki, Stockholm, and Helsinki may be found on the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) with access from the Home Page (left column under “What’s New”). Applications are currently being accepted for this tour. The tour capacity is 30 persons. AAFS President-Elect and Mrs. James G. Young welcome your participation in this Academy international journey, which will include opportunities to attend the 2006 European Academy of Forensic Science Meeting in Helsinki. Please contact me for questions or assistance (jhurley@aafs.org or 719/636-1100).

FSEC/CCC
October 8-10, 2005

AAFS President Edmund Donoghue and John Domesick, Marketing Manager for Court TV, were on hand to welcome more than 70 middle- and high school science teachers from Pennsylvania and 16 other states to the FSEC/CCC at Cedar Crest College. On the eve of the three-day event, Cedar Crest College President Dorothy Blaney invited attendees to tour the College’s newest educational facility, the DaVinci Discovery Center for Science and Technology.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

James P. Hurley
Director of Development & Accreditation

Sidewalk dining in Stockholm

Helsinki Harbour

continued on page 8
Under the direction of the FSEC/CCC oversight chair, Lawrence Quarino, the conference began with a demonstration of the processing and documentation of a crime scene. Teachers then spent many hours over the next two days engaging in hands-on exercises demonstrating the analysis of particular types of evidence that had been removed from the simulated crime scene. Evidence that was presented in the workshops included fingerprints, impression evidence, tool marks, hairs, fibers, questioned documents, and bloodstain patterns. One workshop also focused on the analysis of bloodstains through forensic DNA testing. The conference concluded with a demonstration of courtroom testimony where experts in several of the areas noted above testified on the analytical data obtained during the workshops. AAFS specialists in the Criminalistics Section who assisted Dr. Quarino in the workshops and moot court were Erik Bieschke, Vincent Desiderio, Sheila Estacio-Dennis, Brian Gestring, Donna Mohr, Janine Perna, Allyson Pohlmeyer, Lawrence Presley, Deborah Seramba, Ted Schwartz, Rachel Soda, and Matthew Wood.

More than 70 middle- and high school teachers attend the FSEC/CCC

Ted Schwartz (Crim) directs Impressions Workshop

Ted Schwartz observes teachers’ progress

Teachers receive hands-on experience

Teachers participate in making molds for footprint casts

Brian Gestring (Crim), Forensic Science Program Director at Pace University, demonstrates the role of tool marks

Dr. Donoghue and FSEC/CCC attendees examine evidence
AAFS Treasurer Bruce Goldberger and Secretary Carol Henderson have graciously accepted to oversee the first of three forensic science conferences for teachers in 2006. Thanks to the efforts of Jason Byrd (Path/Bio), and Heather Walsh-Haney (Anth), Florida Gulf Coast University will be the site of the Ninth Forensic Science Educational Conference which will take place on the campus of FGCU in Fort Myers, FL. An organizational meeting with faculty from the university and science teachers in the counties served by FGCU took place on September 29. The date of the meeting coincided with a very special event, the birthday of Dr. Goldberger. And, what is a birthday without a birthday cake?

FSEC/STL III
July 2006

Two other conferences are projected for 2006. AAFS Past President Mary Fran Ernst—founder and advocate of the Forensic Science Educational Conferences—has once again applied to The Saigh Foundation of St. Louis, MO, for funding to offer an advanced program to teachers who have already attended past FSECs and who currently offer forensic science courses in physics, biology, chemistry, and other science courses at the secondary school level.

As a reminder to all Academy members, Mary Fran Ernst, along with her very talented colleague and assistant Julie Howe and several key high school teachers in the St. Louis area, established the goal of this AAFS outreach initiative: to increase science teachers’ knowledge of the forensic sciences by providing them the background to enrich and/or to develop challenging, innovative curricula.

FSEC/IUP
July 2006

Jay Siegel, Director of the Forensic and Investigative Sciences Program at Indiana University Purdue University of Indiana (IUPUI), will host an FSEC at his campus in July 2006. More information about the FSEC/STL III and FSEC/IUP will be posted to the AAFS website later this fall.

FEPAC

The 2005 FEPAC accreditation cycle was completed in September and October. Final Self-Study Reports and accompanying on-site evaluations from the five institutions will be forwarded to commissioners by early December. (Please see the July 2005 Academy News regarding FEPAC 2005 institutional applications.) Commissioners will make determinations of awards at the Winter 2006 FEPAC Meeting, which will take place in Chicago on January 14 and 15, 2006. Information about current programs and previous accreditation awards may be found on the AAFS website under the link “AAFS,” then “Committees,” and then the sub link “FEPAC.”
A WORD FROM YOUR 2006 PROGRAM CO-CHAIR

The theme for the upcoming 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, chosen by AAFS President Edmund Donoghue, “Mass Disaster: Natural and Man Made” has become even more timely in light of the hurricane-related tragedies occurring in the Gulf Coast region. Many AAFS members have been participating in the ongoing relief efforts, and the meeting will be an ideal venue for them to share their knowledge and experience with other members. Indeed, some members of the Program Committee have been personally affected by the hurricane aftermath, but these dedicated committee members have continued to fulfill their time-constrained Program Committee obligations to the AAFS.

Program Co-Chairs Tracey Corey and Doug Ubelaker, the entire 2006 Annual Meeting Program Committee, and the administrative staff at the AAFS office have been hard at work over the last few weeks, pouring over abstracts, proposals, and schedules, to ensure a cohesive, organized, challenging program for the meeting in February. AAFS members who are planning to present in Seattle should be organizing their thoughts for their presentations in the near future. Please check your individual scientific section information, or contact your Section Program Chair if you are unsure about provided equipment. As you make your travel plans for the meeting, remember that you’ll want to arrive in Seattle early in the week to participate in the workshops scheduled for Monday and Tuesday.

As a reminder, the meeting dates are February 20-25, 2006. With the excellent, in-depth, and widely varied topics submitted for scientific discussion, amid the backdrop of the great northwest town of Seattle, the 2006 annual meeting is sure to be scientifically rewarding and socially enjoyable. Remember to book your hotel rooms early to ensure a reservation to join your colleagues. See you in Seattle!

PROGRAM 2006 — SEATTLE

REGISTER FOR THE AAFS ANNUAL MEETING ONLINE AT WWW.AAFS.ORG

The AAFS 58th Annual Meeting is just three months away and the AAFS staff is busily preparing the printed materials for the Advance Program, scheduled to be mailed in late November. The same information will be posted to the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) in early November - just follow the meeting link! The program information will be available on the web and AAFS will continue to update the website information weekly, even after the paper copy is mailed, so you’ll want to check www.aafs.org for the most accurate and up-to-date meeting materials. You will be able to view, download, and print the .pdf session descriptions directly from the web. Best of all you, will be able to register online at the same time! Through the secure server, this is a safe and convenient way to register.
TRANSPORTATION


**International Travelers:** If you or your travel agent call United’s toll-free number (1-800-521-4041) to book your reservations, you will receive a 10% discount off the lowest applicable discount fare, excluding First Class, or a 15% discount off full coach fares, with no advance purchase. An additional 5% discount will apply when tickets are purchased at least 60 days in advance of your travel. Discounts also apply on United Express.

**Domestic Travelers:** United is offering a 2% discount off the lowest applicable fares, to all AAFS meeting attendees. An additional 5% discount will apply when tickets are purchased at least 30 days in advance of the attendee’s travel. This special offer applies to travel on domestic segments of all United Airlines and United Express flights. UAL / UAX / UA* convenient schedule and discounted fares are available through United’s Meeting Desk or your travel agent. Call 1-800-521-4041 and reference Meeting ID Number **537TJ**. Dedicated reservationists are on duty Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and Saturday-Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST.

For special car rental discounts in conjunction with the meeting, contact: Avis at 1-877-289-2611 and reference the Avis Meeting Discount Number **K019303**, OR Budget at 1-800-214-6092 and reference the Budget Meeting Discount Number **X914201**.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM FINALIZED

**Source:** Susan M. Ballou, MS, Multidisciplinary Symposium Co-Chair

Attention all attendees of the 58th AAFS Annual Meeting! Plan your itinerary now and start the travel approval process to ensure your attendance at the **Multidisciplinary Symposium**, scheduled for Tuesday, February 21. This session is offered to all meeting attendees, but in order to attend, you must check the appropriate box under the Special Sessions of the Pre-Registration Form found on page __.

This year, to compliment the Academy’s theme, the focus will be on Mass Disasters: Natural and Man Made. It will be an all-day event covering three different topics. The first will be an in-depth look at the Columbine Disaster. The Columbine presentation will provide investigative and analytical details deep from within the case folder. Facts brought to you will paint a picture of the extensive planning prior to the event, the narrow scope of the disaster due to the cache of failed bombs, and the alternative tactics taken by Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold to compensate for each miss-calculation.

The second topic addresses another man-made disaster that occurred at the same time of the 2003 AAFS Annual Meeting. This is the Station Nightclub in Warwick, RI, where 100 people were killed and more than 200 were injured. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has finished lengthy research into event details, providing insight into contributions of the building structure, smoke, and toxic fumes. The actual modeling experiments will be presented in a video format accompanied by the videotape taken by cameraman Brian Butler who was on location when the disaster occurred.

The final topic is the 2004 natural tsunami disaster. Speakers from the public and private realms will discuss their involvement responding to this unprecedented natural disaster. Topics will include initial response and recovery of remains, identification of the victims, and challenges faced during the entire process. The series of presentations will highlight the interaction of agencies and specialties within the field of forensic science. This day long presentation will provide an education in:

- large case management
- locating evidence
- case analysis
- implications of building structures to arson/pathology/toxicology analysis
- the consideration of other agency support in future forensic examinations

The symposium chairs look forward to your attendance at what can only be anticipated as a very intriguing day of forensic education.
Prepare yourself for breakfast because you will not want to miss these great seminars (pre-registration only) arranged by Chair Jim Adcock. You will enjoy a wonderful breakfast — buffet style — with fresh fruit, muffins, and dry cereal, in addition to ham, bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns, pastries, juices, coffee, tea, and milk. Breakfast is from 7:00 a.m. to 7:25 a.m., with the special presentation scheduled to conclude at 8:30 a.m., just in time to join your colleagues for the scientific sessions.

**TUESDAY — FEBRUARY 21**

1. **Bioterrorism Mass Disasters**  
   Ingrid A. Gill, JD
2. **International Perspectives on Depravity**  
   Michael Welner, MD

**WEDNESDAY — FEBRUARY 22**

1. **The Tsunami Disaster: Thailand**  
   Sawait Kanluen, MD
2. **The Atypical Serial Killer**  
   Barbara C. Wolf, MD; Wendy A. Lavezzi, MD

**THURSDAY — FEBRUARY 23**

1. **Racial Profiling SNPs**  
   Ingrid A. Gill, JD
2. **The Crime, Mystery, Thriller Novel: From Reality to Pulp Truth**  
   Anne Rule; Kathleen J. Reichs, PhD; Linda B. Kenney, JD; Michael M. Baden, MD

**FRIDAY — FEBRUARY 24**

1. **Is Your Daughter Trolling for Pedophiles on the Internet?**  
   Don L. Lewis
2. **Tom Krauss Memorial Bite Mark Breakfast: Rescue and Recovery Operations at the World Trade Center and Rebuilding the FDNY**  
   Michael D. O’Keeffe

**LUNCHEON SEMINARS**

An educational venue is being offered again at the 2006 AAFS Annual Meeting in the form of Luncheon Seminars. The luncheons will follow the same model of the breakfast seminars, with the presentations focusing on intellectually challenging and stimulating topics. Don’t miss this opportunity to have lunch with colleagues from various disciplines and to listen to the presentations. The luncheons are available by pre-registration only.

**THURSDAY — FEBRUARY 23**

1. **From the Green River: Forensic Evidence and the Prosecution of Gary Ridgway**  
   Jeffrey Baird

**FRIDAY — FEBRUARY 24**

1. **Dying to Kill: Understanding the Motives of Suicide Bombers**  
   Mia Bloom, PhD

**ANNUAL MEETING EMPLOYMENT FORUM**

Due to an overwhelming response, and often confusing jumble, of traditional job posting boards at the AAFS Annual Meetings, AAFS will be hosting its fourth annual Employment Forum. The intention is to provide a means for employers and applicants to meet, exchange information, conduct informal interviews, or schedule interviews for later in the week.

This special event will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., directly adjacent to the AAFS Welcoming Reception.

Space is limited! Employers, to reserve your place at the Employment Forum, please notify Nancy Jackson at the AAFS headquarters by e-mail: njackson@aafs.org, or fax: (719) 636-1993. Nancy will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Plan on joining us for the AAFS Annual Meeting Employment Forum!
2006 WORKSHOPS ANNOUNCED

Several workshops have been accepted for the upcoming AAFS Annual Meeting, offering a wide range of topics. Workshops are an excellent means to meet your continuing education needs while maintaining and expanding your knowledge of your specific forensic discipline. Many workshops have limited registration, so fill out the pre-registration form on page 31 today!

MONDAY - FEBRUARY 20

# 1 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The Tri-State Crematorium Incident: A Mass Disaster Over Seven Years
Chair: Kris L. Sperry, MD; Co-Chair: Frederick J. Snow, PhD

# 2 8:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Research, Writing, and Reviewing: A Guide to Designing, Conducting, Writing, Publishing, and Analyzing Scientific Research
Chair: Amy C. Gruszecki, MSFS, DO; Co-Chair: Gregory G. Davis, MD MSPH

# 3 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Investigating, Evaluating, and Litigating Cases of Mass Disaster
Chair: Margaret L. Tarver, JD, MS; Co-Chair: Charles H. Dold, JD

# 4 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Expectations and Responsibilities of Expert Pathology Witnesses and the Attorneys Who Consult or Scrutinize Them
Chair: Patricia J. McFeeley, MD; Roderick T. Kennedy, JD

# 5 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Solving the South Louisiana Serial Killer Case – New Approaches Blended With Older Trusted Techniques
Chair: Ray A. Wickenheiser, BSc, MBA; Co-Chair: George J. Schiro, MS

# 6 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Advanced Topics in STR DNA Analysis
Chair: John M. Butler, PhD; Co-Chair: Bruce R. McCord, PhD

# 7 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Grants, Grant Progress Assessments, & DNA Audits: Before, During, and After – Lessons Learned & Tools to Help
Chair: David M. Epstein, BS; Co-Chair: Susan D. Narveson, BS

# 8 8:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. The Nose Knows: Canine and Instrumental Detection of Suspects, Explosives, and Cadavers
Chair: Ross J. Harper, PhD; Co-Chair: Allison M. Curran, BS

# 9 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Practical Homicide Investigation and Sex-Related Murders
Chair: Vernon J. Geberth, MS, MPS; Co-Chair: Robert D. Keppel, PhD

#10 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Forensic Image and Video Processing
Chair: Zeno J. Geradts, PhD; Co-Chair: Richard W. Vorder Bruegge, PhD

#11 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. The Medicolegal Investigation of Recreational Diving Fatalities
Chair: James L. Caruso, MD; Co-Chair: Michael D. Bell, MD

#12 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Interpretation of Toxicological Analysis in the Elderly
Chair: Ashraf Mozayani, PharmD, PhD; Co-Chair: Douglas K. Posey, MD

TUESDAY - FEBRUARY 21

#13 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Operation Street Smart: An Overview of Current Street Drugs and Drug Culture
Chair: John F. Wyman, PhD; Co-Chair: John R. Sudimack, BS

#14 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Forensic Toxicology – The World Outside of Drugs
Chair: Lee M. Blum, PhD; Co-Chair: Edward J. Barbieri, PhD

#15 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Recovery, Examination, and Evidence of Decomposed and Skeletonized Bodies: An Anthropological and Entomological Approach
Chair: M. Lee Goff, PhD; Co-Chair: William C. Rodriguez III, PhD

#16 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Accreditation of Forensic Science Laboratories Under ISO/IEC 17025: Addressing Specific Requirements in the Accreditation Process
Chair: Joseph P. Bono, MA; Co-Chair: Scott R. Oulton, BS

#17 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Understanding the Psychopath: The Theoretical and Conceptual Issues Related to Psychopathy and the Practical Applications to the Assessment and Understanding of Violent Offenders and Their Behavior
Chair: Mary Ellen O’Toole, PhD; Co-Chair: Robert Hare, PhD
**PROGRAM 2006 — SEATTLE**

**WORKSHORT SESSIONS ANNOUNCED**

Workshorts will once again be offered at the 2006 meeting. They are 2-hour sessions scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, and will take the form of traditional hands-on workshops, a seminar/extended lecturer format, or panel-discussion format.

**MONDAY — FEBRUARY 20**

#1 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
**Selected Topics in Forensic Pathology: “Respirator” Brain; Postmortem Monocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy (PMIO)**  
Chair: Jan E. Leestma, MD; Co-Chair: Patrick E. Lantz, MD

#2 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
**The Forensic Scientist and Bio-Chemical Terror**  
Chair: Maurice G. Rogev, MD, MBChB; Co-Chair: Faruk B. Presswalla, MD, FRCP

**TUESDAY — FEBRUARY 21**

#3 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
**Forensic DNA for the Non-Scientist**  
Chair: Greg Hampikian, PhD; Co-Chair: Anjali R. Swienton, MFS, JD
GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING 35MM SLIDES

Noted below are the official guidelines in preparing 35mm slides for presentation at the 2006 AAFS Annual Meeting:

• Limit the information on each slide to a single point or idea.
• Keep slides simple with plenty of open space. Space between lines should be at least the height of capital letters.
• Limit messages to seven lines or less. Do not use more than seven words per line.
• Do not crowd the slide. Two or more simple slides are better than one that is complex and crowded.
• If you must use illustrative materials, try to use simple graphs with a limited number of captions.
• A good rule of thumb is if you can read the information on your slide held at arm's length against a bright background, then it will be readable to your audience.
• Simplify-Simplify-Simplify: Your entire presentation should not be on the slides. The slides should support your talk and add emphasis to your important points.
• Speaker should be able to convey slide information in five-ten seconds. Avoid advancing the slide before ten seconds; however, most slides should not remain on the screen longer than two minutes.
• Avoid backing up in slide lectures. If you need a slide twice, make duplicate slides.
• Slides mounted in plastic mounts are preferable to cardboard or glass.
• Fill the slide. Avoid blank areas on the periphery.
• Graphics are preferable.
• White on black, white on blue, or blue on yellow project the best. Avoid red and blue or other non-contrasting color combinations.

Following these guidelines will ensure that the audience will obtain the maximum benefit from your presentation. As it is a primary goal of the AAFS to promote education and to elevate professionalism in the field of forensic sciences, organizing a quality presentation is an area to which everyone can contribute.

Although every effort will be made to meet your needs, the number of available slide carousels is limited once at the meeting. It is highly recommended that you provide your own, if possible.

PRESENTING A POSTER IN SEATTLE?

In order to provide a quality display, and to ensure that the audience will obtain the maximum amount of information, formal guidelines for poster presentations have again been prepared and will be distributed to all applicable authors during the month of December. With these guidelines in place, displays will be effective in generating discussion among authors and their colleagues.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability that may impact your participation at the 58th AAFS Annual Meeting, please check the appropriate box on the AAFS Pre-Registration Form (page 31), and include a statement regarding your special needs. Someone from the AAFS headquarters will contact you prior to the meeting to discuss accommodations. Availability of appropriate accommodations cannot be ensured without prior notification of need.

NEED TO SHARE A ROOM IN SEATTLE?

If you would like to have more spending money to take in the “must see” sights while in Seattle during the AAFS 2006 Annual Meeting, then share a room!

The AAFS office is maintaining a list of meeting attendees who would like to share a room with a colleague. For more information, please contact the AAFS office at (719) 636-1100.
CRIMINALISTICS

Source: Peter R. De Forest, DCrim, Section Secretary

Over the past few decades the field of forensic science has witnessed several developments that attest to its maturation as a profession. This has included laboratory accreditation by ASCLD/LAB, the standardization of certain methods under the auspices of ASTM Committee E-30, the certification of scientists by the ABC, and more recently, the accreditation of university programs in forensic science by the Forensic Science Education Program Accreditation Commission (FEPAC). The Commission is a standing committee of the AAFS. The current chair of the FEPAC is Max Houck of West Virginia University. The purpose of the FEPAC is to assure that forensic science education programs that receive accreditation meet minimum standards. The bulk of the FEPAC standards evolved from those developed by the Technical Working Group on Education (TWG/ED) sponsored by NIJ and AAFS. TWG/ED consisted of a committee of a large number of experienced practitioners and educators who were brought together for several meetings. Certainly a major hallmark of a profession is agreement concerning the route of entry into the ranks of the profession. Mature professions have approved programs of educational preparation including specified curricula and minimum standards. Members of the section are encouraged to learn more about FEPAC by going to the AAFS website.

Criminalistics Section Program Chair Lucy Davis Houck has accepted a large number of good papers for the 2006 meeting in Seattle. It promises to be a very good meeting. Lucy strongly encourages attendees to make their travel plans to include the Saturday papers. The criminalistics papers will go until noon on Saturday, and there are many quality papers being presented. She asks attendees to please not let their fellow scientists down by not planning on attending the full offering of scientific sessions in the Criminalistics Section. In addition, as Lucy pointed out in her last column, there will be a session on education chaired by Larry Quarino. Educators, as well as practitioners with an interest in helping with university programs in their local regions, are encouraged to attend. All section members are encouraged to attend the Criminalistics Section Luncheon to find out more about the ABC, FEPAC, and their activities (and the food is always goo, too!). See you in Seattle!

ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Source: Laura L. Liptai, PhD, Section Secretary

Program Committee Co-Chairs Holly Adams and April Yergin have been busy reviewing the abstracts. Many interesting papers have been submitted for the 2006 annual meeting. There will be a special Taser Session, and of course many papers on Environmental, Accident Reconstruction, and Digital and Multimedia Evidence.

A request has been made by a Fellow member for the Engineering Sciences Section to be represented at ANSI A92.2 Committee concerning Vehicle Mounted Elevating and Rotating Aerial Devices. More information is available at www.scaffold.org/displayemailforms.cfm?emailformnbr=34986. We should vote first on whether we need someone to represent AAFS before voting on who it should be.

Congratulations to Harold J. Wilkinson, Fellow of the Engineering Sciences Section, who was honored with the Order of Niagara in Canada on September 25, 2005. The Order of Niagara is one of the citations recognized by the College of Heralds and is a real distinction. The medal must be worn on certain occasions and may be worn with military medals. Hal has been very active in the AAFS Engineering Sciences Section and for the last three years has served as President of the International Institute of Forensic Engineering Sciences (IIFES). The IIFES is presently seeking accreditation by the FSAB and Hal has been the Engineering Sciences Section member of the FSAB.

Past, present, and future AAFS Engineering Section Chairs got an extreme makeover at the IAFS 2005 meeting in Hong Kong. According to Zeno Geradts, “We endeavor to be the best outfit in 2006.”

SECTION & PROGRAM NEWS

GENERAL

Source: Paul E. Kish, MS, Section Secretary

General Section Chair John Gerns and Secretary Paul Kish have been and are in the process of reviewing applications for membership, as well as, for promotion within the General Section.

Program Committee Chairs Julie Howe and Gary Deegear have been hard at work reviewing abstracts for oral presentations and posters. They have accepted thirty-seven abstracts for oral presentations and seventeen abstracts for poster presentations during the General Sections Scientific Sessions in Seattle. In addition, three proposals were submitted for consideration for workshops from the section. Thanks to all who have taken the time to submit their abstracts for presentation. Your continued...
Section & Program News Cont.

Contributions are what make the General Section’s Scientific Program a success. Awards Committee Chair James Bailey is pleased to announce that Robert Keppel will receive the John R. Hunt Award. This award will be presented during the General Section Business Meeting. The Awards Committee has also reviewed several applicants who have submitted abstracts for consideration for the General Section Achievement Award. Those competing for the General Section Achievement Award will be making either oral or poster presentations during the section’s scientific session in Seattle.

JURISPRUDENCE

Sources: Betty L. DesPortes, JD, MS, Section Chair
Margaret L. Tarver, JD, MS, Section Secretary

After almost 120 years, the labor militants charged in the Chicago Haymarket riot got another day in court. Regarded as America’s “first terror trial,” August Spies was one of thousands rounded up after a bomb was tossed into a group of policemen who responded to a labor rally near Haymarket Square on May 4, 1886. At the American Bar Association’s Annual Meeting in Chicago in August 2005, an all-star panel of lawyers including Gil Sapir and James Starrs participated in a high-tech mock trial based on trial transcripts and the Illinois Supreme Court’s decision in Illinois v. August Spies et al. (1886). James Starrs served as the prosecution’s expert on explosive devices. Gil Sapir represented the defendant and cross-examined Professor Starrs. Contrary to the result in the actual trial, this time Spies was not convicted.

At the same meeting, Carol Henderson gave a presentation on “CSI Meets the Courts: The Brave New World of Forensic Technology.”

Thanks to all members who submitted abstracts and agreed to participate in the 2006 Seattle meeting. Section Program Chairs Linda Kenney and Greg Hill are making final arrangements for the program and we hope to see everyone in February.

ODONTOLOGY

Source: Bryan Chrz, DDS, Section Chair

Section Program Chair Harvey Silverstein reports that the submissions for papers and poster sessions for the February meeting in Seattle are looking good. The Nominations Committee has been busy getting candidates lined up for the elections in 2006. We have had a few issues arise throughout the year, but in all this has been a quite year with all running smoothly. Thanks to everyone who has offered help along the way aiding the section officers. Only with your cooperation can we further our purpose and continue to grow as a section. The AAFS office has been wonderful in assisting the section with any problems that crop up during the year. Tom David and Brian Chrz are busy reviewing promotions and applications and will have everything in order for the upcoming annual meeting. Have a great fall with all the football games and activities coming up. Be safe and we’ll see you all in Seattle.

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Source: Victor W. Weedn, MD, JD, Section Secretary

The 2006 Annual Meeting is around the corner. Scott Denton and his assistants have worked hard to produce an excellent meeting program. Tracey Corey is helping with the overall annual program and Greg G. Davis (Alabama) with the Plenary Session. Make sure you make your travel and lodging arrangements early.

The membership and promotions applications that were due October 1 are in review by the Chair and Secretary; new applications will accumulate and be reviewed next year. As a reminder, promotion from an Associate Member to a full Member includes attendance at two AAFS meetings. Promotion to Fellow requires a presentation at an AAFS meeting or publication in the JFS while in Member status.

The Mass Disaster theme for the upcoming meeting could hardly be more appropriate after Hurricane Katrina. Section Chair Karen Ross and others were directly impacted by Katrina. Several members were activated for DMORT and still others volunteered to help. Edmund Donoghue has agreed to represent the forensic science community for the CFSo in congressional discussions on the subject.

There is still time to submit research short proposals (3-5 pages) to Keith Pinckard; they are due December 1.

PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Source: Todd W. Fenton, PhD, Section Secretary

The section is pleased to announce that Kathy Reichs has been nominated for the office of Vice President of the AAFS.

The U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice held its first Missing Person Regional Training Seminar in Clearwater Beach, FL, from September 19-21, 2005. The conference was hosted by the National Forensic Science Technology Center – a member of the NIST-sponsored Forensic Resource Network. The meeting including speakers from the federal government; FBI, NIJ, DOJ as well as forensic scientists, medical examiners, forensic anthropologists, law enforcement officers, state’s attorneys and most importantly family members of persons both missing and found. In addition there were breakout workshops where all participants combined expertise to develop new strategies for missing person’s
cases. Physical Anthropology Section members in attendance included, Brad Adams, Tony Falsetti, Donna Fontana, Lisa Leppo, Jennifer Love, Lee Meadows Jantz, Rick Snow, and John Williams. The goal of the meeting was to bring together experts in their respective fields to share information and to learn of the federal government’s new DNA initiatives. Tony Falsetti was invited to speak in the Plenary Session entitled, “The Forensic Perspective.”

The National Institute of Justice has awarded a grant of $201,853 to Mercyhurst College in Erie, PA, to fund the research of forensic anthropologist and Mercyhurst faculty member Steven Synes, on “Knife and Saw Toolmark Analysis in Bone.” By establishing a gold standard methodology for analyzing cut marks in bone, the project intends to advance the identification of the class of weapon used for criminal mutilation or dismemberment. Also assisting in the research are Anne Kroman of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and Susan Myster of Hamline University in St. Paul, MN.

Mary Manhein’s new book, Trail of Bones, hit the bookshelves in September. It is a non-fiction account of some of her cases, including her work on the Baton Rouge serial killers’ cases, the Columbia shuttle crash, and Precious Doe.

Alicia Lusiardo, Margarita Arruza, and Tony Falsetti were awarded 3rd place in the Dr. Alejandro Sarchaga Award at the IV Latin American Medico-legal Conference held September 21-24, 2005, in Montevideo, Uruguay. Their paper was titled “The Contribution of the Anthropologist to the Criminal Investigation: A Case Study.”

SECTION & PROGRAM NEWS

Richard Rosner was honored by being asked to participate in the New York Academy of Medicine’s prestigious 2005 Stuart Asch Memorial Lecture on November 2. Dr. Rosner will discuss the unfortunate role of prisons as the new psychiatric system.

Stephen Billick presented a course on Updating Clinical Skills in Adolescent Psychiatry at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association in Atlanta. Dr. Billick and his co-presenter, Dr. Lois Flaherty received very high evaluation marks from the sell-out audience.

Stay in Touch: The section would like to receive information about its members to be included in the newsletter. Please email stephen@billick.com with news.

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

February is getting closer. Section Program Co-Chairs Jim Tarver and Dave Oleksow have developed a great program and are looking forward to the section members’ participation in the 2006 Annual Meeting in Seattle.

The 2006 program will include a multi-disciplinary workshop entitled, “How Frye & Daubert Have Changed the Presentation of Criminalistics & Questioned Documents in Court” which will begin with an introduction by Judge Joseph Maltese, who will present an overview and basics of the historical Frye Standard and the current standards developed from the Daubert Trilogy of cases. Andre Moenssens, the next speaker, will be discussing how Frye and Daubert have changed the presentation of criminalistics, fingerprints, and questioned documents in court.
Robert Muehlberger will discuss preparing for and testifying in a Daubert challenge to forensic document examination, particularly in the area of handwriting comparison. Max Houck will discuss the expert’s role in gaining admissibility for trace evidence with an emphasis on forensic hair examination and comparison. Additionally, John Lentini will cover the admissibility challenges faced by experts testifying in a variety of types of suspicious fire cases. Because this workshop will be limited to approximately one hundred participants and availability will be equally provided to the Criminalistics, Jurisprudence, and Questioned Document Sections, interested members are urged to sign-up early.

The deadline for abstracts has passed. Anyone with questions regarding presentations should contact Jim Tarver (james.tarver@wsp.wa.gov) or Dave Oleksow (doleksow@att.net).

On a sad note, the questioned documents community has lost a very distinguished colleague. Roy A. Huber, Retired Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Questioned Document Section, passed away in September. Mr. Huber became a Member of the Questioned Documents Section in 1960, a Fellow in 1961, and a Retired Fellow in 2003. He held the Questioned Documents Section offices of Secretary and Chairman. Mr. Huber served as a uniformed member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police where he spent twenty-six years in the Crime Detection Laboratories, retiring with the rank of Assistant Commissioner, as Director of the Laboratories and Identification Services. He served as Special Advisor on security in printing to the Canadian Banknote Company from 1975 through 1986, and conducted a private practice in the examination of questioned documents from 1976 through 1996. Mr. Huber was President of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science in 1967 and 1968 and the Editor of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science Journal from 1976 through 1983. He was a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc. and a Board Director from 1978 through 1983. Mr. Huber was President of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners from 1996 through 1998, as well as the recipient of that society’s prestigious Albert S. Osborne Award of Excellence. Mr. Huber has authored and coauthored with A. M. Headrick numerous articles on the subject of questioned documents. Mr. Huber along with Mr. A. M. Headrick authored the book Handwriting Identification: Facts and Fundamentals which was published in 1999.

TOXICOLOGY

Source: Timothy P. Rohrig, PhD, Section Chair

The 58th AAFS Annual Meeting is just a few short months away. Section Program Chair Rob Middleburg and Workshop Chair Peter Stout have put together an exciting program. There promises to be good science, wonderful food, and great people gathered in Seattle.

The Awardees Recognition Reception will be held on Wednesday evening. It is a pleasure to announce that awardees have been selected for all five categories. The Abernathy Award, Gettler Award, Harger Award, and Sunshine Award will be presented to outstanding toxicologists. The June K. Jones Scholarship will be given to a young aspiring student toxicologist. Many thanks to the Awards Committee, chaired by Sarah Kerrigan, for completing the difficult task of selecting the most qualified individual for each award category. Hopefully, everyone will find time in his or her busy meeting schedule to personally congratulate each honoree.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for allowing me the honor to represent the section this year.

Enjoy the upcoming holidays and see you all in Seattle next year!

MEETING ATTENDANCE SURVEY RESULTS TABULATED

Thank you to those who participated in the survey regarding attendance at a recent AAFS Annual Meeting. The results have been tabulated and will be forwarded to the appropriated committees for consideration. The survey results identified:

- The overwhelming reason members have been unable to attend a recent AAFS Annual Meeting is due to financial reasons.
- Approximately 57% of the respondents require continuing education credit.
- Topics of interest are numerous and varied, but some of the topics most cited included: Forensic Laboratory Management, DNA, Forensic Toxicology, Business/Laboratory Management, and Trace Evidence.
- The highest rated cities that would encourage attendance at a future AAFS meeting are: Los Angeles, CA; Seattle, WA; San Francisco, CA; New York, NY; Washington, DC; Boston, MA; Denver, CO; and Phoenix, AZ.
The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made to the Foundation and its Endowment Fund. Please accept our apologies if your name has been inadvertently omitted and contact the AAFS office as soon as possible with the correction. This listing reflects contributions received from 8/01/05 through 10/01/05.

The Fund’s balance through 10/01/05 was $417,175. Additionally, the Endowment has provided $58,363 in awards and grants since its inception in 1990.

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**Contributors**

**F O R E N S I C S C I E N C E S F O U N D A T I O N**

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WHY SUPPORT THE FSF?

Source: Carla M. Noziglia, MS, FSF Chair

In the forensic science profession, education is a large and integral part of its responsibilities. As scientists, we educate juries, judges, attorneys, law enforcement officers, students, and the general public. We do this by means of trials, conferences, educational forums, lectures, tours, books and articles. We not only educate others, we seek education for ourselves so that we may remain on the cutting edge of our profession.

The AAFS, formed in 1948, has from the start been dedicated to education. This explains why, in 1973, it accepted the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) as its research and education arm. The Academy, a 501(c)6 non-profit organization at that time was not qualified to apply for Federal research grants and the Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization was so qualified.

To accomplish its mission, the FSF established an Endowment Fund to “promote research, education and study in the forensic sciences.” The annual earnings from that fund (the principal cannot be touched) are used to provide research grants to Academy members. We would like to increase the principal base of that fund so that larger and/or more awards may be granted and more projects undertaken. The Foundation needs your help to reach our goal of $500,000 in 2005. So, why should you give? The track record of the FSF is admirable and you may not be aware that many programs in effect today began in the FSF.

Feasibility Study of an Early Warning Information System

Based on an 1969 FSF initiated proposal, the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (now the DEA) approved the Foundation’s first grant to conduct a feasibility study to detect the presence and estimate the use of street drugs. The project was a great success and the reporting system, called “Dawn,” is still in operation.

Forensic Science Assessment Project

In 1973, the Department of Justice Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) (now called NIJ) accepted a joint AAFS-FSF grant to acquire basic data on the personnel and facilities of the forensic sciences. The product of the grant was a three volume report covering: 1) the opinion of judges from all jurisdictions as to the value of forensic evidence, 2) a detailed assessment of the disciplines in the profession, and 3) a listing of higher educational opportunities.

Laboratory Proficiency Testing Project

This Federal grant determined the feasibility of conducting large scale multi-laboratory proficiency testing. At the conclusion of the project the FSF subcontractor, Collaborative Testing Services, Inc., began offering tests on a subscription basis and today, under the control of ASCLD, there are over 500 subscribers in 40 countries despite the fact that proficiency testing was viewed with considerable suspicion in the 1970s.

Certification Programs

At the request of the Toxicology Section, the Foundation developed and won approval of a LEAA grant to coordinate the deliberations of committees from the Anthropology, Document Examination, Odontology, Psychiatry, and Toxicology Sections, to not only develop certification programs and procedures for each of these disciplines, but also to incorporate them as certifying boards.

New York State Police and Connecticut Criminalistics Section Project

These projects, paid for by the respective states, were granted to the Foundation to conduct analyses of state-wide services provided by crime labs and to offer alternate ways to improve the quality and increase the quantity of the services provided.

Criminalistics Methods of Analysis Feasibility Study

Under this Federal project granted to the Foundation, eleven prominent forensic scientists developed and tested procedures for the evaluation of methods in use and published a compendium of ‘methods currently being used in forensic laboratories for common evidence materials.’

Development of Forensic Science Higher Education Guidelines

The basis for this 1979-80 Department of Justice National Institute of Justice (NIJ) grant to the Foundation was the Academy’s long-standing concern that some learning institutions were offering curricula considered to be of questionable content. The discipline oriented guidelines developed by the research committee were made available to the public by NIJ.

Utilization of Forensic Sciences in Police Investigations Project

This NIJ grant to the Foundation was accomplished by a subcontractor, the University of Illinois, Chicago. The study involved the analysis of 400 cases as to the relative utilization of different forms of physical evidence.

Medical Examiners Project

The National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) awarded this large grant to the FSF and the Office of the Medical Investigator, University of New Mexico, to prepare a universal “drug involved” death reporting system to replace the myriad of incompatible reports in use by hundreds of submitting agencies throughout the United States.
Conferences
Kenner Conference: a conference for 150 personnel from all segments of the criminal justice system on the use of forensic science services.

Workshops
Forensic Serology - 1976
Forensic Microscopy - 1978
Office Copier - 1978

Seminars
Annual Pathology Slide Seminars 1970s,
‘Popped Off In The Penthouse’ 1977 - to AAFS, IACP, College of District Attorneys, College of Public Defenders and Criminal Defense Attorneys; a dramatization on the role of the forensic science in a complex murder case.

Publications
Crime Laboratory Management Forum Book
Forensic Sciences Foundation Career Book - So You Want to be a Forensic Scientist
Death Investigation and Examination, Mediocolegal Guidelines and Checklists
When is a Poison Not a Poison? - Toxicology Analysis (tapes)
A Forensic Science Literature Filing System
Cigarette Butt Identification Aid
Forensic Insect Identification Cards
Mediocolegal Death Investigation: Treatises in the Forensic Sciences
A Bibliography of Forensic Aspects of Alcohols

Today, the FSF awards grants for special purposes and has awarded research grants for many years. The original small grants of $500 or less are still awarded as Acorn Grants. In 2002, a second category of grants, named for Douglas Lucas, was instituted. Awards may be made offered up to $5,000.

The very popular Emerging Forensic Scientist Award, first given in 2001, recognizes the best paper or poster presentation from an applicant at the AAFS Annual Meeting. To assist students to attend the annual meeting, the Student Travel Grant was first awarded in 2005.

In 2005 alone, $11,653 was awarded: four Acorn Grants totaling $1,933; two Lucas Grants totaling $8,067; $1,200 for two Student Travel Grants; $250 for the Emerging Forensic Scientist Award, and $203 for the EFS travel.

“Jan’s Grant” will be awarded next year to assist a criminalistics student with research for an advanced degree. This is the Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance Grant.

There’s still time left and we can expand and increase awards and programs with your help. Now it’s up to you; if you don’t do it, who will?

~ ATTENTION JFS AUTHORS ~

You will soon be able to submit your manuscripts online to the Journal of Forensic Sciences.

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Go to www.aafs.org in 2006 for more information.
Hindcasting for Legendary Lawyering - Part II

Part II: Words Tell the Tale or, at Least, the Denouement

Homer, in *The Odyssey*, did not, on occasion, stint at verbal skullduggery. Odysseus (Ulysses in Latin) saved his very best and most effective verbal salvo for the giant Cyclops, Polyphemus. Odysseus, after the defeat at Troy, was accompanied by twelve of his men when their vessel was beached on a strange shore that the one-eyed giants known as Cyclopes called their home due to the generosity of Zeus, for whom they had crafted his thunderbolts. Upon entering the cave of the Cyclops Polyphemus little did Odysseus envisage the danger that lay before him upon the return of the cave’s chief inhabitant.

Polyphemus, to say the least, inhospitable and at worst afflicted with cannibalistic instincts. After being trapped in the cave of this monster and watching four of his fellows served up as meals for Polyphemus, Odysseus concocted a plan for his escape and that of his remaining men. The plan included his persuading Polyphemus that his name was “Noman.”

It was not until Odysseus had tricked Polyphemus into sleep through the effects of the wine with which he plied him and had taken an olive-wood stake and ground out the Cyclops’ eye while he slept an alcohol-induced sleep that the reason for his identifying himself as “Noman” became clear. When Polyphemus howled in his agony his fellow Cyclopes came running to his aid. But when they asked the stricken, eyeless creature who or what had wounded him, he replied that it was “Noman” who is “slaying me by guile and not by force.”

In answer the Cyclopes “addressed him with winged words: ‘If, then no man does violence to thee in thy loneliness, sickness which comes from great Zeus thou mayest in no wise escape’… So they spoke and went their way” while Odysseus’ “heart laughed within me that my name and cunning device had so beguiled” them. In the end Odysseus escaped from the cave along with his remaining men, all due to his verbal knavery.

Lawyers are sometimes accused of the same chicanery in the use of words for which Odysseus was the beneficiary. Great Britain’s legendary barrister, Marshall Hall, being a formidable and effective advocate for the defense could, therefore, be seen to be drawn from the deceiving mold of Odysseus. However, as John Mortimer (creator of Rumpole of the Bailey) put it:

“The advocate is always a suspect figure. He is thought to be dishonest: is he not always trying to get people off when he knows perfectly well they must be guilty? He is accused of diverting the Sword of Justice with soft words and an appeal to the emotions… no advocate worth the name invents evidence. Certainly Marshall Hall never did so. What he did was to ask the jury to interpret the evidence available in the way most favourable to his client.”

And that best sums up what Marshall Hall did for his client in his second murder trial at the turn of the century in Great Britain.

This was a trial that did not end as agreeably for the accused as did that of Mrs. Deaker, the mother charged with killing her newborn child which was reported upon by this writer in the last issue of *Academy News*. However, once again Hall’s understanding of the spoken word as well as his defense of that understanding before the jury took the bite of capital punishment out of the outcome. For that the accused could be truly grateful.

Mrs. Lucy Packham was the victim in this instance and her husband, Tom Packham, was the accused murderer. Once again it was the words, on this occasion only overheard, that seemed to convict Tom Packham as well as his wife’s blood found to have soaked his clothing. And, as in the Deaker trial, the defense was one of an accidental killing, not criminal homicide.

Certain facts were conveniently conceded. Tom and Lucy Packham were established to be alcoholics, with Tom being a tavern keeper in Brighton, England. They were constant sparring partners with aggressive behavior between them being a regular occurrence.

On the night of March 1st – 2nd, 1900, two policemen in the Packham’s pub heard Tom tell his wife, “You wants killing, you!” Then Lucy was heard to exclaim “Don’t, Tom.” Following this exchange Tom was overheard to declare, “You are a lazy woman. Will you get up? Wake up, old girl, and let’s go to bed.” What followed almost immediately was Tom’s saying pityingly and remorsefully, “Lucy, I forgive you. What have I done? Oh Luce, Luce, come back to me.”

Later that night Tom reported that his wife was dead. His report included his being seen to be bathed in his wife’s blood. Lucy had a very severe and lethal wound to her head as well as a “terribly bruised” body. The cards looked to be stacked mighty high against Tom Packham until Marshall Hall unceremoniously reshuffled them.

The key phrase for the prosecution was Lucy Packham’s saying, indeed imploring, “Don’t, Tom!” Those words had Tom’s seeming guilt written all over them. No need to spell out any further details of a husband’s brutalizing and battering a wife who was beseeching him to stop. But Marshall Hall would have none of such an uncomplicated, straight-shot-to-the-gallows scenario.

Hall managed to get the doctor who testified for the prosecution to admit that the head wound to Mrs. Packham could have been the result of her falling in a drunken stupor and not from blows inflicted by her husband nor for other reasons for which her husband could justly be held accountable. With that concession he prised out of the medical expert the likelihood that Tom’s blood soaked clothing might have resulted from his cradling Lucy in his arms, as an innocently distraught husband might well do.
This occurred well before the advent of blood spatter experts opining on blood stain interpretations, who might have been called to counter Marshall Hall’s speculating on behalf of Tom Packham.

But what of Tom’s apparently incriminating, “What have I done?” How could Hall’s word wizardry erase the guilty taint from that expostulation? He could do so and did do so, but only by seeking to nullify an alcoholic’s, such as Tom Packham was, intent to kill after he sobered up sufficiently to realize that his behavior had recklessly endangered his wife’s life and well-being, bringing her to fall quite accidentally during their mutual debauchery.

Yet the bruises on and over Lucy Packham’s body required an explanation which would enable her husband to escape responsibility for intentionally causing them. Once again Marshall Hall was more than up to the task.

Yet again the prosecution’s medical expert came to Hall’s aid. Yes, he admitted, Lucy’s bruises could have been sustained when Tom, in his besotted state, had attempted to lift her, only to have her fall to the floor more than once. Imbibing alcohol to excess, the expert seemed to say, could not only numb the mind and befuddle the limbs but weaken them as well. Furthermore, the prosecution’s expert concurred that alcoholics bruise quite readily, like the old exhibiting the bruises that are simply age-related, sometimes termed senile ecchymoses.

And, in sum, that was the case proffered by Marshall Hall to save Tom Packham from the hangman’s noose. And it did. The jury, in just twenty minutes of deliberation, returned its verdict convicting Tom Packham of manslaughter, not capital murder. The verdict was accompanied by the jury’s strong recommendation for mercy.

The jury had spoken, as Tom and Lucy in their turn had spoken. However, the jury’s verdict was far less ambiguous. In today’s trials with experts of every stripe appearing in court, not only might a specially trained forensic pathologist have been summoned to testify for either or both sides, but an expert in forensic stylistics as well. However, without the intervention of a Marshall Hall the outcome might have been less to Tom Packham’s liking. The trial attorney, it goes without saying, has not been dislodged by the expert witness. Both use words and both use them to inform and convince the jury. Both, it is to be devoutly wished, use their words without the subterfuge or the guile of a Ulysses.

AAFS CHRONICLES — DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

Source: Ken Field, Academy Historian

In 1955...

... the Academy splurged by buying its second piece of office equipment – a used Addressograph, at a cost of $132.50. The justification for the purchase was the fact that the Academy mailed approximately 10 pieces of mail each day which amounted to an annual postage (and telegraph) expense of $200. Today, the annual budget for postage is in the five digit category.

In 1965...

... the first editor of the Journal of Forensic Sciences, Dr. Samuel Levinson, resigned after serving 10 years in the position. Dr. Morton Mason was designated as the new editor.

In 1975...

... a major concern of the Academy and its members was the question of the need for certification in the forensic sciences. The leader in the movement was Dr. Kurt Dubowski. In late 1975, the U.S. Department of Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) funded a Forensic Sciences Foundation research proposal that resulted in the establishment of several forensic science certification boards.

In 1985...

... the official Meeting Program represented a significant departure from all previous programs. Instead of being prepared on a typewriter (as it was done starting in 1950 - Help! Where’s the White Out?), the 1985 program was typeset. The difference in quality was striking and much appreciated by all. Technology has come a long way since the day of preparing all documents on a typewriter!

IN MEMORIAM

Armand Dollinger, MD, Retired Fellow of the Pathology/Biology Section, date unknown.
Marilee Frazer, MD, Member of the Pathology/Biology Section, January 2004.
Roy Huber, BSc, Retired Fellow of the Questioned Documents Section, September 2005.
George McCormick, MD, PhD, Fellow of the Pathology/Biology Section, September 2005.
Boyd Stephens, MD, Fellow of the Pathology/Biology Section, April 2005.
The following individuals have submitted applications for Associate Member, Trainee Affiliate, or Student Affiliate. Applications that are received and completed by October 1, 2005, will be considered for approval at the February 2006 Board of Directors Meeting. Due to space constraints, AAFS does not list members who are applying for promotion to Fellow or to Member. Comments regarding an applicant should be submitted in writing to: Kimberly Wrasse, Membership Services Coordinator, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904-2798. Comments must be received by February 15, 2006.

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Scalf, Danny, MS
Cave Creek, AZ

Student Affiliate
Deer, Amanda K.
Milwaukee, WI
Edwards, Kerri-Anne
Coral Springs, FL
Pepper, Karen
Penaskie, PA
Reisch, Shelby
Benbrook, TX
Vecchiarelli, Catherine, BA
Staten Island, NY

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Associate Member
Ford, Tiffany L., MS
Rockport, ME
McCarley-Celentano, Darla, BA
Castle Rock, CO

OLSON, Larry A., MFS
Chicago, IL
SINGLA, Atul K., PhD
Toronto, ON Canada
Stimpson, Thomas A., BSc
Fort Worth, TX
Stuebe, Kathleen A., BS
Columbus, OH
Switaj, Mary, MEd
Goldvein, VA
Vargas, Rigo, BA
Chicago, IL

Trainee Affiliate
DIouf, Mackenzie, MS
Indianapolis, IN
White, Michelle M., BA
Indianapolis, IN

Student Affiliate
Stephens, Joseph, BS
Vienna, VA

TOXICOLOGY

Associate Member
Anderson, Jaima E., MFS
Cleveland, GA
Bobee, Rene M., MS
Sterling Heights, MI
Boland, Diane, PhD
Miami, FL
Cengiz, Salih, PhD
Istanbul Turkey
Easton, Tracy, BA
Louisville, KY
Fernandez, Denise M., BS
Largo, FL
Ford, Lindsay A., BS
Frankfort, KY
Garner, Rachel, BS
Clearwater, FL
Golden, T., PhD
Denton, TX
Gormley, Elizabeth, MS
Lansing, MI
Guia, Lilian, BS
East Rutherford, NJ
Hahn, Timothy P., BS
Hauppauge, NY
Harmon, Jennifer, BS
Santa Ana, CA
Javed-Ghaffar, Rakshanda, Ph
Wilmington, DE
Jennings, Jessica, MSFS
Wilmington, DE
LaBay, Laura, PhD
Willow Grove, PA
Lambing, Matthew K., MSFS
Chapel Hill, NC
LaZenby, Justin, MS
Portland, OR
Liddicoat, Laura J., BS
Madison, WI
Limoges, Jennifer F., MSFS
Albany, NY
Paladino, Michelle, MFS
Hauppauge, NY
Peace, Michelle R., PhD
Richmond, VA
Powell, Stavroula P., MSFS
Devens, MA
Quinn, Melinda, BS
Murfreesboro, TN
Shakleya, Diaa M., PhD
Versailles, KY
Sweet, Amanda, BS
Frankfort, KY
Telepchak, Michael J., MBA
Bristol, PA
Zittel, Donna, BS
St. Paul, MN

Trainee Affiliate
Boberda, Veronique, BS
Dorval, PQ Canada
Duncan, Katie, BS
Frankfort, KY
George, Rebecca A., BS
Downtown, PA
Kemp, Jesse M., BS
Poteau, OK
McReynolds, Jennifer A., PhD
Chicago, IL
Perusse, Kimberly, BS
Richmond, VA

Slomba, Kimberly A., BS
North Tonawanda, NY
Spivak, Laura A., MD
Portland, OR
Triebold, Craig, BS
Sacramento, CA

Allan Lasser, Fellow in the Odontology Section, has several back issues of the Journal of Forensic Sciences that he would like to donate. If anyone is interested in obtaining these journals, please contact Dr. Lasser directly (734/427-8833) by December 31.

Journal of Forensic Sciences Back Issues Available

Academy News
Everything for the Young Forensic Scientists Forum Special Session 2006 has been finalized. All we’re waiting on now is YOU! We hope to see some new faces at this session, and look forward to seeing some old ones as well. “Frontiers in Forensic Science” is shaping up to be one of the best YFSF Special Sessions to date. We’re busy putting on the finishing touches. However, there are still a few surprises that are in the works. Here’s a breakdown of what is planned. We’ve assembled eleven presentations from perhaps some of the most diverse and interesting backgrounds in forensic science today. At the end of the academic session there will be a multidisciplinary talk on the Science of Mass Disaster, presented by young forensic scientists who have been involved in situations such as 9-11, the Tsunami, and the recovery of mass grave sites that you won't want to miss. Back by popular demand this year will be the 3rd Annual YFSF Poster Session social which is being held on Tuesday night after the Special Session. The annual breakfast is shaping up to be the best yet which will include a panel discussion on interviewing skills, a resume review, and a presentation on how to approach answering Knowledge Skills and Agility (KSA) questions. Hope to see you in Seattle!

— Allison Curran, BS, BS
YFSF President

Planning is underway for the 2006 YFSF Breakfast Session which will focus on attaining a job in a forensic science field. This year we will continue to offer a résumé review, but will expand our review panel to include representatives from a wide variety of forensic disciplines. By including representatives from state and federal agencies, we hope to provide all of the young forensic scientists in attendance with the skills and advice needed to succeed from the application process through the interview and hiring processes. This year we will also be covering hiring exams and Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities questions and answers. This addition will prove to be very beneficial to those applying for federal jobs which require KSAs or state and regional jobs which may have hiring exams. If you are or will be looking for a job, you won't want to miss this year's breakfast session. Start making plans now to attend the AAFS conference in Seattle!

— Amanda Frohwein
YFSF Program Co-Chair
Young Forensic Scientists are doing! If you are interested in sharing your experiences, please contact Robin Bowen at Robin.Bowen@mail.wvu.edu. We look forward to learning from your experiences.

— Robin Bowin, BS
YFSF Program Co-Chair

The Feature Article section of the YFSF newsletter is a new section written by a professional in the forensic science field highlighting the diverse fields of forensic science, current education practices, interview suggestions, and tips concerning professional development. These articles bridge the gap between the experienced forensic scientist’s desire to dispense knowledge and young forensic scientist’s thirst for knowledge. In the November issue we are lucky to present a convocation address given by best selling author Ken Goddard and Director of the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics laboratory to the SOSC freshman.

Forensic Pigeonholes
A Convocation Speech Given September 19, 1993 to SOSC

I would submit to you that ‘eccentric’ people, entertaining as they may be, are rarely invited to give convocation addresses. Thus, I owe this privilege to the trust and friendship and good humor of Dr. Joe Cox and Dr. Stephen Reno — both of whom share a trait that is sadly all too rare these days: that is, a cheerful willingness to step outside their fields of expertise and explore. I’ll explain the importance of THAT in a moment.

Dr. Reno and I have been seeing a lot of each other recently, going back and forth on the shuttle flights between Medford and Portland. And during those flights, if the seating works out, we often get a chance to sit together and talk — often on topics far away from our own disciplinary fields. I've come to look forward to these conversations; one, because I get very tired of talking with government bureaucrats, and two, because I often leave the airport with a new perspective of what it is I'm trying to accomplish with my life.

One of the things I've come to understand, thanks to Dr. Reno, is that every one of the major successes of our new and unique laboratory — and we've had several over the past four years — have occurred because members of our staff have been willing to do something revolutionary for a scientist … which is to break through the self-imposed boundaries of their disciplinary field of expertise, and look at a problem from a different point of view.

You may be wondering, at this point, what in the world I'm talking about. Or more to the point, why should you, as entering freshmen, even be concerned about breaking through boundaries at this point in your lives. After all, you say, you're just starting out here. This is your first day. You don't even have a discipline to break yourselves out of yet. But that's not true, because you do.

Whether you realize it or not, each and every one of you created a nice, comfy — and absolutely imaginary — box for yourselves. You and your parents proudly put a label on that box that says ‘college student.’ And you've cheerfully hopped inside, all ready to go. For the purpose of this talk, we'll call this box a pigeon-hole.

Some of you may have noticed, when you cheerfully hopped inside that nice roomy pigeon-hole, that you effectively isolated yourself from all of your friends who are not going to college. But if you did notice, you probably didn't worry about it all that much because you figured — rightly so — that there would be lots of people in this new and imaginary pigeon-hole of yours … and therefore lots of opportunities to make new friends and meet interesting people.

And even when you got that acceptance letter in the mail — which effectively slapped an SOSC College Freshman label on your pigeon-hole, and thereby made it a whole lot smaller — you probably didn't worry about that very much either, because you figured there'd be a lot of freshmen at SOSC just like you. And that's true, there are. Just look around the auditorium here. It's actually a pretty big place, as far as pigeon-holes go. But most of you weren't satisfied, were you? You just had to go and make it smaller.

The School of Arts and Letters, The School of Business, The School of Sciences, The School of Social Science and Education. Most of you have already picked one, haven't you? Oh, and did I mention that the management here is going be telling you, very soon, that somewhere along the line, you're going to have to select a major? Anybody starting to feel just a little bit isolated, and claustrophobic as the walls of your imaginary pigeon-hole keep closing in? I hope not, because what I'm going to tell you today — advocate, in fact — is that you should resist THAT feeling with every fiber of your being as long as you possibly can.

Now, before President Cox starts reaching for my throat, or a can of mace: I'm not advocating that you rise up in revolt right here in this auditorium and refuse to select a major. There's a purpose — and a value — to selecting a major. Among other things, it helps you to focus on a career.

What I want to point out is a simple fact: that there are only five walls to your imaginary and rapidly-narrowing pigeon-hole. Not six. The front is open. There is absolutely NOTHING to prevent you from getting out of that pigeon-hole and wandering around and looking into some of those other pigeon-holes ANY TIME YOU CHOOSE TO DO SO. And if you do, I would suggest to you that your lives will be immeasurably enriched, far beyond your wildest dreams. Nonsense, you say? Being a white-haired old fart — if you'll pardon the expression — and a self-admitted federal government bureaucrat to boot, how can I possibly imagine your wildest dreams? Well you're
right, I can’t ... and I wouldn’t presume to try. But what I will presume to do is offer you a vision of what other people – among them, three of your fellow students at SOSC – have done to break away. But before I do, I want to explain my personal interest in this topic, and why Provost Reno’s comments on one of those airplane trips touched a nerve:

I pigeon-holed myself early in life: back in junior high school when I realized that I liked science – mostly, I suspect, because I had a real good science teacher that year. By my freshman year in high school, I knew I was going to be a scientist, and thus found myself separated out into the category of ‘college bound, future scientist.’ By my junior year, I knew that I wanted to be a biologist (I had a real good biology teacher that year), and by my senior year, I had willingly – even, as I recall, enthusiastically – jumped into a much smaller box of college bound, scientist, biochemist! I was on my way! And my own imaginary pigeon-hole was getting smaller and smaller every day.

I was your age when I entered the University of California, still determined to become a biochemist. And it wasn’t until my senior year, with two months to go before I graduated, that I realized I’d made a serious mistake – because I knew by then that I really didn’t like biochemistry. But, at this point in my life, it simply didn’t occur to me that I could break away. From my narrowly focused point of view, from deep inside that self-constructed little pigeon-hole, I felt that I had already chosen my path, and that it was too late to turn around and go back or to break out, and look elsewhere. And besides, I wanted to get married to Gena – still my best friend and wife after all these years – and I needed a job. Therefore, the solution was simple: I had to become a biochemist.

It took a judo accident, two weeks before graduation, to toss me out of that frustrating pigeon-hole. The black belt instructor also happened to be a sergeant on the Riverside County (CA) Sheriff’s Department. He took me from the hospital (all taped up and drugged to the gills) to meet the Sheriff. It seemed they were looking for someone to work in their crime lab, but having trouble finding interested candidates (this being the infamous ‘sixties’). Two weeks later, I graduated, got married to Gena, drove down to the Sheriff’s office, and proceeded to raise my right hand. To my absolute amazement (not to mention Gena’s) I was now a deputy sheriff/criminalist.

I won’t bother to describe the path that my life took from then on. Suffice it to say that I worked my way up from crime scene investigator to the position of police crime lab director, and then jumped out of my ever-narrowing pigeon-hole again. This time to join the federal government ... and to create, of all things, a national and international wildlife crime lab, the first of it’s kind anywhere in the world, which ended up being built – of all places – in Ashland, OR. Now it may seem to some of you that I’ve done exactly what I am advocating you not do; that is, narrowly focused myself into what must sound like a VERY small pigeon-hole. But that’s not the case at all. If anything, I’ve discovered links to literally thousands of fascinating pigeon-holes that I never knew existed: every one of which is accessible right in Ashland, OR, at SOSC ... which means they’re accessible to you, also.

Let me tell you about a few. I’m going to start by telling you about a fellow named Dr. Ed Espinoza, the chief criminalist of our laboratory. Ed grew up in Chile, left his country to study in the United States, completed his doctorate in forensic science at U.C. Berkeley, and was described by Dr. John Thornton, his advisory professor, as one of the most impressive PhDs to ever come out of the Berkeley forensic science program. John recommended that we hire Ed immediately, and we did so ... not exactly immediately, but pretty quickly in terms of the federal government hiring process.

The first thing I should tell you about Ed is that he’s one of those oddities in science these days: a researcher who has no idea he even has his own pigeon-hole, because he truly loves to explore. Ed, by the way, is responsible for three of the four major discoveries of our laboratory to date.

I asked him to figure out how to distinguish ancient from modern ivory carvings, a problem that has been unresolved for over a hundred years. He started by accumulating and reading every article that has ever been written on ivory over the past 100 years. Four months later, he had solved the problem using a $250,000 scanning electron microscope, and a 25-cent child’s protractor – a wonderfully simple and elegant piece of research for which he won an international forensics award.

I asked him to figure out how to identify bear gal bladders, because bears are being killed all over the U.S. simply for their paws and gal bladders – which are believed to have magical medicinal properties. It’s a cultural issue, as much as a law enforcement issue. He solved the problem in six months, and in doing so exposed a fascinating international scam: the fact that a vast majority of the bear gal bladders being sold to the orient are pig. They’re fakes. All of which has had a very interesting impact upon Asian ‘culture’ in the United States. Now I realize this sounds all very nice: discoveries made by a PhD scientist who’s being paid to be creative and innovative. But what could this possibly have to do with you, and the reason we are all here today?

Let me give you three examples, three junior and senior SOSC students from the chemistry department who volunteered to work with Dr. Espinoza, and were given a chance to explore. And let me tell you what happened when Ed offered to take them around exploring other pigeon-holes. Now then, do the words Jurassic Park ring a bell?

If there is anyone in the audience who has somehow managed to avoid both the movie and the book, I will sum-

Ken Goddard at the National Fish & Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, OR
marize the story for you by saying that both involve 1) a man who wanted to create an unusual amusement park; and 2) a DNA-type scientist who isolated some dinosaur DNA from some amber, used some frog eggs as a template, and created – among other things – a Tyrannosaurus Rex, whereupon things started going down-hill at a rather rapid rate. It’s an amusing story, and a scary one too, but it also lacks a certain degree of scientific reality. Or, at least, so I thought, until we were asked to work a Tyrannosaurus Rex crime scene.

At his point, you should be a little bit confused, because if nothing else, it’s not illegal to kill a Tyrannosaurus these days. In fact, fortunately for us humans, it’s downright difficult to do so. So why, you might ask, would a wildlife law enforcement crime lab be working a dinosaur case? Well, it seems there was a dig site – an archeological dig – in the Midwest that had a problem: someone was sneaking in at night and digging up and stealing the Tyrannosaurus bones. So the question posed to us was: can we use our crime scene techniques, and our brand new DNA technology, to match the stolen bones to that specific skeleton? To no great surprise, Dr. Ed Espinoza jumped at the chance.

Now I must tell you that as a crime lab director, I have this reoccurring nightmare that I am rummaging through some bureaucratic paperwork one day and discover that I have allowed Ed and his DNA associates in the lab to purchase a dozen frog eggs and a large choker chain. But in spite of my underlying uneasiness, I did allow Ed to take on the case – which is where SOSC chemistry student Kelli O’Connell comes in. She volunteered to work with Ed, to learn something about the chemistry of dinosaur bones. And the next thing we know, she has fossilized pieces of a Tyrannosaurus in her hands, and is conducting chemical analysis as to what constitutes a dinosaur bone with wide-eyed enthusiasm. Now, for those parents in the audience who have students entering the other three Schools at SOSC, and might be starting to feel a bit concerned about the nature and stability of the people in the School of Science: not to worry. The term ‘mad scientist’ is just an affective term, not a job description.

However, at this point, Ed realized that he needed to know a lot more about fossils before he could figure out the Tyrannosaurus Rex problem. Enter SOSC students Mike Garen and Ken Sikes. After several weeks of working with Ed, the three of them came up with a technique to make fake fossils (that is, using high pressure to infuse minerals into bone), which was done right here in the chemistry labs of SOSC. This work will be published soon, and is likely to have an interesting impact on the field of archaeology.

Now you’d think that all of this research into such fascinating things as dinosaur bones and fossils, along with all of his casework, would keep Ed sufficiently busy that he wouldn’t have time to get involved in anything else. But not so. It seems that about three months ago, now, Ed and Mary-Jacque, our senior firearms examiner, got to talking about matching the striations on bullets – an old-fashioned technology in which there have been no significant advances since the 1920s.

You must understand at this point that Ed, in his spare time, had been reading about fractal mathematics and chaos theory. I don’t know why; he’s just like that. One morning, after reading some arcane text on he subject, he made the comment to Mary-Jacque: “Gee, it’s too bad that the striations in a bullet aren’t fractals, because then we could computerize a bullet match, much in the way that we do a fingerprint.” Mary-Jacque looked at him and said, “but I think they are.”

Ed then ran back into his office, began working frantically, and then ran head-long into an area of mathematics he didn’t understand. So he immediately went to Stu Mitchell, our electronics engineer, who happens to be a talented mathematician, but who also knows nothing – and cares even less – about matching bullets. The three of them got together and worked on the project for another couple of weeks – which is where Kelli O’Connell comes in again.

Remember Kelli? The dinosaur bones? Well, Kelli became part of the project, and I can now report to you that they did it: a brand new discovery that is about to revolutionize the science of bullet matching in forensics. Something that has never been done before [note: this occurred before the development of NIBIN, IBIS and DRUGFIRE]. And it happened in our beautiful little part of the world. All because people like Ed, and Mary-Jacque, and Kelli, and Mike, and Ken were all willing to step out of their disciplinary boundaries, and to look at a problem from a different point of view. Because in doing so, these people – your fellow students here at SOSC – made creative breakthroughs in how we, as scientists and as people, understand a few more parts of our very complex world.

I seriously doubt that Kelli, or Mike, or Ken had any idea, when they were freshmen sitting here in this auditorium, that they would be analyzing pieces of real dinosaurs, and making fake fossils, and teaching the FBI lab – and all of the other crime labs in the U.S. – something new about bullets. But they did.

You all are about to start on a fascinating adventure here at SOSC. You’re going to be exposed to a multitude of concepts and ideas. You’re going to be asked to discipline yourselves and work hard. And you are going to be challenged to think for yourselves, which is the most difficult task of them all.

And while ALL of you are doing that, a few of you – the adventurous ones – are going to be making creative breakthroughs of your own, because the opportunities will be there. You just have to pull yourself out of your self-created and ever-narrowing pigeon-hole every now and then, and look around.

And if you need help in finding a new and interesting pathway, go to your professors. Talk with them. Ask their advice. That’s what they’re here for, to guide you to areas and ideas that you’ve never seen or thought about before.

— Ken Goddard, MS
Director, National Fish & Wildlife Forensics Laboratory

The YFSF is looking for a technologically savvy person to help design the new website.
If interested, please contact Jeannette Perr
(jeannette.perr@fiu.edu).
Look for the improved website soon!
Educational Briefs

Many high school and college students are interested in pursuing an education in forensic science but do not know where to start. The Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC) maintains and enhances the quality of forensic science education through a formal evaluation and recognition of college-level academic programs. FEPAC is currently the only accrediting body for academic forensic science programs. This section of the YFSF Newsletter features two FEPAC accredited universities, West Virginia University and Florida International University.

Forensic and Investigative Science at West Virginia University

West Virginia University is a public, land-grant institution, and was founded in 1867. WVU is located in Morgantown West Virginia, which was recently rated No. 1 Small City in America for its exceptional quality of life. WVU ranks nationally in the number of students who have garnered prestigious scholarships, including 25 Rhodes Scholars, 16 Truman Scholars, 26 Goldwater Scholars, 2 British Marshall Scholars, 2 Morris K. Udall Scholars, and 5 USA Today All-USA College Academic First Team Members. The university consists of 14 colleges and schools offering 171 bachelors, masters, doctoral, and professional degree programs. WVU’s Forensic and Investigative Science program is the fastest growing undergraduate curriculum at the university and is attracting students throughout the nation.

“WVU’s forensic science programs are leading the way in national forensic research, education, training, and academic curriculum development. The Forensic Science Initiative is answering the call for cutting-edge forensic technology and highly-trained forensic specialists. The university’s efforts are helping to convict criminals and make America safer.”

— Senator Robert C. Byrd

The Forensic and Investigative Science Program was established in 1997 through a partnership with the FBI. This program consists of three areas of emphasis including Forensic Biology, Forensic Chemistry, and Forensic Examination. Students choose an area of emphasis at the end of their sophomore year, after having completed a rigorous two-year science curriculum. Students must also partake in an entrance interview with the forensic admissions committee. The purpose of the interview is to expand upon any component of the application packet and to ensure the students can present themselves professionally. Graduates pursuing careers in forensic science will likely have to provide courtroom testimony and the ability to respond to questions is vital to their employment. The forensic curriculum includes a summer internship and/or research project of 140 or more hours. Students utilize laboratory space, otherwise known as ‘crime scene houses’, advanced equipment, and a diverse range of professors, many of whom have extensive forensic backgrounds. Upon graduation, students have the skills to work in crime laboratories or in other forensic-related settings. If students wish to continue their education, they are well prepared for graduate, medical, law, or dental schools.

Former students have accepted positions in local, state, and federal agencies, as well as the aforementioned postgraduate schools.

West Virginia University offers forensic students a wide range of resources. The most distinctive being the crime scene house complex. This complex is made up of 3 crime scene houses and a forensic garage. Students utilize the facilities in classes such as Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, Crime Scene Investigation, Forensic Photography, and Expert Testimony. In addition to the buildings, students also have access to an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), an Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS), and 2 crime scene vehicles. The most significant resource offered to students is a faculty comprised of highly regarded professionals. The current faculty for the program includes Dr. Clifton Bishop (Program Director/Biology), Max Houck (Research Director), Dr. Suzanne Bell (Forensic Chemistry), Dr. Jeffery Wells (Forensic Biology/Entomology), Dr. Keith Morris (Research/Chemistry), Michael Bell (Facilities), Lucy Davis Houck (Quality Assurance), and Ken Bauer (Forensic Photography).

Recently, West Virginia University has also added two new academic programs: Criminology & Investigations and Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation. Criminology & Investigations is offered through the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Criminology focuses on providing an understanding of society as a normative order with ever-changing definitions of conformity and deviance. Investigation focuses on exploring the processes and procedures employed by those individuals and groups in the criminal justice system who seek to establish “truth” in the furtherance of justice. Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation recognizes the widespread growth of white-collar crime, including both fraudulent financial reporting and misappropriation of asset schemes. In the past, most practicing forensic accountants developed investigative techniques and skills through on-the-job experience. Because of the growing demand, there is a need for academic programs that help prepare entry-level accountants with the knowledge and skills needed to enter either forensic accounting or fraud investigative careers.

In addition to the coursework offered, WVU also has the Forensic Science Initiative. This program was established for research, professional training, and facilitating novel technologies for the forensic sciences. The Initiative has designed

One of three crime scene houses located on the campus of West Virginia University
and delivered innovative solutions for scientific and legal challenges critical to the forensic science community, thereby increasing the quality and professionalism of the discipline. With the use of distance learning program technology, the Forensic Science Initiative has established a curriculum of training and continuing education for forensic professionals.

“The initiative supports forensic science research and professional training, including WVU’s first-of-its-kind specialized undergraduate degree program; develops new methods for collecting and examining evidence; and provides resources to improve forensic science in crime labs across the nation.”

— Senator Robert C. Byrd

Current research projects include a method for estimating how long a blood stain has been at a crime scene (at the moment, this method can date a tiny blood speck out to 150 days); working with the FBI’s CJIS in Clarksburg, WV developing software that automatically searches dental x-rays to improve sorting missing persons and in mass disasters; developing specialized evidence processing software to increase efficiency and reduce backlogs at West Virginia State Police Laboratory’s DNA Unit; using fractals to improve fingerprint search algorithms; and digitally watermarking fingerprint files to include images, text, and other information that is secure and visible only to those with the proper clearance — without affecting the file’s integrity.

West Virginia University was granted FEPAC accreditation in 2005. The Forensic Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC) maintains and enhances the quality of forensic science education through formal evaluation and recognition of college programs. The accreditation will guarantee the public that WVU is being held to the highest standards of forensic science education. To learn more please visit WVU’s website (http://www.wvu.edu/) and the Forensic Science Initiative website (http://www.wvu.edu/~forsci/index.htm).

— Robin Bowen
Alumni, West Virginia University, 2003
Forensic Resource Assistant, Forensic Science Initiative, West Virginia University

C.S.I. Miami? Separating Fact from Fiction at FIU

Florida International University (FIU) is located in the vast multicultural hub of Miami, FL. For me, the prospect of leaving cold/rainy Scotland (even in the summer it’s like that) for a stint in the sub-tropics of Miami really seemed quite an attractive proposition. Images of Miami Vice and the hip South Beach lifestyle sprung to mind. What sweetened the deal was the realization that FIU offers one of the best graduate programs in Forensic Science.

FIU was inaugurated in 1972 and in the past 3½ decades has rapidly grown into one of the nation’s most successful public universities. FIU has currently 35,000 students, 1,000 full-time faculty, and 110,000 alumni, making it the largest university in South Florida and placing it among the nation’s 25 largest colleges and universities. FIU has also been ranked in the top 100 national public universities in U.S. News and World Report. As far as research, FIU shares the State University System 1 (SUS1) research rating (Doctoral/Research Universities—Extensive) with only 3 other Florida schools, USF, UF, and FSU. The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is home to the International Forensic Research Institute (IFRI), a multidisciplinary research center that combines faculty from chemistry and biology, with select professors from physics, engineering, and the arts. IFRI is partnered with several professional bodies, like Quality Forensic, Inc., the Drug Enforcement Administration, Miami Dade Police Department, the Dade County Medical Examiner’s Office, and the Broward Sheriff’s Office, to name a few. FIU has offered a Masters in Science in Forensic Science for some time, and began their Doctorate of Philosophy in Chemistry with an emphasis Forensic Science in 2004. Before the Forensic Science Ph.D., doctoral students could enroll in the Doctorate of Philosophy in Chemistry and conduct forensic science research. In 2004, the Forensic Science graduate program at FIU was one of the first five in the United Stated to be accredited by the AAFS. There is also a Certificate in Forensic Science available to undergraduate students.

The course menu at FIU is extensive; it includes core subjects in chemistry and biology, in addition to the forensic specialties of toxicology, forensic chemistry, DNA, forensic biology, drugs of abuse, and explosives. There are also classes offered that study the criminal justice aspects of a degree in forensics and practical hands-on workshops by expert forensic scientists in the field; both ensuring a well rounded and comprehensive degree experience. Practicing forensic scientist also attend FIU’s workshops increasing student exposure to current practicing scientists. The core ingredient of the forensic science graduate programs is the research requirement. Students are expected to produce their own proposals and conduct independent research with the goal of producing the required thesis/dissertation. Faculty support at FIU makes the whole process about as painless as graduate school can be. Research includes detector dog research, improved explosive detection, mtDNA analysis, human scent analysis, trace elemental determination, molecular and chemical characterization of soil, blood alcohol analysis, and post mortem interval determination, to name a few.

School spirit and amity amongst the graduate student population is high, with regular social activities planned by the school’s Graduate Student Association and Chemistry Graduation Student Organization. The GSA and GSO also provide funds towards individual research and conference travel. The opportunity to travel to a conference to present some of your work is of course, often the highlight of conducting your own research. Conference attendance is actively encouraged by IFRI, who has maintained a heavy presence at the AAFS Annual Meetings for some years now. Additionally, with money from grants, and university sources, many of the graduate students have attended several other conferences both in the USA and abroad. In the course of a 4 year study at FIU, I’ve traveled to Chicago, IL; New Orleans, LA; Portland, OR; Dallas, TX; Portland, ME; Orlando, FL, and Ft Lauderdale, FL not to mention internationally to Ottawa, Canada; Edinburgh, Scotland; Montpellier, France; and London, England.

Of course all work and no play makes for a dull graduate school experience, and Miami is the ideal base camp for

continued on next page
Rack your brain and see if you can solve the first ever YFSF crossword by Melissa Smith of the NYC OCME Department of Forensic Biology. The January newsletter will contain the answers.

Rack your brain and see if you can solve the first ever YFSF crossword by Melissa Smith of the NYC OCME Department of Forensic Biology. The January newsletter will contain the answers.

The Forensic Science Crossword

Across
5. Applicable science of biological fluids
7. Disintegrated rock and humus
8. Study of physiological effects of toxins
9. Home of national and international wildlife crime lab
10. Obtaining high standards of forensic science
13. Narrow vision (according to Ken Goddard)
14. Illegal hunting of animals
16. Located in Miami (abv.)
17. Maternal inheritance

Down
1. Fingerprint system (abv.)
2. Examination of deceitful acts (2 words)
3. Like AFIS (abv.)
4. Amount of –OH in blood
6. Organ typically poached
11. Evaluations of educational institutions
12. Dr. Ed Espinoza-Tyrannosaurus
15. You belong to this (abv.)

About the YFSF

The YFSF is dedicated to the education, enrichment, and professional development of young forensic scientists. YFSF participants can be non-AAFS-members while organizers must be AAFS members from any section within the AAFS. The Forum provides a medium to educate and network with young forensic scientists to facilitate their establishment within the forensic science community. The YFSF is composed of a Special Session, a Poster Session, a Bring Your Own Slides Session, and a Breakfast Session during the AAFS Annual Meeting. Outside the Academy meeting the YFSF works to further the endeavors of young forensic scientists through the YFSF newsletter and the YFSF website (http://www.aafs.org/yfsf/index.htm). YFSF President Allison Curran (allison.curran@fiu.edu) and YFSF Secretary Jeannette Perr (jeannette.perr@fiu.edu) can answer any questions about the YFSF and are looking to many different levels of young forensic scientists participating next year's session.

— Jeannette Perr, PhD
YFSF Secretary

Rack your brain and see if you can solve the first ever YFSF crossword by Melissa Smith of the NYC OCME Department of Forensic Biology. The January newsletter will contain the answers.
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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City: ______________________________________________________________
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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 badge in your 2006 Annual Meeting registration packet. Please detach form and return to AAFS. Thank you.
Your name: __________________________________________________________

AAFS promotes the advancement of the Forensic Sciences and Forensic Scientists

AAFS BENEFITS

Your inclusion in the AAFS will give you access to the most talented forensic scientists in the nation via personal contact, workshops, seminars, and the AAFS annual scientific meeting, to be held February 20-25, 2006, in Seattle, Washington.

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

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

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

For more information:

Phone: (719) 636-1100
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