President’s Message

As summer comes to an end and fall begins knocking on our door, I have just returned from a part of the world where spring is beginning—I am speaking of New Zealand. This year, the AAFS International Educational Outreach Program (IEOP) took place in New Zealand, also known as the “Home of the Kiwis.” To say the trip was outstanding is a major understatement. As usual, Nancy Jackson orchestrated a marvelous excursion that included visiting forensic labs, excellent museums, and superb dining establishments; even though it was raining, we had a wonderful day on Waiheke Island. One of the highlights that I am sure everyone will remember is visiting the New Zealand Police Academy and having the opportunity to witness their newest graduating class performing the Māori Haka honoring their fallen comrades in uniform. It was truly a moving experience! I also had the distinct pleasure of addressing the Australian/New Zealand Forensic Science Society during their plenary session and presenting an AAFS crystal paperweight to their President, Professor Claude Roux. Several AAFS members presented at the conference. IEOP participants included: Carol Henderson, Haskell Pitluck, John Kenney, Jeremy Triplett, and Jody Wolf. Finally, I wanted to recognize two Kiwis who made it all possible: Matthew Gittos, Senior Fingerprint Officer, New Zealand Police Department, Auckland Fingerprint Section, and his lovely wife, Sarah Scott, a forensic biology scientist at the Institute of Environmental Science and Research Limited. They were with us throughout the entirety of our journey and made the trip extra special. We left New Zealand with new knowledge, new forensic science colleagues, and new friends!

It is hard to believe that we are only four months away from the AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, LA. Annual Meeting Program Chair Julie Howe and Co-Chair Christine Funk, in addition to all of the other chairs and co-chairs, have done an excellent job of organizing a wonderful program that is both educational and entertaining.

Finally, I wanted to address the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) Report, which was critical of several forensic science disciplines. Since its publication, the AAFS

continued on page 28

AAFS Academy News and the AAFS News Feed

This is the final electronic issue of the AAFS Academy News newsletter.

You may access Academy news through the up-to-the-minute, live AAFS News Feed! All the information that you have been receiving in a formatted newsletter is available to you live, via the AAFS News Feed. Up-to-the-minute announcements from the President, your section officers, the Program Committee, Staff, and more will be streaming live. With the AAFS News Feed, you will receive only the news that interests you.
Inside This Issue

President’s Message .................................................. 1
AAFS Academy News and AAFS News Feed ........................................... 1
AAFS Standards Board News ...................................................... 3
AAFS 2016-17 Honorees ...................................................... 4
Journal of Forensic Sciences Working Group ................................. 5
A Word from Your 2017 Program Chair ........................................ 6
FSF Student Travel Grants Information .................................... 7
FSF/CRC Press Student Travel Grant and Book Prize ....................... 7
Important Hyatt Regency Accommodations Reservation Information ...... 8
AAFS Annual Meeting Employment Forum & FEPAC University Fair .......... 8
Zika Virus Information for Travelers to the United States ..................... 8
2017 Annual Meeting Employment Forum ................................... 9
2017 Annual Meeting FEPAC College & University Fair .................... 11
2017 Annual Meeting Volunteer Form ......................................... 13
FSF Announcement of 2016-17 Acorn and Lucas Grant Award Winners .... 14
2017 IAFS 21st Triennial Meeting ............................................. 15
The International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) Scholarship ...... 15
FSF Contributions .................................................................. 16
Section News ........................................................................ 21
In Memoriam ........................................................................ 27
Applicants .......................................................................... 29
Young Forensic Scientists Forum Newsletter .................................. 37
AAFS IEO 2016: Destination — New Zealand .................................. 40
Meetings & Conferences .......................................................... 42

Future AAFS Annual Meeting Dates

February 13-18, 2017 ................................. Hyatt Regency New Orleans New Orleans, LA
February 19-24, 2018 ................................. Washington State Convention Center Seattle, WA
February 18-23, 2019 ................................. The Baltimore Convention Center Baltimore, MD
February 17-22, 2020 ................................. Anaheim Convention Center Anaheim, CA
February 15-20, 2021 ................................. George R. Brown Convention Center Houston, TX

Academy News (ISSN#: 0739-7666) is published quarterly by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.
SDO is a term meaning Standards Development Organization. OSAC stands for the Organization of Scientific Area Committees. The AAFS has established an SDO called the AAFS Standards Board (ASB) that works closely with OSAC to develop voluntary consensus standards, technical reports, and best practice recommendations.

OSAC is administered by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). OSAC publishes the Registry of Approved Standards and the Registry of Approved Guidelines for the forensics community. Each document listed in the registries is required to be based upon sound scientific principles and to have been developed in a consensus-based process. OSAC has 23 subcommittees, each focused upon a specific area of forensics. These subcommittees are responsible for determining which documents to submit to the Registries, but also to identify gaps and needs in standards and related documents. Another function of the subcommittees is to identify research needs and to publicize these needs to Federal agencies.

The term “voluntary consensus standards” is the key as to why the ASB was created and why OSAC needs the cooperation and participation of the ASB and other SDOs. In 1995, Congress passed a law called the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA). This law states, “All federal agencies must use voluntary consensus standards in lieu of government-unique standards in their procurement and regulatory activities, except where inconsistent with law or otherwise impractical.” This also has a trickle-down effect, since Federal grants involving standards are also subject to NTTAA. The important point for this discussion is that OSAC was not created to generate voluntary consensus standards. The NTTAA and the policy document explaining it (available at http://www.nist.gov/standardsgov/omba119.cfm#3) define the processes required to develop a voluntary consensus standard:

1. “Openness
2. Balance of interest
3. Due process
4. An appeals process
5. Consensus, which is defined as general agreement, but not necessarily unanimity and includes a process for attempting to resolve objections by interested parties …”

The ASB meets these criteria. In fact, it has been accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), which requires adherence to the principles defined above. OSAC is not an SDO and will not become an SDO. While an OSAC subcommittee may identify a gap in existing standards for a field, and even develop a draft document for submittal to an SDO, it is the role of the SDO to ensure that the procedures are properly followed so that the requirements of the NTTAA for voluntary consensus standards are met.

Why Do We Need an SDO If We Have the OSAC?

Bradford J. Wing
Secretariat, AAFS Standards Board

continued on page 28
Kristina Hoffman Honored With AAFS Outstanding Early Career Achievement in Forensic Science Award

The AAFS Past Presidents Council is pleased to announce that Kristina L. Hoffman, BS, an Associate Member in the Criminalistics Section. The award will be presented by the Chair of the Past Presidents Council on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, during the AAFS Annual Business Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

Ms. Hoffman will receive $1,000 and a commemorative award. In addition, the Academy will pay the expenses of Ms. Hoffman’s attendance at the annual meeting, including registration, coach airfare, lodging while in attendance at the annual meeting not to exceed five nights, and up to $75 per diem.

The criteria for the Outstanding Early Career Achievement in Forensic Science Award are: (1) the recipient shall be an Associate Member, Member, or Fellow of the AAFS; (2) the recipient shall have been eligible for the status of Associate Member of the Academy no more than ten (10) years prior to their nomination; and, (3) the recipient shall have demonstrated both leadership and outstanding achievement through contributions that have served to advance forensic science and its application to the legal system in a manner that promotes professionalism, integrity, competency, education, research, practice, and collaboration.

Congratulations, Kristina!
At the request of AAFS Past President Victor Weedn, a Journal of Forensic Sciences (JFS) Working Group was formed to examine the operating structure of the Journal. Its charge was as follows:

“Given the ongoing changes in forensic science and the continued growth of JFS, this committee is charged with evaluation of the current operating status of JFS, with reviewing the current Bylaws and Policies and Procedures, with developing an operating structure for the future, and with making the appropriate changes to the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures. Recommendations will be included in a report to be submitted to the AAFS Board of Directors.”

The JFS Working Group consisted of members from each section of AAFS, who are all members of JFS's Editorial Board:

- Anthropology: Brad Adams and Doug Ubelaker
- Criminalistics: Suzanne Bell, David Foran, and Charlotte Word
- Digital & Multimedia Sciences: David Baker
- Engineering Sciences: Tom Bohan
- General: Joe Peterson
- Jurisprudence: Ken Melson
- Odontology: Bob Barsley
- Pathology/Biology: Greg G. Davis and Corinne Fligner
- Psychiatry & Behavioral Science: Dan Martell
- Questioned Documents: Linton Mohammed
- Toxicology: Rob Middleberg

As JFS Editor, I chaired the Working Group. Brenda Peat, JFS Editorial Assistant, served on an ex officio basis.

The current operating structure of JFS includes an Editor and a part-time Editorial Assistant. This structure has not changed in more than three decades. The JFS Working Group felt this is not sustainable if the Journal is to continue as a landmark publication of AAFS.

There were a number of important recommendations of the JFS Working Group’s discussions, including the following:

- A mission statement,
- A revised operational structure, and
- Changes to the policies and procedures.

I will discuss the first two of these recommendations in this article. The changes in the policies and procedures will be introduced at the 2017 AAFS Annual Meeting.

The JFS Working Group agreed on the following Mission Statement for JFS:

“The mission of the Journal of Forensic Sciences (JFS) is to advance forensic science research, education, and practice by publishing peer-reviewed manuscripts of the highest quality. These publications will strengthen the scientific foundation of forensic science in legal and regulatory communities around the world.”

After considerable discussion, the JFS Working Group recommended the following changes to the operating structure:

- Appointment of an Editor-in-Chief,
- Appointment of Associate Editors, and
- Appointment of a full-time Managing Editor. This individual would be employed by AAFS.

The Associate Editors would be Members of the JFS Editorial Board and would be responsible for manuscripts submitted in the following areas of forensic science:

- Anthropology
- Chemistry to include, but not limited to, drug chemistry, arson and ink analysis
- Digital and Multimedia Sciences
- DNA, Genetics and Serology
- Odontology
- Pathology and Entomology
- Psychiatry and Behavioral Science
- Toxicology
- Trace Evidence to include, but not limited to, fingermarks, glass and paint, and blood spatter analysis

The Editor-in-Chief would cover other areas.

continued on page 27
The 2017 meeting looks to be popular, with more than 1,300 submissions for all sections, scientific sessions, and workshops, in addition to breakfast and luncheon seminars. The Plenary and Interdisciplinary Sessions promise to be interesting with a focus on the meeting theme, *Our Future Reflects Our Past: The Evolution of Forensic Science*.

In the spirit of continuing the theme, the Tuesday Evening Session will highlight four Academy members who have been asked to share what they believe matters most in life, both personally and professionally. We hope you will join us for this enlightening session showcasing how the past has impacted these individuals’ lives and careers.

Now that the submission process is complete, it’s time to start working on your actual presentation or poster. Remember that your PowerPoint presentation should include colors that are easy for the audience to read, font sizes that are viewable from the back of the room, and slides that are bulleted and not filled with too many words. These may seem intuitive to those who lecture often, but each year there are comments from audience members complaining about these issues.

Don’t forget that the deadline for membership applications and promotion applications is October 1. Encourage colleagues to join the Academy and promote within their respective sections. Become active and have a voice for your profession! This is especially important with the current federal activities going on. Submit an application to become a member of an Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) or the AAFS Standards Board (ASB) Consensus Subcommittee. Brad Wing posted a great article explaining the Standards Development Process (SDO) on page 3 of this newsletter. At the very least, take the time to read the latest draft work products and provide your comments. Work products adopted by the National Commission on Forensic Science and proposed documents open for public comment can be found at https://www.justice.gov/ncfs/work-products.

Make sure to secure your hotel reservation *early* and submit your registration by the January 18 pre-registration deadline. The Academy staff does an outstanding job of preparing for a seamless meeting. We should all thank them for their tireless efforts. They are more than happy to assist if you have questions or concerns; don’t hesitate to reach out to anyone in the Academy staff office; or, you are also welcome to contact me.

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans!
The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) is pleased to offer Travel Grants for students to assist with travel expenses in attending the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, LA. The FSF Board of Trustees has allocated $12,000, not to exceed $1,500 per student, including complimentary meeting registration. This is a wonderful opportunity, and members are encouraged to promote it.

Travel Grant Eligibility Requirements:
1. Prior Student Travel Grant award recipients are not eligible to reapply.
2. The applicant must either be an AAFS member/affiliate or an AAFS applicant for membership.
3. The applicant must have submitted an abstract either as a presenter or a co-author for the annual meeting he/she will be attending.
4. The applicant must be a fourth-year undergraduate or a graduate student at an accredited four-year college, university, or professional school whose accreditation is acceptable to the FSF Board of Trustees.
5. The applicant must submit a letter of recommendation from his/her advisor or professor.
6. The applicant must submit a 400- to 600-word essay explaining how attendance at an AAFS meeting will impact his/her career decision.
7. The applicant must submit a curriculum vitae to include specifics regarding their involvement in forensic science and their current grade point average.

All submissions must be completed and received by October 15. The deadline is firm with no extension. Incomplete submissions will not be reviewed. Please submit the aforementioned Travel Grant Requirements electronically to Kimberly Wrasse at kwrasse@aafs.org, or by mail to: Kimberly Wrasse, FSF, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. The FSF will confirm receipt of all submissions within two business days. If confirmation is not received within two business days, the applicant should contact Kimberly Wrasse at kwrasse@aafs.org.

FSF/CRC Press Student Travel Grant and Book Prize

In collaboration with the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF), CRC Press will fund the top-scoring FSF Student Travel Grant candidate as determined through the FSF selection process outlined in the article entitled “FSF Student Travel Grants.” In addition to funding the $1,500 travel grant, CRC Press will donate an “instant library” worth $1,500 (list price) in pre-selected books to this student at the annual meeting. The “FSF/CRC Press Student Travel Grant and Book Prize” will have an overall value of $3,000.

Staff Anniversaries

Congratulations to:

**July**
Sonya Bynoe, 8 years

**August**
Cheryl Hunter, 10 years

**September**
Anne Warren, 31 years
Toni Merritt, 3 years
Important Hyatt Regency Accommodations Reservation Information

For those of you planning to attend the New Orleans meeting, it might be wise to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The NBA will be hosting its 2017 All-Star game in New Orleans on Sunday, February 19, 2017, after the AAFS meeting ends. To secure a room at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, make your reservation by clicking the following link:

https://resweb.passkey.com/go/amacadofforensicsciences2017

The AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting will be held February 13-18, 2017, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans. Please be aware that AAFS has a set, contracted block of rooms for attendees of the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting. The contracted block of rooms is protected and is available for online reservations for meeting attendees. The AAFS attendee block is currently full at the Hyatt and AAFS is seeking alternative solutions for attendee accommodations. Attendees should continue to check availability at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans by using the link to the Hyatt reservation system above. Although the Hyatt is currently showing fully booked, attendees cancel reservations and you may still be able to get in under the AAFS attendee block. Persistence is key to your success in securing a room at the Hyatt!

The Single/Double attendee rate is $207 per night at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans for AAFS attendees. The hotel is located at 601 Loyola Ave, New Orleans, LA 70113. The deadline to make reservations at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans in the attendee block is January 9, 2017. After this date, the Hyatt Regency will not accept reservations at the contracted rate of $207 per night for meeting attendees.

AAFS only has a limited number of rooms available in its block for stays on Saturday, February 18, 2017, and the obtainability of rooms after Saturday will be at the prevailing market rates. Once you have confirmed that you will attend the AAFS meeting, please carefully consider and book your travel dates accordingly.

AAFS Annual Meeting Employment Forum & FEPAC University Fair

The AAFS will be hosting its 14th Annual Employment Forum and its 6th Annual University Fair during the 2017 annual meeting in New Orleans, LA. The purpose is to provide employers and academic programs with the following:

- **Employment Forum** — a means for employers and applicants to meet, to exchange information, to conduct informal interviews, or to schedule interviews for later in the week. The Employment Forum will be held on **Tuesday, February 14, 2017**, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Additional information can be found on page 9 of this newsletter.

- **University Fair** — a means for FEPAC-accredited colleges and universities to promote their academic forensic science programs. The University Fair will be held on **Thursday, February 16, 2017**, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Additional information can be found on page 11 of this newsletter.

Space is limited! To reserve your place at either event, please complete the appropriate form found on the following pages, and submit to Heather Jefferson at the AAFS office by email: hjefferson@aafs.org. Heather will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Plan on joining us for the AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting Employment Forum and/or University Fair!

Zika Virus Information for Travelers to the United States
(Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention)

Although some countries have issued travel alerts for portions of the United States concerning the Zika virus, New Orleans is not currently in those alerts. The links below can help you stay up to date on U.S. Zika information:

American Academy of Forensic Sciences Employment Forum

A forum designed to put employers and job seekers in contact.

To be held during the AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting
February 13-18, 2017
Hyatt Regency New Orleans
New Orleans, LA, USA

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Tuesday, February 14

Near the AAFS Welcoming Reception at the
Hyatt Regency New Orleans

In 2016, the Academy sponsored a successful employment forum with thirteen prospective employers and approximately three hundred visitors participating. Job seekers included the graduating classes of several major forensic science degree programs.

The AAFS Forensic Science Employment Forum is:
- A free event open to all registered meeting attendees.
- An opportunity to meet employers, and for them to meet you.
- An opportunity to make personal contacts and distribute resumes.
- A means to assess the job market in your discipline.

There is no fee to participate. Space is limited and assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. For information or to register and ensure available table space for your program/agency, complete the form and return it to:
Heather Jefferson at hjefferson@aafs.org.
The American Academy of Forensic Sciences
Employment Forum

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Request for table space.

Contact Name: ____________________________________________
Email Address: ____________________________________________
Affiliation/Company: _______________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________
                                           ________________________________________________
City: ____________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________
Country: __________________________

Names of Staff Members Attending Employment Forum:

________________________________________________________________________

Brief Description of Position to be Advertised for Employment:

________________________________________________________________________

Each participating employer will be assigned space and provided with a 4’ X 8’ poster board and table. Representatives of the participating employers must be present during the forum. Return form to Heather Jefferson at hjefferson@aafs.org. For requests made prior to January 13th, confirmations will be sent via email by January 23.
American Academy of Forensic Sciences
FEPAC College & University Fair

A forum designed to put FEPAC-accredited colleges, universities, and potential students in contact.

To be held during the AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting
February 13-18, 2017
Hyatt Regency New Orleans
New Orleans, LA, USA

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Thursday, February 16

Held in Conjunction with the AAFS Wine & Cheese Reception at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans

2017 will be the sixth year that AAFS is offering FEPAC-accredited colleges and universities the opportunity to promote their educational programs to potential students. In 2016, twenty major forensic science degree programs participated in the AAFS FEPAC College & University Fair. Programs will have their own session in conjunction with the AAFS Wine & Cheese Reception to showcase their program and campuses.

For programs wishing to fill permanent faculty positions, AAFS requires participation in the AAFS Employment Forum being held on Tuesday, February 14. Contact Heather Jefferson for the Employment Forum request form.

The AAFS FEPAC College & University Fair is:
- A free event open to all registered meeting attendees.
- An opportunity to meet students and for them to meet you.
- An opportunity to make personal contacts.

There is no fee to participate. Space is limited to FEPAC-accredited Programs and assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. For information or to register and ensure available table space for your program complete the form and return it to: Heather Jefferson at hjefferson@aafs.org.
The American Academy of Forensic Sciences
FEPAC College & University Fair
Thursday, February 16, 2017
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Request for table space.

Contact Name: ____________________________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________

FEPAC-Accredited
College/University: ____________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

City: ______________________ State: _______________ Zip: ____________

Country: ________________________________

Names of Staff Members Attending FEPAC College & University Fair:

____________________________________________________________________

Brief Program Description:

____________________________________________________________________

Each participating FEPAC-accredited university or college will be assigned space and provided with a 4’ X 8’ poster board and table. Representatives of the participating program must be present during the fair. Return form to Heather Jefferson at hjefferson@aafs.org. For requests made prior to January 13, confirmations will be sent via email by January 23.
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE 2017 AAFS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING**

The AAFS 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting will take place February 13-18 in New Orleans, LA. We need volunteers to accomplish an array of administrative and gate-keeping tasks throughout the week of the meeting. Volunteers who are not members of the Academy may receive complimentary registration to attend all non-ticketed sessions of the meeting with a minimum of eight (8) hours of completed volunteer service at the meeting. This does not include sessions requiring pre-registration or fees other than the basic meeting registration fee. If you plan to attend any of the Special Functions (e.g., workshops, breakfasts, luncheons, special sessions, etc.), please contact the Volunteer Coordinator for the AAFS Pre-Registration Form. Inactive members of the Academy are eligible to receive complimentary registration.

Although AAFS members do not receive complimentary registration for volunteering, the Academy needs its members to volunteer. Your service to the Academy is instrumental in making the event a success. Persons accompanying registered attendees are also welcome to volunteer if they wish.

*Volunteer applications must be received no later than January 5th, and are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Incomplete forms are not accepted.*

---

**AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting Volunteer Information Form***

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The best way to contact me during the meeting is: [ ] Phone [ ] Email [ ] Other: __________________________

AAFS Member? Yes [ ] No [ ] Member#: __________________________ Are you able to lift 50 lbs? Yes [ ] No [ ]
Are you bilingual? Yes [ ] No [ ] If needed are you willing to translate? Y [ ] N [ ] Language(s): __________________________
First Meeting? Yes [ ] No [ ] First Time Volunteering? Yes [ ] No [ ]

I plan to arrive in New Orleans, LA on __________________________ and depart on __________________________

Please check all dates you are available to volunteer. Mark the time(s) of day you are available (a.m. and/or p.m.) as well as the maximum number of days for which you are willing to volunteer. **Please Note:** We make every attempt to fulfill your requests; however, there is no guarantee your requests will match our needs.

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<td>Saturday, February 18</td>
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Maximum number of days willing to work: __________________________

[ ] I am requesting “Complimentary” registration as a non-member with a minimum of eight (8) hours of volunteer service. I understand that should I fail to meet my confirmed assignment and/or minimum hour requirements I may be charged for a full meeting registration and/or disqualified from volunteering at future AAFS meetings.

*Return completed form by January 5th, to:*

**volunteer@aafs.org**

410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904  
Phone: (719) 636-1100  Fax: (719) 636-1993

*You must fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms are not accepted.*
Forensic Sciences Foundation News

Forensic Sciences Foundation Announcement of 2016-17 Acorn and Lucas Grant Awards!

Each year the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) awards monies in the form of grants to members of the forensic science communities for research conducted throughout the year. The FSF has awarded two 2016-17 FSF Acorn Grants and four 2016-17 FSF Lucas Grants and is pleased to announce the recipients of the research grants for this year. Congratulations!

The 2016-17 FSF Acorn Grant recipients are:
- Chaunesey Clemmons, BA - Ancestry Estimation of Biracial Individuals Using Dental Morphological Traits - $528.39
- Michelle R. Sanford, PhD - Indoor Forensic Entomology: Does the Nearest Weather Station Accurately Represent the Scene? - $471.93

The 2016-17 FSF Lucas Grant recipients are:
- Douglas C. Ryan, MS - Cell-Based Confirmatory Testing - $4,700
- Tal Simmons, PhD - Predicting the Postmortem Submersion Interval from the Microbiome of Waterlogged Bone - $5,000
- Liguo Song, PhD - Nitrogen Direct Analysis in Real Time Mass Spectrometry for Forensic Analysis of Illicit Drugs at the Crime Scene - $5,000

FSF Needs Your Help With the 2017 Silent Auction!

The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) conducts a Silent Auction at the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting. The FSF depends on donations from members, meeting attendees, and exhibitors for a successful auction. Please consider donating an item that would encourage lively bidding (author signed books, apparel or coffee mugs with your agency logo, or other fun, forensic-related items). The proceeds benefit the FSF Endowment fund which supports research and educational grants within the profession.

Please submit donations by December 31 to Kimberly Wrasse, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. Items received after the deadline will be accepted for the following year. Donors will be acknowledged on the auction signup forms and on the Academy News Feed.
The International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) Scholarship

The International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) Scholarship: Offered Through the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF)

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

Therefore, the Forensic Sciences Foundation is offering a scholarship to help defray the expenses involved in attending the 21st Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences to be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 21-25, 2017.

CRITERIA TO ENTER: If you have been a member of the AAFS for less than ten years (includes Associate Members, Members, and Fellows) and have never attended an IAFS meeting, you are eligible to apply for this scholarship. In order to be considered, you must submit to the IAFS, and have accepted, a podium presentation for the 2017 IAFS meeting.

Within five days of receiving the IAFS acceptance notice, the following items should be sent to Lucy Davis (ladavis@ldhconsult.com), Chair of the IAFS Scholarship Committee: (1) a copy of your abstract; (2) a copy of the acceptance letter from IAFS; and, (3) a copy of your up-to-date curriculum vitae.

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

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

IMPORTANT DATES: The IAFS deadline for abstract submission is March 10, 2017. The IAFS program will make notification to the submitter by April 24, 2017. Once acceptance is received, send the requirements, (1-3, noted above under “Criteria to Enter”) to Lucy Davis (ladavis@ldhconsult.com). The winner notification date is dependent on the static nature of the current IAFS timeline.

For more information on the abstract submission process, go to http://www.iafstoronto2017.com/. For more information on the scholarship, please contact Ronald Singer at crimelab@flash.net.
The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc., gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made to the Foundation and its Endowment Fund. Please accept our apologies if your name does not appear below. Contact the AAFS office as soon as possible with the correction. This listing reflects contributions received from 07/01/15 through 08/31/16.

The Fund’s balance through 08/31/16 was $965,360.00. Additionally, the FSF Endowment Fund has provided $305,109.64 in awards and grants since its inception in 1990.

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continued on page 18
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CRIMINALISTICS

Source: Karolyn L. Tontarski, MS, Section Chair

With 2016 speeding by, the 2017 AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting will be here before we know it! Abstracts are in and selections have been made, so we already know the meeting in New Orleans will be loaded with lots of amazing presentations. Criminalistics Section Program Committee Chair Kristy Kadash and Co-Chair Patrick Buzzini have embraced President John Gerns’s meeting theme, which is readily apparent by the content of the Criminalistics Section’s sessions.

Three of the 2017 Criminalistics Section’s special sessions, held as part of the presentations during the daily scientific sessions, will celebrate where the section has been — and where the section is going. The aptly named “DNA Testimony in the Past, Present, and Future” will explore the evolution of DNA testimony over the years. “Deliberations on Y-Chromosomal Short Tandem Repeat (Y-STR) Interpretation, Present and Future” will have attendees considering how foundational YSTR research and testing will impact the application of this type of DNA analysis going forward.

Of particular note is the two-hour panel session entitled (not surprisingly!) “Our Future Reflects Our Past: The Evolution of Criminalistics.” Invited speakers Doug Lucas, Peter De Forest, Pierre Margot, Sheila Willis, and Claude Roux will lead session attendees through a lively discussion of this topic. The speakers will address the origin of criminalistics from a historical and philosophical perspective; will discuss the developments that have led to today’s practice; and will address questions such as: What is the future of criminalistics? Who defines the path of criminalistics? How can one learn from the past of criminalistics to appropriately define its future?

With respect to the remainder of the Criminalistics Section program in New Orleans, expect the scientific sessions to be chock-a-block full of informative and thought-provoking posters and oral presentations. As learned from past annual meetings, the poster sessions provide a solid foundation with respect to current research and issues of interest to the Criminalistics Section. Plan to spend time between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday exploring topics of personal interest with the presenters. The ability to gain instant feedback when posing a query during the poster sessions is a time-honored, scientific tradition that embraces the ability of colleagues to create instantaneously a dialogue around a research or other topic, often sparking ideas for future projects or approaches.

Continuing the effort based on meeting attendee feedback, the Criminalistics Program Committee has worked to incorporate more time for substantive question-and-answer periods during the presentations. When reviewing the program in preparation for the meeting, take time to jot down questions that come to mind when reading abstracts of interest. If the presenter doesn’t cover these questions and time allows, proceed immediately to the microphone to address the presenter. Those expecting to take full advantage of question-and-answer time should position themselves near the microphone “beacon” when selecting a seat!

A subtle, yet important, change for the Criminalistics Section in New Orleans is the fact that the papers presented during the Friday night “Believe It or Not” session have been peer-reviewed, enabling inclusion of the presentation titles and names of the presenters in the formal Academy Program. While this Friday-night session doesn’t have a lot of history (i.e., one doesn’t have to go way back in a time machine), it began as a truly informal session in 2014, based on a suggestion from Criminalistics Section Fellow Daniel Petersen. Initially, the session focused solely on the world of DNA, with the inaugural session named “You Got DNA from WHAT?” The concept of a more relaxed, slightly more entertaining than a regular daytime presentation session has rapidly evolved into the current “Believe It or Not” session. Plan to come to this session on Friday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to unwind from an action-packed day, gasp in amazement regarding case approaches and outcomes, and relax a little (or a lot) in preparation for the Saturday morning Scientific Sessions!

This year’s meeting theme, Our Future Reflects Our Past: The Evolution of Forensic Science, should cause each Criminalistics Section member to consider his/her own role with respect to promoting the changes occurring in forensic science. At a minimum, each individual has a responsibility to be aware of the activities of the relevant Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) or OSACs having the potential to impact the future of their specialty area(s). Further, Criminalistics Section members should also be aware of the progress of the AAFS Standards Board (ASB), the Academy’s Standards Development Organization (SDO).

Given all of the pending changes to the field of forensic science, this call to action is real and critical to the future of criminalistics. A “not my job,” “not my specialty,” or “this is a 9-to-5 position” mentality will not move the field of criminalistics forward in a meaningful way. Clearly, at the very least, there continues to be a need to provide basic scientific underpinning for many aspects of criminalistics examinations. Getting to where our chosen field needs to be will require a lot of effort, time, and hard work.

continued on page 22
Now is the time for each of us to assess how best to contribute to the future of our field — and then begin to act. Take time to assess what you can bring to the effort to meet our collective goal. Will it be drafting and/or review of standards documents, participation in committee work, conducting OSAC-specified necessary research, or holding down the fort at the lab so others have the time to actively participate? In the near term, criminalists are called upon to provide their talents and their time, most often as volunteers, and by “donating” time above and beyond a paid work week. During this critical juncture in forensic science, each criminalist must do his or her part to help achieve the common goal of ensuring all necessary scientific underpinnings are explored, standards are developed, and new procedures (when applicable) are established, validated, integrated into the quality system, and implemented as rapidly as possible.

**DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES**

**Sources:** Marla E. Carroll, BS, Section Secretary, and Rhesa G. Gilliland, MS, Section Membership Committee Chair

We have a great program scheduled for the 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, and we want as many people as possible who are qualified to attend to benefit from the presentations. Please tell your coworkers and colleagues about the AAFS Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section (DMS) and assist them in completing their applications by the October 1 deadline. Current members are the best advocates to help us grow our section!

From the DMS Membership Committee: We are approaching the deadline for membership submissions and promotion requests. All applications must be submitted prior to October 1 for consideration prior to the 2017 AAFS Annual Meeting. If you are eligible to apply for promotion, we strongly encourage you to do so.

The AAFS Basic Requirements for Promotion are as follows:

1. Fulfill the AAFS Basic Requirements for Promotion, and any such additional requirements as may be established for its members; and
2. Attend a minimum of two (2) annual meetings of the AAFS and one (1) Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section Business Meeting. The meeting at which the title of Associate Member was conferred, if attended, may be counted; however, the meeting at which the title of Member is being considered shall not be counted (special consideration may be given for promotion after attendance at one (1) meeting if extenuating circumstances have prevented attendance for two (2) years and all other promotion requirements have been met); and
3. Meet two (2) of the following requirements prior to the annual meeting at which promotion to Member is conferred. (Note: At least one (1) of the contributions must be from category b. or c.):
   a. Participate as an active member or chair of a committee of the Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section of AAFS. One (1) year of committee work equals one (1) contribution. The committee chairs will submit a list of active members at the end of each year to the section chair.
   b. Participate in the annual AAFS program by presentation of paper, poster, luncheon presentation, workshop or seminar, or moderating a routine Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section program session.

**Section News cont.**
c. Author a paper on a subject relevant to the section’s area of interest that is accepted for publication in the Journal of Forensic Sciences or other peer-reviewed journal or conference proceedings. This requirement is fulfilled if the applicant’s name appears as an author on the paper. Letters to the Editor or Book Reviews will not be considered in fulfilling this requirement; or
d. Participate as a site evaluator/Commissioner for Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC); or as a faculty member of a CSI Summer Camp or Forensic Science Educational Conference (FSEC) on two (2) separate occasions, and

4. Demonstrate active work in the forensic sciences at the time the promotion application is filed.

* References not required.

The Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section Requirements for Promotion from Member to Fellow are as follows:

While serving as a Member, the applicant must:

1. Fulfill the AAFS Basic Requirements for Promotion, and any such additional requirements as may be established for its members, and

2. Attend a minimum of two (2) annual meetings of the AAFS and one (1) Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section Business Meeting. The meeting at which the title of Member was conferred, if attended, may be counted; however, the meeting at which the title of Fellow is being considered shall not be counted (special consideration may be given for promotion after attendance at one (1) meeting if extenuating circumstances have prevented attendance for two (2) years and all other promotion requirements have been met), and

3. Meet three (3) of the following requirements prior to the annual meeting at which promotion to Fellow is conferred (Note: At least one (1) of the contributions must be from category b. or c.):

   a. Participate as an active member or chair of a committee of the Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section of AAFS. One (1) year of committee work equals one (1) contribution. The committee chairs will submit a list of active members at the end of each year to the section chair, or
   b. Participate in the annual program of the AAFS by presentation of paper, poster, luncheon presentation, workshop or seminar, or moderating a routine Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section program session, or
   c. Author a paper on a subject relevant to the section’s area of interest that is accepted for publication in the Journal of Forensic Sciences or other peer-reviewed journal or peer-reviewed conference proceedings. This requirement is fulfilled if the applicant’s name appears as an author on the paper. Letters to the Editor or Book Reviews will not be considered in fulfilling this requirement; or
   d. Participate as a site evaluator/Commissioner for the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC); or as a faculty member of a CSI Summer Camp or Forensic Science Educational Conference (FSEC) on two (2) separate occasions, and

4. Demonstrate active work in the forensic sciences at the time the promotion application is filed.

* References not required.

If you have any questions regarding the requirements or completing your application, please contact Membership Coordinator Cheryl Hunter at chunter@aafs.org.

If you are interested in serving on the DMS Section Membership Committee, please feel free to contact me (Rhesa Gilliland) at rrgilliland@uspis.gov or rhesa.janice@gmail.com. You may also call me at work at (703) 406-7150 or (202) 528-9500.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in February in New Orleans, LA.

GENERAL

Source: Joanna L. Collins, MFS, Section Secretary

With summer but a fleeting memory and fall upon us, now is the time to make your plans to attend the 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, LA. For those of you planning to attend the New Orleans meeting, it might be wise to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The NBA will be hosting its 2017 All-Star game in New Orleans on Sunday, February 19, 2017, after the AAFS meeting ends. To secure a room at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, make your reservation by clicking the following link:

https://resweb.passkey.com/go/amacadofforensicsciences2017

The AAFS Standards Board (ASB) is a Standards Development Organization (SDO) that works closely with the various Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for forensic science to develop voluntary consensus standards, technical reports, and best practice recommendations. The ASB has 14 Consensus Bodies comprised of members of the Academy’s various sections. Thank you to those members of the General Section who have been selected to serve on these Consensus Bodies. Be on the lookout for emails from the ASB concerning public comment on various documents, as they will directly impact how you work within your respective disciplines in the future.

Congratulations to the membership! There were 200 abstracts submitted this year, including 108 oral and 77 poster submissions. The General Section Program Chair, Melissa Connor, and Co-Chair, Gina Londino, are building a strong program from interesting and relevant submissions. Given the standard Scientific Session schedule on Thursday and Friday of the annual meeting, with authors having 15 minutes to present their papers, there is time for 57 oral presentations, which is a 53% acceptance rate for oral papers submitted. Authors who requested longer than 15 minutes will likely not receive it and should consider their submissions for breakfast, lunch, or a half-day workshop, as appropriate, in the future. Some submitting authors may have been asked to change their presentation type from an oral to a poster presentation, allowing for as many high-quality and interesting presentations as possible.

Additionally, the General Section is participating in a multidisciplinary session on taphonomy at the 2017 meeting. The Anthropology, General, and Pathology/Biology Sections will each contribute five presentations to this session. The session will focus on research concerning how bodies decay and advances on how to measure postmortem interval, including methods using microbes and bio-electrical impedance analysis.

continued on page 24
Section News cont.

October 1 is quickly approaching and you must have your completed membership application submitted to the AAFS staff by this date to be considered for promotion and acceptance at the 2017 annual meeting. The Regional Representative Committee, chaired by Sandra Enslow, has assisted a number of applicants with the application process already. Applicants who have no introduction into the General Section may receive assistance from the committee members on obtaining the General Section reference required for membership and/or promotion consideration. Additionally, make sure your application is detailed and outlines your involvement in forensic sciences. If you have any questions or need a letter of reference, please email srenslow@lasd.org.

Nominations for next year’s section officers are due to the General Section Nominating Committee Chair, Alan Boehm (ataboehm@cox.net), no later than October 15. The positions of Section Chair, Secretary, and Director will be elected during the section business meeting, held on Wednesday of the annual meeting. A list of officer responsibilities can be found at www.aafs.org in the AAFS Policy and Procedure Manual.

Along with elections, a number of important issues are discussed and voted on during the General Section Business Meeting. Our section is only as strong as its members, and member involvement is critical to grow and to develop our section within the Academy. Additionally, section meeting attendance is a requirement for membership promotion. The meeting is held immediately following the General Section Luncheon, at which Robert Morton, FBI (retired) will be the guest speaker. You don’t want to miss his presentation nor the opportunity to catch up with colleagues. Don’t forget to register for the section luncheon when you register for annual meeting attendance, as on-site registration for this event is not available.

Should you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact Claire Shepard, Section Chair, at claire_e_shepard@yahoo.com or Joanna Collins, Section Secretary, at joanna.l.collins@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in New Orleans — Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler!

JURISPRUDENCE

Sources: Pamela A.W. King, JD, Section Secretary

Section Member Carol Henderson will be delivering a keynote presentation at the 23rd Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society International Symposium in Auckland, New Zealand, on September 18-23, 2016. The title of the presentation is “Judicial and Legal Education in the Forensic Science: The Latest Progress Made on the Path Forward.” She will discuss the progress made since 2009 on the NAS Report’s Recommendation 10, which stated “[L]aw school administrators and judicial education organizations [should be supported] in establishing continuing legal education programs for law students, practitioners, and judges.”

Section Chair Judge Stephanie Domitrovich was invited by the Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA) and the Biotechnology Law Commission with the American Bar Association Judicial Division to speak in Hefei, China, to the faculty and students from the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) on a panel of experts, a Chinese judge, and attorneys on “Litigation and Practice Cases.” Her topic is expert testimony and the use of court-appointed experts in the United States and China. The USTC was established by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in 1958 in Beijing as a strategic plan by the Chinese government to meet China’s needs for science and technology and to increase China’s international competitiveness. The establishment of the USTC was hailed as China’s greatest event in the history of education and science. In 1970, USTC moved to Hefei, the capital of Anhui Province. The USTC is the only university in China operating two national laboratories: the National Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory and the Hefei National Laboratory for Physical Sciences at the Microscale. The USTC also jointly operates Superconducting Tokamak and the Steady High Magnetic Field of the High Magnetic Field Laboratory. The USTC is considered a world leader in the fields of quantum manipulation, nanotechnology, high-temperature superconductivity, speech processing, fire science, and life science. This seminar was held in early September.

Roderick Kennedy will retire from the New Mexico Court of Appeals at the end of November, being the judge with the second-most years of judicial service in the state. Judge Kennedy has sat as a judge at every level of the New Mexico judiciary, from magistrate through the Supreme Court, and has also been a part-time tribal judge for the Jicarilla Apache Nation. He taught forensic evidence at the University of New Mexico School of Law and contemplates working as a consultant and occasional translator between lawyers and forensic scientists. He is honored occasionally to advise members of tribal governments on policy and interagency relations. He also intends to reacquaint himself with various Rocky Mountain trout populations and his sailboat, Cazart! Please get in touch if you need a top-notch New Mexico tour guide.

ODONTOLOGY

Source: Adam J. Freeman, DDS, Section Secretary

It’s hard to believe Labor Day has passed and kids are going back to school. It is a sign that the process for preparing for the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 69th Annual Scientific Meeting in Louisiana is fast approaching. The accommodations information is on the AAFS website. Remember to make your reservations and register as soon as you can.

Section Program Chair Roger Metcalf has been hard at work encouraging everyone to send in abstracts, then culling through all of them to bring us what promises to be a very strong scientific session. If you have a wish to moderate a session, please contact Dr. Metcalf.
Section Chair Ray Miller has been working on a few initiatives to allow us to have a more robust Policy and Procedure Manual for our section, which will allow us to do more than meet once a year and will strengthen the duties of the chair to include being able to create committees within our section when the need arises.

The American Board of Forensic Odontology will be hosting two workshops this year — the Expert Witness Workshop and the Age Estimation Workshop — both of which will be held on Sunday, February 12, 2017. While there are no longer any participation spots available, there are a small number of observer spots available. If interested, please go to www.abfo.org and register NOW.

Please remember that this will be the first year the Odontology Section will not host the Thomas Krauss Memorial Bitemark Breakfast; instead, the bitemark portion of the scientific session will be named in his honor. You have the ability to be part of this history by attending its inaugural.

I am very proud to announce that the Awards Committee for the Odontology Section met, discussed, debated, and have settled on two well-deserving recipients:

Frank D. Wright has been chosen to receive the Reidar F. Sognnaes Award of Excellence in Forensic Odontology. This award recognizes the achievement of an individual in the field of forensic odontology. The recipient must be a member of the Odontology Section and must have made a significant contribution to the field of forensic odontology. The award specifically relates to excellence in forensic odontology, not to what the individual does outside of the field of forensic odontology.

Thomas J. David has been chosen to receive the Lester Luntz Odontology Award. This award is based on excellence as it relates to forensic odontology, along with involvement in and contributions to the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Odontology Section.

Please join me in congratulating both of these well-deserving individuals. We as an organization are better off due to their hard work over the past four decades.

The AAFS Annual Meeting in New Orleans is right on the horizon. It is time to start making plans to attend and we all look forward to seeing you there. Please keep a sharp eye on the AAFS website to see when registration opens.

On behalf of your Section Executive Committee and Program Chair, I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

**Pathology/Biology**

Source: David O. Carter, PhD, Section Program Chair

They call it “D Day.” Delivery Day, September 1, 2016, is the date that all presentations and moderators must be scheduled for the 2017 annual meeting. This year, we launched a new strategy for success on D Day: using a Program Committee of five Members/Fellows. Owen Middleton, Chris Milroy, Michele Stauffenberg, Sherah Van Laerhoven, and I undertook the task of abstract review and scheduling. These four members make an excellent team and their dedication to abstract review has allowed the programming process to run very smoothly. Please thank them for their hard work when you see them.

Although the 69th Annual Scientific Meeting is still four months away, an immense amount of activity has led us to this point. The Pathology/Biology Section received 205 abstracts for review: 93 orals, 108 posters, 3 workshops, and 1 breakfast. These submissions have allowed us to construct a very exciting program. In addition to Jay Dix Memorial Bonus Day and our standard scientific sessions, Pathology/Biology will again hold a multidisciplinary session with the Toxicology Section. Also, a multidisciplinary session with the Anthropology and General Sections will be held for presentations related to postmortem changes and taphonomy. To the best of our knowledge, this is a new partnership that could receive significant interest.

On behalf of the Program Committee, we look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

**Psychiatry & Behavioral Science**

Source: Dean M. De Crisce, MD, Section Secretary

As we enter the fall season, we hope you have all had a nice summer. Submissions for presentations at our 2017 annual conference have been completed and organized into a stimulating program. Varin Gosein, our section’s program chair, reported:

This year, we have a very exciting program. Our topics will range from presentations about abuse and crimes against children, violence and psychopathy, to ethics of communication and consent. We also have a number of presentations designed to further our understanding of the legal framework.

Attendees will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge and to grow current and future concepts that constantly shape and mold our field. Our presenters will represent multiple disciplines from across the globe, including a number of well-recognized experts in our field. We look forward to a great meeting.

In additional news, Richard Rosner, past AAFS President, reported that this year there is no winner of the Richard Rosner Award For the Best Paper by a Fellow in Forensic Psychiatry or Forensic Psychology. However, there are two winners of Honorable Mention in this year’s contest: Dr. Subhash Chandra of the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship Program of the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Pennsylvania for the paper, “Computational Analysis of Hindi Suicide Notes Using SNARE” and Dr. Samuel Jordon House of the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship Program of the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences for the paper.
Section News cont.

“In Preliminary Study of Testosterone and Empathy in Determining Recidivism and Antisocial Behavior.”

Two members of our AAFS Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section, Richard Rosner and Robert Weinstock, were re-certified by the American Board of Adolescent Psychiatry at the March 2016 convention of the American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry. Connor Darby has been elected treasurer and appointed to chair their ethics committee.

Finally, please note that the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law will be meeting this year in Portland, OR, October 27-30.

This newsletter will represent the last electronic digest. Be sure to explore the AAFS News Feed, which has replaced this electronic newsletter. The News Feed can be accessed at http://news.aafs.org/ and is an impressive resource, including up-to-date events of relevance to the forensic community, information on each section, job postings, and course information.

We continue to welcome the submission of news items for the News Feed from our members. Please submit these items to Dean De Crisce, Section Secretary, at decrisce.md@gmail.com.

As always, if you are aware of colleagues or trainees that may be interested in our organization or in participating in our conferences, please encourage them to join.

**QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS**

Source: Jan Seaman Kelly, BA, Section Secretary

Program Chair Samiah Ibrahim and her committee have been busy reviewing the abstracts submitted for the New Orleans meeting. I wish to thank those of you who submitted a paper, poster, or workshop abstract for consideration. Your willingness to share your research is pivotal to the mission of providing educational opportunities to the members of the Questioned Documents Section.

For those of you planning to attend the New Orleans meeting, it might be wise to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The NBA will be hosting its 2017 All-Star game in New Orleans on Sunday, February 19, 2017, after the AAFS meeting ends. To ensure a room at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, make your reservation by clicking the following link: https://resweb.passkey.com/go/amacadlofforensicsciences2017. Or, you can make your reservation by clicking the link found on AAFS Accommodations webpage: http://www.aafs.org/meetings/aafs-69th-annual-scientific-meeting-new-orleans-louisiana-2017/accommodations/.

New Orleans is a wonderful location for a meeting! After a day of attending sessions and workshops, there are many activities you and your colleagues can take part in. The hotel is within walking distance of the French Quarter where you can listen to live music and enjoy the local food. The music and the unique Louisiana cuisine offer a quintessential New Orleans experience.

In New Orleans, the Questioned Documents and the Jurisprudence Sections will have a half-day multidisciplinary session discussing current legal issues that impact practitioners and officers of the court. This multidisciplinary session is an example of one avenue of information exchange available to members of the Questioned Documents Section. In the last newsletter, I discussed Ordway Hilton’s pivotal role in the establishment of the Questioned Documents Section. I referred to Mr. Hilton’s gift as our inheritance because we have an opportunity to attend non-QD sessions to learn and to expand our scientific knowledge. It also allows us the freedom to exchange ideas with non-QD scientists. Your AAFS membership demonstrates you are a member of a multidisciplinary organization when providing court testimony. Our inheritance does not decrease with the increase of heirs. In fact, it is quite the opposite. Our inheritance grows as the membership in the Questioned Documents Section grows. Through an increasing membership, we are a stronger section in the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. There is still time for the submission of membership applications. Encourage colleagues to claim their inheritance and join the Questioned Documents Section. Should you or your colleague have questions, please contact Linton Mohammed, Section Chair (lamqde@gmail.com), or me, Jan Kelly, Section Secretary (Qdwatchdog@aol.com).

See you in New Orleans!

**TOXICOLOGY**

Source: Fiona Couper, PhD, Section Secretary

Now is the time for you to be making plans to join us in New Orleans as we both celebrate the past and look forward to the years ahead. Section Program Chair Nikolas Lemos (Nikolas.Lemos@ucsf.edu) and Co-Chair William (Bill) Johnson (william.johnson@slh.wisc.edu) continue to work behind the scenes to bring the Toxicology Section an outstanding program. Our traditional special sessions will once again be offered, including the multidisciplinary session with Pathology/Biology, Postmortem Pediatrics, Drugs and Driving, and NPS/Designer Drugs. The 5th Annual Toxicology Section Luncheon and its festivities are being planned, along with the Annual Toxicology Lectureship, which will be presented by Lori Arviso Alvord. Dan Anderson and I would like to acknowledge and thank the enormous efforts of Nikolas and Bill thus far — they both deserve additional recognition for securing section financial support and keeping within the tight AAFS deadlines.

Thanks to everyone who submitted abstracts for oral or poster presentations and workshop proposals. Your contributions are what make our program stronger every year. Thank you also to our volunteer abstract reviewers whom we cannot do without. Official abstract acceptance letters will be mailed from AAFS by mid-November, and the preliminary program will be published in November as well.

The AAFS Toxicology Section membership continues to grow in numbers; however, there is always room for improvement. Please encourage your non-member colleagues to apply; the
career benefits of membership outweigh the small initial cost. The application process is completely online (https://webdata.aafs.org/application/apply/start.aspx) and details are located on the AAFS website. Applications for membership need to be submitted by **October 1** in order to be considered for the 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Additionally, our section members of any status (Student or Trainee Affiliates, Associate Members, and Members) need to determine if they are eligible for promotion, and if so, to complete the application process. Some section activities (e.g., section officer or committee chair) require full Member or Fellow status in order to participate. If you discover that you are not yet eligible for promotion, you can fulfill some of the promotion requirements by participating in meetings as an attendee, presenter, moderator, or volunteer. Please contact Nikolas or Bill for volunteer opportunities, such as moderating a session. The deadline for receipt of all application materials is **October 1**.

See you all in New Orleans!

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**Journal of Forensic Sciences Working Group cont.**

The *JFS* Working Group recommended that the Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editors would receive stipends as recognition of their service to *JFS*.

The AAFS Board of Directors approved these recommendations and the financial arrangements associated with them in February and at the mid-year Executive Committee Meeting in July.

At the 2016 mid-year meeting, the AAFS Board of Directors’ Executive Committee and I also discussed publishing *JFS* as an online only journal. It was agreed in principle to pursue this option. Under this new arrangement, AAFS members wishing to receive a printed issue would be provided that option.

The AAFS Board of Directors and I strongly believe that this is the correct path forward for *JFS* to enable its continued growth as the leading journal in forensic science. It is a significant change in *JFS*’s operating structure and will require investment on behalf of AAFS. As the current Editor of *JFS*, I strongly support this investment; it is vital for the continued growth of the *Journal*. The AAFS Board expressed support for these changes and I would ask that all members of AAFS do so as well.

*JFS* is an important benefit for the AAFS membership, and is recognized as the leading forensic science journal in the world. These changes will allow the Editor-in-Chief and *JFS*’s Editorial Board to continue in its development.

Thank you for your support as we move forward.

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**In Memoriam**

- **James L. Frost, MD**, Fellow of the Pathology/Biology Section, June 2016
- **Turhon A. Murad, PhD**, Fellow of the Anthropology Section, August 2016
- **Paul G. Stimson, DDS**, Retired Fellow of the Odontology Section, July 2016
- **George W. Chin, BS**, Member of the Criminalistics Section, September, 2016
Academy News

President’s Message cont.

Board of Directors and I have been formulating the Academy’s official response. We are also working closely with the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations as they develop their response. I will keep the AAFS membership informed as a final response is developed.

As always, continue the great work you do in your forensic science specialty, ensuring objective assessments and analysis are accomplished in our pursuit of justice. All the best!

Academy Standards Board News cont.

The ASB accomplishes this by forming Consensus Bodies (CBs). Currently, there are 13 such CBs (Anthropology, Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, Disaster Victim Identification, DNA, Dogs and Sensors, Firearms and Toolmarks, Footwear and Tiretracks, Forensic Document Examination, Friction Ridge, Medicolegal Death Investigation, Patterned Injury, Toxicology, and Wildlife Forensics). With the exception of Patterned Injury, these exactly correspond to OSAC subcommittees. The CBs are made up of individuals from different backgrounds, which are characterized by “interest categories,” of which we have eight: academia, consumer groups, general interest (typically lawyers and judges), laboratories and testing facilities, producers, subject matter experts, user/government, and user/industry. This helps to ensure balance of interest – one of the key requirements for an SDO.

CBs (which develop the standards) hold meetings open to all interested parties and are comprised of experts from the eight interest categories listed above. There is a defined process to develop the documents, ensuring due process, and including an appeals procedure. Each document is put out for public review, so that any interested party – even if they do not participate on the consensus body – may comment on the document. The consensus body is responsible for adjudicating any issues that may arise during the review. Consensus must be reached among the members of the consensus body for a document to be adopted. In addition, the Board of the ASB must approve the document prior to submission to ANSI (which allows a standard to become an American National Standard).

This is all well and good, but it still doesn’t answer the question of why the AAFS now has an SDO.

When the OSAC was established, it became apparent that some fields in forensic science had existing relationships with SDOs – such as in fire science and gunshot residue. Others may have had professional organizations (such as the American Board of Forensic Odontology) which had issued guidance documents. In some fields, there were Scientific Working Groups (SWG), such as in DNA. However, the standards and best practice guidelines produced by professional organizations and SWGs do not meet the requirements of the NTTAA for being voluntary consensus standards. OSAC approached several professional groups, including AAFS, to see if any were interested and capable of establishing an SDO to generate voluntary consensus standards.

The AAFS accepted the challenge and created the ASB. The ASB CBs have close relationships with their corresponding OSAC subcommittees but the CBs may also generate documents on their own. Some documents may be proposed directly by professional organizations, or even by individuals not associated with OSAC.

The CBs need assistance in determining the scientific underpinnings that must be included in the ASB standards and best practice recommendations. CBs will typically reach out to OSAC subcommittees to provide the necessary scientific and operational foundation for the requirements in a standard or best practice recommendation.

Once a standard or best practice recommendation is finalized by the ASB, the corresponding OSAC subcommittee may refer it for inclusion in the appropriate Registry, thus completing the loop of interrelationship of OSAC subcommittees and ASB CBs.
The following individuals have submitted applications for Associate Member, Trainee Affiliate, or Student Affiliate. Applications that are received and completed by October 1 will be considered for approval at the February 15, 2017, Board of Directors Meeting. Due to space constraints, AAFS does not list members who are applying for promotion to Fellow or to Member; however, a list of these individuals is found on the AAFS website under “Quick Links.” Comments or concerns regarding an applicant should be submitted in writing to: Cheryl Hunter, Membership Coordinator, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904; chunter@aafs.org. Comments must be received by February 3, 2017.

Applicants

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**Associate Member**
- Blau, Soren, PhD
  - Melbourne, AUSTRALIA
- Cusimano, Maurizio, PhD
  - Sessa Aurunca, ITALY
- Davenport, Carole A.L., BSc
  - Liverpool, UNITED KINGDOM
- Doretti, Mercedes
  - Brooklyn, NY
- Fondebrider, Luis, PhD
  - Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA
- Franz, Annarita, PhD
  - Florence, ITALY
- Goliath, Jesse R., MA
  - Columbus, OH
- Harden, Angela, MA
  - Columbus, OH
- Harrod, Ryan P., PhD
  - Anchorage, AK
- Hunt, David R., PhD
  - Washington, DC
- Jeong, Yangseung, PhD
  - Honolulu, HI
- Kendall, Ashley E., PhD
  - Unlisted, MT
- Kindschuh, Sarah C., PhD
  - Offutt AFB, NE
- Lord, David G., PhD
  - Pomona, CA
- Lynch, Jeffrey James, MSc
  - Omaha, NE
- Nor, Faridah M., PhD
  - Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA
- Rhode, Matthew P., PhD
  - Muncie, IN
- Schade, Viola, MSc
  - Reno, NV
- Synstelien, Jennifer A., PhD
  - Knoxville, TN
- Taylor, Luke, MSc
  - Chatham, UNITED KINGDOM
- Turner-Byfield, Evonne, MA
  - Woodbine, NJ
- Urbanová, Petra, PhD
  - Brno, CZECH REPUBLIC
- Valencia Caballero, Lorena, PhD
  - Ciudad Universitaria, MEXICO
- Wolff, Ivana, MA
  - Mendoza, ARGENTINA

**Trainee Affiliate**
- Dixon, Connor, MA
  - Missoula, MT
- Dudzik, Beatrix, PhD
  - Harrogate, TN
- Dussault, Marie Christine, PhD
  - Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA
- Garcia de Leon Valenzuela, M. Julia, MSc
  - Tucson, AZ
- Holobinko, Anastasia, PhD
  - Pearl, MS
- Miranker, Molly, MA
  - Brooklyn, NY
- Niessner, Janet, MSc
  - Bishop, CA
- Palmiotto, Andrea, PhD
  - Offutt AFB, NE
- Shankel, Sarah E, MS
  - Offutt AFB, NE

continued on page 30
Applied Applicants cont.

**Student Affiliate**

Amaki, Alexandria M., BA
Camarillo, CA
Ammer, Saskia, MSc
Munich, GERMANY
Bolhofner, Katelyn L., MA
Tempe, AZ
Boyd, Barbara
Herriman, UT
Calmon Silva, Melina, BSc
New Orleans, LA
Cantor, Erica, BS
Indianapolis, IN
Cole, Mary E., MA
Columbus, OH
Diaz-Albertini, Lauren, BS
Monee, IL
Elder, Katherine
Baton Rouge, LA
Ghui, Melodi, BSc
Swindon, AE UNITED KINGDOM
Ilas, Ileana, BA
Knoxville, TN
Kim, Dong-Ho Eddie, BSc
Seoul, SOUTH KOREA
Kramer, Robyn Theresa, BA
San Marcos, TX
Mayberry, Alanna, BA
Indianapolis, IN
McGee, Kashmiere N., BA
Lubbock, TX
Messer, Diana L., MS
Columbus, OH
Miller, Jessica, BS
Indianapolis, IN
Noble, Jacqueline, MFS
Crawley, AUSTRALIA
O’Neill, Amanda J., BA
Reno, NV
Riegert, Dorothy A., BA
San Marcos, TX
Sharpe, Megan, BS
Allston, MA
Stein, Robert H., BS
Richmond, VA
Swearinger, Mary Catherine, BA
Chico, CA
Volmer, Erin L., BS
Indianapolis, IN
Watson, Jenna M.S., BS
Knoxville, TN
Weiss, Nicole M., BS
Columbus, OH
Williams, Devin N., BS
Plant City, FL

**Associate Member**

Al-Tahan, Rasoul Muwafaq, BS
Baghdad, IRAQ
Amendola, Christina M., MS
Worcester, MA
Amick, Gray, PhD
Columbia, SC
Arroyo, Luis E., PhD
Morgantown, WV
Aufero, Miranda, MS
Columbus, OH
Ball, Michelle, MS
Columbus, OH
Basic, Zeljana, PhD
Split, CROATIA
Basile, Kaitlyn M., BS
Arlington, VA
Bauer, Lauren C., BS
Houston, TX
Beyer, Britanny N., MS
Houston, TX
Bhutta, Zumrad U., MS
Sargodha, PAKISTAN
Bishop, Danielle, BS
Fort Bragg, NC
Boll, Megan M., MSFS
Willow Grove, PA
Boyle, Robert, MSFS
Garland, TX
Brauer, Alanna, BS
Shreveport, LA
Brimijoin, Deborah Clay, MS
Richmond, VA
Brunner, Branden, MS
Willow Grove, PA
Carter, Megan E., MS
Arvada, CO
Chu, Lansi, MS
Dallas, TX
Counsil, Tyler I., MS
Evansville, IN
Cox, Jordan, MS
Richmond, VA
Crnjac, Josip, MS
Zagreb, CROATIA
Dadhana, Anna, MFS
Santa Ana, CA
Daniels, Tamar, MSFS
Philadelphia, PA
Darling, Hannah M., BA
Anaheim, CA
Foran, Christine, BS
Humble, TX
Foster, Katie, MSc
Spring, TX
Fredericks, Jamie D., PhD
Richmond, KY
Freiwald, Stephanie A., BS
Austin, TX
Fulks, Laura C., MS
Biloxi, MS
Gurney, Susan M., PhD
Philadelphia, PA
Hedberg, Kent-Erik M., MS
Indianapolis, IN
Holland, Jennifer S., MFS
Syracuse, NY
Holly, Nathan, BS
Pearl, MS
Hubbard, Kayla R., BS
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Jackson, Diamonisha Q., BS
Pearl, MS
Johnson, Bryan, MSFS
Quantico, VA
Kanaloa, Collette, BS
Dumfries, VA
Kasum, Josip, PhD
Split, CROATIA
Kellogg, Kevin C., MS
San Jose, CA
Kerry, Rachel A., MFS
New Haven, CT
Knapp, Kaitlyn M., MS
Grove City, OH
Kramer, Kevin L., BS
Edmond, OK
Kruzić, Ivana, PhD
Split, CROATIA
Majmaie, Mays Nabeel, MS
Baghdad, IRAQ
Marginean, Iloa, PhD
Washington, DC
Marshall, Charla, PhD
Dover AFB, DE
McCormick, Michael B., MS
Owings Mills, MD
McWilliams, Kimberly M., BS
Birdsboro, PA
Medeiros, Kelsey M., MSFS
Chicopee, MA
Moe, Kaitlin E., BS
Missoula, MT
Mohammed, Ahmed Kadhim, PhD
Baghdad, IRAQ
Moini, Mehdi, PhD
Washington, DC
Moore, Melissa D., MFS
Santa Ana, CA
Naseer, Mudassar, MPH
Lahore, PAKISTAN
Nguyen, Tran, BS
Houston, TX
Papamitrou, Sofia, MS
Jamaica, NY
Percy-Fine, Stefanie, BS
Phoenix, AZ
Petela, Maria, MS
Maspeh, NY
Quinlan, Jesse N., BA
St. Louis, MO
Quintero, Ximena, BS
Lanham, MD
Rauche, Maria E., MA
Albany, NY
Remm, Jerome G., MFS
West Palm Beach, FL
Rhodes, Kurt, BS
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Rodriguez, Stephanie, BA
New York, NY
Rogers, Caitlin E., MS
Pueblo West, CO
Rossenthal, Melissa M., MS
Santa Ana, CA
Russell, Tara, BS
Kansas City, MO
Ruzic, Nela, MS
Split, CROATIA
Salinas Balboa, Oswaldo, MS
Victoria, MEXICO
Santiago, Rebecca, MFS
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Saunders, Shanna K., MS
Clayton, MO
Schmittgen, Carrie, MSFS
Hermitage, TN
Schultheis, Cassie L., MSFS
Olathe, KS
Short, Deondra L., MS
Fort Washington, MD
Smith, Ryan F., MSFS
Mobile, AL
Spencer, Samantha C., BSc
Memphis, TN
Sugimoto, Garett, MS
Bakersfield, CA
Tincher, Heidi, MS
Central Point, OR
Underwood, Beth A., BS
London, OH
Van Koughnett, Thomas, II, BS
Pontiac, MI
Vlastelica, Sandra, MS
Split, CROATIA
Watanabe, Scott Kenji, MS
Richmond, CA
Wexler, Stephanie M., MS
Virginia Beach, VA
Yuasa, Gavin, BS
Honolulu, HI

Trainee Affiliate
Alicia-Centeno, Alessandra, BS
Houston, TX
Amorin, Michelle, BA
Aiea, HI
Anane-Bediahok, Daniela, MS
Brampton, ON CANADA

Antinick, Timothy C., MS
Houston, TX
Aragon, Sereena N., BS
Santa Fe, NM
Bagley, Chandra, MSFS
Midvale, UT
Beherec, Charity M., MS
Lubbock, TX
Bennett, Hanna J., BS
Salt Lake City, UT
Britten, Reggie A., BS
Davis, CA
Buchanan, Rachel E., MS
Abingdon, MD
Russell, David, MS
Salt Lake City, UT
Simard, Breonna
West Hartford, CT
Sleipnir, Christine, MS
Asheville, NC
Smith, Ryan, BS
West Palm Beach, FL

continued on page 32
Applicants cont.

Conway, Allison, BS  
Fort Worth, TX

Cruse, Courtney  
Lexington, KY

Dela Rosa, Armando B., Jr., MA  
Quantico, VA

Edgell, Jordan A., BS  
Turtlepoint, PA

Fikiet, Marisia A., MS  
Albany, NY

Fiorentin, Taís Regina, BS  
Philadelphia, PA

Fu, Shih-Ching, BA  
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A Letter from the YFSF President
As the seasons begin to change, it is time to start travel planning for the AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, which is only four months away!

Hotel and accommodation information can be found at aafs.org. In the coming weeks, meeting registration will open online and it is important to register early to ensure a seat for popular workshops and sessions! Registration is required for those wishing to attend the Young Forensic Scientists Forum (YFSF) Special Session and Breakfast Session. Both of these sessions feature prominent scientists who will share their successes and give advice to the incoming generation of scientists. The YFSF also hosts free events such as the Bring Your Own Posters (YFSF BYOP) and Bring Your Own Slides (YFSF BYOS) Sessions that showcase the research conducted by young scientists and are open to all meeting attendees. While more detailed information can be found on pages 37-39, it is important to note that the abstract deadline for these sessions is December 1.

Immediately following the annual meeting in February, the 2017–18 YFSF Committee will be formed and will begin planning for the next Annual Scientific Meeting in Seattle, WA. Individuals interested in serving on the YFSF Committee are encouraged to bring a CV or résumé to YFSF events and to speak with committee members about their experiences working with the Forum. Questions regarding YFSF Committee membership requirements or involvement are always welcome.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Brianna B. Bermudez, BS
YFSF President
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A Note from the YFSF Secretary
The YFSF is excited about the AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting! Our committee has been hard at work preparing an outstanding series of events and presentations for this year’s meeting. Whether it is the YFSF Breakfast Session or the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Session, the YFSF has many wonderful opportunities to gain professional development and to learn from several leaders in their respective fields.

Please feel free to contact any of us with questions regarding this year’s meeting or about the YFSF.

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Ashley E. Foster, MAS
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YFSF Breakfast Session
The YFSF Breakfast Session, titled “Professionalism and Etiquette Eggs-pectations,” will provide young forensic scientists with the tools to maintain professionalism and etiquette during situations such as interviews or courtroom testimony. While these occasions may seem frightening, this year’s session will help answer any questions and overcome any fears young scientists may have.

The Breakfast Session will begin with a light breakfast, followed by presentations from practicing professionals with years of experience in regard to professional behavior and etiquette.

Barry Logan, Vice President of Forensic Science Initiatives and Chief of Forensic Toxicology at NMS Labs in Willow Grove, PA, and Executive Director at the Center for Forensic Science
Young Forensic Scientists Forum cont.

Research and Education, also in Willow Grove, will present, “Courtroom Professionalism: Appropriate Courtroom Conduct.” He will discuss professionalism in the courtroom. Dr. Logan has testified numerous times and has vast experience as to how scientists should behave in the courtroom, specifically pertaining to appropriate communication, attire, mannerisms, and scientific language. Charles Williams, Criminalistics Unit Supervisor and Forensic Scientist III at the New Jersey State Police Office of Forensic Sciences from Hamilton, NJ, will present, “Wouldn’t You Like to Know?!” He will discuss professionalism and etiquette as it pertains to common areas of involvement for young scientists. Following presentations by both speakers, there will be time for a “Questions & Answer” session. The YFSF Breakfast Session Chairs invite young forensic scientists to present questions to our speakers about their specific presentations or to ask for general advice. As always, to wrap up the Breakfast Session, a “Résumé Review Session” will focus on refining the résumé and/or CVs of young scientists in a one-on-one setting with professionals from all AAFS sections. The YFSF Breakfast Session Chairs are always looking for qualified résumé reviewers. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact yfsf.breakfast@gmail.com.

This year’s Breakfast Session is “eggs-pected” to be exciting, educational, and applicable to all young forensic scientists out there. Hope to see you all in the Big Easy!

Jeremy M. Manheim
YFSF Breakfast Session Chair
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Alex J. Krotulski, MS
YFSF Breakfast Session Co-Chair
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YFSF Special Session
The YFSF is pleased to announce the 2017 YFSF Special Session speakers:

- Jeri D. Ropero-Miller, PhD
- Eric Baccino, MD
- Dean M. De Crisce, MD
- Jason H. Byrd, PhD
- Eugenia Cunha, PhD
- Joan A. Bytheway, PhD
- Gulnaz T. Javan, PhD
- Lauren Traveller, DNP
- Nicole Lottering, PhD
- Peter R. Stout, PhD
- Kimberly S. Kobojek, MS
- Megan E. Grimes, MFS
- Kelsey L. Wilkinson, BS
- John M. Butler, PhD
- Roderick T. Kennedy, JD

The speakers represent a wide range of forensic science disciplines, and we are excited to have a few international speakers as well. To highlight some of the presentations, Dr. Javan will give a hands-on DNA demonstration that will include materials and actual specimens. Dr. Byrd from the University of Florida will present “Veterinary Forensic Sciences: Applied Education and Opportunities for Young Forensic Scientists.” Megan Grimes will discuss the visiting science program with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Judge Kennedy will present “Believability, Rules, and Staying Alive in Court.” Please consider joining us for an exciting session this year in New Orleans. If you have any questions about the 2017 Special Session, please contact yfsfss@gmail.com.

Amanda R. Hale, MA
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Brittany N. Beyer, MS
YFSF Special Session Co-Chair
bbeyer315@gmail.com

YFSF Bring Your Own Poster Session
YFSF BYOP presents an ideal opportunity for students and young forensic scientists to share their research and gain invaluable feedback in a comfortable environment. Mentors, please encourage your students to present their term paper, research, or interesting case at this year’s YFSF BYOP Session.

If you are a young forensic scientist and missed the August 1 abstract submission deadline for the Academy, here’s your second chance! The December 1 abstract deadline for YFSF BYOP provides plenty of time for students and young forensic scientists to put together their summer research projects or case write-ups.

Interested students and young forensic scientists should submit a one-page, detailed abstract as well as their curriculum vitae to yfsf.postersession@gmail.com by December 1. If you have questions, feel free to email Alicia Lanfear or Vienna Chichi Lam.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Alicia K. Lanfear, PhD
YFSF Poster Session Chair
alicja.lanfear@mtsu.edu

Vienna C. Lam, BA
YFSF Poster Session Co-Chair
vienna@chisquared.ca

YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Session
Are you looking for an opportunity to enhance your oral communication skills while presenting your research? The YFSF BYOS Session is your chance! We are looking for students and young professionals interested in presenting their research in a casual and relaxed setting at the AAFS 2017 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA. This is an excellent opportunity for first-time presenters as well as those who are interested in adding experience to their résumé!
The YFSF is currently accepting submissions through December 1. If you are interested in presenting at the AAFS 69th Annual Scientific Meeting, please submit a one-page abstract and CV to yfsf.byos@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Betzaida Maldonado or Alyssa Badgley.

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Alyssa J. Badgley, BS
YFSF BYOS Co-Chair
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YFSF Financial Liaison’s Report
Each year during the AAFS meeting, the Young Forensic Scientists Forum organizes a special session geared toward students and young professionals in the field of forensic sciences. This special session includes a full-day session with speakers, a breakfast session with a résumé review panel, a Bring Your Own Poster Session, and a Bring Your Own Slides Session. These events can help motivate and guide those individuals seeking a career in forensic science. The Young Forensic Scientists Forum is able to hold these sessions each year because of the generous support and financial contributions that we receive from the forensic community.

The YFSF has been able to continue to organize the session each year through monetary and educational contributions from the AAFS sections, universities, and various forensic science vendors. There are multiple ways to contribute to YFSF, including donating supplies, financial contributions, or by speaking and participating in the Special Session events. This continued support is necessary for the educational and professional successes of young forensic scientists across the country.

If you or your organization is interested in contributing resources to the 2017 YFSF Special Session, please contact Kelsey Carpenter.

Kelsey A. Carpenter, BS
YFSF Financial Liaison
kcarpe69@lakers.mercyhurst.edu

American Academy of Forensic Sciences
69th Annual Scientific Meeting
February 13-18, 2017
Hyatt Regency New Orleans
New Orleans, LA

Our Future Reflects Our Past: The Evolution of Forensic Science
This year’s International Educational Outreach Program (IEOP) participants visited New Zealand from September 11-17. New Zealand (or Aotearoa — land of the long white cloud) is one of the most picturesque and historically interesting places on earth. The travelers were treated to spectacular landscapes, mountain ranges, steaming volcanoes, and, of course, sweeping coastlines.

By Sunday, September 11, everyone had arrived in Auckland, New Zealand’s largest city. Jet-lagged travelers AAFS President John Gerns (General), Peter Ausili (Criminalistics), Stuart Caplan (Odontology), Laura Fulginiti (Anthropology), Kevin Miller (Criminalistics), Danielle Ruttman (Jurisprudence), Brian Kennedy, and I, along with traveling companions, arrived in Auckland in preparation for the week-long activities.

We were surprised and touched to see the local firefighters, along with visiting firefighters from the United States, hold a memorial service to the fallen of 9/11. Several hundred strong, they remembered the tragic day and named each person who had served and lost his/her life during the tragic attack on United States soil.

Speaking for myself, I barely slept as I remembered and wondered what other surprises we might encounter with our Kiwi colleagues.

On Monday, the group gathered and was greeted by our New Zealand hosts: Sarah Scott, Organizing Committee Chair, and Matthew Gittos, the New Zealand President of The Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society (ANZFSS). Soon we were off to our first destination, the New Zealand Police Auckland Forensic Units. Here, Matt Taylor, Manager of the Digital Forensics Unit (formerly the Electronic Crime Lab) and Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Parkenham, Officer in Charge of the Criminal Profiling Unit, gave the group the grand tour of the facilities. The laboratories focus on digital forensics, fraud, counterfeiting, photography, criminal investigations, and more.
After lunch, we were treated to a tour of the Auckland War Memorial Museum where we learned of the Māori who settled in New Zealand from eastern Polynesia in the year 1250. It was amazing to learn that these adventurous settlers had traveled in boats that, to us, would be nothing more than a canoe, bringing with them native plants and items they needed to survive.

Throughout the week, we visited laboratories and universities and met with forensic science colleagues. It was interesting to learn that most of the forensic science evidence testing is performed by one government-owned laboratory, the Institute of Environmental Science & Research Limited (ESR). The ESR is the sole forensic provider to the New Zealand police and also provides forensic services for other government agencies, including the New Zealand Customs Service, and the New Zealand Defence Force. The ESR also undertakes forensic work for other parties, including lawyers, commercial companies, and private individuals. The ESR laboratories, accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB), conduct investigations and research in crime scene investigations, illicit drugs, trace evidence, firearms testing, bloodstain pattern analysis, and much more. A thank you to our ESR hosts, Drs. Keith Bedford and Jill Vintiner.

Another interesting stop was our visit to the University of Auckland and their forensic science program. The program was established in 1996 and is jointly run by the university and the ESR. Along with full-time faculty, the program features guest lectures from experts, including the Crown Prosecutors and independent forensic practitioners. Dr. Douglas Elliot, Director of Forensic Science and Associate Professor, and Deputy Director Gordon Miskelly provided the tour and treated us to a wonderful lunch.

Already Wednesday, we hopped a flight from Auckland to the capital city of Wellington. Along with visiting the ESR forensic laboratory in Wellington, the group had the privilege of visiting the Royal New Zealand Police Training College and Museum. The timing could not have been better, as the college was graduating a class the following day. The IEOP travelers, hosted by Mr. Julian Atkins, were ushered into the college’s Māori marae (meeting house). We were then introduced to the Māori traditions and influence at the college. We witnessed a performance of the traditional Haka welcome ceremony, the Pōwhiri, in which ancestors are remembered and asked to protect their guests. The ceremony concludes with the traditional greeting called the hongi in which each guest presses foreheads and noses with their Maori hosts to symbolize a welcome and joining of families.

After this wonderful introduction, we were permitted to watch the traditional Haka performed by the graduating class. In this ceremony, the class gathers on sacred ground, and the elder remembers those police officers who have fallen in the line of duty and names those who have recently fallen. Because this is considered a sacred ceremony, we were asked not to release any of the photos or video. Similar videos and pictures can be found online and I would encourage you to view them.

A trip to Wellington would not be complete without a visit to the New Zealand Parliament. The guided tour teaches us about parliamentary processes and the New Zealand system. We learned about the history and architecture of renowned buildings. Before leaving, we were allowed to enter the visitors section and watch politics at work.

Returning to Auckland on Friday, the group was treated to discussions with several ANZFSS presenters. Mr. James Hannah, President of the New Zealand Society of Forensic Odontologists, and Ms. Anna Davey, Director of the Forensic Foundations and Vice President of the ANZFSS, hosted the event.

Saturday, we hopped the ferry to the Waiheke Island. Although it rained, it was a welcome day of rest and a chance to view the beautiful vineyards and sample some of New Zealand’s best wines. Sadly, all was coming to an end.

Some of the lucky IEOP travelers planned to stay and participate in the ANZFSS 23rd International Symposium, September 18-23.
Meetings & Conferences

OCTOBER 2016

10-14
Bloodstain Pattern Analysis 1
Presented by Bevel, Gardner & Associates. To be held in Franklin, MA.
CONTACT:
Craig Gravel
gravel@bevelgardner.com
(405) 706-8489
www.bevelgardner.com/training/

12-15
2016 NEAFS Annual Meeting
Presented by the Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists. To be held in Maynard, MA.
CONTACT:
Beth Saucier Goodspeed
gcs@acexkp.com
(978) 451-3504
http://neafs.org/

24-25
29th Annual Educational Conference
Presented by the New Jersey State Division of IAI. To be held in Atlantic City, NJ.
CONTACT:
conference@njiai.org
www.njiai.org

31-Nov 4
Bugs, Bones and Botany
Presented by the University of Florida. To be held in Gainesville, FL.
CONTACT:
Jason Byrd
jbyrd@ufl.edu
(352) 294.4091
http://maples-center.ufl.edu

31-Nov 4
International Forensic Photography Workshop
Presented by the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department. To be held in Miami, FL.
CONTACT:
Heidi Nichols
hns@miamidade.gov
(305) 545-2469
www.miamidade.gov/medical Examiner/forensic-photography-training.asp

NOVEMBER 2016

7-10
WAWFE International Conference 2016
Presented by the Worldwide Association of Women Forensic Experts. To be held in Miami, FL.
CONTACT:
WIC2016 Secretariat
events@wawfe.org
www.wawfe.org/wic2016.htm

8-9
Forensics@NIST2016
Presented by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. To be held in Gaithersburg, MD.
CONTACT:
Susan Ballou
susan.ballou@nist.gov
(301) 975-8750
www.nist.gov/forensics/forensics-at-nist-2016.cfm
14-16
Medicolegal Death Investigation Training Course
Presented by the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office. To be held in Cleveland, OH.
CONTACT:
Chris Harris
cbharris@cuyahogacounty.us
(216) 443-7157

14-18
Forensic Photography
Presented by the Houston Forensic Science Center. To be held in Houston, TX.
CONTACT:
Training Division
jbenton@houstonforensicscience.org
(713) 929-6769
http://houstonforensicscience.org/training.php

15-17
Animal Crime Scene Workshop
Presented by the University of Florida. To be held in Gainesville, FL.
CONTACT:
Jason Byrd
jhbyrd@ufl.edu
(352) 294-4091
http://maples-center.ufl.edu

DECEMBER 2016
5-9
Introductory Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Workshop
Presented by the Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute. To be held in Doral, FL.
CONTACT:
Toby Wolson
toby.wolson@gmail.com
(305) 336-2219

12-16
IAI Crime Scene Certification Exam Preparation: CSCSA Level
Presented by the Houston Forensic Science Center. To be held in Houston, TX.
CONTACT:
Training Division
registration@houstonforensicscience.org
(281) 404-1809
http://houstonforensicscience.org/training.php

JANUARY 2017
2-6
Outdoor Human Remains Recovery
Presented by FACTS. To be held in San Marcos, TX.
CONTACT:
Sophia Mavroudas
facts@txstate.edu
(512) 245-1900
http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops/fieldrecovery.html

9-13
St. Louis University’s 116th Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course
Presented by Saint Louis University. To be held in St. Louis, MO.
CONTACT:
M. A. Tersigni-Tarrant, PhD, D-ABFA or Tammi Mooshegian
mldi@slu.edu
(314) 977-7323
http://medschool.slu.edu/mldi/

9-13
TEEX Skeletal Death Investigation Course
Presented by FACTS. To be held in San Marcos, TX.
CONTACT:
Sophia Mavroudas
facts@txstate.edu
(512) 245-1900
http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops/TEEX.html
Do you know someone who may be interested in AAFS membership?

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

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________
State: ____________________________ Zip: ____________

Please provide your name so the potential applicant will know who requested the application. AAFS will also recognize you by placing a Sponsor ribbon in your 2017 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 13-18, 2017, in New Orleans, LA.

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

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

Access to the AAFS Membership Portal gives you contact information to local, regional, national, and international members, scientists, and experts for consultation and collaboration. This virtual “Who's Who” in forensic science is an invaluable tool.

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

New Applicant Services Only:
(800) 701-AAFS
Email: membship@aafs.org
Website: www.aafs.org