While debate continues in Washington, DC, and elsewhere on the need for and the nature of forensic science reform, our profession steadily moves forward in addressing key issues. One topic of continued discussion centers on the need to educate the legal community on both the strengths and limitations of our methodology in the forensic sciences. In addition, forensic scientists entering the courtroom need to understand what is expected of them in their presentations regarding the analysis and interpretation of evidence.

A key educational activity addressing these issues took place June 6-8 in Plano, TX. Organized by our own Anjali Sweetsen, “Forensic Science Training for Capital Litigators” brought together a large group of defense attorneys for three days of immersion in forensic science. I joined AAFS colleagues Christine Funk, Cedric Neumann, Daniel Martell, Neal Haskell, Ronald Singer, Barry Lipton, Jamie Downs, Patrick Buzzini, and Elizabeth Devine in presenting overviews of our respective disciplines and leading discussions on issues of interest to the legal community. The session was sponsored by the National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology and the Law at Stetson University College of Law through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Similar training conferences had been held in 2009 and 2010. Topics covered at the recent conference included collection and packaging of evidence, forensic pathology, pattern evidence, trace evidence, questioned documents, forensic DNA, digital evidence, forensic entomology, ballistics, forensic anthropology, and forensic science research. The session culminated in a mock trial scenario ably directed by Christine Funk. Our group of forensic scientists succeeded in imparting a wealth of information and perspective to the assemblage of defense attorneys. The discussions also educated us in the expectations and concerns of the legal community. A follow-up session for prosecutors is scheduled for late August in Florida.

In September, our organization will be well represented at the 19th Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS), convening in Funchal, Madeira Island, Portugal. IAFS President, Duarte Nuno Vieira of Coimbra, has graciously included in the program a special day-long AAFS session. This session will feature presentations by IAFS Past Presidents Eric Baccino, Barry Fisher, Doug Lucas, and Ron Singer and will include many AAFS members who are participating in the AAFS International Educational Outreach Program. At the conclusion of the IAFS meeting, those on the outreach program will join me on a journey to continental Portugal for eight days of meeting colleagues, discussing forensic science, and exploring Lisbon, Coimbra, Porto, and other Iberian destinations. Our diverse group will include…

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64th Annual Scientific Meeting
Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel
February 20-25, 2012

www.aafs.org/aafs-2012-annual-meeting

Future AAFS Annual Meeting Dates

February 18-23, 2013
Marriott Wardman Park
Washington, DC

February 16-21, 2015
The Peabody Orlando
Orlando, FL

February 17-22, 2014
Washington State Convention & Trade Center
Seattle, WA

February 15-20, 2016
Rio Las Vegas Hotel
Las Vegas, NV

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Greetings again. It’s been a busy summer. The hot forensic topic has been and continues to be the Casey Anthony case from Orlando, FL. As I write, it has been about a month since the jury handed down the verdict of not guilty of murder of her daughter Caylee, not guilty of aggravated child abuse, and not guilty of aggravated manslaughter of a child. She was convicted on the remaining four counts of lying to or misleading law enforcement. More than 90 witnesses were called – many of whom are members of AAFS, nearly six weeks of testimony including Saturday sessions were held, and hundreds of items were introduced into evidence. And the general population has let it be known that “they” are not happy with that result. During the days after testimony concluded and the two days the jury was out, I polled many friends and acquaintances, even people I met on the street, and the unanimous return was “guilty of murder” or more often “guilty of killing her child.” Only my wife and a long standing friend within the Academy with whom I spoke felt that the prosecution had not proven the case, but even they hesitated to predict the actions of the jury.

As forensic scientists, are we unhappy and unsatisfied or are we happy and satisfied – or any combination of those two – with the verdict? I say, as forensic scientists, our focus is on truth not on the verdict. As forensic scientists our task is to assist the trier of fact (the jury in the Casey Anthony case) in discovering the truth so that they may apply the law (as relayed by the judge) to the facts and evidence presented by the prosecution and defense teams. Teams, another interesting concept – the word implies a common goal towards which all members strive. A forensic scientist engaged to testify as an expert in a case may be hired by a team but he or she can’t actually “play” for the team. He or she must be bound by the truth, even before the oath is administered in court. It is when a forensic expert “takes sides” in a case that trouble inevitably follows in my experience.

Now on to AAFS business. The abstracts are in, the programs, workshops, posters, and presentations will soon be posted on the website and published in the Advance Program. The 2012 Annual Meeting promises to be one of our best. The Executive Committee just met in the conference hotel which has been completely renovated since the last AAFS visit in 2002. The hotel is large enough to contain our entire meeting under one roof making it easy to hop from section to section on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The Plenary Session will focus on the international theme of the meeting. Rumor has it that some very special and interesting sessions will be available for all to enjoy and learn from. Be on the lookout. I hope to see the majority of the Academy’s over 6,000 members in attendance in Atlanta this coming February.
In this issue of the *Academy News*, we are highlighting our members and forensic scientists in South America, and what you can do as AAFS members to welcome our colleagues and increase our presence in this important continent. I returned this morning from the far north of Argentina, in the mountains and valleys near Jujuy and Salta. It is beautiful country, only exceeded by the kindness and consideration of its people. South America is a vast landmass with terrain from the high Andes mountains to the jungles of the Pantanal and Amazon. Some countries’ economies are growing rapidly with a strong technological basis while others continue to struggle in the current world financial state. These stresses certainly affect the availability of advanced instrumentation, similar to the stresses found in many North American facilities. In addition, legal and policy challenges make obtaining analytical standards particularly difficult, precluding quantitative analysis in many cases. Three years ago, a group of international toxicologists helped to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Morgue in Buenos Aires, Argentina. And in 2010, Chileans opened a new state of the art laboratory in Santiago, highlighted by the FBI as an outstanding forensic science facility. Forensic science in South America, as in all areas of the world, plays an important role in upholding justice and the rights of all individuals. The scientists are dedicated and find that AAFS offers excellent educational and training opportunities.

Within the AAFS, we have a small number of representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico and Peru, but the numbers are low, and many countries are not represented. What can you do to increase...
Sonya Bynoe

Sonya, who joined the Academy in July of 2008, has the enormous job of Publications Coordinator and Webmaster. She is responsible for all of the printing needs of the Academy which include production of Academy publications: the bi-monthly Academy News, the Directory of Members and Affiliates, Advance Program, final Program, Proceedings, Policy & Procedure Manual, as well as program flyers, brochures, invitations, announcements, reports, and letterhead. Additionally, Sonya is responsible for maintaining the three websites operated by the Academy - the AAFS, FSF, and the Young Forensic Scientists Forum sites respectively. Sonya is your resource for access to your AAFS member account where you can update your member record online, make those “go green” elections, and access the Journal of Forensic Sciences. At the meeting, you’ll find Sonya at the registration desk, wrangling teachers and students at Student Academy, or operating the on-screen presentation during the Annual Business Meeting. When not at the office, Sonya devotes her time to her 1-year-old daughter, Qwynn (pronounced Q-win) and 14-year-old Siberian Husky, Snowflake.

Debbie Crockett, an Academy employee since 1997, serves as the Finance Manager for both the Academy and the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF). In concert with Executive Director, Anne Warren, Deb is responsible for the financial, administrative, and day-to-day operations of the Academy. Her duties include accounts payable/receivable, payroll, financial reporting and statements (including section operating budgets and special section accounts), preparation for the Academy’s annual certified audit, management of employee records, and coordination of the building headquarters maintenance. Additionally, Deb handles the accounting for ABFT and ABFO, the Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board (FSAB), and all grants and awards related to the FSF. Lastly, but vitally important to the success of the Annual Meeting, Deb is responsible for coordinating all of the details for the meeting registration process. She and her husband, Kelly, have one daughter, Molly, who is a senior at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

Tracie McCray

Joining Debbie in the Accounting Department is Tracie McCray, Accounting Assistant. Coming aboard in 2001, Tracie handles volumes of data entry for the Annual Meeting, processes annual dues payments, and assists Debbie with numerous accounting responsibilities throughout the year. Tracie also assists Nancy Jackson with her FEPAC responsibilities. At the meeting, you will find Tracie behind the Academy’s registration counter with a bright smile answering all of your questions regarding workshops, breakfasts, luncheons, and general registration. Tracie lives with her husband, Jeff, and their two miniature Dachshunds, Buddy and Buster, who manage the household.
**Global Research: The Forensic Science Edge**

**Digital & Multimedia Sciences**

Sources:  David W. Baker, MFS, Section Chair and Douglas S. Lacey, BS, Section Secretary

Fundamentally, the members of the Digital & Multimedia Sciences (DMS) Section analyze, process, and report on nothing more than zeros (0) and ones (1), which form the binary structure of digital data. Mind you, these simple bits are formally structured in such a way that they represent critical evidentiary data and can be processed in hundreds of ways, but boil down email messages, word processing files, audio & video files, and digital images to their bare essence and you’re left with strings of the values of 0 and 1. This characteristic of digital evidence creates a unique situation for DMS examiners and researchers (relative to the other disciplines featured in the Academy), as original evidence can be perfectly cloned, mathematically verified (through the use of hash values), and shared nearly-instantaneously with others around the globe with just a few clicks of the mouse. These processes can be repeated an infinite number of times without harm to the original evidence, and the data can be stored and transferred to a multitude of media formats.

The ability to share evidence transparently across many thousands of miles is but one link of the chain, however. Examiners must understand how best to analyze and process the data in order to unearth details relevant to the case at hand. Their processes must be sound, their results accurate, and their conclusions supportable. Through research, conference presentations, and scientific publications, practitioners are able to share and discuss their ideas and methods with colleagues from around the world and gain a better understanding of the analyses they conduct.

One research project, for example, that has captured the worldwide attention of forensic audio examiners over the past several years began with Dr. Catalin Grigoras of Romania (now the Director of the National Center for Media Forensics at the University of Colorado - Denver). He pioneered a novel method for utilizing the minute fluctuations of the electrical network frequency (ENF) to essentially timestamp an audio recording, an examination useful for authenticating audio recordings. His work has inspired individuals in other countries to conduct independent research projects, in an effort to validate his methodology and expand upon the means of preserving and processing the reference data. Related presentations have been given at Annual Scientific Meetings of the AAFS, conventions of the Audio Engineering Society (in the U.S. and abroad), and in 2009, the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) released their “Best Practice Guidelines for ENF Analysis in Forensic Authentication of Digital Evidence.”


Another effort, by Zeno Geradts of the Netherlands Forensic Institute, has demonstrated the potential to link digital photographs to specific cameras using the random noise generated during the formation of the image on a sensor and during the processing of the image to its format for storage and later retrieval. This noise-like pattern is a small but measurable systematic contribution to the signal, and is called the Photo Response Non-Uniformity (PRNU) pattern. Large scale testing on photo cameras has shown that it is possible (with low false acceptance and false rejection rates, or a high likelihood ratio) to identify the source camera based on the patterns that were extracted from images.

Yet another area of on-going research deals with forensics in cloud computing environments. Various estimates and projections point to the increasing use of cloud computing platforms now and in the near future, indicating as much as 30% of corporate information processing takes place on some form of cloud platform. Forensic investigators need to have an understanding of the technologies involved, the different types of cloud platforms likely to be encountered, and what acquisition and investigation challenges they are likely to encounter. Christopher Day, of Terremark Worldwide, Inc, has been conducting on-going research and work on a large scale, developing and testing methodologies for performing evidence acquisitions and investigations on these platforms, which is critical as more resources and data move into these virtualized environments.

While 1s are 1s and 0s are 0s in any language, the diverse methods in which these bits are analyzed may be forged and developed from all parts of the globe. The ubiquitous nature of digital devices and technologies in our lives and the rapid growth of technology require practitioners to constantly learn new technologies and develop new tools and techniques. The dissemination of these analysis ideas is critical to the field as a whole, and through open communication and constructive debate at conferences and via peer review, practitioners can benefit greatly from their international colleagues.

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continued on page 25
As a resident and native of earthquake-prone San Francisco, who recently traveled in Japan, I was deeply affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Tohoku, Japan on March 11, 2011. As a forensic engineering practitioner, I also had a particular interest in the engineering failures, and successes, that were in evidence in the aftermath.

The biggest failures were those that occurred around the Tokyo Electric Power Company’s 4.7 GWe Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant, a boiling water reactor near Sendai in Miyagi Prefecture. Although other nuclear plants, including nearby Tokai and Onagawa plants, and Fukushima Dai-iini, 11-km south of Dai-ichi, experienced incidents as a result of the earthquake and tsunami, the situation at Dai-ichi was the most critical.

In failure analysis, the investigator seeks to determine the root cause of a failure. Fukushima failed, not because of the earthquake, but because the tsunami height exceeded that of the protection wall around the reactors. The plant was built on a cliff near the ocean, 4 to 6 meters above sea level. A protective 6 meters high offshore sea wall was built as well. Near the reactors, the tsunami produced waves of over 14 meters, which breached the barrier and entered the facility. This set off a chain of events that ultimately led to meltdown, explosions from hydrogen gas build-up, and the release of radioactivity.

In a nuclear power plant, control of temperature and pressure are critical. Nuclear plants produce energy from fission. In the fission process, an atom of high atomic weight (e.g., uranium isotopes of atomic mass 235) splits into two lighter atoms. This decay is accompanied by the production of energy in the form of heat, and the release of neutrons and gamma rays. The heat is used to convert water to steam, which drives a turbine, creating energy. The excess neutrons initiate subsequent fission events, creating a chain reaction of radioactive decay.

With regards to the earthquake, the Dai-ichi nuclear plant was robust and survived with minimal structural damage. Its automatic shutdown system performed as designed. Once ground movement was detected, the emergency cooling system started, inserting control rods into the reactors. Control rods slow the rate of the fission reaction by absorbing the neutrons produced by fission. Electricity to the plant failed in the earthquake, so backup diesel generators also came online. But when the tsunami waves overwhelmed the defenses, all but one of the emergency power generators were damaged, and the fuel tanks were swept away (the undamaged generator was located underground). Loss of power meant loss of ability to control the reactor cooling systems. Reactor temperatures began to increase, and the boiling water turned to steam, increasing the internal reactor pressure and exposing the nuclear fuel rods. The fuel, contained within tubes of zirconium alloy, was no longer surrounded by cooling water, continued uncontrolled heating. The hot zirconium cladding reacted with the steam to form zirconium oxide and hydrogen gas. When the operators vented the reactor to reduce the building pressure, hydrogen gas combined with oxygen in the air outside the reactor, and exploded.

A review of the historical data suggests that 14 meters is not an exceptional wave height. Japan has experienced numerous tsunamis with high waves; one of the highest in 1741 near Hokkaido was 90 meters. Other examples, closer to Fukushima, include a tsunami 8 meters high in 869 which flooded the Sendai area and killed 1,000 people; a tsunami off Miyagi in 1861 measuring 3.9 meters, and a 38.2 meter tsunami in 1896 in Sanriku, approximately 150 km north of the Dai-ichi plant. Clearly, earthquake location, intensity, and coastal geography will affect resulting tsunami height. However, given the previous instances of tsunamis of large wave height in the vicinity of the Dai-ichi site, such events should not be considered atypical. The full range of historical data should have been considered when designing the plant site and sea wall height.

Some have criticized decisions made around the Dai-ichi events. For example, at the plant, the decision to manually inject large amount of sea water to cool one of the reactors was not made until after the core had melted and a hydrogen gas explosion occurred. Outside the plant, the resident evacuation area went from a radius of 3 km from the plant to 20 km in just over 24 hours. Eventually the radius was increased to 30 km. In June 2011, radiation exceeding the legal limit was detected at a point 50 km distant from the plant.

It is important to recognize that the failures were balanced by successes. In the face of a 9.0-magnitude ($M_w$) earthquake, high standards and expertise in structural engineering were reflected in the amazingly low levels of overall damage to Japan, much less than what would be expected anywhere else in the world. I was in Japan in November 2010 and stayed in a hotel atop the 34-story Shiodome Media Tower in Tokyo. When I saw footage of the skyscrapers in Tokyo moving in response to the earthquake, I was surprised to see the same view as from my hotel window, until I remembered that the lower floors of the Media tower are occupied by Kyodo News. The news agency has cameras monitoring the exterior of the building that caught the surrounding high-rises behaving...
A Word From Your 2012 Program Co-Chair

The abstracts have been submitted, the workshops developed, and the special sessions vetted. The AAFS 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting Program is coming together with a variety of interesting and provocative submissions. The Plenary Session highlights the global nature of the 2012 Annual Meeting with presentations by IAFS President Duarte Vieira of Portugal, Morris Tidball-Binz from the International Red Cross, and Kathryne Bomberger of the International Commission of Missing Persons in Bosnia/Herzegovina. Daniel Garner from the International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) will round out the plenary slate of speakers. The Plenary Session promises to provide a state of the art review of forensic science research around the globe.

The Interdisciplinary Symposium will serve as an appetizer for the Plenary Session by providing more intimate access to the panel of speakers as well as to international representatives from all of the Academy sections. The half-day Tuesday symposium will be a varied, interesting, and exciting snapshot of multinational, multi-agency approaches to forensic science. Look for the pre-registration form in November (in the newsletter, the Advance Program, or online) and sign up to guarantee a seat.

The Atlanta meeting promises to have high attendance in part due to the great weather and plethora of entertainment options. The program is shaping up with numerous abstracts representing all eleven sections, engaging workshops that focus on validation and reliability and special sessions that seek to promote awareness of the current state of international forensic science. There are plans in the works to provide a congressional update regarding potential legislation of the forensic sciences. As always there will be a raucous Last Word Society and Bring Your Own Slides Session. There will be falderal at the Welcoming Reception and the Wine and Cheese Reception. All are welcome; this is a tremendous opportunity to meet with colleagues in an informal setting (and there will be libations!).

In addition to the program offerings, Atlanta offers many exciting venues for entertainment and food. There are many websites that outline the vast array of enticements. Underground Atlanta, Atlanta Station, and Buckhead offer boutiques, restaurants, and other entertainments, and the Coca-Cola has a plant with a tour that is great for children. There is an aquarium and Center for Puppetry Arts as well as the Olympic Park to divert young children. Adults may enjoy the Atlanta Opera, ballet, museums, or the wide array of sports venues. The weather in Atlanta in February is traditionally mild, with high temperatures in the 50s and 60s. This is a family friendly town so make your reservations early and plan ahead for a fun week of diversion.

For the next few months, forensic scientists around the globe will be writing cogent papers, honing their comments into a pithy fifteen minutes, and rehearsing their well-crafted tomes for presentation. The Academy staff will be working around the clock to bring you a flawless program and your Program Committee will be tirelessly devoted to making this a memorable and engaging meeting. The hotels and airlines are awaiting your phone call or click of a mouse so register now in order to maximize your participation. We look forward to seeing you for an international experience centered in a diverse and interesting city! AAFS Atlanta 2012 – see you there!
AAFS Policy On Abstracts and Presentations:

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

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

AAFS reserves the right to remove commercial references not disclosed by the author.

Selected As The Official Airline for Atlanta

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences has selected Delta Airlines as the official airline carrier for the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 64th Annual Scientific Meeting. The meeting will be held February 20-25, 2012, in Atlanta, GA, USA. Make your reservations using the meeting file number (NM7QX) and receive up to 10% off your round-trip fare.

To Make Your Reservations:
• Call: 1-800-328-1111
• Provide the meeting file number: NM7QX

Restrictions:
• Travel dates for discounted fares: February 12-29, 2012
• Discounts applicable to U.S./Canada originating passengers
• The discount does not apply to fares that are less than $125 (USD/CAD) base one-way or $250 (USD/CAD) base round-trip.

Need a Car in Atlanta? Rent From Hertz

The Academy has selected Hertz® (www.hertz.com) as the official car rental agency for the 64th Annual Scientific Meeting to be held February 20-25, 2012, in Atlanta. To reserve a vehicle at our special meeting rates, go to the AAFS website at www.aafs.org:

1. Click on the “Meetings” tab.
2. Click on “AAFS Annual Meeting.”
3. Click on the “Ground Transportation” button.
4. Click on the Hertz® logo to go to the Hertz® website.
5. Make sure the “I have a discount (CDP, PC, Coupon or other code)” box is checked and the code 04E70003 is entered in the “Convention Number - CV” box.

You may also provide the CV# (04E70003) to your corporate travel department or travel agent when making reservations. You can also make reservations online at Hertz.com or call Hertz directly:

• In the U.S. and Canada: 1-800-654-2240
• Other: 1-405-749-4434

Academy News
Make Your Hotel Reservations Early!

AAFS 64th Annual Scientific Meeting
February 20-25, 2012
Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel
Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.

For hotel availability during the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 64th Annual Scientific Meeting, go to the AAFS website, click on the “Make Your Atlanta 2012 Hotel Reservation” link under the News & Current Events heading. Choose the hotel for your stay during the meeting. Click on hotel logos, photo, or the link provided in the hotel information paragraph. By using one of these links, you will receive the group rate for your stay during the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting.

Atlanta Marriott Marquis
(Headquarter Hotel)
265 Peachtree Center Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30303 U.S.A.

Single/Double: $192

In order to receive the meeting rate, you must make your reservations through the online system or by calling 1-800-266-9432. The group rate is available Friday, February 17, through Saturday, February 25, 2012.

Reservations must be made by January 13, 2012, or prior to the room block being exhausted. Reservations received after January 13, 2012, will be based on availability at the hotel’s prevailing rate.

Hilton Atlanta
(Overflow Hotel)
255 Courtland Street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30303 U.S.A.

Single/Double: $189

Telephone reservations can be made from the Atlanta area by calling (404) 221-6300 or toll-free by calling 1-877-667-7210. In order to receive the group meeting rate, you should use the Group Code: AFS. The group rate is available Monday, February 20, through Friday, February 24, 2012 (with check-out on Saturday, February 25, 2012).

Telephone:
Within the Atlanta area call: 404-221-6300
Outside the Atlanta Area call toll-free: 1-877-667-7210
Use the Group Code: AFS

To receive the convention rate, reservations must be made by January 13, 2012, or prior to the room block being exhausted. Reservations received after January 13, 2012, will be based on availability at the hotel’s prevailing rate.
The Annual Business Meeting of the Fellows and Members of AAFS will be held on Wednesday, February 22, at 4:15 p.m., at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel in Atlanta, GA. It is essential for all Fellows and Members to attend this very important meeting in order to reach a quorum for the voting process. Agenda items include the election of the 2012-13 Officers, recognition of all Members being promoted to Fellow status, and proposed amendments to the AAFS Bylaws. You will also be briefed on AAFS activities during the past year and plans for the future.

As an incentive to attend, all Fellows and Members present will automatically be entered in a drawing to receive a complimentary meeting registration to attend the 2013 AAFS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

The Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences announces its annual award, “The Richard Rosner Award for the Best Paper by a Fellow in Forensic Psychiatry or Forensic Psychology.” To qualify: 1) the paper should have been completed as part of the work of the forensic fellowship year, OR within one year of the completion of the forensic fellowship year based upon work or research that took place during that year, 2) the paper must have not been previously published, and 3) submission constitutes permission for publication in the Journal of Forensic Sciences.

To apply for the award: 1) send the original paper, plus six copies, 2) send an original letter, plus six copies, from the director of the forensic fellowship program affirming that the author was a forensic fellow and the year of the author’s forensic fellowship, and 3) send seven copies of the author’s curriculum vitae. All submissions should be sent to: Sondra Doolittle, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. Submissions must be received by December 31.

The award consists of:
• Free membership for one year in the Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section of the AAFS, if the author meets the requirements and completes the application process;
• Free registration to the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting;
• Acceptance of the paper for presentation at the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting in the Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section;
• Free subscription for one year to the Journal of Forensic Sciences;
• Recommendation of publication to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Forensic Sciences; and
• A cash award of $350 to the author.

FSF Travel Grants

The Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) is pleased to offer Travel Grants for students to assist with travel expenses in attending the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Annual Meeting in Atlanta. The FSF Board of Trustees has allocated $5,000, not to exceed $1,000 per student, including a complimentary meeting registration. This is a wonderful opportunity, and members are encouraged to promote it.

Travel Grant Eligibility Requirements:
• The applicant must be a fourth year undergraduate or a graduate student at an accredited four-year college, university, or professional school whose accreditation is acceptable to the FSF Board of Trustees.
• The applicant must have a letter of recommendation from his/her advisor or professor.
• The applicant must submit a 400-600 word essay explaining how attendance at an AAFS meeting will impact his/her career decision.
• The applicant must submit a curriculum vitae including information such as forensic science areas of academic study and practice, academic record, forensic science activities, membership and participation in professional organizations (such as the AAFS), presentations at professional and academic meetings, as well as any publications and other pertinent data related to his/her forensic background.

All submissions must be completed and received by October 15. The deadline is firm with no extension. 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 AAFS Membership Application is Online!

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences online membership application system will allow: 1) current members and affiliates to complete an application to upgrade your status; and, 2) non-members to complete the membership application process to become an Associate Member, Trainee Affiliate, or Student Affiliate.

**Members**

If you are currently a member or affiliate of the Academy and wish to upgrade your status, you may complete your application online at www.aafs.org. You will need to log into your PeopleWeb account (if you are unsure as to your login information, please email the Membership Department at membship@aafs.org). Currently, all of the required documentation (e.g., references, CVs, case reports, etc.) will need to be emailed (membship@aafs.org), mailed, or faxed separately to AAFS.

**Non-Member Authors/Co-Authors**

If you are not a member of the Academy, but you have served as an author or co-author on a presentation (oral or poster) at an AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting, a PeopleWeb account was established for you when your presentation was submitted. An email was sent to you with your login information. Please use this information to log into your “Author” account to start your membership application. If you are unable to obtain your login information, please contact the Membership Department at membship@aafs.org.

**AAFS Annual Meeting Attendees, Exhibitors, and Volunteers**

If you have attended, exhibited, or volunteered at an AAFS Annual Meeting, you should have an account on record with AAFS. Please contact the Membership Department for your identification number at membship@aafs.org.

If none of the above apply, please go to https://data.aafs.org/application/apply/start.aspx and click option C.

We welcome your feedback on the online application process. Please send your emails to Cheryl Hunter, Membership Coordinator, at chunter@aafs.org.

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**FSF Needs Your Help With the 2012 Silent Auction!**

With your help, the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) Annual Silent Auction can exceed expectations during the 2012 Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA. Does your agency or department have “logo” gear such as hats, patches, pins, coffee mugs, T-shirts, denim shirts, polos, etc., that you would be willing to donate to the auction? Many of us are collectors of such items for display at work or at home.

Through extensive research, the FSF will obtain a number of fun items, but YOUR donation will make a huge difference. Please forward items to Kimberly Wrasse at the Academy office no later than December 31. You and your agency will be recognized for your donation. Auction items received after the deadline will be accepted for the following year. Thank you in advance.

**Suggested Items . . .**

- Patches
- Mugs
- Pins
- Caps
- Shirts
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE 2012 AAFS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

The 2012 AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting will take place February 20-25, in Atlanta, Georgia. 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 sessions (e.g., workshops, breakfasts, luncheons, etc.), please contact the Volunteer Coordinator for the AAFS Registration Form. Please Note: Those individuals receiving complimentary registration will not be eligible for continuing education credit. Inactive members of the Academy are not 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.

Below is a list of the various areas where we need volunteers and an information form. Credit card information is now required; however, your card will only be charged should you fail to fulfill your volunteer commitment and attend the meeting.* Volunteer applications must be received no later than December 1, and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Incomplete forms are not accepted.

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AAFS 64th Annual Scientific Meeting Volunteer Information Form*

Name: ___________________________________ Degree: __________Organization: ____________________________

Mailing Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________

City: _________________________________________________ State/Province: ____________________________

Zip/Postal Code: __________________________ Country: __________________________ Home Phone: ____________________________

Fax: __________________________ Work Phone: __________________________ Cell Phone: ____________________________

Email: ___________________________________ AAFS Member? Yes [ ] No [ ] Member #: ________________

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

Ex. Date: ___________ MC [ ] Visa [ ] AE [ ]

Signature: ___________________________________________ Credit Card #: ____________________________

AAFS is authorized to charge up to the 2012 Non-Member registration rate for registration fees should I attend the meeting and not fulfill my volunteer work assignment(s).

I plan to arrive in Atlanta, GA, on ________________________________ and depart on ________________________________

Please check all dates you are available to volunteer. Mark the time(s) of day you are available (am and/or pm) 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.

Dates Available  Time of Day Available  I prefer to work: [ ] Full Days [ ] Half Days

Additional Comments/Needs:

AAFS Volunteer Coordinator
410 North 21st Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
Fax: (719) 636-1993
massistant@aafs.org

*You must fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms are not accepted.
The Leica FS M comparison macroscope offers straightforward manual control of the stages, comparison bridge, and illumination for flexibility and convenience. The system can be configured for dual viewing, and the comparison bridge provides split, full left, full right, and superimposed imaging. In less than one second, the user can continuously adjust the viewing field and imaging modes.

Illumination options include a fluorescence tube mounted on articulated arms or gooseneck supports for easy, precise positioning, and LED spot and ring lights for long-life, cool, near-daylight illumination. For over 100 years, leading forensic investigators have relied on the unparalleled accuracy, optical excellence, and continuous innovation of Leica Microsystems.

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Living up to Life
Development & Accreditation Update

AAFS 2011 - International Educational Outreach Program - Portugal
AAFS President Doug Ubelaker and IAFS President Duarte Vieira have organized an exciting outreach to include Lisbon, Sintra, Coimbra, Santiago, and Madeira. The 19th Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences will be hosted in Madeira, and a special AAFS session is planned to include IEOP travelers on Friday, September 16, during the conference. The 28 participants will also enjoy Portugal’s old-world charm on the mainland while at the same time meeting with colleagues at the Scientific Police Laboratory, Coimbra University, and the National Institute of Legal Medicine. The Outreach Program will officially conclude on Sunday, September 25. Watch for an update on Facebook.

Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC)
Eleven forensic science programs are under consideration for accreditation. The applicants are:

- Albany State University, Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science
- Arcadia University, Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science
- George Washington University, Master of Forensic Science
- Marshall University, Master of Forensic Science Digital Evidence
- Nebraska Wesleyan University, Master of Forensic Science
- Ohio University, Bachelor of Science Forensic Chemistry
- University of Mississippi, Bachelor of Science in Forensic Chemistry
- Pennsylvania State University, Master of Professional Studies in Forensic Science
- Texas A&M University, Bachelor of Science in Forensic & Investigative Science
- Trine University, Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science - Biology & Chemistry Concentrations
- West Chester University, Bachelor of Science in Forensic & Toxicological Chemistry

With this record number of programs under review, the Commissioners and evaluation teams are very busy. Final results will be announced in February 2012.

To date, FEPAC has accredited 33 programs from 30 institutions. Specifics regarding these and all awards of accreditation may be found on the AAFS website www.aafs.org under the “FEPAC Accreditation Information” link.

There will be one Academician and two Practitioner vacancies on the Commission in February 2012. A “Call for Commissioners” has been posted to the AAFS website, and correspondence to all currently accredited institutions and eligible practitioners has been sent with details for parties interested in applying for the vacating seats. As defined in the FEPAC Policies and Procedures, Section 2.2 (Composition), “All Commissioners (except the Public Member) must be either a Member or Fellow of the AAFS.” To serve as a forensic science educator, an individual must be a faculty member or an administrator at a college or university that offers a FEPAC-accredited forensic science program. At
least three of the forensic science practitioners must be members of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD). No two educators may be from the same institution, nor may any two practitioners be from the same agency.” AAFS Members or Fellows may submit letters of intent with a curriculum vitae to the Director of Accreditation by fax (719-636-1993) or email (njackson@aafs.org).

FEPAC’s commitment is to maintaining and enhancing the quality of forensic science education through a formal evaluation and accreditation system for college-level academic programs that lead to a baccalaureate or graduate degree.

**Forensic Science Educational Conferences (FSEC)**

This summer, two Forensic Science Educational Conferences were hosted in July on the campuses of Purdue University in Indianapolis, IN, and San Jose State University in San Jose, CA. Very positive reports are coming in from the middle- and high school teachers who attended. Special thanks go to Ralph Williams of Purdue University, Steven Lee of San Jose State University, and to all of the individuals and faculty who donated their time and talent in making these conferences such a success. Planning is already underway for the FSEC program for 2012. Watch the AAFS website and AAFS Facebook page for information.

### Three Ways to “Go Green” With AAFS

**Looking for ways to save the earth’s resources?** Then become part of the Academy’s “Go Green” Campaign.

In an effort to be responsible stewards of the earth and of the Academy’s resources, the “Go Green” options below are available to all who have a PeopleWeb account set up with the Academy. Depending on your access level (e.g., member, author, applicant, non-member, etc.), the options available to you will display on the screen. Each option is independent of the other and can easily be changed by returning to the PeopleWeb account and deselecting the item.

Please be aware that by selecting any of the checkboxes on the Go Green Tab, you are “opting out” of receiving the paper version of the checked item. For each option selected, an email will be sent to the email address on record once the item becomes available for viewing on the Academy’s website.

Beginning September 1, there will be three ways for Members to opt out of receiving the paper versions of your AAFS: 1) Dues Notice; 2) Academy News newsletter; and 3) Advance Program.

Log on to your AAFS PeopleWeb account, click on the “Go Green” tab and select the item that you wish to view in an electronic format.

### Do You Remember When?

**Source:** Kenneth S. Field, MBA

**1951...**

...The AAFS sections held their first individual scientific discussion sessions in 1951. Here-to-fore, the meeting format consisted of five Plenary Sessions wherein papers were presented and the meeting attendees volunteered comments. These Plenary Sessions were acknowledged to be extremely worthwhile; however, many topics involved issues and details of which were of interest only to specific disciplines. Accordingly, a separate three-hour session was set aside for the Psychiatry, Pathology, and Toxicology Sections to meet to discuss matters unique to their disciplines. This was the beginning of today’s extensive Scientific Sessions.

**1961...**

...The first Academy-wide Coffee Break occurred at the 1961 Annual Scientific Meeting. The total cost of serving coffee to an estimated 185 of the 300 meeting attendees was $35.65. Today, the cost of 12 cups of coffee (one gallon) is in excess of $75. That cost comparison should come as no surprise when you realize that postcards were called “Penny Postcards.”

**1981...**

...The creation of the Engineering Section (now titled Engineering Sciences Section) was approved at the Academy’s 1981 meeting in Los Angeles. Three members of the General Section led the effort that resulted in the recruiting of the minimum ten members and the fulfillment of the other requirements for section status: William Mazer, Charles Nagler, and Kenneth Feder. All three became the section’s first officers and the section’s current “Founder’s Award” is named in honor of these three men.
As eleven programs prepare for accreditation this fall, FEPAC has exceeded expectations for its first decade. During this time, FEPAC has arguably contributed to increasing the quality of forensic science education. One aspect that makes FEPAC different from many other discipline-specific accrediting bodies is that we don’t label our programs as “professional” or “terminal degree” programs.

In addition to providing students with the skills necessary for a career in the forensic sciences, FEPAC believes that forensic science degrees are a good preparation toward graduate and professional degrees as well as careers in disciplines as diverse as clinical and analytical chemistry, medicine, law, and biomedical research. Forensic science educators have rightly focused on the acceptance of forensic science education within the forensic science community but must be equally concerned with the perceptions of forensic science education in other disciplines, particularly other sciences, for several reasons.

Appreciation of the solid scientific foundation and the analytical skills fostered by a quality forensic science education will provide employment opportunities for forensic science students apart from forensic science. Given the vagary of the job market in today’s economy, giving students additional career choices is obviously desirable. It is no longer uncommon for forensic science students to be recruited to work as analytical and research scientists in industries such as pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, or medical diagnostics. Similarly, given the emphasis of forensic DNA technology in many forensic science academic programs, graduates of forensic science programs have found their way into career paths involving genetics-based medical or other molecular biological research. This trend will likely become stronger particularly for forensic science academic programs with a strong student research component. I have personally witnessed employers from outside of forensic science seek graduates from forensic science programs for positions based on the type of research they were engaged in as students.

Acceptance of forensic science education by other scientific communities will likely improve the number of forensic science students entering doctoral level study in the sciences. As a consequence, the number of qualified individuals with both the forensic science and research background necessary to fill faculty positions in forensic science academic programs will increase. This is greatly needed considering the difficulties often faced by forensic science academic programs in faculty recruitment. Academic programs typically desire faculty with both a doctorate and forensic science practitioner experience but usually find that these individuals are few and far between. Furthermore, there is little incentive for a practitioner without a doctoral degree to enter academia since tenure and promotion opportunities are likely to be limited. Developing a “pool” of doctoral-trained faculty candidates with foundational knowledge in forensic science will help alleviate this problem. This, coupled with a mechanism for new faculty internships (in lieu of actual forensic science casework experience) with practicing forensic science laboratories, offers the best hope of developing future forensic science faculty who are trained scientific researchers and have the necessary academic and practical background in forensic science to effectively teach at the collegiate and graduate level.

FEPAC Notes: FEPAC welcomes Robert Fredell as its new public member.
The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc., gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions made to the Foundation and its Endowment Fund. Please accept our apologies if your name has been inadvertently omitted and contact the AAFS office as soon as possible with the correction. This listing reflects contributions received from 07/01/11 through 07/31/11.

The Fund’s balance through 07/31/11 was $739,035.01. Additionally, the FSF Endowment Fund has provided $148,859 in awards and grants since its inception in 1990.

FSF Endowment Fund Contributors

ODONTOLOGY

$101+ - “Executive Circle
Alan Day, DDS

Up to $50 - “Board Member”
Duane Spencer, DDS

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

$51-$100 - “Trustee”
Stephen Cina, MD

FSF “I Gave An Hour” Contributors

Former FSF Trustee Gil Brogdon came up with a great idea for Academy members with advanced degrees. The idea was for everyone to consider contributing to the FSF the equivalent of one hour of their annual salary or the equivalent of the fee charged for one hour of consultation. The forensic sciences have been good to all of us. If you make a lot, consider contributing a lot! For salaried persons, one hour represents about 1/2000th of annual income. For those who receive consulting fees, please consider contributing an amount consistent with one hour (or more) of what you charge for consultation. The fund’s balance through 07/31/11 was $37,486.82. For those of you who would like to contribute, please complete the IGAB form and return to the AAFS office.

Barbara Wolf, MD
FORENSIC SCIENCES FOUNDATION

Endowment Fund Contribution

Name _____________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________________________________________________
City ______________________________________ State _______ Zip ________________

Forensic Sciences Foundation Contribution
80% Restricted Endowment, 20% General:  $ ___________

Forensic Sciences Foundation Restricted Endowment Contribution:  $ ___________

Forensic Sciences Foundation General Contribution:  $ ___________

Mail to: Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc.
410 N. 21st Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
(719) 636-1100 Fax: (719) 636-1993

Thank you for your commitment to forensic sciences. Contributions to the Forensic Sciences Foundation are deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Your contribution will be acknowledged in the Academy News.

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Enclosed Check (Payable to: FSF)
Account No: ____________________________________________
Signature: ________________________________________________
Expiration Date: __________________________________________

Signature, Account Number and Expiration Date Required for Credit Card

AN HOUR OF MY TIME IS WORTH $_________ TO THE FORENSIC SCIENCES FOUNDATION

Name __________________________________________________________________________________________________________
AAFS Member No. ___________________ Section: ___________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________________________________________________
City ________________________________________ State ________________________________ Zip ________________________

Forensic Sciences Foundation Contribution
80% Restricted Endowment, 20% General:  $ ___________

Forensic Sciences Foundation Restricted Endowment Contribution:  $ ___________

Forensic Sciences Foundation General Contribution:  $ ___________

Mail to: Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc.
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☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Enclosed Check (Payable to: FSF)
Account No: ____________________________________________
Signature: ________________________________________________
Expiration Date: __________________________________________
Signature, Account Number and Expiration Date Required for Credit Card

Thank you for your commitment to the forensic sciences.
Preparations for the 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting in Atlanta, GA, are well underway. The theme for the meeting is “Global Research: The Forensic Science Edge.” Criminalistics Section Program Chair Jennifer Mihalovich and Section Program Co-Chair Lawrence Quarino are busy putting together what will surely be an outstanding program for this meeting.

Moderators are needed for the Scientific Sessions. As a moderator you will earn points towards promotion to Fellow. Moderators are responsible for collecting the presentations of their session before the meeting, introducing the speakers, and keeping the session on time. Please consider moderating a session, it is a great opportunity for the membership to make the annual meeting a success. We are in need of your help. If you are interested, please contact Section Program Chair Jennifer Mihalovich (jsmihalovich@oaklandnet.com).

As a reminder, the deadline for applications for membership and to apply for promotion from Trainee Affiliate, Associate Member, and Member is October 1. Information regarding membership and promotion is available on the AAFS website (www.aafs.org). Online applications are also available.

Don’t forget to contribute to the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF). The FSF supports research through Lucas and Acorn Grants, and helps to foster the next generation of forensic science leaders through the Emerging Forensic Scientist Award and FSF Student Travel Grants. Information for contributing to the FSF can be found on page 19 of this newsletter.

Additionally, all members should have received a copy of a draft letter regarding the funding of the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program. We are requesting that you send this letter to your representatives in Congress. The Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program awards grants to States and units of local government to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services. Among other things, funds may be used to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic evidence and to train and employ forensic laboratory personnel, as needed, to eliminate such a backlog. These grant funds can be used for all areas of forensic science except DNA. This money is necessary to allow grantees to afford necessary improvements that they may not otherwise be able to do without these funds. Please take the time to forward this letter to your representatives.

Any Criminalistics Section Fellow interested in serving as a Section Officer or Section Liaison may be nominated or nominate themselves by submitting a résumé via email to Nominating Committee Chair Matthew Wood (mwood@co.ocean.nj.us) by the October 15 deadline. The Section Liaison positions being considered at the 2012 Annual Meeting are: the Criminalistics Section’s American Board of Criminalistics (ABC) Board Member and ABC
Exam Committee Member. The Criminalistics Section will also nominate a liaison for the Board of Directors to consider for the AAFS representative to the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC). Terms for the ABC Board and ABC Exam committee are three years. Please see the Section Policy and Procedures Manual online at www.aafs.org for a description of the positions and requirements. Additionally, the section Awards Committee is soliciting nominees for the Paul L. Kirk Award, the Mary E. Cowan Outstanding Service Award, and the Meritorious Service Certificate. These nominations may also be submitted to Matthew Wood at the above email address.

**The Paul L. Kirk Award:**
This award shall be bestowed upon a person, living or dead, who has accomplished one or both of the following:

1. Developed a method that greatly improves the capacity or accuracy of criminalistics or forensic science.
2. Performed a special service that results in marked improvement in the quality, recognition, or acceptance of criminalistics or forensic science.

The nominee for this award must have been a member of the Criminalistics Section at the time of the achievement.

**The Mary E. Cowan Outstanding Service Award:**
This award will be bestowed upon a person who has accomplished or performed a special service or a history of service to the Criminalistics Section, the Academy, or forensic science. The nominee must be a member of the Criminalistics Section at the time of the special service.

**Meritorious Service Certificate:**
At the discretion of the section chair, this certificate may be presented at the annual meeting to individuals who have dedicated themselves unselfishly to the section.

## ENGINEERING SCIENCES

**Source:** Kurt D. Weiss, MS, Section Secretary

The month of July arrives with a year’s worth of anticipation not because of the cool ocean breeze and crisp sunny days that are typical of our coastal haven, but because it marks the coming of the Tour de France. The Tour de France is the premiere grand Tour of cycling, more celebrated than Italy’s Giro d’Italia and Spain’s La Vuelta a España. This year celebrated the 98th edition of the Tour de France running from Saturday July 2nd to Sunday July 25th, and featuring 21 stages that traversed a staggering 3,430.5 kilometers. Not since Lance Armstrong’s, the last American champion, dominance of this race for a record seven consecutive wins (1999 through 2005) can I recall such an exciting race, for it was not until stage 20 that this year’s champion of the general classification emerged by virtue of his dominance in the individual time trial. After three weeks of riding solo on the couch viewing the early morning television coverage did I find myself routing for an Australian named Cadel Evans to finally make it to the top spot on the podium.

However, the Tour is more than cardio-fitness and the unwavering will to survive punishing climate changes and core-chilling exposure of mountain summits reaching 2,744 meters. The Tour de France is the penultimate stage race to premiere advancing technologies similar to what occurs in Formula 1 Racing, but in a sport with the restriction of using only two, human-powered wheels without multi-valve, direct-injection, high-octane fuel burning engines or air-flow sculpting wings.

France in July is used to showcase emerging concepts in carbon fiber construction, electronic gear shifting and even special breathing fabrics. Carbon fiber, epoxy resin and state-of-the-art manufacturing processes allow the frame designer the ability to create wonderful shapes with the only restriction being ones imagination and perhaps one or two race regulations. Carbon fiber construction facilitates adding stiffness where it’s needed while, at the same time, providing welcomed structural compliance. The rider and bicycle are often wind tunnel tested like in Formula 1 to optimize bike geometry in order to achieve the perfect position that allows the rider to slice through the wind. A few seconds gained per kilometer doesn’t seem like much, but this year’s Tour champion relished those precious seconds with a margin of victory of only 94 seconds. However, the use of carbon fiber does not stop at the frameset.

Virtually every bicycle component, aside from ceramic bearings and cables, can be constructed of carbon fibers with a better strength-to-weight ratio than any exotic alloy. At this level of professional cycling, it is typical to see carbon brake levers, saddles, bottle cages, handlebars and stem, forks, crank arms, and deep-section wheelsets all made from carbon fiber.

Electronic gear shifting is available from only one of three component manufacturers at this time. However, several professional teams in this year’s Tour were outfitted with electronic shifting from an Italian company as the ultimate reliability test matrix. Advances like electronic shifting can offer welcomed confidence in gear changes when considering the “Chain Gate” incident of the 2010 Tour. On one mountain ascent, Andy Schleck dropped his chain off the smaller chain ring, causing him to delay his uphill attack. He finished the stage 39 seconds back, and unceremoniously lost his yellow jersey to Alberto Contador, who won the 2010 Tour coincidentally by the same 39 second time gap to Andy’s second place Tour finish.

Vivid colors on undulating fields filled with thousands of sunflowers are a sight that can only be enjoyed in France in July. The fields provide a beautiful backdrop to the 22 teams with a total of 198 riders who start the Tour, looking resplendent in their team colors representing notable sponsors hoping for their teams’ victory in the coming weeks. The Tour de France is cycling’s technology-filled event that commensurately responds to the deepest of cycling’s passion. Technology junkies must be content to wait another 12 months for the Tour to reign again in 2012. I know I will be prepared to take it all in. Until then, I can put in a few thousand kilometers of my own.

*continued on page 22*
Section News cont.

GENERAL

Source: Alan F. Boehm, MFS, Section Secretary

Thanks to everyone who submitted an abstract for the upcoming meeting in Atlanta. Section Program Chairs Bill Andrews and Amy Carney are busy reviewing abstracts to develop an interesting educational program for 2012. We especially applaud those who submitted a workshop or breakfast abstract, as income generated from these sessions contribute to the section budget.

For those of you seeking membership or promotion, the deadline for applications is October 1. We encourage everyone to reach Fellow status and receive full benefits of membership, including voting privileges or serving as section or AAFS officer. Prior to submitting a request for promotion, please read not only the Academy requirements but also those of the General Section to ensure that you comply.

The General Section Chairs of the Awards, Disciplines, and Nominating Committees are open this year. Nominating Committee members Jim Adcock (Chair), Timothy Palmbach, Paul Kish, Catherine Dougherty, James McNamara, and Frank Ciaccio will identify one candidate for each of these positions. In addition to floor nominations at the February 2012 meeting, any Fellow in the General Section may be placed on the ballot for these positions by petition. Petitions must be supported in writing by a minimum of three Members or Fellows of the General Section to be valid. Petitions must be received by the Academy office no later than October 15. Candidates nominated by the committee or placed on the ballot by petition will be asked to provide the committee with a one-page resume no later than December 15. The committee will publish a list of the candidates for General Section offices in the January issue of the Academy News.

The General Section Reception Committee is looking for financial contributors to help support our event. If you know anyone/business that might be willing to be a reception sponsor, the committee would like to hear from you. Individually, please also consider becoming a FRIEND OF THE GENERAL SECTION (FOGS). For a $50 contribution you can help ensure that our General Section Reception will be special. For your contribution, you will receive a priceless illuminated FOGS pin of your very own!

Finally, we would like to introduce you to another General Section international member. Rebecca Bucht is a Finn from Helsinki who completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Glamorgan, Wales, and her PhD at the Graduate Center and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, both part of the City University of New York. While in New York, she spent a semester abroad at the Ecole de Police Scientifique of the University of Lausanne in Switzerland and interned at the UNODC Laboratory and Scientific Support section in Vienna, Austria.

Currently she is working in Algiers as a contractor for the US Department of Justice International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICTTAP) on a capacity building project, serving as resident forensic adviser at the National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology of the Algerian Gendarmerie National. She is also continuing to work with Cognitive Consultants International, doing research into cognitive psychological dimensions of forensic science in general and fingerprints in particular.

JURISPRUDENCE

Source: Andrew Suhner, JD, Section Secretary

The Jurisprudence Section is proud to announce that Roderick Kennedy, an Appellate Judge on the New Mexico Court of Appeals and a past Chairman of our section, received the prestigious 2011 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Peak Award of Excellence from the New Mexico State Bar Association for organizing a CLE program entitled “Skeptically Determining The Limits of Expert Testimony (The Series).” In addition to Judge Kennedy, the participants in the award-winning CLE program included Academy Past President, Thomas Bohan, Jurisprudence Section member Ted Vosk, and two law professors well known to our section, Michael Risinger from Seton Hall Law School and Michael Saks from Arizona State University School of Law.

Two new Jurisprudence Section members opposed each other in the celebrated Casey Anthony murder trial in Orlando, FL. These members, lead prosecutor Jeffrey Ashton, and lead defense counsel Jose Baez, are welcome additions to our section and we expect to hear from both of them at the AAFS Annual Meeting in Atlanta in February.

The 2012 Jurisprudence Section program co-chairs report having received many interesting abstracts for presentations at the upcoming AAFS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, which they will be reviewing over the next few weeks. Moderators are needed for various programs and members are encouraged to volunteer to serve as moderators. If you are willing to volunteer as a moderator, please contact one of our two Program Co-Chairs, Stephanie Domitrovich at sdomitrovich@eriecountygov.org, or Melissa Mourges at mourges-sm@dany.nyc.gov.

Finally, we would like to encourage your legal colleagues to apply for membership in the Jurisprudence Section of the Academy. Applications for membership are available online at www.aafs.org. Also, please make an effort to send me (andysuhner@aol.com) and Section Chair Joseph Maltese (jmaltese@nycourts.gov) any news pertaining to you, or to an event, that may be of interest to our members.

We look forward to seeing all of you in Atlanta!
ODONTOLOGY

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

All abstracts, posters, and workshop proposals submitted to the Academy before the deadline are currently under review. As you might guess, this is the time of year where the Odontology Section Program Chair, Iain Pretty, has an enormous job conducting the acceptance/rejection process. It is also not too early to already be conducting research for 2012 submissions next August. Scientific research in all of the Academy sections has never been more important than now, and all members should consider not just learning from the useful findings of others but to be a contributor or collaborator to the process. Planning for future workshops should also be contemplated now since these do take time to formulate.

Membership and promotion applications are also currently due. Completed applications including references and any additional section requirements must be received by October 1 in order to be acted upon at the AAFS Annual Meeting in February. Therefore, this is a firm deadline. Please check the overall requirements of the Academy and also those of the particular section to which the application is made.

It is also time for those who are proposing newly developed hands-on educational courses in forensic odontology to make a request for credit toward section membership. Courses are evaluated by the Odontology Education Requirements Committee and points toward membership are assigned. If a course already received approval last February, it is not necessary to resubmit at this time. Please send a detailed course syllabus with topics, names, and credentials of presenters to Committee Chairman, Roy Sonkin at rhs12@nyu.edu.

The Odontology Section was recently asked by the Young Forensic Science Forum to provide a section representative to attend that group’s Breakfast Meeting in Atlanta in February. This will involve participating in a “resume panel” and Q&A session. Adam Freeman has graciously accepted the responsibility of representing the Odontology Section.

There are still openings for “The Art and Science of Expert Witness Testimony” ABFO workshop to be held Friday evening, February 24, and Saturday, February 25, during the AAFS meeting. Candidates participating as expert witnesses may earn one testimony toward challenging the ABFO Certification Exam. The class size is limited. For those who are interested go to the ABFO website www.abfo.org for more details.

PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Source: William R. Belcher, PhD, Section Secretary

Forensic Advisor Shuala Drawdy of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) submitted the following: In April, ICRC held the fourth installment of its course, Management of the Dead from Armed Conflicts and Catastrophes, at the ICRC Training Center outside Geneva. The twenty course facilitators and guest speakers hailed from several countries and disciplines providing broad professional and geographic perspectives on the management of human remains including disaster victim identification.

Under international humanitarian law, parties to an armed conflict must ensure the proper and dignified handling of human remains and help clarify the fate of missing people. Forensic sciences are recognized as indispensable for the proper recovery, handling, and identification of dead people reported missing, as well as for identifying the living. The ICRC is the only strictly humanitarian organization with forensic expertise. It has a team of experts specialized in investigating cases of missing persons that offers technical advice and supports forensic capacity building to help provide families with answers. The ICRC promotes and supports local sustainability by liaising with and providing advice to governments in an effort to instill local ownership of the problematic, and by providing support, equipment and, where needed, training to local forensic practitioners to build local capacity. ICRC Forensic Coordinator, Morris Tidball-Binz, and Forensic Advisers, Shuala Drawdy, and Lourdes Penados Ceren, are members of the section.

Eric Bartelink, Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology, California State University-Chico announced the following: the 8th Annual Chico Forensic Conference will be held on November 5, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Ayers Hall 106, California State University-Chico. The conference is organized and funded entirely through graduate student efforts and is open to all attendees. This year’s speakers include: Gregory Berg, JPAC/CIL: “JPAC: An Overview and Its Mission;” Melissa Connor, Nebraska Wesleyan University: “Human Remains Recovery as a Transitional Justice Strategy;” Jennifer Love, Harris County Institute of Forensic Science: “Child Abuse: A Difficult Diagnosis Even at Autopsy;” and Michael Warren, C.A. Pound Human ID Lab, University of Florida: “Forensic Veterinary Medicine, Animal Cruelty Cases and Forensic Anthropology.” More information can be found at www.csuchico.edu/agsa/forensic.html.

If you have any Academy News items, please email Bill Belcher (wbelcher@msn.com). The next deadline is October 1. We particularly welcome contributions related to international projects and conferences.

PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Source: Manuel Lopez-Leon, MD, Section Secretary

As you begin making plans for the AAFS Annual Meeting next February in Atlanta, GA, you also have the opportunity to plan on coming to Boston, MA, for the 42nd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL). It will be held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers. You will find the advance registration form and the advance program online at www.AAPL.org.
The AAPL meeting will feature a forensic sampler on “Sexual Assault.” Other meeting highlights include interesting reports on research in progress, cutting edge presentations, and the opportunity to attend enticing luncheon presentations with world-class speakers including top journalists, reporter for the Washington Post, and author Pete Early; Army Sergeant and criminal justice advocate Dennis Maher; and expert in counter-terrorism, child exploitation, narcotics, fraud, white-collar crime, weapons violations, and undercover Special Agent Gary Phillips.

This year’s mock trial will be on “Commonwealth of Massachusetts vs. Shanley – Recovered Memories on Trial: Priests, Pedophilia, and Parishioners.” This year’s courses will cover “Applying Risk Assessment in Psychiatry,” “Do’s and Don’ts of Depositions,” “Sexual Offenders: Identification, Risk Assessment, Treatment and Legal Issues,” and “Child Murder by Parents and Insanity.”

Also not to be missed will be a wide-ranging wealth of poster presentations spread across three mornings. Posters and authors will be up early and remain available during the morning coffee breaks.

Those who come will have a great opportunity to learn, network, and reconnect with old friends as well as to meet new ones.

News for this column from members is always welcome at dilopezeleon@mac.com.

**QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS**

Source: Pamela Zilly, BS, Section Secretary

The August 1 deadline for submission of abstracts for the conference in Atlanta has passed. Joe Parker and Ted Burkes are in the process of finalizing an excellent program. Thank you to those who submitted abstracts and will be participating in the program.

Nominations for the Questioned Documents Section’s Ordway Hilton award are due to the Academy by September 15. There have been 23 recipients of this award since it was first presented to Ordway Hilton in 1980. The award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the questioned documents field. If there is a deserving individual that you would like to nominate for this award, please do so prior to the September 15th deadline. The nominating committee consists of Sandra Lines (srlines@cox.net) and William Flynn (wflynn1@cox.net). Historical information on past recipients can be found at http://aafs.org/sites/default/files/pdf/2011QDAwards.pdf.

Current membership information for the QD Section lists 197 members including all categories of membership. Of those we have 41 Fellows, 43 Members, 72 Associate Members, 29 Retired Fellows, 2 Retired Members, and 10 Trainee Affiliates. There are eleven applicants requesting to join the QD Section. Many of you may be eligible for advancement to Member or Fellow in the Academy. Requirements for advancement can be found at http://aafs.org/how-upgrade-your-aafs-status. The deadline to complete your application is October 1.

TOXICOLOGY

Source: Ruth E. Wiencek, PhD, Section Secretary

The deadline for abstract submission for the 2012 Annual Meeting is now one month past, the peer review process is complete, and the program elements have been submitted to AAFS for approval. It’s a huge job, and your program chair Lorale Langman (langman.loralie@mayo.edu) and co-chair Ashraf Mozayani (ashraf.mozayani@ifs.hctx.net) deserve a round of applause for keeping with the tight AAFS deadlines. Official AAFS acceptance letters for abstracts will be sent in mid-November and the Advance Program will be published in November. The speaker for the Annual Lectureship in Toxicology has been selected and Dr. Langman is pleased to announce that it will be Dr. John Barr, Lead Research Chemist with the CDC in Atlanta, GA. That said, I’m confident the program will be filled with many interesting presentations and items for discussion over lunch, during session breaks, or late evenings in the hotel lounge.

As your Section Secretary, one of my duties is to review membership applications with the Section Chair Phil Kemp (pkemp@arlok.com). In June 2011, section membership was at 488 and there were 28 completed applications for membership or promotion. This is a good start but we need more members in order to keep our section thriving within AAFS. Why is this important? The annual meeting of AAFS is an opportunity to interact not only with other forensic toxicologists but also colleagues from other forensic disciplines as well. One way to keep the section financially healthy is to increase the size of the section membership. Please encourage your colleagues to complete an application and join. The application process is completely online and details are located on the AAFS website (www.aafs.org). Click on the “Apply For Membership” link in the top right-hand corner. Keeping the section intellectually healthy is also of interest to toxicology members. We can do this by participating in meetings as an attendee, presenter, moderator, or volunteer. As an added bonus, these activities fulfill some of the requirements for promotion. I would encourage all of you who are eligible for promotion to complete an application as some section activities (e.g., section officer or committee chair) require full Member or Fellow status in order to participate. As a reminder, time is short. The deadline for receipt of all application materials is October 1.
Last but not least, the section officers and program committee would like to encourage you all to contact them with any questions, concerns, or ideas that you might have regarding the Toxicology Section and AAFS. Section Chair, Phil Kemp (pkemp@arlo.com), Program Chair and Co-Chair Loralie Langman (langman.loralie@mayo.edu) and Ahsraf Mozayani (ashraf.mozayani@ifs.hctx.net) and I (ruth.winecker@dhhs.nc.gov) look forward to your input.

President’s Message cont.

participants from Criminalistics, Engineering Sciences, General, Odontology, Pathology/Biology, and Physical Anthropology.

On Friday, July 29, our AAFS Executive Committee convened at the Marriott Marquis, site of the 2012 Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA. The purpose of this “summer meeting” was to address issues that have surfaced since the Chicago meeting in February, and to review results and recommendations of the various AAFS committees that have been active during the last few months. The outcome of these deliberations subsequently will be presented to the full Board of Directors. This brief meeting contributed to the effective management of Academy affairs and also provided an opportunity to review the program planning and facilities for the upcoming Atlanta meeting in February. It is clear that our program planning team is doing an outstanding job, promising another rewarding and successful gathering next February. We hope that you already have marked your calendars for this event.

Digital & Multimedia Sciences cont.


Global Perspectives in Engineering Sciences cont.

precisely as they were supposed to, moving with the impulses transmitted by the earthquake, and preventing loss of life and damage to infrastructure.

Leaving discussions about engineering aside, the damage that Japan suffered from these two disasters was great. Fukushima has been rated as an Event Level 7 on the International Nuclear Event Scale. This is the highest rating on the scale, and is the same rating given to the Chernobyl disaster. And as with Chernobyl, the full extent of the damage from Fukushima will not be known for some time.
membership and help advance forensic science in our southern neighbors? As a forensic toxicologist, I can tell you about efforts made in our field to create productive and important collaborations with South American toxicologists. When I was president of the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT), my goal was to increase participation in the organization from South America. We contacted toxicologists from as many South American countries as possible, members and non-members, and identified scientists who were interested in the continuing education, networking, training, and collaborations that TIAFT could provide, and who were willing to work with us to host a South American regional TIAFT meeting. TIAFT sponsored the first meeting held in La Plata, Argentina in 2005, hosted by Dr. Luis Ferrari. TIAFT sponsored five distinguished toxicologists’ airfare expenses to travel to Argentina to headline the meeting that also included a full program of oral and poster presentations by South American toxicologists, students, and trainees. The host country covered the hotel, food, and local transportation costs of the TIAFT members. Forensic toxicologists from 19 countries attended, there were workshops, lectures, business meetings, discussions, translation, and wonderful social events as well. The attendees developed friendships, collaborations, made plans to share students, train each other on new procedures and techniques, and help each other resolve problems, including analytical issues and shared concerns, such as the availability of standard materials. At the closing ceremonies attended by governmental and scientific dignitaries, we wondered if the effort would be carried forward to future meetings. Happily, Chile volunteered to host the 2006 meeting that was a resounding success. And for TIAFT- we gained 72 new members from the first meeting. TIAFT provided international airfare and speakers for several additional years, and now the meetings are completely self-supported. The South Americans have their own organization, officers, and newsletter and have hosted meetings in Argentina (2), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Paraguay. They have hosted annual regional TIAFT meetings, with this year’s congress is in Cochabamba, Bolivia in October. This initiative was highly successful for the South American toxicologists who stepped up and created great opportunities for themselves, but also for TIAFT who currently have 344 South American members.

There were a number of factors that contributed to this great success. One is that TIAFT has a Developing Country membership that is free to countries with a GNP of less than approximately $16,000 per year. Individuals who can afford to pay do so, but membership is provided free to those scientists who live in developing countries with a low-income level. The membership does not cost TIAFT because it is limited to online access to the TIAFT Bulletin which is filled with wonderful case studies, new methodology, reviews of critical topics and more, voting privileges, etc. In addition, TIAFT has a Developing Country Fund that supports up to six, $2000 travel fellowships and free registration for individuals who received acceptance of a suitable abstract to attend the annual international TIAFT meeting. This has been one of the most positive benefits of the outreach effort. Attendance by these scientists enriches the meeting and helps TIAFT attain its goals of providing education and opportunity across the globe. Another initiative involves translating educational materials prepared for the Society of Forensic Toxicology (SOFT) workshops into Spanish and Portuguese and finding partners in South America to present these materials locally for educational purposes. The materials were donated by the authors and the organization, and maximized the value of the contribution. Also, the lectures were presented in the native language and by local scientists.

Not only does TIAFT have a large presence in South America because of these efforts, but also Argentina successfully bid last year in Bonn, Germany, to host the entire TIAFT organization in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2015, with the support of the entire South American TIAFT membership. After hosting two local meetings, the organizers feel confident about taking on the much larger task of hosting the world for an international meeting. Another advantage is that instrumentation and diagnostic companies are now actively supporting the regional meetings helping to fund the congresses. These are but a few ideas for outreach by AAFS to the international community. The International Affairs Committee is sure that there are many good ideas for promoting AAFS around the world and for providing educational opportunities for new international members. Please feel free to contact any of the International Affairs Committee members and share your ideas with us. We hope to make the American Academy of Forensic Sciences a worldwide resource for scientists in our respective fields, and to share experiences, ideas, resources, and friendship with our international colleagues.
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 2012 Board of Directors Meeting.** Due to space constraints, AAFS does not list members who are applying for promotion to Fellow or to Member. Comments or concerns regarding an applicant should be submitted in writing to: Cheryl Hunter, Membership Coordinator, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904; chunter@aafs.org. **Comments must be received by February 10, 2012.**

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**Applicants**

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**CRIMINALISTICS**

**Associate Member**

- Abdul-Aziz, Kandis L., BS
  - Philadelphia, PA
- Ashton, Megan, MA
  - Missoula, MT
- Barranco, Adrienne L., MS
  - Woodbridge, VA
- Berger, Jason, MS
  - Jamaica, NY
- Blackwell, Thomas M., BS
  - New York, NY
- Bolton, James J., PhD
  - Ithaca, NY
- Bowen, Maria L., BS
  - New Bern, NC
- Bradshaw, Niyrai-Daun, BS
  - Landsdale, PA
- Bray-Tanner, Jamie L., BS
  - Missoula, MT
- Browning, Brian M., MS
  - Greenville, SC
- Buich, Rebecca E., PhD
  - Helsinki, FINLAND
- Busam, Robert, PhD
  - Savannah, GA
- Cale, Cynthia, BS
  - Indianapolis, IN
- Carver, Jesse D., MS
  - Houston, TX
- Civitello, Cheryl L., MSFS
  - Meriden, CT
- Coleman, Patricia, BS
  - Washington, DC
- Crabbe, Sean K., BS
  - Honolulu, HI

- Davis, William M., PhD
  - Houston, TX
- Daviss, Elza M., BA
  - Dallas, TX
- DeBlanc, Benjamin K., BS
  - Decatur, GA
- Den Hartog, Bobi, PhD
  - Santa Fe, NM
- Di Nunzio, Ciro, MFS
  - Germaneto, ITALY
- Dinizio, Matthew, BS
  - Hauppauge, NY
- Dorman, Frank, PhD
  - University Park, PA
- Ellebracht, Sara M., BS
  - Springfield, OR
- Farmer, James A., BS
  - Columbia, SC
- Fejes, Ildiko E., BS
  - Phoenix, AZ
- Franklin, Karelle P., MS
  - Decatur, GA
- Goren, Len, MS
  - Madison, WI
- Green, Robert L., BA
  - Foster City, CA
- Haddad, Sandra, PhD
  - Amesbury, MA
- Henry, Fernanda, BSc
  - Castries, SAINT LUCIA
- Hoang, Annie L., BS
  - San Mateo, CA
- Hopkinson, Kristy
  - Washington, DC
- Horsman-Hall, Katie M., PhD
  - Richmond, VA
- Hunter, Angela M., BS
  - Aurora, CO

*continued on page 28*
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Yao, Chales G.
Cote d'Ivoire

**Student Affiliate**

Aguirre, Elena M.
Noblesville, IN
Alexander, Kandice N.
Richmond, VA
Alvarez, Yisel
Miami, FL
Anderson, Jennifer
Columbus, IN
Blosser, Shannon Elizabeth, BA
New Cumberland, PA
Calvert, Shawn
North Ridgeville, OH
Casselman, Glenn L.
Fort Covington, NY
Chan, Kazette, BS
Olivet, MI
Charles, A. Clement Lenin
Vellore-District, INDIA
Contreras, Jessenia A.
Covina, CA
Dario, Ashlee K.
Barberton, OH
Davis, Edward
Carson, CA
Dona, Johnny
Brooklyn, NY
Duran, Karen
Chicago, IL
Evans, Kaylyn A.
Parker, CO
Gamboa, Rosalba
Merida, MEXICO
Gibbens, Krystal, BS
San Angelo, TX
Gordon, Rachel M.
Sacramento, CA
Groody, Meaghan A.
Matawan, NJ
Han, Seonhee
San Jose, CA
Hansen, Anna Laura
Chandler, AZ
Henrich, Katelynn
Covington Township, PA
Hetzel, Doug
Ottumwa, IA
Hodges, Lindsey M., BS
Denver, CO
Huang, Ying Keng, BS
Honolulu, HI
Hughes, Heather, BS
West Hollywood, CA
Jann, Renee
Fallbrook, CA
Judkins, Eileen C.
Garland, TX
Kitts, Kelley M., MS
Indianapolis, IN
Lebair, James M., Jr.
Pittsburgh, PA
Marston, Jessica E., BS
Carver, MN
McManaman, Karlie
Weberville, MI
Messina, J. Alexander, BS
Huntington, WV
Miller, Meda
Orem, UT
Miller, Stephanie A., BS
Queensbury, NY
Mora, Jennifer
Los Angeles, CA
Mosley, Britney L., BA
Vineland, NJ
Mota, Scott
Weston, FL
Novoski, Nicole M.M., BSc
Albany, NY
OKeefe, Lindsay
Conyers, GA
Palach, Ashley
Monroe, NJ
Pease, Vincent
Buffalo, NY
Peiffer, Greg, BS
Ames, IA
Perry, Candace C., BS
Aurora, IL
Pitcher, Christine G.
Copake, NY
Prickett, Holly, BS
Antioch, CA
Quamina, Jessica L., BS
Long Beach, CA
Quinones, Gabriela
Hialeah, FL
Reed, La’Treace M.
Fitzgerald, GA
Riddell, Emily G., BS
East Lansing, MI
Rigaud, Sydney A.
Plantation, FL
Rivera, Jennifer
Bayamon, PR
Robbins, Kimberly
Colonial Beach, VA
Salas, Daniel R., BS
Lubbock, TX
Scals, Jimmy E.
Fort Worth, TX
Smart, Blair
Antioch, TN
Stein, Tracy Ann
Oakdale, MN
Stover, Barbara, BA
Fairfax, VA
Strasser, Kimberly J.
Baltimore, MD
Tanner, Melissa A.
Griffin, GA
Vargas, Juliana
Duarte, CA
Vega, Omar J., MA
Aguadilla, PR
Viitoe, Jared, BS
Huntington, WV
Webb, Dante
Los Angeles, CA
White, James L.
Lafayette Hill, PA
White, Michael
Indianapolis, IN
Wilbur, Kendra, BS
Duxbury, VT
Wilson, Bobbie
Warren, OH
Yeager, Leslie
Jackson, OH
Yesucevitz, Derek, BS
Brockton, MA
Young, Stephanie
North East, MD

**DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES**

**Associate Member**

Carner, Douglas, BS
Van Nuys, CA
Cross, Verlin K., BS
Ashland, OR
Foonberg, Alan M., MS
El Segundo, CA
Redding, Duane N., MSME
Peoria, IL
Roder, Scott G.
Fairview Park, OH

**Trainee Affiliate**

Hofmann, Ashley N.
Towson, MD
Ibrahim, Adamu Danladi
Abuja, NIGERIA

**Student Affiliate**

Bachar, Eti, BSCJ
Canoga Park, CA
Dykstra, Josiah, MS
Severn, MD
Fakhraee, Farbod, MSDF
Gainesville, FL
Harris, Donyale
East Orange, NJ

continued on page 30
Applicants cont.

Malciu, Razvan
Constanta, ROMANIA

---

**Engineering Sciences**

**Associate Member**

Beloy, Curt M., MSME, PE
Abington, PA

Buchwald, Donald J., MS
El Segundo, CA

Calvert, Steven Paul, BS
East, TX

Cotten, Gregory B., PhD, PE
Annapolis, MD

Crawford, Todd R., BA
Troy, NY

Rasty, Jahan, PhD, MBA
Laibbock, TX

Raymond, David, PhD
Redondo Beach, CA

Rhodes, William, BSEE, PE
Lexington, TX

**Student Affiliate**

Dafydd, Hefin, MPhil
SWANSEA WALES

Ford, Jonathan M., MS
Tampa, FL

Nolan, Gary
Leicester, UNITED KINGDOM

**GENERAL**

**Associate Member**

Anand, Jassy, PhD
Chandigarh, INDIA

Anderson-Black, Kimberly, BS
Dallas, TX

Brendley, Bryan W., PhD
Greensboro, NC

Brooks, Tiffany, BS
Waldorf, MD

Brunner, Lorne L., MS
Chamberlain, SD

Bryant, Michael S.
Greer, SC

Burns, Patrick-Colin
Redding, CT

Campbell, Nicole A., BS
Largo, FL

Chakrabarty, Tania, PhD
Chicago, IL

Chein, Edmund, MD, JD
Rancho Mirage, CA

Clayborn, Julie, BS
Applying, GA

De Sousa, Joao Pedro S., MS
Vialonga, PORTUGAL

Del Rosario, Samuel L., MA
Fountain Hill, PA

Denning, Alexandra, BA
Boulder, CO

Delfritz, Jamie, MD
Baltimore, MD

Enslove, Sandra R., BA
Monterey Park, CA

Fields, Robert E., MS
Kansas City, MO

Fruchtmann, David A., MFS
Tucson, AZ

Giangrande, Jennifer L., MS
Pleasant Garden, NC

Gil, Jennifer, BS
Little Rock, AR

Gill, Donna F., DNP
Charleston, SC

Hampton, Danakelly, MS
Philadelphia, PA

Harnsberger, James D., PhD
Gainesville, FL

Hughes, David L., MSc
Victoria, BC CANADA

Kalantar, Arif, PhD
Abu Dhabi, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Krishna, Mahesh, MD
Coimbatore INDIA

Lee, Soong Deok, PhD
Seoul, KOREA

Livengood, Karen L., BA
Orlando, FL

Lord, David G., PhD
Pomona, CA

Ludvico, Lisa, PhD
Pittsburgh, PA

Mangiamele, Dena M., DVM
San Diego, CA

Marchen, Michael S., MA
Toronto, ON CANADA

Massucci, Charles J., MA
Tampa, FL

McClelenny, Bianca D., MFS
Camp Pendleton, CA

Meier, Sandra L., BS
Hauppauge, NY

Miller, Joyce Lynn
Lake Charles, LA

Nichols, Brandon, MD
Mobile, AL

ODell-Powell, Darby
Northville, MI

Ojo, Abiodun A., PhD
Atlanta, GA

Pennington, Lee, PhD
Maxwell AFB, AL

Pusillo, Gary M., PhD
Marshalltown, IA

Reina Camacho, Santiago, BS
Bogotá, COLOMBIA

Reisert, John M., DO
Salem, IN

Sabri, Imran, MD
Aligarh, INDIA

Salem, Roberta S., PhD
Topeka, KS

Saravanan, Kanniappan, MSc
Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA

Sawyer, Catyana, MFS
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Scherriff, Carolyn M., MS
Baltimore, MD

Sears, Scott E., BA
Southington, CT

Shaw, Ryan Christopher
Lawrenceville, GA

Smith, Jessica
Massillon, OH

Smith, Keely A., DVM
Spring Hill, FL

Stangroom, Heather L., BS
Rohmert Park, CA

Tighelewa, Marijke L., BS
Bushland Beach, AUSTRALIA

Toomer, Elizabeth, MFS
Anacostia Annex, DC

Vaughn, Shelby D., BA
Fort Walton Beach, FL

Venter, Casper H., MSc
Morgantown, WV

Vincent-Giles, Rebecca D., MS
Mission, KS

Vogt, Marshall E., BBA
Austin, TX

Vorderbruggen, Adrianna, MFS
Andrews AFB, MD

Walker, Jennifer, MCJ
Frisco, TX

Wooten, Rae H., BSN, RN
North Charleston, SC

Zinn, Robert C., BS
Stafford, VA

Zuidervliet, Cynthia R., BA
Orillia, ON CANADA

**Trainee Affiliate**

Abbott, Suzanne
Arden, NC

Becker, Stephanie, BA
Manassas, VA

Brustkern, Adam, PhD
Indiana, IA

Childers, Athens
Tacoama, WA
Dorsey, Deandrea  
Andalusia, AL  

Frame, Lara, MA  
Richmond, VA  

Garbacz, Marissa, BS  
Chicago, IL  

Geoghegan, Tracy M., MS  
Valdosta, GA  

Gibson, Laura E., MS  
Plantation, FL  

Hicklin, Anita A., MNS  
Port Angeles, WA  

Jackson, Sarah E., BA  
Hillsborough, NJ  

Johnson, Audrey M., MS  
Manassas Park, VA  

Kandrach, Kirsten E., MS  
San Pedro, CA  

Katzberg, Kelly, MD  
Los Angeles, CA  

Kelani, Baki  
Prishtine, KOSOVO  

Kelly, Kara H., MS  
Lansing, MI  

Linton, Heather J., BS  
Salt Lake City, UT  

Lucas, Kaylyn A.  
Whitehall, MT  

Mabel, Daniel E., MS  
Cleveland, OH  

Martin, Paul Sullivan  
Asheville, NC  

McArdle, Michelle, MS  
Roseland, VA  

Mishra, Arnarnath, MSc  
Maharajaipur INDIA  

Mount, Brandon L., MS  
Tapla, TX  

Murphy, Devonic L., MS  
London, OH  

Richard, Mathew, BS  
West Haven, CT  

Richardson, Sandra, MS  
Woodbridge, VA  

Schafrick, Marina, MS  
Portland, CT  

Schneider, Heather M., BS  
Las Vegas, NV  

Schwier, Sabrina P., MS  
Huntington, NY  

Silver, Shawn A., BS  
West Bloomfield, MI  

Steil, Katherine K., BS  
Kansas City, MO  

Thack, John G., BA  
Greensburg, PA  

Wright, Erica L., BA  
Lincoln, NE  

Young, Stephanie T., PhD  
Morgantown, WV  

Student Affiliate  
Akhtar, Ahmad, BS  
Indianapolis, IN  

Amashita, Michelle A.  
Honolulu, HI  

Barron, Marissa M., MS  
Naples, FL  

Berrios, Analesha Y.  
Kissimme, FL  

Blanchette, Mark G., MS  
Costa Mesa, CA  

Blizzard, Samantha  
Fayetteville, GA  

Bosnjak, Melanie, BSc  
Burford, ON CANADA  

Brown, Maria  
Colorado Springs, CO  

Campagna, Anthony  
Toledo, OH  

Chacon, Haydee, BS  
Milpitas, CA  

Chavez, Rebecca  
Olivehurst, CA  

Costanzo, Teresa E.  
Belmont, CA  

Covin, Kristill  
West Park, FL  

Curnow, Jennifer, BS  
Ewa Beach, HI  

D'Angelo, Paul L.  
Vaughan, ON CANADA  

Devia, Tatiana, BA  
Naples, FL  

Dilworth, Deanna R.  
Los Angeles, CA  

Frazzini, Amy L.  
Broomfield, CO  

Gause, Karita  
Sebring, FL  

Harnarine, Nina A.  
Richmond Hill, ON CANADA  

Hoelzle, Kyle Joseph, BS  
Eugene, OR  

Hokel, Christi J., BSN  
Waukeec, IA  

Hughes, Jenniefer W., BSc  
Christchurch, UNITED KINGDOM  

Ingram, Emily M.  
Richmond, VA  

Jaiprashad, Bobby  
Sunrise, FL  

Jeffords, Thomas M.  
Bayfield, WI  

Johnson, Brandly N.  
Tunica, MS  

Korzelius, Jessika L.  
Long Beach, CA  

Kvalheim, Alicia, BS  
Muskego, WI  

Laymoun, Omar M.  
Santa Clara, CA  

Lewis, Maximillion W.  
Sunrise, FL  

Lopez, Christine, MA  
Middle Village, NY  

Luzarraga, Kimberly  
Cape Coral, FL  

Martinez, Mario A.  
Brownsville, TX  

McColm, Rebecca  
Beech Grove, IN  

Mercer, Jessie M.  
Union Bridge, MD  

Milosevic, Peter J., BS  
Honolulu, HI  

Mühlberger, Sarah, BS  
State College, PA  

Myers, Allison  
Olympia, WA  

Oates, Heather M.  
Opelika, AL  

O’Connor, Melissa E., BS  
Canfield, OH  

O’Donnell, Gregory E., BA  
Sugar Land, TX  

Rasheed, Ajeigbe T.  
Osogbo, NIGERIA  

Roberts, Kevin  
Reading, MA  

Rubin, David B., Jr.  
Bayside, WI  

Sanders, Madison R.  
Midlothian, TX  

Schmidt, Michelle L., MS  
Sinking Spring, PA  

Schulz, Danielle, MFS  
Omaha, NE  

Serpa, Cassie L.  
Columbia, MO  

Silva, Lorrie  
Phoenix, AZ  

Sisco, Edward, BS  
College Park, MD  

Smith, Adanna N., MA  
Detroit, MI  

Smith, Anna M.  
Whitewater, WI  

Smith, Sarah C.  
Glenwood, IN  

Sorenson, Shawn K.  
Apache Junction, AZ  

Stevenson, Regina D., BA  
Killeen, TX  

Streeter, Courtney M.  
San Jose, CA  

Thomas-Smith, Debbie T.  
St. Louis, MO  

Thompson, Lauren N., MS  
Lubbock, TX  

Tilney, Rebecca J.  
San Jose, CA  

continued on page 32
Applicants cont.

Wallen, Giselle  
Sunrise, FL

Warnock, Justin M.  
Oklahoma City, OK

Watkins, Kisha  
Owings Mills, MD

Watson, Sarah  
Los Angeles, CA

Williams, Michelle  
East Cleveland, OH

Wright, MaJuana D.  
Phoenix, AZ

Tavassoli, Alan, JD  
Phoenix, AZ

Trainee Affiliate
Zimmermann, David A., LLM  
Bern, SWITZERLAND

Student Affiliate
Brewer, Sharon, BS  
Mesa, AZ

Warner, Bonnie Stroupe, BA  
Charlotte, NC

Associate Member
Agbabia, Winona Jones, JD  
Chicago, IL

Brandes, Ramona, JD  
Seattle, WA

Brehmer, Jeremy C., JD  
Bakersfield, CA

Case, Kelly W., JD  
The Woodlands, TX

Catalano, Michael, JD  
Nashville, TN

Coffey, Daryl R., JD  
Fort Worth, TX

Ferrazzano, Stephen J., JD  
Marshall, MN

Giacometti, Valeria, JD  
Ivrea, ITALY

Grant, Deandra M., JD  
Plano, TX

Haney, Kenneth H., Esq., JD  
Naples, FL

Johnson, Ella G., JD  
Yuma, AZ

Kelahmet, Serdar S., MBA  
Istanbul, TURKEY

McLain, Patrick, JD  
Cedar Hill, TX

Mestman, Robert A., JD  
Santa Ana, CA

Middlebrook, Richard O., JD  
Bakersfield, CA

Murphy, Micheline, JD  
Seattle, WA

Nichols, Michael J., JD  
East Lansing, MI

Osuagwu, Ugochukwu E., LLB  
Abuja, NIGERIA

Ricke, Jason D., JD, LLM  
Kingman, AZ

Smyrnes-Williams, Peggy, MED, JD  
Pittsburgh, PA

Trainee Affiliate
Altuic, Salem, DDS  
Abu Dhabi, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Boscarino, Chris A., DDS  
Wolcott, CT

Mitchell, Randolph L., DMD  
Lyons, NY

Uriarte, Maricela, DDS  
La Mesa, CA

Trainee Affiliate
Bales, Lauren J., DDS  
Lee’s Summit, MO

Burnett, Scott L., DDS  
Cut Bank, MT

Kilkuts, Sandra A., DMD  
Tucson, AZ

Rajshekar, Mithun, BDS  
Perth, AUSTRALIA

Student Affiliate
Aasdam, Dag  
Ornex, FRANCE

Associate Member
Andrello, Luisa, MD  
Cairete, ITALY

Arbeveille, Elise F., MD  
Tampa, FL

Bechinski, John A., DO  
Ortonville, MI

Benbow, M. Eric, PhD  
Dayton, OH

Boiko, Iouri, MD, PhD  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Bradley, Nancy C., DVM  
Phoenix, AZ

Cavender, Ann, DVM  
Salem, MI

Conce, Maria S., MD  
San Juan, PR

D’Errico, Stefano, MD, PhD  
Abano Terme, ITALY

Elieff, Michelle, MD  
Lansing, MI

Firchau, Dennis John, MD  
Iowa City, IA

Fiutem, Andrea  
Harrison, OH

Gwallney-Brant, Sharon, DVM, PhD  
Mahomet, IL

Hilal, Ahmet, MD  
Adana, TURKEY

Jaber, Khalid, MD  
Dublin 3, IRELAND

Kesha, Kilak, MD  
Baltimore, MD

Kipper, Scott W., MD  
Wichita, KS

Kumar, Surendra, MD  
Delhi Cant, INDIA

Lesnikova, Iana, MD  
Aarhus N, DENMARK

Nelson, Cheryl F., DVM  
Versailles, KY

Nicolaescu, Aurelian, MD  
Jacksonville, FL

Nouredden, Maher, PhD  
Hillsborough, NC

Osculati, Antonio M.M., MD  
Lainate, ITALY

Park, Hyejin, PhD  
Seoul, KOREA

Pomara, Cristoforo, MD, PhD  
Foggia, ITALY

Radtke, Jay M., MD  
Miami, FL

Sakellidis, Emmanuel I., MD  
Athens, GREECE

Shazad, Muhammad S., PhD  
Lahore, PAKISTAN

Stokes, Babatunde Louis, MD  
Norfolk, VA

Van Haebrouck, Kristen, BS  
Deerfield Beach, FL

Vega, Rosa A., BS  
San Jose, CA

Vierregger, Kristen, MD  
Seal Beach, CA

Watson-Horzeski, Erin J., PhD  
Hammond, LA

Weinberg, Mitchell L., MD  
Baltimore, MD

Wetzler, Samantha B., MD  
Virginia Beach, VA

Associate Member
Andrello, Luisa, MD  
Cairete, ITALY

Arbeveille, Elise F., MD  
Tampa, FL

Bechinski, John A., DO  
Ortonville, MI

Benbow, M. Eric, PhD  
Dayton, OH

Boiko, Iouri, MD, PhD  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Bradley, Nancy C., DVM  
Phoenix, AZ
Trainee Affiliate
Arora, Puneet, MD
Vaughan, ON CANADA
Proc, Lori A., DO
Albuquerque, NM
Ralston, Deborah D., BS
Englewood, CO
Saunders, Sarah, MBChB
Leicester, UNITED KINGDOM

Student Affiliate
Barrentine, Victoria A.
Stephens City, VA
Beebe, Caroline M., MS
Bala Cynwyd, PA
Cutchens, Nicholas H., MD
Tuscaloosa, AL
Goggin, Charissa, BS
Long Beach, CA
Guzzetta, Melissa, BS
College Point, NY
Lai, Jonathan, BSc
Albany, NY
Medina, Dikla Y., BS
College Station, TX
Reed, Jessica M.
Converse, TX
Ruiz, Ana A.
Miami Gardens, FL
Soucey, Amanda Lee
Windham, NH
Yacovone-Margetts, Alyse, BS
Panama City Beach, FL

Physial Anthropology
Associate Member
Baker, Kristen N., MA
Honolulu, HI
Black, Cullen J.
Hickam AFB, HI
Lee, U-Young, MD
Seoul, KOREA
Marrero, Ingrid J., MA
San Antonio, TX
Nor, Faridah M., PhD
Cheras, MALAYSIA
Nugent, Teresa G., MA
San Marcos, TX
Randolph-Quinney, Patrick, PhD
Dundee, UNITED KINGDOM

Trainee Affiliate
Baranoff, Rebekah K., MS
Tempe, AZ
Cerezo-Roman, Jessica L., MA
Tucson, AZ

Psychiatry & Behavioral Science
Associate Member
Chadha, Rupali, MD
Beverly Hills, CA
Dwyer, R. Gregg, MD, EdD
Charleston, SC
Leistedit, Samuel J.J., MD, PhD
Bavdour, BELGIUM
Osterman, Debra M., MD
Houston, TX
Rose, Gavin E.
Pompano Beach, FL
Sims, Dorothy Clay
Ocala, FL
Shimmer, Lara, MA
Harrisburg, PA
Torry, Zachary D., MD
Bryn Mawr, PA

Trainee Affiliate
Goodwyn, David L., Sr., MA
Arlington, VA

Student Affiliate
Darlington, Judy A.
Allentown, PA
Monthie, April R., BA
Peoria, AZ
Swart, Joan
Sandton, SOUTH AFRICA

Questioned Documents
Associate Member
Alenezi, Ghanem A., BS
Kuwait, KUWAIT
Alzahrani, Yaser
Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA
Caine, Raesin, MS
Beltsville, MD
Cox, Steven J., PhD
Salt Lake City, UT
Kettering, Greg, MSFS
Meriden, CT
Makris, John D.
Athens, GREECE
Toms, Jessica A., BA
London, OH

Trainee Affiliate
Detwiler, Khody R., BS
Martinsburg, PA
Fassett, Robin G., BS
Salt Lake City, UT

continued on page 34
Applicants cont.

Goff, Mark, BA
Lansing, MI
Okezie, Chimere
Chesapeake, VA
Sorum, Elisha D., MS
Salt Lake City, UT

Student Affiliate
Hunter, Katrina S.
Miami, FL

TOXICOLOGY

Associate Member
Chipurici, Marius, MD
Oradea, ROMANIA
Collins, Bryan T., MS
Columbia, MD
Daglioglu, Nebile, PhD
Adana, TURKEY
Flanagan, Marianne
Willow Grove, PA
Francis, Shenika A., BS
Fort Lauderdale, FL
George, Christopher E., MS
San Diego, CA
Giddens, John F., BS
Valdosta, GA
Grates, Kirk, BA
Largo, FL
Gue, Eric A., MS
Troy, MI
Jones, Connie E., MBA
Oklahoma City, OK
Lawler, Emily L., BS
Clackamas, OR
Lewallen, Frank W., BS
Raleigh, NC
McClary, Nichole S
Research Triangle Park, NC
Musko, Faith L., MS
Indianapolis, IN
Pasha, Muntaz S., PhD
Saint Paul, MN
Rana, Sunmamed, MS
Santa Rosa, CA
Shu, Wayne, MS
Pikesville, MD
Wang, Chung-Feng, PhD
New Taipei City, TAIWAN, ROC
Wojtaniska, Dana, BS
Billerica, MA
Wu, Hsien-Ming, MS
Hsin-Tien, TAIWAN, ROC

Trainee Affiliate
Hess, Amanda L., BS
Clarksville, TN

Singh, Bhoopendra, PhD
Ranchi, INDIA
Sinkuler, Courtney L., MS
Downers Grove, IL
Sutton, Belicia C., BS
Bessemer, AL

Student Affiliate
Bello, Adedayo O., MSc
Baltimore, MD
Douglas, Brandon
Albion, MI
Green, Danielle
Grayson, GA
Maples, Brandon L., DPharm
Oklahoma City, OK
Martin, Sarah E., BS
Austin, TX
O'Rourke, Stephen
Dublin, IRELAND
Powell, Brent V.
Baltimore, MD
Spurrier, Katharine
Baltimore, MD
Ucciardi, Robert
Brooklyn, NY
Ward, Susan Nicole
Amelia, OH
Wiel, Corine
Vlijmen, NETHERLANDS
Young Forensic Scientists Forum Newsletter

A Letter from the YFSF President

Now that the abstract for the 2012 YFSF Session “Contemporary Topics in the Forensic Science Community” has been submitted, the YFSF is looking for ways to help new forensic scientists become a part of the forensic science community. With this goal in mind, the next big deadline coming up for AAFS is October 1, 2011. What is October 1, 2011? This is the deadline to apply for AAFS membership. YFSF encourages all new forensic scientists to consider becoming a member. Information about the different types of membership, information about the 11 sections and how to apply can be found on the AAFS website (www.aafs.org). AAFS is aware of how important new forensic scientists are and how important it is for them to be included in the forensic science community from the beginning. One way to transition into the Academy is through working with and attending the YFSF sessions. Whether you choose to submit a poster at the Bring Your Own Posters or present a case at the Bring Your Own Slides, the options are limitless. YFSF is always looking to raise the bar and we do so with new and creative ideas on how to get new forensic scientists inspired. YFSF is a great way to transition into the AAFS, to get involved in planning events, and to do some serious networking with other planners and with distinguished members of the forensic science field who participate in our sessions. If you are interested in making an impact or you are not sure were to start, please do not hesitate to contact any of the YFSF committee members and we will be happy to help point you in the right direction!

Tanisha V. Henson, MFS. YFSF President
tanisha.henson@yahoo.com

Defining the Term “Young” in Relation to the Young Forensic Scientists Forum

The Young Forensic Scientist Forum (YFSF) serves as an excellent platform for young forensic scientists to engage with their peers and to discuss their past, present, and future research endeavors. However, the word “young” in the title of the Young Forensic Scientists may have some individuals confusing the YFSF with the Student Academy, thereby resulting in some young forensic scientists passing up on the many benefits of the YFSF simply because they think they are too old to attend.

First, the Young Forensic Scientist Forum and the Student Academy (SA) are two separate sessions held during the AAFS Annual Meeting. Both the YFSF and the SA are aimed at promoting forensic science; however, the two events are aimed at two separate audiences. The SA Session focuses on high school students and possible careers in forensic science, whereas the YFSF is aimed at educating individuals who have five years experience or less in his or her forensic science career.

Secondly, the word “young” in the title of the Young Forensic Scientist Forum does not refer to one’s age but rather to one’s career experience. I hope this helps resolve any confusion concerning the YFSF’s target audience, and please do not hesitate to contact me at lpar1@tigers.lsu.edu with any questions you may have.

Lauren Pharr, MA. YFSF Secretary
lpar1@tigers.lsu.edu

Financial Liaison

The YFSF relies on the support and contributions of the forensic community to make our special session a success each year. Events held at each meeting include a day long scientific session, a working breakfast session, a Bring Your Own Slides presentation, and a poster session. These sessions are critical in the professional development of young scientists trying to establish a solid foundation in the field of forensic science.

In the past we have received both monetary and educational support from AAFS sections, universities with FEPAC accredited programs, and various forensic science vendors. Organizations may contribute in several ways such as a financial donation, donation of materials, or through sponsorship of the YFSF Special Session lunch or breaks. If you, or your group, is interested in providing support for the 2012 YFSF Special Session, please contact Jackie Jenkins at j.jenkins71@gmail.com.

Jackie Jenkins, PhD, MSFS. YFSF Financial Liaison continued on page 36
YFSF Breakfast Session
Greetings from Mississippi! We hope everyone is surviving the heat and enjoying their summer. As time gets closer to the next Academy meeting, we are excited to see and hear from everyone. This year’s YFSF Breakfast Session is going to be a good one. We are pleased to announce that M. Lee Goff, Director of Forensic Sciences, Chaminade University of Honolulu, Michelle Shepherd, with Applied Biosystems, and Jenna Oakes-Smith, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, will be speaking to the attendees about their resumes.

While students are in school, they ask professors, “Which classes do I need to take?” Meeting the requirements for a degree does not necessarily mean the students have taken all of the classes they will need for a job. When students are contemplating going for an advanced degree, their main question is “Will this benefit me in the long run?” Do they stop at a Bachelor’s or go for a Master’s or Doctorate degree? Jenna Oakes-Smith will address these questions and more during her presentation.

Have you ever asked a professor to review your resume, been told it was fine, but then apply for a job and be told your resume wasn’t good enough? M. Lee Goff will speak from a professor’s point of view. He has had many instances of “What the heck is that there for?”

Michelle Shepherd, with Applied Biosystems, will speak on the benefits and requirements for the “private” lab/company employees. Are the benefits better? What classes do they require? What makes a private company more appealing?

This year we have had an amazing response from the Members and Fellows within the Academy. Currently, all sections will have a representative present to answer questions following the presentations. If you have any questions concerning this year’s breakfast session, feel free to contact me at mdeberry@mcl.state.ms.us.

We look forward to a great meeting in Atlanta!

Melissa DeBerry, BA. YFSF Breakfast Session Chair

YFSF Special Session
The forensic science field is continuously growing and new advancements are being made. New breakthroughs in the field can change the way investigations are performed and how evidence is collected and processed. This year’s Young Forensic Scientists Forum Special Session, Contemporary Topics in the Forensic Science Community, will highlight new advancements and topics in the field and what impacts they are making.

The full day of speakers will consist of professionals discussing progressions and new topics in a wide range of disciplines, including digital and multimedia, forensic veterinary science, toxicology, forensic psychiatry, and much more. The speakers who have been chosen are knowledgeable in their fields, and are bringing interesting and beneficial information to the session.

The YFSF Special Session schedule is currently being finalized. Don’t miss the November YFSF newsletter, which will contain detailed speaker information and help plan your trip to Atlanta. Any questions regarding the session can be sent to Martin Overly (martin.overly@mail.wvu.edu) or Lindsey Crass (lindsey.crass@mail.wvu.edu).

Martin Overly, MSFS
YFSF Special Session Chair

Lindsey Crass, BS
YFSF Special Session Co-Chair

YFSF Bring Your Own Slides
Young Forensic Scientists – Have you thought about presenting at the 2012 American Academy of Forensic Sciences meeting in Atlanta? Don’t let anything hold you back! Submit an abstract today to the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides (BYOS) session. The YFSF BYOS is the perfect place to showcase your work, hone your presentation skills and connect with peers in the forensic science community. Research projects and interesting cases from all disciplines are welcome!

To be considered for this great opportunity, please submit a one page abstract and your resume or CV by December 15. If you are interested in presenting or have any questions, you can contact us at alison.p.mostrom@usdoj.gov and/or aneitzel@email.arizona.edu. We look forward to reading your abstracts!

Ali Mostrom, MSFS.
BYOS Chair
alison.p.mostrom@usdoj.gov

Amber Neitzel, BS.
BYOS Co-Chair
aneitzel@email.arizona.edu

YFSF Poster Session
The Young Forensic Scientists Forum is currently accepting abstracts for the 2012 YFSF Poster Session to be held on Thursday, February 23, 2012. Undergraduate students, graduate students, and young forensic professionals of all sections are encouraged to take this opportunity to share their research, interesting case studies, and other important topics related to forensic science at the 64th Annual Scientific Meeting in Atlanta, GA.

If you are interested in presenting your work at the 2012 YFSF Poster Session, submit your abstract and curriculum vitae to the YFSF Poster Session (at the email address below) before the Monday, December 19 deadline. Please review the AAFS abstract policy and general instructions for content of abstract. The notifications of acceptance will be sent by January 9, 2012.

Poster submissions and any questions regarding the YFSF Poster Session can be submitted to: yfsf.postersession@gmail.com.

We look forward to reviewing your submissions for the 2012 YFSF Poster Session!

Taryn Mead, BS
YFSF Poster Session Chair

Jennifer Malone, PhD
YFSF Poster Session Co-Chair
Meetings & Conferences

SEPTEMBER 2011

12-17
19th Triennial Meeting International Association of Forensic Sciences—To be held in Funchal, Madeira, Portugal.

19
Forensic Science Information: Searches and Resources—To be held at The Center for Forensic Science Research and Education in Willow Grove, PA.
CONTACT:The Fredric Rieders Family Renaissance Foundation
(215) 784-9281
Fax: (215) 366-1525
frfoundation@verizon.net
www.forensicscienceeducation.org

19-21
Field Detection of Drug and Explosive Odor Signatures Using PSPME-IMS—Funded by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), through the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC)—To be held at NFSTC in Largo, FL.
CONTACT:Jennie Travers
Jennie.Travers@nfstc.org
www.nfstc.org/meetings/

19-23
Advanced Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Course—To be held at the Boone County Sheriff’s Department in Burlington, Kentucky.
CONTACT:Paul Erwin Kish
(607) 962-8092
paul@paulkish.com
www.paulkish.com

19-23
Examination of Tire Tread and Tire Track Evidence—To be held at the NC State Bureau of Investigation in Raleigh, NC.
CONTACT:wbodziak@earthlink.net
(386) 986-6494

19-23
The Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists’ 40th Annual Fall Meeting—To be held in suburban Chicago, IL.
CONTACT:Doug Saul
doug.saul@dupagesheriff.org
(630) 407-2105

26-Oct. 1
8th International Symposium Advances in Legal Medicine—To be held in Frankfurt, Germany.
CONTACT:Jana Radoi/Julia Gruner
+49 (0)3641 3 11 63 60
Fax: +49 (0)3641 3 11 62 41
isalm2011@conventus.de
www.isalm2011.de

OCTOBER 2011

2-6
FACSS 2011 - 38th FACSS—To be held at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV.
CONTACT:FACSS International Office
(505) 820-1648
Fax: (505) 989-1073
facss@facss.org

continued on page 38
Meetings & Conferences cont.

3-7
Basic Facial Reconstruction Sculpture—To be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK.
CONTACT Betty Pat. Gatliff
(405) 321-8706
www.sculpture.outreach.ou.edu

4-6
Criminal Interview & Interrogation—
Hosted by the Colorado Springs Police Department—To be held in at the CS Police Department in Colorado Springs, CO.
CONTACT: (800) 222-7789
www.w-z.com

6
Forensic Science Seminar—Presented by the Hennepin County Medical Examiner’s Office and the Minnesota Coroner’s and Medical Examiner’s Association—To be held at the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center, MN.
CONTACT:http://home.earthlink.net/~mc-mea

6-8
Audio Forensic Training—Hosted by Tracer—To be held in Denver, CO.
CONTACT (866) 260-6376
www.tracertek.com

8-13
Certified Evidence Photographer Training—To be held in Atlanta, GA.
CONTACT: Professional Photographic Certification Commission
(888) 772-2780
Fax: (404) 614-6404
www.evidencephotographers.com

10-14
Advance Facial Reconstruction Sculpture—
To be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK.
CONTACT: Betty Pat. Gatliff
(405) 321-8706
www.sculpture.outreach.ou.edu

15-17
2nd Annual World Congress of Forensics (WCF-2011)—Hosted by the Information Research Center of International Talent, SAFEA—To be held in Chongqing, China.

19-22
2011 American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Annual Meeting—To be held at the Venetian - Palazzo Resort Hotel Casino in Las Vegas, NV.
CONTACT: American Society for Clinical Pathology
(800) 267-2727, option 2
Fax: (312) 541-4472
info@ascp.org
www.ascp.org

21-22
11th Annual Conference: Predators and their Prey—Presented by the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law—To be held on the campus of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA.
CONTACT: (412) 396-1330
wechtinstitute@duq.edu
www.duq.edu/forensics

24-28
California Association of Criminalistics Fall 2011 Seminar—Hosted by the California Criminalistics Institute—To be held at the Sacramento Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento, CA.
CONTACT: cecelia.vonberoldingen@doj.ca.gov
www.cacnews.org

DECEMBER 2011

4-9
Alcohol & Highway Safety: Testing, Research & Litigation—To be held at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN.
CONTACT: www.borkensteincourse.org

5-9
Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Workshop—Presented by the Specialized Training Unit at the Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute in Doral, FL.
CONTACT: Toby L. Wolson, MS
(305) 471-3041
Fax: (305) 471-2052
twolson@mdpd.com

NOVEMBER 2011

2-5
Forensic Medical Investigation: Comprehensive Review and Skills Workshop—To be held in Phoenix, AZ.
CONTACT: Dr. Mary Dudley, MD
(316) 204-9107
mdudley2@kc.rr.com
www.forensicMI.com

3-4
Courtroom Presentation of Evidence—To be held at Arcadia University, King of Prussia Campus in King of Prussia, PA.
CONTACT: The Fredric Rieders Family Renaissance Foundation
(215) 784-9281
Fax: (215) 366-1525
frfoundation@verizon.net
www.forensicscienceeducation.org

JANUARY 2012

12-17
Certified Evidence Photographer Training—
To be held in New Orleans, LA.
CONTACT: Professional Photographic Certification Commission
(888) 772-2780
Fax: (404) 614-6404
www.evidencephotographers.com
FEBRUARY 2012

3-5
3rd International Conference on Current Trends in Forensic Sciences, Forensic Medicine & Toxicology—Organized by Indian Association of Medico-Legal Experts (Regd)—To be held at the Ramada Hotel Jaipur in Jaipur, Rajasthan, India.
CONTACT: www.iamleconf.in

MARCH 2012

5-9
Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Workshop—Presented by the Specialized Training Unit at the Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute in Doral, FL.
CONTACT: Toby L. Wolson, MS
(305) 471-3041
Fax: (305) 471-2052
twolson@mdpd.com

5-9
Detection, Recovery and Examination of Footwear Impression Evidence—To be held at the Ramada Inn in Jacksonville, FL.
CONTACT: wbodziak@earthlink.net
(386) 986-6494

19-23
Basic Facial Reconstruction Sculpture Workshop—To be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK.
CONTACT: Betty Pat. Gatliff
SKULLpture Lab
(405) 321-8706
www.sculpture.outreach.ou.edu

26-30
Advance Facial Reconstruction Sculpture Workshop—To be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK.
CONTACT: Betty Pat. Gatliff
SKULLpture Lab
(405) 321-8706
www.sculpture.outreach.ou.edu

APRIL 2012

3-5
International Marine Forensics Symposium—To be held at the Gaylord National Hotel in Washington, DC.
CONTACT: www.sname.org

MAY 2012

3-5
American Academy of Psychoanalysis & Dynamic Psychiatry 56th Annual Meeting—To be held in Philadelphia, PA.
CONTACT: AAPDP
1-888-691-8281
Fax: 860-286-0787
info@aapdp.org
www.aapdp.org

JUNE 2012

13 - 16
18th Nordic Conference on Forensic Medicine—To be held in Aarhus, Denmark.
CONTACT: http://retsmedicin.au.dk

JULY 2012

4-7
22nd Congress of the International Academy of Legal Medicine (IALM)—To be held in Istanbul, Turkey.
CONTACT: www.ialm2012.org

AUGUST 2012

20-24
6th European Academy of Forensic Science Conference—To be held in The Hague, The Netherlands.
CONTACT: www.eafs2012.eu/

OCTOBER 2012

1-5
Basic Facial Reconstruction Sculpture Workshop—To be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK.
CONTACT: Betty Pat. Gatliff
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(405) 321-8706
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AAFS promotes the advancement of the Forensic Sciences and Forensic Scientists

AAFS Benefits

Your inclusion in the AAFS will give you access to the most talented forensic scientists in the nation via personal contact, workshops, seminars, and the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting, to be held February 20-25, 2012, in Atlanta, GA.

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

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

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

For more information:
Phone: (719) 636-1100
Fax: (719) 636-1993
New Applicant Services Only: (800) 701-AAFS
Email: membership@aafs.org
Website: www.aafs.org

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

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

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________

City: __________________________________________________________________

State: ____________________________________________ Zip: __________________

Please provide your name so the potential applicant will know who requested the application. AAFS will also recognize you by placing a Sponsor ribbon in your 2012 Annual Meeting registration packet. Please detach form and return to AAFS. Thank you.

Your name: ____________________________________________________________________