As I write, I have just received word from the AAFS office that over 1,200 submissions for abstracts and numerous other breakfast, luncheon, special sessions, and workshops were successfully submitted to the AAFS office in advance of the midnight August 1st deadline. Congratulations to the submitters. Now the difficult task of the section program chairs and the chairs of the other committees begins. Soon you will know which abstracts have been selected for presentation. Only by the exchange of ideas and knowledge can forensic sciences move forward.

A lot to report this month - The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors concluded its mid-year meeting at the end of July. Convening with some of the AAFS staff at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in DC, we accomplished two major goals - making certain the meeting space will be properly configured for the 65th Anniversary Meeting in February and moving along the business of the AAFS. Among the items that were discussed was publication of a supplemental issue of the *Journal of Forensic Sciences* in order to reduce the backlog of accepted articles. Building on the success of the soon to be published AAFS book concerning the international connections in forensic science, we discussed entering into a long-term agreement with our publisher, Wiley-Blackwell, to produce additional volumes focused on specific disciplines, or in some cases sub-disciplines, in forensic science. In February, and perhaps even sooner, through articles in the newsletter, the membership will be offered the opportunity to celebrate “greenness” as we move many formerly paper-based operations and communications online. Not only will we be protecting the environment, but we anticipate saving money and time as well. In another publishing related issue, primarily through the hard work of Laura Liptai (Fellow, Engineering Sciences), the combined proceedings of the last ten annual meetings (for most sections) will be made available for download to members and have been placed on sale to the public through Amazon. Additional years’ proceedings will be added on a scheduled basis, and the Board and Publications Committee is investigating the costs and efforts involved in making all of the AAFS proceedings beginning with its earliest meetings available electronically and in book form. The Executive Committee authorized placing one complete hard-bound set of these volumes in the AAFS office for archival purposes, donating one set to the Library of Congress, and making one set available for purchase through the FSF Silent Auction in Washington, DC, during the meeting in February.

In other business, the Executive Committee took initial action to enlarge the AAFS footprint internationally. In conjunction with the AAFS International Affairs Committee, the Academy will investigate methods designed to increase membership and participation of individuals from other countries, with a focus on countries whose economic climate puts them at a disadvantage. The opinion of the Executive Committee also favored pursuing ideas that would foster attendance and interchange between forensic science organizations continued on page 18

All completed applications, including any additional requirements, for membership and promotion must be submitted online or received in the AAFS Office by October 1 in order to be considered for approval at the 2013 Annual Scientific Meeting in Washington, DC.

See page 36 for information on submitting your application online at www.aafs.org.
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Future AAFS Annual Meeting Dates

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

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

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

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

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

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

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President-Elect’s Message

The days leading up to the AAFS Annual Meeting abstract submission deadline are a hectic time in my laboratory and our graduate program. Students and junior scientists feel daunted in the unfamiliar role of submitting their work for external scrutiny. Will they have enough data to warrant submitting? How will they be judged? How will it reflect on our laboratory or our program? Is their work significant enough? Putting your work up for external review and critique is what forensic science is all about. Participation in the Academy’s annual meeting program is a great opportunity for people new to the field or considering forensic science as a career. Questioning during the Scientific Sessions is rarely as rigorous as cross-examination, but the experience of finding ways to explain your work, your technique, your assessment and interpretation of your data to other people and confidently stating and defending your conclusions, is a great part of training for any forensic scientist.

I wrote in the last Academy News about the responsibility of our more senior members to mentor, encourage, and support participation of their more junior colleagues in submitting abstracts for and attendance at the meeting. Hopefully, many of you took up that challenge and we’ll see it reflected when the Advance Program comes out a few weeks from now.

Here I want to reinforce to those scientists who have received that support and the opportunity it presents. Forensic science must not be practiced in isolation. We are a multidisciplinary, applied science where we learn, adopt and apply tools from academia, private industry, and government-funded programs. The AAFS Annual Meeting provides a venue and support structure for all of these activities and more. Attending meetings as a contributor as well as a participant helps us to mature as scientists and to advance our profession.

Besides its formal educational component - workshops, breakfasts, poster and platform sessions - the AAFS Annual Meeting provides opportunities for you to participate in section activities. Section program chairs are right now looking for volunteers to moderate or co-moderate the Scientific Sessions (contact the AAFS office if you can’t find the right person to talk to in your section). The meeting offers a job fair which we hope to see more employer participation in, as well as an education fair where you can learn about graduate and PhD programs. Many schools now sponsor alumni events to promote networking, and the Young Forensic Scientists Forum (YFSF) is very active in encouraging participation by more junior scientists and helping them integrate into the organization. Read their update in this issue of Academy News. The YFSF Bring Your Own Slides and Bring Your Own Poster sessions were very well attended last year. These sessions have later submission deadlines - December 1st for posters and December 15th for slides, so there is still time to participate in the program. Being a presenter often helps your agency justify the cost of your attendance.

Finally, with the August 1 abstract deadline behind us, the next important deadline is October 1 – the

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The Forensic Sciences: Founded on Observation and Experience, Improved by Education and Research

Jurisprudence Section Perspective

Sources: Paul Messner, JD, Jurisprudence Section Chair; and Betty Layne DesPortes, JD, Jurisprudence Section Board of Directors Representative

As this article was being drafted, a headline in The Washington Post proclaimed “Flawed Forensics: Justice Dept., FBI to review use of forensic evidence in thousands of cases.” (Spencer S. Hsu, July 10, 2012) The article accompanied an announcement by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) that it would conduct a post-conviction review of all hair and fiber analyses conducted by every expert at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory Division since at least 1985. The announcement, and the cases detailed in the article concerning wrongful convictions based on flawed expert testimony, should come as no surprise to forensic science practitioners. This review is merely the latest in a continuing series of challenges retrospectively questioning forensic analytical techniques and expert testimony previously accepted by most, if not all, courts. As Michael R. Bromwich (former DOJ Inspector General) points out in the article, there is “the need for continuing attention at every level to ensuring the scientific validity and accuracy of the forensic science that is used every day in our criminal justice system.”

While the nature of the challenges to the variety of forensic techniques and expert witnesses are too numerous to list here, examples include: examiner subjectivity (microscopic hair comparisons, latent fingerprint identification); statistically unproven or invalid techniques (bullet lead analysis, handwriting examination); or conclusions based on flawed assumptions (certain observations indicating the use of accelerants in fires). And, of course, there have been many challenges mounted based on the evolution and statistical validation of entirely new techniques (such as, mtDNA analysis) or upon the application of new technologies to established disciplines (digital media analysis in photography and questioned documents).

The ultimate arbiter of the legal reliability of any forensic scientific analysis (and of its examiner) is the legal system in which it is sought to be utilized. Many efforts have been made to address the issues raised and challenges presented regarding forensic science. These efforts include case law establishing criteria to be considered before admitting testimony by a prospective expert witness regarding the conducted scientific analysis (Daubert, Kumho Tire, et al); legal procedures (Federal Rules of Evidence); legislation (SB132, 112th Congress “Criminal Justice and Forensic Science Reform Act of 2011,” SB3378, 112th Congress “The Forensic Science and Standards Act of 2012”); systematic analyses and critiques (2009 National Academy of Sciences Strengthening Forensic Science report); accreditation (ASCLD, FQS, FEPAC); expert certification/testing (ABC, ABFDE, ABFO, etc.); and professional education (AAFS, NAME, IAFS, etc.).

However, these efforts will not definitively end the challenges or controversies surrounding the use of forensic science in the legal system. The retrospective nature of the legal system and its attempts to define “justice” in individual cases will continue to present new challenges and issues with respect to forensic science. A few (albeit simplistic) examples: what constitutes “valid” science? How “accurate” does any particular technique have to be? Does “validity” change over time? How about “accuracy”? Is there such a thing as a “final” judgment? With advances in forensic science techniques permitting the re-examination of evidence, additional issues may be raised concerning obligations of the parties to litigation (criminal or civil) to retain the evidence upon which a judgment or conviction was based. If evidence must be retained, who is responsible for the retention and for how long? What if there are items in possession of the prosecution or plaintiff whose scientific value is not yet known, should the possessors be required to retain these items in anticipation of future scientific advances?

Attempting to navigate this constantly changing legal environment, with its many challenges, rulings, laws, and evidentiary rules may be confusing and seem overwhelming for scientists. Making sense of this tumultuous, shifting landscape for both the scientific and legal communities is the goal of the Jurisprudence Section. Amongst our members and presenters are noted jurists; eminent legal scholars; experienced, practicing attorneys; and a few attorney/scientists. All deal with these thorny matters on a regular basis, with many pushing the envelope of current practice and leading the change to improve the forensic applications of science. Through our presentations, workshops, and seminars during AAFS Annual Scientific Meetings and at other venues (such as the ABA Forensic Science seminar at Fordham University School of Law; New Mexico Bar Association Continuing Education Conference, the International War Crimes Tribunal, and many others) we seek to fulfill the goal endorsed by the AAFS Board of Directors that “Attorneys and judges who work with forensic scientists and forensic science evidence should have a strong awareness and knowledge of the scientific method and forensic science disciplines,”1 while similarly preparing the forensic scientist for meaningful, fruitful, and admissible interactions with the legal system.


Academy News
The Forensic Sciences: Founded on Observation and Experience, Improved by Education and Research

Forensic Pathology/Biology

Source: William R. Oliver, MD, Pathology/Biology Section Fellow

The theme of the upcoming Academy meeting is “The Forensic Sciences: Founded on Observation and Experience, Improved by Education and Research.” This is a theme that is strikes close to the heart of forensic medicine and the biological sciences. Like radiology and, to some degree, forensic anthropology, pathology is a discipline that places great weight on the interpretation of visual information.

But, of course, it is much more than that. Clinical medicine does not rely solely on the physical examination or laboratory data. It involves the observation of data from physical, history, laboratory, physical and social environment, cultural evidence, and many other things to synthesize a coherent narrative of the patient’s illness. Only after that narrative is synthesized is it possible to decide on a rational and realistic course of treatment. Forensic medicine is no different. Those who claim that autopsies should be done in a vacuum, without benefit of investigational history, scene data, or medical history ignore that this is the practice of medicine.

The importance of trained observation is seen in all sensual disciplines. Some illuminating studies in this area come from looking at wine experts. Well-trained wine tasters can distinguish chemical components of a wine much better than those who are not trained, largely because of their trained vocabulary. Untrained tasters are simply incapable of recognizing some tastes if they do not have the words to describe them.

The same is true in pathology. Consider the following discussion of the histologic appearance of a tumor:

The tumor in the right ovary was distinctly different, composed predominantly of a solid proliferation of large cells with clear, foamy and eosinophilic cytoplasm in a nested pattern, separated by thin fibrous septa with occasional tubule formation. Most cells had small to moderately sized pyknotic nuclei, clear to foamy and eosinophilic cytoplasm with occasional mucin, and minimal mitotic activity. Some cells had eccentric nuclei with voluminous cytoplasm mimicking signet ring cells, whereas others showed bizarre enlarged nuclei with smudgy chromatin and prominent nucleoli. The tumor areas had a more alveolar or glandular appearance. Overt necrosis was not seen; however, there were expansive areas of histiocytic infiltration that seemed to merge with the clear/foamy cells... (Chew I, Soslow RA, Park KJ. Morphologic changes in ovarian carcinoma after neoadjuvant chemotherapy: report of a case showing extensive clear cell changes mimicking clear cell carcinoma. Int J Gynecol Pathol. 2009 Sep;28(5):442-6.)

To the untrained ear, one might as well be speaking of the “oakiness,” “fleshiness” or “angularity” of a wine. But, as qualitative, and often poetic, as these histologic descriptions are, a well-trained pathologist can consistently make diagnoses based on them.

Untrained tasters do not taste. Untrained pathologists do not see. When I was a medical student, I attended the pathology course laboratory in the second year. We were studying inflammation and were presented with microscopes and glass slides of lungs with acute pneumonia. I distinctly remember looking through the microscope and seeing lots of little blue dots and red strands. The resident physician who was teaching the laboratory was gamely trying to demonstrate the difference between two different kinds of inflammatory cells – a polymorphonuclear leukocyte (PMN) and a lymphocyte. He kept pointing at one little blue dot and opining about how clearly different it was from another little blue dot nearby. I thought he was an idiot, blathering on about a contrived distinction that was clearly not present.

Both the resident and I became increasingly frustrated as I incorrectly identified cell after cell.

Then, years later, I was that resident. I was assigned to the second year pathology student laboratory. And there I was, looking through the microscope at obviously different kinds of cells, flailing as I tried to get a student to see the difference between a PMN and lymph. At that time in my training, the distinction was so encoded in my visual cortex that the recognition was immediate and nonverbal. It was as sudden a perception as recognizing the face of my wife. But the medical student simply could not see it. She thought I was an idiot, blathering on about a contrived distinction that was clearly not present. Both the student and I became increasingly frustrated as I incorrectly identified cell after cell.

I remember the slide from being a student, and I remember the slide from being a resident. In my memory from being a resident, I can see the PMNs and lymphocytes as clearly as looking at a case today. And, in my memory from being a student, they are just dots. My training informed my memory as well as my vision. My residents are frustrated when I throw up pictures of gunshot wounds or lacerations and expect them to recognize them immediately. But that is how you train perceptive reasoning. A forensic pathologist who sees just “dots” when looking at petechiae and stippling (as my residents frequently do) is not a forensic pathologist at all.

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The Forensic Sciences: Founded on Observation and Experience, Improved by Education and Research

Psychiatry & Behavioral Science: School Bullying by Cory Jaques, MD

Source: Christopher R. Thompson, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section Secretary

Introduction
School bullying is a common, problematic behavior that can disrupt children’s lives and development and cause significant psychiatric comorbidity. Though not a new phenomenon, national attention to the problem of bullying rose dramatically in the 1990s after several highly publicized incidents of school violence (e.g., Columbine). Bullying is pervasive, affecting approximately half of school-aged youth worldwide. It is a cross-cultural and cross-gender phenomenon that seems to peak in early to mid-adolescence. Most states have passed anti-bullying legislation providing guidelines for school officials to respond to bullying behaviors. Mental health providers are often asked to evaluate and provide a forensic assessment of students involved in bullying. Forensic evaluators can assist the legal system by opining about the psychological implications of bullying and the causal nexus (or lack thereof) between bullying and plaintiffs’ psychiatric disorders or symptoms. Evaluation of a student who bullies might involve delinquency or criminal charges and/or a violence risk assessment, whereas an evaluation of a victim is often in the context of a civil suit and may involve assessment and apportionment of damages. These evaluations can also assist schools by recommending ways to respond properly to reports of bullying and to establish intervention programs to decrease or prevent these behaviors in the future. Understanding the legal basis for schools’ obligation to ensure student safety and the potential liability when that duty is breached is essential when conducting a forensic assessment or recommending prevention programs. Though the evidence base for the latter is sparse and often conflicting, researchers continue to explore potential interventions for both individuals and school systems to mitigate the effects bullying, as well as programs to prevent this ever increasing problem in our schools.

Origins of a School’s “Duty to Care”
Understanding the relationship between the school and student in public schools today is essential when undertaking a forensic evaluation of bullying behaviors. Education plays a central role in our society, and we have long vested the teacher with the responsibility of protecting children in the school environment. Today, many educators are struggling to keep pace with increasing public expectations and evolving legal standards regarding their role in keeping students safe.

Increasing societal expectations of school officials’ role in “school safety” have expanded the common law doctrine of in loco parentis (Latin for “in the place of a parent”) far beyond the traditional scope of a duty to care owed students, becoming an affirmative duty to protect. In addition to maintaining safety in schools, teachers in the post-“Columbine” era (i.e., after April 1999) increasingly are expected to proactively protect children from harm. The alleged breach of this duty to protect is frequently the basis for litigation against school officials, historically in the form of a negligence tort. Today, many peer-on-peer harassment cases are filed in federal courts, alleging a constitutional violation of due process by the state (i.e., school officials) under Section 1983 of the Civil Rights Act.

Changes in societal attitudes affect courts’ decisions, which frequently must respond to the “evolving standards of decency that mark the progress of a maturing society.” Prior to 1989, the U. S. Supreme Court had consistently held that, under most circumstances, government officials or employees have no constitutional obligation to protect citizens from harm caused by a third party. By expanding the scope of school officials’ duty to protect, the Court in DeShaney v. Winnebago County established a basis for holding schools liable for harm caused when that duty is breached, finding that state-imposed compulsory attendance places students in the “functional custody” of the state. Responding to emerging societal demands for additional student protections, the majority of post-DeShaney courts have found the “functional custody” theory of liability alone insufficient, also requiring the presence of a special relationship or other factors in the school setting in order to establish school officials’ duty to protect students. Increasingly since the mid-90s, courts have required the elements of imminent danger to students and deliberate indifference by school officials to that danger to be present before imposing liability. In other words, plaintiffs must demonstrate that school officials deliberately ignored actual notice or knowledge of the circumstances that were likely to lead to the injury.

In 1999, the U.S. Supreme Court established the current judicial standard for deciding whether or not school officials should be held liable for harm caused by student-on-student harassment. In Davis v. Monroe, the petitioner alleged that: 1) a fellow student repeatedly harassed her over a five-month period; 2) despite numerous reports, school officials failed to investigate or attempt to put an end to the harassment despite the harassment being severe enough to limit her access to educational opportunities; and, 3) that at the time of the harassment, the Monroe County Board of Education had not established a policy or instructed personnel on how to respond to peer harassment.

In an opinion written by Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, the court held that school officials may be liable for student (peer) harassment when they are “deliberately indifferent to known acts of student-on-student sexual harassment,” the alleged harassment is “so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively bars the victim’s access to an educational opportunity,” and where “the student harasser is under the school’s disciplinary authority.” In applying the deliberate indifference standard, the court acknowledged the practical realities of school officials’ ability to respond to student behaviors. Potentially holding school officials liable for failure to act when made aware of the harassment has further expanded the duty to care into a more proactive duty to protect students in school settings.

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Academy News
A Word From Your 2013 Program Co-Chair

HIS-story, HER-story, OUR-story: What better place than Washington, DC, to learn about American history and some historical anniversaries with forensic involvement and implications?

During the week of February 18-23, 2013, thousands of forensic scientists will convene in Washington for the AAFS 65th Anniversary Meeting. Some additional noteworthy forensic science anniversaries will be observed in 2013; as such, President Robert Barsley developed an initiative to incorporate these remembrances into our scientific program. Make sure you look for these Special Sessions as Academy members have planned for them throughout the week. Not only will the highlights of these anniversaries be shared, but also the forensic science investigations surrounding these events will be discussed. The program is currently being formulated, so it is still undetermined which events will be included.

Here is a synopsis of some of the 2013 historical anniversaries that we can experience either at the annual meeting or on our own.

200th Anniversary — From 1811-1812, a series of large earthquakes along the New Madrid Fault in the Mississippi River Valley registered an alarming 7.2 or greater on the Richter scale (as estimated from eyewitness accounts; the scale itself was developed in 1935). Since then, hundreds of earthquakes have originated from the New Madrid Fault zone, and many researchers, including forensic engineers, believe a catastrophic event is only a matter of time. Because forensic science works alongside public health and safety efforts, natural disaster preparedness, emergency management, and body recovery efforts are community investments in which we have a compelling involvement.

150th Anniversary — During its short service period between 1863 and 1864, the world’s first successful combat submarine, the CSS H. L. Hunley, was launched into the waters of Charleston, SC, during the Civil War. The “submersible” endured three separate fatal sinkings which resulted in a total of 21 deaths. On February 17, 1864, the Hunley sank the USS Housatonic, the first such sinking in naval history. The wreck of the Hunley was definitively located in the 1990s, and it was raised a decade later. As it undergoes restoration, forensic scientists have offered expert opinions in matters of ballistics, pathology, anthropology, and genealogy.

101st Anniversary — On April 14, 1912, the British RMS Titanic, a luxury ocean liner, sank on her maiden voyage after she collided with an iceberg. More than two-thirds of the passengers and crew perished, but miraculously, 700 people survived. Forensic scientists have played a major role in discovering details of the ship and the collision and in exploring the wreck site.

60th Anniversary — In April 1953, James Frances and Watson Crick reported of a “structure [that] has novel features which are of considerable biological interest.” This molecular discovery of the DNA-helix which carries the genetic make-up of all things biological resulted in their Nobel Prize almost a decade later.

50th Anniversary — On November 22, 1963, John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States, was shot and killed in Dealey Plaza while riding in a motorcade through Dallas, TX. Many of us have watched the assassination footage of it. For decades, forensic scientists have examined, reexamined, and heavily debated the forensic evidence and the findings of the Warren Commission. To this day, a consistent and clear forensic account evades us.

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A Word From Your 2013 Program Co-Chair cont.

Now that your abstracts are in, your focus can shift to your visit to the Washington area. Reservations are available at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel at the AAFS group rate of $199 per night. The AAFS website has more information at www.aafs.org/aafs-2013-annual-meeting-accommodations. We’re updating the website frequently, so continue to refer to it as a direct resource of information.

Invite your family to join you on this trip to experience world-renowned sights such as the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Capitol building and the National Mall, and the Washington Zoological Park, which is within walking distance of the hotel. Take in a concert or a show at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Be sure to bring a coat, hat, and gloves for outside events and travel!

Let’s make it a date to celebrate forensic science, history, and the combining of the two in the U.S. capital, a focal point for history!

Make Your 2013 Hotel Reservations Early

**AAFS 65th Anniversary Meeting**  
*February 18-23, 2013*  
*Marriott Wardman Park Hotel*  
*Washington, DC, U.S.A.*

**Marriott Wardman Park Hotel**  
*(Headquarter Hotel)*  
2660 Woodley Road NW  
Washington, DC 20008 USA  
(202) 328-2000  
Fax: (202) 234-0015

**AAFS Group Reservations:** (877) 212-5752; or,  
(506) 474-2009 (Local)

**Reservation Instructions:** Reservations for the AAFS 2013 Anniversary Meeting may be made online or by telephone. The group rate is currently available Friday, February 15, through Saturday, February 23, 2013. Reservations booked under the governmental published rate will be available on or after October 1. All reservations must be accompanied by a first-night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. To receive the group contracted rate, reservations must be received by Monday, February 11, 2013, or prior to the room block being exhausted. Reservations received after February 11 will be based on availability and at the hotel's prevailing rate.

**Online:** For hotel availability during the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 65th Anniversary Meeting, please go to the AAFS Annual Meeting “Accommodations” page to make your hotel reservations. By using the links on the “Accommodations” page, you will receive the group rate for your stay during the AAFS 65th Anniversary Meeting. By using this links on the AAFS Accommodations page, you will be taken to the AAFS specific events page where you may secure your reservation at the group contracted rate of $199 (single or double occupancy).

**Telephone:** To make your reservations by telephone, please call Marriott Reservations toll-free at: 1 (877) 212-5752, or Marriott Wardman Park Reservations locally at: 1 (506) 474-2009. When making your reservation by telephone, please request the "AAFS" room block.

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**FSF Needs Your Help With the 2013 Silent Auction!**

With your help, the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) Annual Silent Auction can exceed expectations during the 2013 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. 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 Wrase 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, and Shirts.
FSF Student Travel Grants: October 15 Deadline

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

Travel Grant Eligibility Requirements:
1. The applicant must either be an AAFS memberaffiliate or an AAFS applicant for membership.
2. The applicant must have submitted an abstract either as a presenter or co-author for the annual meeting he/she will be attending.
3. The applicant must be a fourth year undergraduate or a graduate student at an accredited four-year college, university, or professional school whose accreditation is acceptable to the FSF Board of Trustees.
4. The applicant must have a letter of recommendation from his/her advisor or professor.
5. The applicant must submit a 400-600 word essay explaining how attendance at an AAFS meeting will impact his/her career decision.
6. The applicant must submit a curriculum vitae to include specifics regarding their involvement in forensic science.

All submissions must be completed and received by October 15. 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.

AAFS Policy On Abstracts and Presentations

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

Under the pre-condition that, in the submission process, authors must still disclose any specific references to products with commercial names, presentations and abstracts are allowed to mention a product by name only in the context of describing a scientific methodology or the source of sample. For example, specimens often have unique physical or chemical properties that are the key to their identification or analysis (e.g., Dacron fibers, Glock rifling, 3M tapes, explosive formulations, coating materials, etc.). It is appropriate for those materials to be specifically identified since they are 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.

Guidelines for the Richard Rosner Award for the Best Paper

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.

Academy News
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE 2013 AAFS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

The 2013 AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting will take place February 18-23, in Washington, DC. 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 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, 2012, and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Incomplete forms are not accepted.

AAFS 65TH Annual Scientific Meeting Volunteer Information Form*

Name: __________________________ Salutation: ________ Degree: ________ Organization: __________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________ City: __________________________

State/Province: ________________ Zip/Postal Code: ________________ Country: ________________

Home Phone: ________________ Cell Phone: ________________ Work Phone: ________________

Fax: ________________ Email: __________________________ Gender: M[ ] F[ ]

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

AAFS Member? Yes [ ] No [ ] Member #: __________________________ Are you able to lift 50 lbs? Yes[ ] No[ ]

Are you bilingual? Yes [ ] No [ ] If needed are you willing to translate? Y[ ] N[ ] Language(s): ________________

Credit Card #: __________________________ Ex. Date: __________________________ MC [ ] Visa [ ] AE [ ]

Signature: __________________________

AAFS is authorized to charge up to the 2013 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 Washington, DC 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: 

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Maximum number of days willing to work:

[ ] I am requesting "Complimentary" registration as a non-member with a minimum of eight (8) hours of volunteer service.

*Return completed form by December 1, 2012, to:

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

[ ] Special accommodations needed (describe need): __________________________

*You must fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms are not accepted.
Attend the AAFS Annual Business Meeting and Win!!

The Annual Business Meeting of the Fellows and Members of AAFS will be held on Wednesday, February 20, at 4:15 p.m., at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. 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 2013-14 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 2014 AAFS Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA.

AAFS Reference Series Family of Books by Section

Source: Laura L. Liptai, PhD, Engineering Sciences Section Board of Directors Representative

If you have presented an AAFS paper in the last five to nine years, you are published! This is your last chance to order so get yours now or you can download all sections for FREE. The AAFS Reference Series is perhaps the largest collection of proceedings including case studies and reported research results anywhere.

The AAFS Reference Series books (comprised of our historical proceedings and assembled separately for each section) have been a tremendous success with 1,610 downloads or purchases. We are very impressed with the membership’s extraordinary content contained within the eleven sections totaling nearly 6,000 pages. This is your last chance to order a hardcover at cost or to download the free e-book of 2002-2011 Proceedings.

If you haven’t already, please head over to www.biomedicalforensics.com/american-academy-of-forensic-sciences-reference-series.php and view the books for yourself. Download the free version and search for your name and your papers.

We cannot express how happy we are with the outcome of this project which could not have been accomplished without the help and support of the many generous AAFS staff (who compiles the proceedings so beautifully every year) and our AAFS membership community. It was not a small undertaking to compile perhaps the largest collection of case studies and reported research results anywhere. The joint effort included 31 members (27 board members/section chairs with four AAFS Past Presidents), under the guidance of our AAFS staff. Acknowledgments: 31 AAFS contributing members including counsel from Richard Rosner and Haskell Pitluck compiled this AAFS family of books under the direction of the AAFS Executive Committee and support from the AAFS staff. The following section leaders have made important contributions to their respective book(s): Susan Ballou and Barbara Llewellyn (Criminalistics); Carrie Whitcomb, Zeno Geradts, and David Baker (Digital & Multimedia Sciences); Laura Liptai and Anastasia Micheals (Engineering Sciences) with additional contributions from Tom Bohan and Steve Battersman; Robert Gaffney and Julie Howe (General); Betty Layne DesPortes and Joseph Maltese (Jurisprudence); Robert Baris and Robert Dorion (Odontology); Victor Weeden, Gregory G. Davis, and Jeffery Tomberlin (Pathology/Biology); Douglas Ubelaker, Norman Sauer, and Susan Myster (Physical Anthropology); Stephen Billick and Daniel Martell (Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences); William Riordan and Carl McClary (Questioned Documents); and, Barry Logan, Jeri Ropero-Miller, and Philip Kemp (Toxicology).

The Academy staff made this AAFS family of books possible by delivering excellence: Sonya Byrue, Debbie Crockett, Sondra Doolittle, Selena Medina, Cheryl Hunter, Nancy Jackson, Tracie McCray, Christie Vigil, Heather Wagner, Anne Warren, and Kimberly Wrasse.

Coming in 2013, your AAFS Reference Series books dedicated to each section’s proceedings will include a full decade of proceedings (except for Criminalistics with too many to fit into a single book) and will be available for sale on Amazon. In 2013, those outside of AAFS, your colleagues, friends, and clients will be able to order your book with your section’s Proceedings published.

Remember, this is your last chance to download your free electronic copy or buy the hardback at cost.

The AAFS Reference Series has better connected our membership. We have contributed to improving forensic science today and teaching new generations for tomorrow.
Development & Accreditation Update

Recapping the AAFS 2012 International Educational Outreach Program – Turkey
All of the participants of the AAFS 2012 International Educational Outreach Program (IEOP) have expressed thanks to AAFS President Robert Barsley and our host in Turkey, Mete Gulmen (Pathology/Biology). The program culminated with AAFS presentations at the 22nd Congress of the International Academy of Legal Medicine in Istanbul (IALM) July 5-8. The scientific minds representing the AAFS at the special session “AAFS NAS Report and Developments From 2007 Until 2012” were Robert Barsley (Odontology), Haskell Pithuck (Jurisprudence), Douglas Ubelaker (Physical Anthropology), Victor Weeden (Pathology/Biology), JC Upshaw Downs (Pathology/Biology), Ronald Singer (Criminalistics), Thomas Bohan (Engineering Sciences), and Agnieszka Rogalska (Pathology/Biology). An additional “AAFS Scientific Session” was also held. Representing the AAFS at this session were: Emilio Nuzzolese (Odontology), Claudia Delgado Aguaia (General), Pamela Hammel (Odontology), Soretta Patton (Criminalistics), James Starrs (Jurisprudence), and Yoshihiro Takaesu (Odontology).

Accompanying President Barsley on the IEOP were Peter Ausili (Criminalistics), Thomas Brady (Odontology), Roy Crawford (Engineering Sciences), Pamela Hamnel (Odontology), Rhea Haugseth (Odontology), Yoshi Kikuchi (Pathology/Biology), Michael Propst (Pathology/Biology), Agnieszka Rogalska (Pathology/Biology), Roy Sonkin (Odontology), and Victor Weeden (Pathology/Biology). A special thanks to these hardy travelers and their guests for participating in the IEOP.

While in Turkey, the group enjoyed the culture and many of the historic sites. The first stop was a visit to Gallipoli and Anzac Cove. At the site, a monument to the troops was placed and, in my mind, represents the general sentiment of the people of this beautiful country: “Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives... you are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnny’s and the Melunets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours... You, the mothers, who sent their sons from far away countries wipe away your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well.” — Atatürk 1934

From here the group traveled to Kusadasi, stopping to visit the Acropolis, Ephesus, and the Aesclepium of Pergamum, an ancient medical center dedicated to the God of Healing and his daughter Hygenia. Every day was filled with historic and ancient sites such as the afternoon in Aphrodisias where, during the Roman Empire, the city housed a school of sculpture and today remains home to one of the best preserved Roman stadiums in existence. In Cappadocia, the day started early with a hot air balloon ride followed by a visit to the Goreme Open Air Museum. Here, the group enjoyed the rock cut churches and frescoes bearing biblical scenes as well as the “fairy chimneys,” a series of very unusual natural rock formations. In Ankara, the afternoon was spent at the Anatolian Civilizations Museum and in Gordion, the tomb of King Midas. These sites are but a few of the places the group enjoyed. I would be amiss if I didn’t

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mention the wonderful Mediterranean food, as every day was a culinary treat as well. Most of all, I must admit, I enjoyed the people of Turkey. The country is home to a very diverse population from the very conservative to the very progressive. They share one common trait and that is their warm and caring nature.

As much as I enjoy looking back at this wonderful adventure, it is time to look forward to the next IEOP. President-Elect Barry Logan is considering several ideal outreach locations and will make his choice and announcement very soon. Watch for more information on the AAFS website and/or the AAFS Facebook page. Start planning now to be part of the 2013 IEOP.

President-Elect’s Message cont.

deadline for submitting your applications for membership or to promote from your current level of membership. Our organization grows and strengthens with the professional growth of its members, and AAFS is eager to recognize that through promotion to full Member and Fellow. Please take advantage of this opportunity!

As always, don’t hesitate to contact your section Board representative, AAFS Officers, or Academy staff with any questions about opportunities to contribute.
A major component of any successful academic program is the faculty dedicated to that program. If you ask an academic what are the qualities of a superior faculty member you are likely to get some diversity in their responses but common themes such as scholarship, research, teaching potential, and degrees earned would prevail. However, with faculty teaching in forensic science programs desired skills include experience within one of the many sub-disciplines needed in a modern forensic science laboratory.

FEPAC has always recognized the basic need for quality faculty and has a standard committed to faculty requirements, Standard 3.4. Essentially, this standard mandates a sufficient number of full-time faculty appropriately qualified by education and experience. Historically, it was determined that at least 50 percent of the full-time faculty should have an appropriate doctor degree. In addition, scientific and educational capabilities of the faculty should be distributed over major areas of the program.

Over the years, there has been some confusion as to what is precisely mandated by this standard. In an effort to clarify this issue, FEPAC Commissioners conducted a survey of accredited programs, and after a review and discussion, recommended some modifications to this requirement.

The proposed modified Standard 3.4 continues to endorse a mandate for sufficient numbers of faculty appropriately qualified by both education and experience. Over-reliance on part-time or adjunct faculty members may be deemed inadequate institutional support. Full-time faculty in graduate programs shall have demonstrated research activity appropriate to their institution’s mission. Other specific issues are as follows:

- At least 50% of the full-time science faculty shall have an appropriate doctoral degree.

- At least 50% of the forensic-science credit hours in a program (4.3.1c/4.3.1d or 4.3.2c/4.3.2d for undergraduate programs and 5.3 for graduate programs) must be taught by full-time faculty.

A goal of this standard is to ensure adequate institutional support in the area of providing sufficient full-time faculty lines to the forensic science program. The number and diversity of dedicated full-time faculty will vary somewhat from program to program depending on their enrollments and scope of program(s) offered. This standard does not prohibit the appropriate use of adjunct instructors; rather, it ensures that there is not an over-reliance on part-time personnel as full-time faculty members are tasked with overseeing all coursework and ensuring its applicability to the program’s mission, goals, and objectives. In many programs adjunct instructors are key resources to instruct specialized courses such as firearms analysis and crime scene analysis.

While FEPAC strongly believes these faculty requirements are essential to a quality program at either the undergraduate or graduate levels, it is recognized that it may be difficult for all programs to meet this standard. Simply, the ideal faculty candidate with an appropriate PhD and years of experience in a forensic science laboratory are not easy to find. At any given time, there are numerous job postings for potential faculty members with these qualifications. Thus, the proposed Standard 3.4 still provides for a reasonable level of flexibility. Yet, despite potential difficulties, the value of high quality forensic science faculty in our accredited programs is worth the challenge.

All of us, educators, practitioners, members of the criminal justice system need to recruit, develop, and retain personnel who will be available to instruct our future forensic scientists and fulfill the mission of educating our students in the most academically rigorous and appropriate program as possible.
Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) News

As most of you are aware, the Foundation was created to foster education and research in the forensic sciences. The Foundation objectives include developing and conducting education and training programs; developing new ways to improve the forensic sciences; promoting public education concerning all disciplines in the forensic sciences; and supporting research in fields relating to the forensic sciences. The Foundation’s sponsorship of the Emerging Forensic Scientist Award and awarding of Acorn and Lucas Grants, NIJ/FSF Student Research Grant, Jan S. Bashinski Grant, Student Travel Grant, and the Student Affiliate Scholarship Grant reflect this commitment.

These opportunities are not possible without the continuous support of Academy members. You can contribute to the Endowment Fund throughout the year. You can also designate your gift to the “I Gave An Hour” program that continues to grow each year.

The Foundation also raises funds during the FSF Silent Auction which is held during the AAFS Annual Meeting. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to this worthy cause. Contact Kimberly Wrasse if you are interested in donating an item. Provide a description of the donation and its market value. Every donation increases the availability to further education and research. Also, make sure that you visit the auction during the meeting to bid on the many items.

Although the deadline for Acorn, Lucas, and the FSF-NIJ Student Research Grants has passed, students and scientists who are conducting research should consider applying for one of these grants in the future. Research in all forensic disciplines validates techniques and emerging technologies to assist the judicial system in criminal or civil litigation. University forensic science program directors should embrace the opportunity to supplement mandatory student research projects and mentor students with the grant process, culminating in progress and final reports. Investigators involved in problem-oriented research must recognize the value of supplemental funding of their research and reporting results at national meetings to colleagues. After all, this is the fundamental basis of science.

For students who wish to travel to meetings, the Foundation encourages you to submit an essay for the Student Travel Grant by October 15. Please see page 9 for details.

Be mindful of the specific criteria and make sure that you complete thorough applications which reflect your professionalism. Submissions are peer-reviewed by committees consisting of seasoned forensic scientists. Think about whether it is reasonable to state that you can present research results at the next annual meeting. Most of the time, this is an unrealistic goal as the August 1 abstract submission deadline occurs before the research is completed, analyzed, and prepared; yet this goal is often reflected in grant application submissions.

The FSF Board of Trustees is pleased to announce a new award called the Henry C. Lee Scholarship Award. Thanks to a generous donation made by Dr. Lee, the award is intended to assist with the travel expenses of an international member to attend an AAFS annual meeting. Criteria and guidelines will be available after the Board of Trustees convenes in Washington, DC, in February.

Take the time to research the appropriate funding opportunity for you and embrace it. The possibilities are there for the taking.

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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 07/01/12 through 07/31/12.

The Fund’s balance through 07/01/12 was $735,984.95. Additionally, the FSF Endowment Fund has provided $166,302 in awards and grants since its inception in 1990.

FSF Endowment Fund Contributors

CRIMINALISTICS

Up to $50 - “Board Member”
John Gunn, BS

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

$101+ - “Executive Circle”
Joseph Davis, MD

ENGINEERING SCIENCES

$51-$100 - “Trustee”
Laura Liptai, PhD

TOXICOLOGY

$101+ - “Executive Circle”
Wayne Ross, MCLS

ODONTOLOGY

Up to $50 - “Board Member”
James McGivney, DMD

IN MEMORY OF

Jane Kamiński, DDS
In Memory of John M. Williams, DDS
AAAS Seeks Applicants for *SCIENCE* Editor-in-Chief

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), publisher of the international journal *Science*, has initiated a search for a new Editor-in-Chief. One of the premier journals in the world, *Science* is published weekly and includes reviews and reports of research across the spectrum of science and engineering, with an emphasis on those with cross-disciplinary impact and interest. The journal also serves as a forum for the presentation and discussion of the latest news and other issues surrounding science, with particular emphasis on the interactions among science, technology, government, and society.

In selecting an Editor-in-Chief, the Board of Directors will give weight to evidence of significant achievement in scientific research, editorial experience and creativity, awareness of leading trends broadly in science and scientific communication, and managerial abilities.

Applications or nominations should be accompanied by complete curriculum vitae, including refereed publications, and should be sent to: Gretchen Seiler, Executive Secretary, Search Committee, 1200 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience. Application materials should be sent by September 15, 2012.

The AAAS is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
President’s Message cont.

throughout the world and the AAFS. Your Board of Directors Representative will discuss these issues further during the February meeting. Also on the international front, in early July, more than twenty individuals participated in the IEOP that preceded the 22nd Congress of the International Academy of Legal Medicine in Istanbul. Old friendships were renewed and new friendships facilitated while forensic connections were made. At the Congress, six AAFS members participated in an AAFS Special Session, invited by the IALM, to discuss the impact of the 2009 NAS Report on forensic science in America, including a thought-provoking presentation of the European “take” on the report delivered by AAFS Fellow Duarte Nuno Vieira (Pathology/Biology) of Portugal. Later that day, several other AAFS members presented in a second AAFS Special Session and an additional number of our members presented throughout the Congress program as some of the over 1,300 abstracts that were accepted. The four-day Congress attended by more than 1,300 registrants from more than 70 countries, held at the beautiful Halic Congress Center on the shore of the Golden Horn, was co-chaired by AAFS Member Mete Gulmen (Pathology/Biology). Look for information on upcoming IEOP and international meeting venues in this and future issues of the newsletter.

Panel of AAFS Fellows who spoke during the IALM AAFS Special Session (l to r): Haskell Pillock, Robert Barsley, Victor Weeden, Thomas Bohan, Douglas Ubelaker, Duarte Nuno Vieira, and J.C. Upshaw Downs.

In closing, I would like to thank the nine members who responded to my call for subject matter experts to present short (15 minute) talks at the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) meeting. The NACDL will convene at the Omni Hotel across the street from AAFS on Friday afternoon, February 22nd. So far, we have speakers on Daubert hearings, controlled substance analysis, interpreting crime laboratory reports, interpretation of urine drug tests and DUI, motor vehicle event data recorders, bitemark defense, report writing, fingerprints, and crime scene/blood spatter. There is still room for a few, let me know - again, please remember to include NACDL in the “subject” line of your email - rbarsld@lsuhsc.edu.

I want to take a few lines to thank the Academy staff for all that they do. Even though the office itself was never threatened by the recent fires in Colorado Springs, some of the staff had close calls with their homes as well as the disruption such an event in any area brings to everyday life. They remained on task, the work was done, and the IEOP went off without a hitch as did the Executive Committee meeting along with the deadline for abstract and program submission.

I wish everyone best of luck for the remaining summer and early fall.

AAFS 65th Anniversary Meeting
Marriott Wardman Park
Washington, DC
February 18-23, 2013

Academy News
Section News

CRIMINALISTICS

Source: Ken Williams, MS, JD, Section Chair

- Non-Member 2013 Annual Meeting
  Pre-Registration Cost: $425
- Non-Member Annual Subscription Price
  for the Journal of Forensic Sciences:
  $356
- AAFS Membership Application Fee:
  $25
- Annual AAFS Membership Dues:
  $55 for Student Affiliates
  $145 for Trainee Affiliates and Members
- A reduced pre-registration rate for the
  2013 Annual Meeting ($275 for applicants
  and members); a subscription to the JFS;
  and membership in a prestigious
  organization with 6,000+ members:
  PRICELESS.

Many may recognize the familiar MasterCard®
“Priceless” ad theme borrowed above. However,
what may not be so evident to many, especially
non-members, are the benefits of joining the
Academy. Since you are reading this article, you
may have already realized the inherent benefits of
membership, but you may know of someone who
has not. If so, consider sharing this portion of the
newsletter with them. The membership
application and the exact criteria for the various
membership levels are available on the AAFS
website (www.aafs.org). All applications must be
received by the October 1st deadline in order to
receive approval at the 2013 Annual Meeting in
Washington, DC.

Note for current members: The deadline is
October 1st for both membership and promotion,
but the $25.00 application fee is waived if applying
for a promotion. Please visit the website to view
eligibility for the next level of membership.

Now for the 2,500+ existing members of the
section, this is for you. Not long ago you received
an email from the AAFS regarding a need to
update the membership database on the people
web. Thank you to those who took the time to
do so. To those who did not, your input is still
needed. This request was made largely as a result
of the work accomplished by the Criminalistics
Section Membership Committee and the General
Section in addressing the overlap in disciplines.
Both sections have a very diverse membership
base, which has led to an inevitable overlap in
accepted disciplines and subject areas. The
overlap has made the application review process
rather difficult and inconsistent over the years
because an applicant may appear to be better
suited for one section, on paper and in the eye of
the reviewers, but may choose the other—all of
which complicates the application review process.
As a result of the group’s work, a recommended
list of disciplines acceptable for membership into
the Criminalistics Section was produced and
agreed upon by the existing membership at the
2011 Annual Meeting. The list serves as a
guideline for the Chair and Secretary of the
section during the application review process and
may be used as a basis of consistency from year to
year. The disciplines available on the people web
provide a snapshot of the sub-disciplines
represented. Although the list is far from
exhaustive, it should be comprehensive enough to
handle the diversity of the membership. Again, if
you have not visited the AAFS Web recently to
update the database, please take a moment to do
so. It does not take long, but your efforts will
help keep the membership database accurate.

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Section News cont.

On a final note, any Criminalistics Section Fellows interested in serving as a Section Officer may be nominated or may nominate themselves by submitting a resume via email to Nominating Committee Chair Barbara Llewellyn (barb4nt6@sbcglobal.net) by October 15. 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 Dr. Llewellyn.

Well, there they are...multiple opportunities: opportunities to recruit, for promotion, for updating, for involvement, and for awards. All you have to do is take advantage and remember, “Membership has its privileges!”

DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES

Sources: Rhesa G. Gilliland, MS, Section Secretary and Jeffrey M. Smith, MS, DMS Section Member

Reminder - the deadline for submitting applications for membership and promotions is approaching. Please remember to submit your applications by October 1. If you have any questions, please contact Section Chair Douglas Lacey or myself.

Audio Forensics: Recording, Recovery, Analysis, and Interpretation - 46th International Conference of the Audio Engineering Society

Audio forensics is a sub-discipline of forensic digital and multimedia sciences. It is a very exciting field and often pivotal in ascertaining facts during investigations; however, it is small compared to its big brother: video/image forensics. In terms of the amount of cases produced per year or the number of security systems recording potential evidence, it cannot compare to video but audio forensics is growing fast along with the other digital evidence based disciplines. One indication of this is the success of the recent conference of the Audio Engineering Society (AES) focused on forensic audio held in Denver this past June.

This event, hosted by the National Center for Media Forensics (NCMF) and the University of Colorado Denver, was the fourth such conference of the AES focused on Audio Forensics since 2005. As chair of the conference and as a Member of the AAFS Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section, I was very pleased to share this event with others from our section: DMS Section Chair, Douglas Lacey; Member, Michael Piper; Associate Member and conference Papers Co-Chair, Catalin Grigoras; and others. International attendees, representing 15 countries came to see paper presentations, attend workshops, meet with hardware/software exhibitors, and most importantly share ideas with colleagues from around the world.

The AES and its members have helped shape audio forensics since the inception of this young discipline which occurred during the Nixon Watergate scandal of the early 70s with the infamous 18½ minute gap. As homage to this still-contested event and the Congressionally overseen analysis by AES members, the Keynote presentation for the 2012 conference was on a re-analysis and document research by Phil Melinger. However, the meat of the conference focused on addressing new challenges and solutions that were presented in 26 research papers on audio enhancement, digital audio authentication, speaker comparison, and more.

The success of the 2012 AES Audio Forensics Conference and the increased attendance seen since 2005 shows not only the growth of this field but also the strengthening of the audio forensics community, a testament to the great people working in this field. We look forward to the next conference offering that is currently being organized and will return to Europe in 2014.

ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Source: James Millette, PhD, Section Secretary

The second AAFS ESS summer meeting was held in Los Gatos, CA, July 27-29; in conjunction with the Society of Forensic Engineers and Scientists (SFES VP/AAFS Board Member: Laura Liptai, SFES Past President: Robert Anderson, and SFES Board Member: Anastasia Micheals). AAFS presenters included: Robert Anderson, “A Really Big Corrosion Case” about the Las Vegas disaster; Marc Meadows, “Finite Element Analysis as a Communication Tool;” and Laura Liptai, “Brain Injury Protection Countermeasure Design Experimental Methodology.” The meeting was quite a success. Many thanks to our SFES hosts.

If you’ve presented at the AAFS Annual Meeting in the last ten years, your abstract is now published in the AAFS Reference Series [Publication Date: July 5, 2012]. The Forensic Engineering Sciences: American Academy of Forensic Sciences Reference Series - A Decade of Research and Case Study Proceedings [Paperback] was edited and compiled by; Laura Liptai, with the help of Anastasia Micheals in conjunction with American Academy of Forensic Sciences staff: Sonya Bynoe and Anne Warren. The entire AAFS Reference Series is the largest collection of forensic case studies and research abstracts worldwide, spanning eleven fields of forensic science. Go to Amazon.com and search for “Forensic Engineering Sciences Reference Proceedings.” For the collection of all twelve books (Criminalistics has 2 volumes) type in: “american academy of forensic sciences reference series.”

On Saturday, June 9, Anastasia and James Micheals welcomed Elizabeth Eleanor into the world. Stats: 7 lbs 11 oz, 19 inches, 9/9 Apgar score. Congratulations from all your EES friends.
At the time of this submission (July 31), Rich Brown, EES Program Chair for the 2013 Annual Meeting reports that so far, abstract submissions indicate another strong program shaping up for the Engineering Sciences sessions in Washington, DC, next February. Helmut Bross submitted a proposal for a workshop on “Investigation of Electrical Death and Injury.” If accepted, information will be forthcoming on the location and time for the EES luncheon.

The General Section Reception Committee Chair, Joanna Collins, is looking for sponsors to help support our event. If you know anyone/business who may 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). Please 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!

We are looking forward to Washington, DC, and a great program. Hope to see you there.

JURISPRUDENCE

Source: Paul Messner, JD, Section Chair and Andrew Sulner, JD, Section Secretary

Steven Benjamin was sworn in July 28, with Betty Layne DeaPortes administering the oath of office, as President of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) at its 54th Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Steve announced that his goals include training of the defense bar and collaboration with experts in the use of forensic science, emphasizing the reliability of science in the search for the truth. “Whether our defense is one of actual innocence, an affirmative defense, reasonable doubt, or a mitigating circumstance, scientific evidence is the most powerful proof available,” he said. Also attending the meeting and installation were Bruce Lyons and Barry Scheck.

This past June, Christine Funk delivered a lecture on forensic science for prosecutors and defense attorneys at a training program held at the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension in Saint Paul, MN; the program was organized by the Innocence Project of Minnesota. Christine and Dakota County Public Defender Lauri Traub, a new applicant to our section, made recent headline news for discovering widespread problems with the St. Paul Police Department Crime Lab's drug testing procedures. The discovery could affect the evidence used in thousands of drug convictions. Christine credits the discovery in part to education she has received at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Meeting, as well as the assistance of many forensic scientists she has met through the Academy. One article that makes for interesting reading can be accessed online at www.stltoday.com/164093316.html?ref=ut.

Carol Henderson recently served on the faculty of the American Bar Association’s webinar, The “Life Cycle” of the Expert Scientific Witness, discussing how to retain, prepare, depose, debrief, and use experts to your client’s advantage. During the ABA’s 2012 Annual Chicago Meeting, Carol and Haskell Piluck served as panelists on the Criminal Justice Section’s Panel CSI & Beyond: Forensic Science Challenges and Cutting Edge Issues.

On July 7, Stephanie Domitrovich and Serdar Kelahmet presented a paper to the International Academy of Legal Medicine (IAML) in Istanbul, Turkey, on Parental Alienation Syndrome and the Hague Convention. Both speakers related their respective experiences dealing with cases involving parental abduction of children, and analyzed Daubert and Frye issues concerning the adequacy of current scientific evidence regarding the so-called Parental Alienation Syndrome. Judge Domitrovich also co-chaired a program dealing with issues raised in international death investigations involving autopsies conducted by multiple forensic... continued on page 22
Section News cont.

pathologists. Other participants at the IALM included current AAFS President Robert Barley and Haskell Puluck.

Joseph Maltese, Faculty Member of the New York State Judicial Institute, recently instructed judges on The State of Forensic Science and Frye in one of the Institute’s 2012 Summer Educational Broadcasts. The New York State Judicial Institute is a center for education and research designed to enhance the quality of the courts and ensure that the New York State Judiciary sets the standard for judicial excellence around the country.

Please remember that the deadline for submission of applications for Associate Members, Student Affiliates, and Trainee Affiliates is October 1. The latest numbers show us running somewhat behind last year in new member applications; please urge any colleagues with an interest in forensic science to submit an application via the Academy’s website (www.aafs.org). The two letters of reference required of new applicants need not be from Academy members; however, the writer “must be able to comment knowledgeably on the applicant’s qualifications.”

The deadline for promotion applications is also October 1. General AAFS and Jurisprudence Section-specific promotion requirements are listed on the AAFS website under the “Membership” tab. If you are eligible for promotion to either Member or Fellow, go for it and get your application and letters of recommendation submitted by October 1.

If you are interested in serving on any of the standing committees (Awards, Nominating, Program), which happens to be one of the “service” options required for promotion, please express your interest by emailing Chair Paul Messner (firecycle@insightbb.com) or Secretary Andrew Suliner (andysuliner@aol.com).

ODONTOLOGY

Source: Paula C. Brumit, DDS, 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, Ray Miller, has an enormous job conducting the acceptance/rejection process. It is not too early to begin conducting research for 2013 submissions for the 2014 meeting 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 also be a contributor or collaborator to the process. Planning for future workshops should also be contemplated now since these take time to formulate.

The deadline for membership and promotion applications is rapidly approaching. Completed applications including references and any additional section requirements must 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 and names and credentials of presenters to Committee Chair Roy Sonkin at rhs12@nyu.edu.

Be aware that registration is open for both of the excellent ABFO workshops. For additional information on the Bitemark Workshop contact Adam Freeman by email at drafreeman@westportdental.com. Contact Jim Lewis by email at jml@1infodont.com or call (256) 509-0507 for the Age Estimation Workshop. Both workshops are in demand and fill quickly for those desiring to become board certified.

And finally, don’t forget to make reservations for Washington, DC, as soon as possible. Click on the “AAFS 2013 Annual Meeting Accommodations” link on the AAFS homepage. See you in DC!

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Source: Amy C. Gruzecki, DO, Section Secretary

Jason Byrd (Fellow, Pathology/Biology), Associate Director of the Maple’s Center for Forensic Medicine within the College of Medicine at the University of Florida, has worked with Bruce Goldberger (Fellow, Toxicology), Randall Lockwood (Member, General), and The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) to create the first graduate program in veterinary forensic sciences.

This program focuses on the application of the various disciplines of the forensic sciences to veterinary medicine. In addition, the relationship between cruelty to animals and interpersonal violence has been substantiated by a significant body of work in the social sciences. Specialized courses are offered in Cruelty to Animals and Interpersonal Violence, Animal Crime Scene Analysis, Scientific and Legal Principles of Forensic Evidence, Advanced Principles of Forensic Entomology, and Veterinary Forensic Pathology.

A goal of this program is the education of veterinarians and veterinary technicians who are the primary professionals who encounter animal cruelty, conduct examinations, and become involved in legal investigations involving animal cruelty. These professionals are also most likely to render expert opinions in a court of law regarding cases of suspected animal cruelty. Professionals in veterinary medicine who are well versed in various aspects of forensic science are critical to a properly managed case response. Such individuals are often responsible for the documentation of the physical findings of abuse, collection of associated physical evidence, and for providing expert opinions in a court of law. Veterinarians and related animal welfare professionals may also be requested to assist at the crime scene by state and local law enforcement officials.
Professionals who are already engaged in the forensic sciences and crime scene analysis may enroll in this program so they can better document, collect, and preserve evidence from scenes of animal cruelty for the prosecution of the animal crime or for additional demonstrative evidence for the prosecution of the human crime. Since crimes against animals are well-documented indicator crimes of future violent behavior towards humans, law enforcement and forensic science professionals are keenly aware of the need to document and prosecute crimes against animals. For more information on this program, please visit http://forensics.med.uth.edu.

The North American Forensic Entomology Conference was held in Las Vegas, NV, during the week of July 16-20. Richard Merritt, Distinguished Professor, Michigan State University, along with Drs. Mollie McIntosh and Ryan Kimburskas, organized the conference.

This meeting represents a significant milestone for the forensic entomology community as it is the 10th year that it has occurred. What started with a two-day conference with approximately 15 platform presentations has grown to 30 plus platform presentations, 20 posters, and a half-day workshop with this year’s workshop being on experimental design and statistical analyses. The meeting included a keynote speaker, Gary Telgenhoff, Forensic Pathologist for the Las Vegas CSI Unit, and a forum discussion on the Casey Anthony murder trial which included one of the two forensic expert witnesses that testified in the case in Orlando this past year. Mark your calendars as the 2013 conference will be organized by Eric Benbow, University of Dayton, and will be held in Dayton, OH. If you would like to receive more information, please contact Dr. Benbow at eric.benbow@gmail.com.

Reminder to all residents and Fellows who have submitted abstracts for the Best Resident Paper Award that a manuscript is due by February 1st in order for the Awards Committee to review it prior to the Annual meeting. A manuscript must be submitted in order to be eligible for the award. The manuscript can be emailed to Dr. Christensen at edchristensen@utah.gov.

PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Source: Christopher R. Thompson, MD, Section Secretary

In legal news from June, the United States Supreme Court in Miller v. Alabama found that mandatory life without parole sentences (LWOP) imposed for offenses an individual committed while a juvenile violates the 8th Amendment’s prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment. Although overshadowed by the Court’s decision regarding the Affordable Care Act, the Miller decision reinforces the Court’s opinion that adolescents are categorically less culpable and potentially more amenable to rehabilitation than adults.

In publishing news, the AAFS Executive Committee continues to compile and will eventually publish the AAFS Reference Series. This compendium of the most recent AAFS Annual Meetings’ abstracts is made available to the public on Amazon. Please contact Christopher Thompson at the email address below if you would like to assist with the abstract editing process (either your own or others).

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law will be held in Montreal, Quebec from October 25-28. Numerous section members attend and present at this meeting and attendance at this meeting offers our section members a chance to reunite and continue to foster our professional and personal relationships prior to the AAFS Annual Meeting in February. This meeting also affords section members the opportunity to recruit new section members, particularly via AAPL’s “Liaison with Forensic Sciences Committee.”

Finally, keep in mind that the 65th AAFS Anniversary Meeting will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, DC, from February 18-23, 2013. We look forward to an interesting and entertaining program.

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Section News cont.

We welcome the submission of news items for this column from members. Please submit these items to Christopher Thompson, Section Secretary at cthompson@mednet.ucla.edu.

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Source: Pamela Zilly, BS, Section Secretary

The AAFS 65th Anniversary Meeting in Washington, DC, is shaping up to be an excellent learning and networking experience. Section Workshop Chair John Sang has two exciting and educational workshops proposed for us.

John and Linton Mohammed are proposing a workshop for Monday, February 18, 2013, titled “Signature Examination of Health and Impaired Writers” with a faculty of Linton Mohammed and Michael Caligiuri. If this proposal is accepted, participants will get the opportunity to examine genuine and simulated signatures of healthy and impaired writers. Two hands-on sessions will be conducted. In the first, participants will assess authenticity of questioned signatures based on knowledge about signature kinematics in forgery. In the second, participants will assess more challenging questioned signatures based on knowledge of how disease alters handwriting. Didactic sessions will provide participants with the necessary empirical and scientific bases to evaluate questioned signatures. Participants will evaluate signatures prior to and then after the didactic sessions. The workshop will conclude with a discussion of the extent to which empirical findings increased the objectivity of the examinations. For Tuesday, February 19, 2013, we are proposing a program at the Library of Congress so watch for additional details. Ted Burkes would serve as Chair and John Sang as the Co-Chair. These will be excellent training programs for all. If you have any questions about the workshops, you can contact John Sang at sangjohn@aol.com.

Ron Morris. Section Program Chair, has lined up some very interesting presentations for the QD Session. They include “The Case of Different Documents and Different Conclusions,” “Exhibit Design and Presentation,” “The Signatures of Arabic-Speaking Writer in the United States,” “Validation of Quantitative Measures in the Non-Destructive Differentiation of Black Ballpoint Pen Inks,” “Some Reasons for Qualified Conclusions,” and many more! If you have questions about the program, you can contact Ron at rnmorris@erols.com.

Washington, DC, is a great travel destination filled with an infinite number of amazing places to visit and things to see. Consider bringing your family along and tying in a vacation. The Metro system in DC makes travel to the many attractions very simple. Plan now to join your fellow FDEs for an educational and fun networking opportunity.

An excellent new resource is now available through Amazon: Forensic Sciences: Questioned Documents, American Academy of Forensic Sciences Reference Series - A Decade of Research and Case Study Proceedings, by Thomas W. Vastrick, BS (Author), Carl R. McClary, BA (Author), William M. Riordan BA (Author), Sonya R. Bynoe, BBA (Editor), Anne Warren, BS (Editor), Laura L. Liptai, PhD (Series Editor). This is a great reference series which contains all of the abstracts of AAFS QD Section’s presentations and papers for the last decade. You will find it to be invaluable.

Academy membership and promotion information can be found at www.aafs.org/membership. If you have any general questions, please contact QD Section Chair, Tom Vastrick, at vastrick@yahoo.com.

TOXICOLOGY

Source: Loralie J. Langman, PhD, Section Secretary

The deadline for abstract submission for the 2013 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 Ashraf Mozayani (ashraf.mozayani@meo.hctx.net) and co-chair Dwayne Fuller (dwaine.fuller@med.va.gov) deserve a round of applause for keeping within the tight AAFS deadlines. Official acceptance letters for workshops and Special Sessions will be sent approximately mid-October. Acceptance letters for oral and platform presentations will be mailed approximately mid-November. The Advance Program will be published in November.

The membership in our section is growing. As of July 31, total membership was at 491, an increase of almost 5% from last year and 47 waiting for approval. This is a good start but we need more members in order to keep our section thriving within AAFS both fiscally and academically. One way to ensure the section’s financial health is to increase the size of the section membership. Please encourage your colleagues to fill out an application and join. The application process is completely online and details are located on the AAFS website at: www.aafs.org.

To maintain and improve the academic productivity of our section, we need to get active at the annual meeting www.aafs.org/aafs-2013-annual-meeting. The annual meeting is an opportunity to interact not only with other forensic toxicologists but also colleagues from other forensic disciplines. 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 (see paragraph above regarding membership). 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.

The Toxicology Section Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for Chair and Secretary, and for a position on the Awards and Scholarship Committee. Please submit your nominations to the committee no later than October 1. Nominations should be submitted to the Nominating Committee Chair, Phil Kemp (philip.kemp@faa.gov; 405-934-6202).
Forensic Pathology/Biology cont.

But training has to be complete. In 1709, Alexander Pope wrote about learning as drinking from a spring sacred to the Muses:

A little learning is a dang’rous thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring:
There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
And drinking largely sobers us again.
Fir’d at first sight with what the Muse imparts,
In fearless youth we tempt the heights of Arts,
While from the bounded level of our mind
Short views we take, nor see the lengths behind;
But more advance’d, behold with strange surprise
New distant scenes of endless science rise!

He was right. Studies have shown that well-trained wine tasters correctly remember the components of wine they taste. Naive wine tasters also correctly remember what they taste, though with less specificity. Incompletely-trained wine tasters, however, fare much worse. It seems that they mediate their memory through the words they use, but because they were not expert at that labeling, they tended to remember the wines in terms of the incorrect labels rather than the actual taste. Some have suggested that young tasters be trained to use simple perceptual descriptors rather than the more oblique terms of art used by true experts, so as not to mislead themselves. Only after they are certain in their perceptions should they attempt to wade into the pond of obscure terms. Again, the same is true in pathology.

Worse, as Pope warns, those who are partially trained are not only more likely to be wrong, but also more likely to be more certain of their competence. In the late 1990s, David Dunning and Justin Kruger performed a series of experiments that looked at competence and confidence. They found that those who were less competent in a subject were more likely to overestimate their own competence and underestimate that of their peers. In contrast, those who were more competent tended to underestimate their own ability and overestimate that of their peers. Professional observations are not only improved by education. They are created by them. More important, education not only teaches us what we know, it should teach us what we do not know.

Observations are important, but they are important primarily to help us make a decision, whether it be the mechanism of a disease, how a mark on a bone appeared, or how a laboratory value changed. Observations provide a mechanism of choosing among possible explanations, or provide inspiration for hypotheses about explanations, but they do not provide the explanations themselves.

Looking at how physicians make diagnoses provide some insight. While much is made of the so-called “scientific method” and “deductive reasoning,” neither play a dominant role in medical diagnosis. Instead, physicians rely more on so-called “abductive” methods (also called “reasoning to the best explanation”) and dialectic reasoning, or the weighing of evidence among competing narratives. Another way of looking at this is that a person who tries to make sense of a situation (in medicine or not) carries with him or her a number of possible scenarios and mechanisms. Observations are made that allow one to choose among those competing ideas. In some areas, such as visual perception, this is sometimes seen as an interplay between “bottom up” reasoning based on observations, and “top down” reasoning based on internal models. In some cases, the observations allow only one explanation. In most cases, the observations allow many, but one or a few are perceived as much more likely.

When observations are plentiful and discriminatory, the most correct answer is obvious. Even in a person with severe heart disease, a witnessed large-caliber high-velocity gunshot wound of the head represents compelling evidence of the cause of death. When there is a dearth of evidence, the decision becomes a matter of choosing between narratives based on something else. It is research that informs how we should relate our observations to our cognitive models. Just as we cannot make meaningful observations without education, we cannot educate without principles upon which we base that education. We cannot derive those principles without research.

This is particularly a problem in forensic pathology because, at least in the United States, our culture finds such research distasteful. Issues of informed consent and the growing incorrect cultural perception that forensic pathology research constitutes some sort of disrespect to the dead provides barriers to necessary research. There is a cultural distaste regarding autopsies. In Florida, it is a felony to use autopsy photographs for education without a court order. In another state, a pathologist was advised that it is illegal to even do database searches to gather aggregate statistics on findings. In even more states, it is illegal to use tissues for research. Thus, same voices that cry that we should have more rigor in forensic science criminalize the research that would provide it.

What is the solution? Some seem obvious. We should ensure that those who make forensic pathology diagnoses are properly educated and demonstrate that they are capable of making educated observations. We should enable, not criminalize research in forensic medicine. There is always the need for funding, but, at least in the opinion of this author, the first step would be to change the cultural perception of the value of research and remove the legislative barriers to it. And how do we do that? Why of course – by providing observation and education to those who make laws and affect cultural perceptions. We must work to make autopsies culturally acceptable and the perception that research in forensic medicine is a public good whose value should be recognized. With that, the funding will follow.

Academy News
Psychiatry & Behavioral Science: School Bullying cont.

When working with schools and parents to evaluate claims of damages resulting from peer-on-peer harassment, Davis v. Monroe establishes a framework for providing a forensic mental health assessment. A thorough assessment should include the following: the dates and times of each offense, exactly what was said or done during each offense, which school personnel were notified, and all formal and informal interventions implemented for each offense and their respective outcomes. Although this evolving legal standard has placed limits on schools' liability, in practice, it has created a requirement for school officials to respond swiftly to students who report being threatened or harassed, thereby potentially mitigating the harm to the bullied student.

State and Federal Response to the Problem of Bullying

Courts attempt to rely on objective factors when applying the "evolving standards of decency" standard, and one of the most significant factors courts look to are state legislative trends. In recent years, many states have taken affirmative steps to reduce bullying in schools by adopting anti-bullying legislation or model policies. Each state may address the problem differently, as long as certain minimum federal or constitutional standards are met. In 2010 the United States Department of Education (USDE), responding to this lack of uniformity, reviewed existing state laws, and recommended to Congress that anti-bullying legislation include eleven common components:

- Purpose, scope, definition of prohibited behavior, and enumeration of protected groups;
- Implementation of district policies and review for compliance;
- Assignment of responsibility to the school district to carry out the law; and,
- Communication of policies, monitoring and accountability, actions and interventions to prevent bullying behaviors, and legal remedies for victims.

Following this report, the “Safe Schools Improvement Act of 2011” (SSIA) was introduced in both the House and the Senate. If passed, this act would direct states to adopt policies that include all eleven components recommended by the USDE. A floor vote in both houses has yet to be scheduled. Therefore, there is no existing federal statute directly addressing bullying.

Cyberbullying: A New Frontier

The rising popularity of social networking sites and their use as a platform for bullying has created a unique problem for schools attempting to protect students from harm. Previously, this responsibility had applied only to students in the school’s physical custody (e.g., on school grounds or during school field trips). States increasingly are including electronic harassment or "cyberbullying" in anti-bullying laws, and if passed the SSIA would make this inclusion uniform and mandatory in all states. As school officials are attempting to comply with mandates requiring them to monitor and respond to off-campus behaviors, the courts consistently are ruling that doing so violates students’ First Amendment right to free speech. The trend among lower courts, in applying the “Tinker Standard,” has been to allow schools to punish off-campus cyberbullying only when such conduct causes a “material and substantial interference with on-campus school administration.” However, that standard relies on sets of particular facts, which cannot take into account inventive mischief of tech savvy students.

The U.S. Supreme Court has yet to rule on this issue. Until they do, lower courts and school officials continue to struggle with whether a school violates a student’s free speech rights by punishing them for creating, on their own time and using their own computers, electronic material that mocks or insults school officials or classmates.

Interventions to Decrease Bullying

Schools officials, in struggling to control bullying behaviors, continue to seek out professional guidance for recommendations on interventions that may decrease these behaviors. Unfortunately, there are no universally-accepted interventions for victims, bullies, or bystanders. Interventions currently utilized may focus on the individual (bully or victim), the family, and/or the school environment as a whole.

Bullying can cause short and long-term harm to children (both bullies and their victims) including academic, relationship, and psychological problems. Children who are victimized can suffer from significant mental health repercussions including school avoidance, severe depression, and even completed suicide. When undertaking a forensic mental health assessment, it is essential to identify co-morbid psychiatric disorders, such as anxiety and depression, which may be present in both the victim and the bully. An evaluator may recommend individual treatment for the children involved to assist with their psychological adjustment, decision-making, anger management, and other psychological aspects related to the bullying behavior. Individual interventions for children should be tailored to both the context of the bullying or victimization and the child’s developmental level. When working with children who bully, recommended interventions may include strict limit setting and appropriate discipline by both the school and the parents, increased parental supervision, and utilization of consequences which teach empathy (e.g., have the bully role play a scenario in which he is the victim). Encouraging a child to ignore the bullying behavior or to fight back physically with the aggressor should be avoided and are not effective interventions.

On the other hand, interventions that incorporate the family systems of a bully and/or a victim can be effective. Evaluators may educate the child’s family about the bullying and its effects and encourage parents to take responsibility for supporting their child through a potentially difficult time period. An evaluator may recommend the child and his/her family be involved in family therapy in order to improve the family’s communication and to assess the family system for patterns of behavior that may be detrimental to the child. Having the child’s parents contact the other student’s parents directly is not an effective intervention.
School-wide, systems-based approaches have shown the most efficacy in decreasing bullying behaviors, though not all research supports this. Prevention programs that focus on the individuals involved, provide classroom teaching, or incorporate school-wide cultural changes appear to be the most effective in reducing bullying behaviors. Some interventions, though well-meaning, may actually lead to a worsening of behaviors by creating a hostile school environment. These counterproductive interventions include the “zero tolerance” policy, suspension or expulsion, mediation and conflict resolution with peers, anger management groups, and utilization of student groups to attempt to “police” bullying behavior.

Summary

Bullying behavior has become increasingly prominent in the popular media and has helped heighten public awareness of the dangers our children face in our schools. As schools’ responsibilities to protect students continue to increase, parents and school systems are attempting to control to the problem of bullying through extrajudicial solutions. Despite this, the courts increasingly are becoming involved in the debate.

Mental health providers can assist schools and parents in decreasing bullying behavior and in mitigating the mental health impact of bullying by providing assessments and recommending intervention programs. Because there are few longitudinal studies regarding the impact of bullying behaviors, it is difficult to determine for bullying victims or bullies themselves a long-term prognosis with any degree of certainty. Based on the extant literature, systems-based approaches aimed at changing the culture of the school are the best general interventions to decrease bullying behavior. Additional research on the potential long-term comorbidities associated with specific types of bullying is critical to tailoring effective interventions. Without this, school children will continue to suffer from bullying behavior and school officials will face uncertainty in assessing their own liability for responses to this growing societal problem.

8. See, e.g., Shrum v. Mack, 249 F.3d 773 (8th Cir. 2001), holding: “there is no constitutional duty of care for school districts, as state mandated school attendance does not entail so restrictive a custodial relationship as to impose a duty upon the state.”
9. See, e.g., Walton v. Alexander (6th Cir. 1997), holding that liability will attach “[w]here a school official knows, or willfully avoids knowing about the possibility of serious harm to a student, fails to take appropriate action, and the student is harmed.” Also, Doe v. Oyster River (D.N.H. 1997), holding that school officials may be held liable for student-on-student sexual harassment “if (i) school officials knew or should have known of the matter but failed to correct the problem, (2) a special relationship existed to protect students from harm, and (3) the harassment was severe and pervasive.”
Applicants

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 2013 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 7, 2013.

CRIMINALISTICS

Associate Member
Ahmed, Ali S., PhD
Dubai, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Alotaibi, Mohammad H., PhD
Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA
Andersen, Cheryl, MS
Los Angeles, CA
Bell, Erica
Phoenix, AZ
Beshore-Stromb, Bev. A., MS
Bethlehem, PA
Bittar-Ray, Farah J., BS
Phoenix, AZ
Bolton, James J., PhD
Jonesboro, GA
Callanan, Ashley E., BS
Clayton, MT
Castaneda, Iliana, MD
Benito Juarez, MEXICO
Cherry, Lundy, PhD
LEBANON
Colley, Thomas, BS
South Riding, VA
Collier, Gabrielle
Brookfield, OH
Crunks, Jennifer L., BS
Farmers Branch, TX
Forbes, Megan A, MS
Coppell, TX
Garofalo, Hallie N., MSFS
Columbus, OH
Green, Hadyn R.
Crawley AUSTRALIA
Gwarzo Sani, Shelu, BSc
Lagos, NIGERIA
Hare, Rachel
Mahwah, NJ
Henry, Fernanda, BSc
Castries, SAINT LUCIA
Herb, Jennifer N., MS
Elgin, IL
Johnson, Amy L., MS
Salt Lake City, UT
Johnson, Stacey E., BS
Anchorage, AK
Johnson, Steven L., BS
Arlington, VA
Karys, Cynthia, JD
Napa, CA
Kaleutu, Margaret A., MS
Los Angeles, CA
Khurjua, Himanshu, MSc
Delhi INDIA
Khul, Safiedlin A., PhD
Dubai, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Kim, Hong Myoung
Seoul, KOREA
Kovai, Debra K., MS
Los Angeles, CA
Lee, Victoria, BS
Anaheim, CA
Lindbergh, Tonya, BS
Bemidji, MN
Lising, Ariel I., BS
Boston, MA
Loren, Melissa, BS
Saint Paul, MN
Mabel, Daniel E., MS
Cleveland, OH
Mazzanti, Heather E., MSFS
Glenview, PA
Mead, Breanna, MS
Stony Brook, NY
Meadows, Kristen, BS
West Melbourne, FL
Michalik, Monnie, MFS
Shreveport, LA
Monson, Yvette A., MFS
Washington, DC
Moore, Tyhesia, MA
Hvattsville, MD
Moreno, Jennifer
Houston, TX
Murphree, Sherri Hughes, MS
Greenville, SC
Oteri, Cynthia C., BA
Daytona Beach, FL
Parton, Temple Gordon, MA
Port St. Joe, FL
Peraza, Angelica
Chula Vista, CA
Ribadeleneva, Tiffany A., BS
East Meadow, NY
Rizo, Oscar, BS
Dallas, TX
Roller, Robert W., III, BS
Indianapolis, IN
Rubino, Allison M., MS
Farmingdale, NY
Shane, Rebecca A., BS
Wilmington, DE
Shazad, Muhammad S., PhD
Lahore, PAKISTAN
Smith, Melissa J., MAS
Hamilton, NJ
Speir, Jacqueline A., PhD
Allentown, PA
Talbot, Ann, BS
Nashville, TN
Templin, Taylor L., BS
Farmers Branch, TX
Tsukui, Dain H., BS
Clackamas, OR
Weidemann, Andrea L., MFS
San Mateo, CA
Wiedman, Steven M., BS
London, OH
Academy News

Trainee Affiliate

Annam, Treedy N.L., MS
Albuquerque, NM

Baker, Michelle M., BS
Phoenix, AZ

Balsley, Heather L., BS
Sun City, AZ

Bass, Kennese J.
Tracy, CA

Berlin, Rebecca M., MS
Glendale, CA

Bintz, Brittania J., MSc
Cullowhe, NC

Broadllus, Cassandra A., MSFS
Philadelphia, PA

Cerow, Kathryn M., MS
Dallas, TX

Cope, Fredericka E., MSFS
Brunswick, OH

Deriss, Elza M., BA
Dallas, TX

DeLong, Jennifer Irene, BS
Coral Springs, FL

Feathers, Valerie R., MA
Salina, KS

Frizell, Eric
Mayer, AZ

Fugua, Latisha
Duart, CA

Gonzalez, Brittnie C., MS
Kingwood, TX

Ha, Anna Liza Oandasan, MA
Hilo, HI

Ha, Quan V., BS
San Francisco, CA

Herron, Tori BA
Glendale, NY

Karp, Jennifer L., BS
Stony Brook, NY

Kulp, Mallorie E., BS
London, OH

Kutnick, Adam M., BS
Washington, DC

Leslie, Hevis, MS
Quincy, MA

Marris, Danielle, BS
East Elmhurst, NY

Menchaca, Arturo C., MS
Fort Worth, TX

Miller, Dennis V., MS
Decatur, GA

Singh, Divanshku, MSc, MBA
Agia INDIA

Smith, Ethan S.T., MS
Cheney, WA

Thompson, Ariel B., BS
Bismarck, ND

Waters, Sara C., BS
Lilburn, GA

White, Rachel E., MS
Topkea, KS

Student Affiliate

Aguirre, Elena M.
Nohlefsville, IN

Alerman, Roland
Austin, TX

Alvarez, Carola
Arlington, TX

Barker, Michael
Johns Creek, GA

Bliss, Shannon E., BA
New Cumberland, PA

Brown, Kayla
Salis, LA

carter, lauren
Sandy, UT

Cascante, Adrianna
Glen Burnie, MD

Choi, Yeace A.
Chicago, IL

Christie, Brittany, BS
Jamaica Estates, NY

Clark, Michelle D., BS
Atlanta, GA

Cook, Erik
Lexington, KY

Crisan, Vasile G.
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Cunningham, Samantha, BS
Nutley, NJ

Demers, Michael E., BS
West Roxbury, MA

Douglie, Joshua, BS
San Jose, CA

Erdei, Krisztina M.
San Jose, CA

Faria, Cami L.
Dubiva, CA

Figuroa, Diana J., BS
Moscow, ID

Frend, Michelle R.
Platteville, WI

Gdovin, Samantha
Tucson, AZ

Gyras, Emily, BA
Windsor, ON CANADA

Gordon, Rachel M.
Sacramento, CA

Green, Danielle, BS
Riverdale, GA

Gudry, Monica A.
Selin, TX

Gullen, Vasquez, Ma Veronica Tenercula, CA

Hahloch, Jessica M., BS
Richmond, VA

Hall, Daniel E., BS
Butler, PA

Harvey, Anelia S.
Baltimore, MD

Huang, Ying Keng, BS
Honolulu, HI

Jackson, Yashika
Millersville, MD

Kim, Jane H., BS
Burlington, CA

Kinnmons, Heather A., BS
Laboock, TX

Kubit, Janice
Chandler, AZ

Larsen, Christina R.
McDonough, GA

Leppa, Tracy J.
Creston, IA

Martin, Thomas J., Jr.
Norco, CA

McCoy, Brandy L.
Saint Marie, MI

Menefee, Crystal L.
Virginia Beach, VA

Mescal, Scyom T.
San Jose, CA

Mestas, Sara M.
San Leandro, CA

Mohammed, Wendee L., BS
Colorado Springs, CO

Montgomery, D’Amore
Fullerton, CA

Mora, Jennifer
Los Angeles, CA

Norman, Heather L., BS
Junction City, KS

O’Connor, Victoria
Orange, CT

O’Keefe, Lindsey
Conyers, GA

Odey, Megan L.
Boardman, OH

Patrick, Season J., MS
Winter Springs, FL

Pease, James C.
Charlottesville, VA

Pease, Vincent
Buffalo, NY

Pllam, Andy V.
Orem, UT

Pritchard, Laura K., BS
Baton, NY

Qamones, Gabriela
Hialeah, FL

Reed, La’Trece M.
Fitzgerald, GA

Reine, Laura
Durham, CT

Riguid, Sydney A.
Plantation, FL

Rivera, Jennifer
Bayamon, PR

Santos, Samantha
Marston Mills, MA

Santaos, Shana M., BS
Jackson, MI

Sevilla, Samantha, BS
Falls Church, VA

Smart, Blair
Antioch, TN

Strasser, Kimberly J.
Warren, RI

Strickland, Daniel J., Jr.
Winder, GA

Sztukulskr, Cheryl A., BS
Indianapolis, IN

Teixeira, Shereen Ayu, BA
Ceres, CA

Tirrell, Selena R.
Poughkeepsie, NY

Vezzani, Kara N.
Great Falls, MT

Wager, Ashley N.
Columbia, MO

Wells, Stephen G., Jr.
Hilliard, OH

Whealan, Crystal
Georgetown, KY

White, Teresa M.
Iowa City, IA

Winucki, Theresa M., MA
Seabrook, TX

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Digital & Multimedia Sciences

Associate Member

Dykstra, Josiah, MS
Severn, MD

Eldridge, Mark, BS
Dallas, TX

Latham, Jason D., BA
Dubuque, IA

Nguyen, Lam D., MS
Lorton, VA

O’Sullivan, William Vincent, MS
Springfield, IL

Tasar, Vehbi
St Petersburg, FL

White, Joseph L., MS
Forest Park, GA

Trainee Affiliate

Helenek, Katherine, MS
Huntington, WV

Ibrahim, Adiva D.
Albaja NIGERIA

Seigfried-Spellar, Kathryn C., PhD
Tuscaloosa, AL

Student Affiliate

Brokhis, Marvi Lynn, BA, BBA
Pasadena, TX

Deucalion, Alexander
Las Cruces, NM
Applicants cont.

Friedman, Rachel
Potomac, MD
Goodall, Patrick G., BA
Huntington, WV
Hernandez, Edgar
Huntington, WV
Hodge, Dwanye A.
Midlothian, IL
Lavender, Nicholas A.
South Point, OH
Perumal, Sundresan
Bayan Baru, NS MALAYSIA

ENGINEERING
SCiences

Associate Member
Ito, Yasunori, PhD
Nagoya, JAPAN
Lee, Youngnae, PhD
Seoul, KOREA
Nemire, Kenneth
Capitola, CA
Park, Chan-Seong, PhD
Daejeon KOREA
Rhodes, William, BSEE, PE
Lexington, TX
Rodriguez-Amecruzita, Hector, BS
San Juan, PR
Tolleson, Andrew R., MS
Columbia, SC

Student Affiliate
Sheridan, Stephanie
Fleming Island, FL

GENERAL

Associate Member
Anand, Jassy, PhD
Chandigarh, INDIA
Avina, Ruthie, MS
Los Angeles, CA
Berry, Nakia S.
Los Angeles, CA
Bless, Bethany L., MS
Houston, TX
Bohn, Matthew J., PhD
Colorado Springs, CO
Brooks, Tiffany, BS
Waldorf, MD
Bryant, Michael S.
Greer, SC
Bushong, Lee C., BLS
Lehigh Acres, FL
Cabrera, Teresa S., MA
Sacramento, CA

Campbell, Nicole A., BS
Largo, FL
Chapin, Sharilyn
Laguna Niguel, CA
Chapman, Rosa E., MSFS
Atlanta, GA
Chein, Edmund, MD, JD
San Diego, CA
Clark, Cheryl, DVM
Appling, GA
Culver, Mark D., MS
Greenwood, IN
Doss, Starla, AAS
Phoenix, AZ
Fadipe, Samuel F., MA
Houston, TX
Farris, James E., EdD
Nashville, TN
Fleming, Diana, MFS, MA
Travis AFB, CA
Gossett, Timothy R., MS
Pewaukee, WI
Grates, Kirk, BA
Largo, FL
Hall, Meghan M., MSFS
Saint Louis, MO
Hensley, Steven
Kansas City, MO
Hickman, Matthew, PhD
Seattle, WA
Huffman, Larena A., BS
Hampton, VA
Kaminsky, Ivan M., McD
Chandler, AZ
Katchmar, Suzanne, JD
Norfolk, VA
Keegan, Frank P., PhD
Greensboro, NC
Kelani, Baki, MS
Prishine, KOSOVO
Kelley, Katherine, MS
Denville, NJ
Lavine, Lawrence, DO
Lakewood, WA
Leatherwood, Logan, BS
San Marcos, TX
Lippert, Gail M., BHA
Clinton Township, MI
Liu, Li, MS
Shenyang, PEOPLES
REPUBLIC OF CHINA
Lopez-Gobemado, Carlos J., PhD
Valladolid, SPAIN
Mangiamele, Dena M., DVM
San Diego, CA
Marcus, Nancy Crook, PhD
El Paso, TX
Martinez De La Torre, Hector, BS
Irvine, CA

Master, Angela, RN, BS
Evaston, IN
Maynard, Henry P., III, MSFS
Alexandria, VA
McArdle, Michelle, MS
Bradenton, FL
Moore, Camille M., MS
Melbourne, FL
Moroose, Tina, MS
Morgantown, WV
O’Connor, Kenneth G., PhD
Arizona, AZ
Okafor, Uzoama A., MSc
Albany, GA
Orrego, Cristian J., PhD
Berkeley, CA
Pantoja, Christina L., BS
San Jose, CA
Peterson, Nancy W., BS
Sanford, FL
Pope, Jonathan, BS
Washington, DC
Pritchett, Thomas H., MS
Allentown, PA
Ruhins, Scott L., MA
White Plains, NY
Ryder, Jeffrey, BS
Pittsburgh, PA
Seccombe, Douglas, BA
Chicago, IL
Taormina, Tom
Virginia City, NV
Thrasher, Ronald R., PhD
Stillwater, OK
Van Ackeren, Jessica K., BS
Mission, KS
Varnon, Jim, BAS
Richland Hills, TX
Venter, Casper H., MSc
Morgantown, WV
Villa, Jesus C., BA
Mesa, AZ
Vogelaar, Ashley L., BS
Mission, KS
Vogt, Marshall E., BBA
Austin, TX
Walker, Jenna, BS
Charlottesville, VA
Webb, Michael S., MS
Keller, TX
Wiggins, Karen A., MA
Washington, DC
Williford, Mark, Sr.
Philadelphia, PA
Wisneski, Patricia A., BA
Greensboro, NC
Yap, Roland W., BS
Honolulu, HI
Zinn, Robert C., BS
Stafford, VA

Trainee Affiliate
Boedding, Enid, MD
Minneapolis, MN
Davies, Carly A., BS
Austin, TX
Dewey, David S., BS
Waynesville, MO
Ellis, Sarah J., MS
Morgantown, WV
Fassett, Robin G., BS
Salt Lake City, UT
Geoghegan, Tracy M., MS
Valdosta, GA
Ghodke, Dattatray G., MD
Mumbai INDIA
Gund, Ansley, MS
Orlando, FL
Harrison, Breonna
Boone, NC
Hopper, Savannah
Louisburg, NC
Ietu, Anthony J., BA
Morgantown, WV
Kardashian, Diana, MS
Cambridge, MA
McLaughlin, Jeanne, PhD
Eugene, OR
Pizzuto, Ashley, BS
Auburn, GA
Quinlan, Jesse N.
Florissant, MO
Rakeeb, Haneefa, BSN
Lubbock, TX
Salter, Cassandra M., BS
Council Bluffs, IA
Sharma, Ruchi, MSc
Nangal (Punjab), INDIA
Smith, Patricia C., BA
Houston, TX
Sorum, Elisha D., MFS
Salt Lake City, UT
Tator, Lisa M., MFS
Mission, KS
Thack, John G., BA
Greensburg, PA

Student Affiliate
Adamson, Danuta
Shelton, CT
Akhizar, Ahmad, BS
Mandan, ND
Amasha, Michelle A.
Honolulu, HI
Anes, Rebecca A.
Stoney Creek, ON CANADA
Barron, Marissa M., MS
Naples, FL
Berrios, Analiesha Y.
Kissimmee, FL
Brooks, Kelli A., BS
Lubbock, TX

Academy News
Burgei, Kaitlyn  
Troy, OH
Campagna, Anthony  
Toledo, OH
Carter, Jason W.  
Orlando, FL
Cohen, Scott A.  
APO, AE
Coyne, Kristen M.  
Vail, CO
Domenick, Kenneth, BS  
Front Royal, VA
Ebro, Hassan Mohmed  
Ottawa, ON CANADA
Elowsky, Christian, MSc  
Lincoln, NE
Eugene, Marilla  
Dania, FL
Eurek, Nicholas Jay, BS  
Lincoln, NE
Floyd, Jamie  
Brazelton, IN
Fowler, Tina M.  
Bryan, TX
Frey, Ceca N.  
Carrollton, GA
Gallagher, Lindsey  
Strongsville, OH
Gause, Karita  
Schaumburg, IL
Garrie, Jenica, BA  
London, ON CANADA
Griffith, Tammy L.  
Townville, SC
Hendrickson, Jessica McCall  
Ogden, UT
Herbst, Brett D., BA  
Ridgefield, CT
Jones, Abby Lynn  
Tallahassee, AL
Looke, Alexandra, BA  
Tallahassee, FL
Lopez, Christine, MA  
Middle Village, NY
Marescaux, Alyssa  
Burlington, WI
Marshall, Chelsea  
Morgantown, WV
Mathis, Gregory K.  
Brookfield, WI
McCarty, Michael Lee  
Greeley, CO
McFarland, Zachary L.  
Brunswick, OH
Meadows, Debra  
Hinesville, GA
Melton, Beth, AAS  
Macon, GA
Murray, Matthew V.  
Levittown, NY
Nashburg, Joshua  
Belmont, CA
Nolan, Gary, BSc  
Leicester, UNITED KINGDOM
Pittington, Adrian  
Phoenix, AZ
Ples, Jeremy  
Cullowhee, NC
Renner, Rebecca  
Omaha, NE
Reyes, Paolo M.  
Mansfield, OH
Rodriguez, Nina, BS  
Germantown, MD
Rondan, Janene  
Victorville, CA
Rozendaal, Andrew S., HBSc  
Toronto, ON CANADA
Rundell, Ryan T.  
Platteville, WI
Sanders, Madison R.  
Midlothian, TX
Shah, Pankti, BSc  
Navsari, INDIA
Shaw, Beth A.  
Canyon Country, CA
Sigurdsson, Vannessa  
Stadlb, ON CANADA
Silva, Lorrie  
Phoenix, AZ
Simms, Megan  
Salem, VA
Sims, Jessica R., BS  
New Haven, CT
Smith, Kyle M.  
Kings Park, NY
Starks, Aca M., BA  
Colnatta, GA
Strand, Kristen Elizabeth, BS  
Overland Park, KS
Tilney, Rebecca J.  
San Jose, CA
Ublens, Alan A., MS  
Guyton, GA
Wallace, Vickie  
Portales, NM
White, Megan J.  
Attica, KS
Williams, Paris Danielle  
Fayetteville, NY
Wood, Sara Jayne  
Albany, OR
Carbia, Matilde J., JD  
New Orleans, LA
Durham, Caroline, JD  
Minneapolis, MN
Griffic, Roslind, JD  
Texarkana, TX
Grog, Gail C., JD  
Kenosha, WI
Hally, James R., JD, PhD  
Albuquerque, NM
Lee, Josh D., JD  
Vinita, OK
Manchester, Brian V., JD  
Bellefonte, PA
Osuagwu, Ugochukwu E., LLB  
Abuja, NIGERIA
Vaira, Michele, JD  
Foggia, ITALY
Vazquez, Ignacio J., Jr., LLM  
Miami, FL

Student Affiliate
Bates, Courtney L., BBA  
Nashville, TN
Kandas, Gregory P., MS  
Gilbert, AZ
Namarone, Lukelesia  
Nairobi KENYA
Parham, Camille Y., MS  
Warrenton, NC

ODONTOMETRY
Associate Member
Al-Ali, Anas, DDS  
London UNITED KINGDOM
Boscarno, Chris A., DDS  
Wolcott, CT
Cummings, Clayton C., DDS  
Nashville, TN
Karkalas, Lena D., DDS  
Providence, RI
Khalfi, Dijen, DDS  
Dakar SENEGAL
Porco, Mark D., DDS  
Lincoln, CA
Prudhomme, Michael T., DDS  
Clarkston, MI
Shih, Kingstone, DDS  
Mountain View, CA
Vermette, Ann C., DMD  
Dracut, MA
Wilson, Lori, DDS  
Petersburg, VA

Trainee Affiliate
Kilkuts, Sandra A., DMD  
Tucson, AZ

JURISPRUDENCE
Associate Member
Becker, Ronald F., MEd, JD  
Honolulu, HI

Student Affiliate
Aasdam, Dag, DDS  
Preveiss-Moëns, FRANCE
Higgins, Kathleen E.  
McLean, VA
Shakoor, Asif, BDS  
Lahore, PAKISTAN

PATHOLOGY/ BIOLOGY
Associate Member
Archer, Melanie S., PhD  
Melbourne, AUSTRALIA
Challakere Bann astronaut, Vasudeva  
Shah, Alani, MALAYSIA
Coley, Coleen S., MS  
Batesville, MS
Crawley, Maurizio, MD  
San Maurizio Canaves, ITALY
Froloff, Victor, MD  
St. Paul, MN
Gooldby, Mary E., MD  
San Diego, CA
Heinz, Kevin M., PhD  
College Station, TX
Hunt, Allison, MD  
Menifee, CA
Ince, C. Haluk, PhD  
Istanbul, TURKEY
Khassanov, Rufat  
Semyen, KAZAKHSTAN
Long, Sara  
London, OH
Monfredi, Michael, BS  
London, OH
Olsenson, Ken, MBBS  
Saint Johns, NB CANADA
Pearce, Elizabeth E., BS  
Goldsboro, NC
Racette, Jeffrey, MD  
Saskatoon, SK CANADA
Raison, Mario, MD  
Albuquerque, NM
Rutsche, Donald MacGillivray, DMD  
Hobart, AUSTRALIA
Robinson, Renee M., MD  
Boston, MA
Romanoski, Jessica, BS  
San Francisco, CA
Sandiford, Anna, PhD  
Auckland, NEW ZEALAND
Thoma, Lauren Park, MD  
Newark, NJ
Vega, Rosa A., BS  
San Jose, CA
Youmans, Amanda J., DO  
Bloomington, IL

31
Applicants cont.

Ziegler, Carey, BS
Topeka, KS

Trainee Affiliate
Badian, Cheryll, BS
Windsor, ON CANADA
DeFtondo, Joseph A., DO
Pittsburgh, PA
Dennison, Emily J., MD
Louisville, KY
Emnis, Willis A., MD
Charleston, SC
Escolar Akaenga, Kristin C., MD
Spring, TX
Kohylanski, Kelly, DO
Tucson, AZ
Lopez, Lorraine, MD
Rochester, NY
Maskoyak, Amanda, MD
Cleveland Heights, OH
Nanrdecchia, Lina M., MS
Fairfax, VA
Shields, Julia, MD
Baltimore, MD
Springer, Jeffrey R., MD
Louisville, KY
Williams, Andrew S., MD
Halifax, NS CANADA

Student Affiliate
Ahmed, Muhammad S.
Peshawar, PAKISTAN
Ali, Shikik, III
Davis, CA
Borrego, Levi L.
Lincoln, NE
Celiberti, Jacqueline
Newark Valley, NY
Chappell, Brittany
San Jose, CA
Ferreira, Pamela Ann, MPH
Pittsburgh, PA
Herman, Ashley G., BS
Greensboro, NC
Hodge, Denae`
Morrow, GA
Ince, Yavuz Huseyin
Istanbul, TURKEY
Jordan, Christy M.
Vineyard, NJ
Kumar, Brajesh
Patna, INDIA
Liberto, Juliane M.
Merced, CA
Miller, Catherine R.
Nashville, TN
Miller, Ian Cameron
Chugiak, AK
Netzel, Amber R., BS
Phoenix, AZ
Paulya, Spandan M., BS
Fords, NJ
Poplin, Ashley
Apopka, FL
Reynolds, Leslie, BS
Corland, NY
Rice, Yasmain
Winston Salem, NC
Sheldon, Justin
Safety Harbor, FL
Siedelberg, Alyse M.
Kalamazoo, MI
Skier, Michael D.
Defiance, OH
Smith, Samantha L.
Pittsburgh, PA
Williams, Charmaine
Jamaica, NY

Douglas, Benjamin C.
Charlotte, NC
Farris, Rachael A.
Baton Rouge, LA
George, Rebecca L., BA
Chico, CA
Grosso, Alicia Rose, BS
Olean, NY
Harrington, Katherine L., BS
San Marcos, TX
Harris, Crystal L.
Universal City, TX
Heilbrunner, John Eric
Santa Cruz, CA
Johnson, Heidi
Missoula, MT
Jordan, Alison, BS
Murfreesboro, TN
Keith, Kelli L., BS
New Bern, NC
Kiss, Meghan, MA
Columbia, MO
Kuhns, Mary, BA
Eric, PA
Leff, Nicole J., BS
El Dorado Hills, CA
Lottering, Nicolene, BS
Brisbane, AUSTRALIA
Mayberry, Alanna
Arvada, CO
Mccafferty, Anthony E.
Baltimore, MD
Miller, Megan M.
Oviedo, FL
Pittman, Stephanie Amee`
Wilmington, NC
Roth, Madeline, BA
Eric, PA
Ryan, Jocelyn N., BS
Fort Myers, FL
Ryan, Jocelyn N., BS
Fort Myers, FL
Scholl, Kassra L., BSc
Willich GERMANY
Shin, Davita, BS
Duluth, GA
Smith, Jacob
Knoxville, TN
Swenson, Victoria, MA
Missoula, MT
Taylor, Luke, BSc
Swindon UNITED KINGDOM
Turrin, Schyler Bridget Nicole
New City, NY
Waggoner, Kama, BA
Oklahoma City, OK
Webster, Brooke L.
Wachfield UNITED KINGDOM
Wei, Xuan
East Lansing, MI
White, Teresa Lilly, BA
Missoula, MT
Williams, Amanda, BA
Missoula, MT
Young, Alexandria, MSc
Fern Barrow, Poole,
UNITED KINGDOM
Zell, Nick, BA
Fort Collins, CO

PSYCHIATRY &
BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Associate Member
Lee, Eugene, MD
Fayetteville, AR
Merlino, Mara L., PhD
Lawrenceburg, KY
Molander, Kris, PhD
Pasadena, CA

Student Affiliate
Brown, Ivy L.
Perry, OK
Lopez, Rachel Diane
San Jose, CA
Roome, Arlene
Brooklyn, NY
Ulukivaola, Janet
Anchorage, AK
Williams, Melissa N.
Racford, NC

PHYSICAL
ANTHROPOLOGY

Associate Member
Baker, Kristen N., MA
Honolulu, HI
de Guzman, Ma. Teresa G., PhD
Quezon City, PHILIPPINES
Flavel, Ambika, MSc
Crawley, AUSTRALIA
Jelaca-Tavakoli, Maria, PhD
Chula Vista, CA
Kokkali, Voula, MSc
London, UNITED KINGDOM
Soler, Angela, PhD
Tucson, AZ

Trainee Affiliate
Blake, Kathleen, PhD
Osweyo, NY
Raxter, Michelle H., PhD
Houston, TX
Williams, Elizabeth
New Orleans, LA
Wills, Nikki A., MA
Chico, CA

Student Affiliate
Astono, Claudia M., BS
New York, NY
Bell, Ian Carter
Halifax, NS CANADA
Boys, Serrin
Punta Gorda, FL
Brandi, Elizabeth T., BA
Farmington, AR
Bretell, Sarah
Knoxville, TN
Carter, Sarah A.
Eau Claire, CA

Trainee Affiliate
Isani, Imtiaz Ali, MA
Karachi, PAKISTAN
Lanners, Brenda N., BS
San Diego, CA
Maness, Melanie E., MFS
Stafford, VA
O'Brien, Meg, MS
Dulles, VA

QUESTIONED
DOCUMENTS

Associate Member
Omuazuligbo, Raphael A., BA
Lagos, NIGERIA
Zimmer, Jan
Stara Boleslav, CZECH
REPUBLIC

Trainee Affiliate
Isani, Imtiaz Ali, MA
Karachi, PAKISTAN
Lanners, Brenda N., BS
San Diego, CA
Maness, Melanie E., MFS
Stafford, VA
O'Brien, Meg, MS
Dulles, VA

Academy News
In Memoriam

Mark A. Boese, BS, Fellow of the Criminalistics Section, June 2012
J. Michael Hoffman, MD, PhD, Retired Fellow of the Physical Anthropology Section, July 2012
Glenn V. Nazareno, MD, Associate Member of the Pathology/Biology Section, May 2012
Robert Thompson, MD, Retired Fellow of the Pathology/Biology Section, July 2012
John M. Williams, DDS, Fellow of the Odontology Section, July 2012

AAFS Chronicles

Source: Kenneth S. Field, MBA, General Section Retired Fellow

Do You Remember When...

1952...
...In 1952 the officers of the Academy conducted a vigorous campaign to gain recognition by the established scientific societies of North America. One of their first petitions for recognition was to the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). AAAS formally recognized the Academy as an affiliate of its Medical Section at its 118th Annual Meeting and asked the Academy to present a full-day seminar at its 1953 meeting to acquaint its members with the different forensic science disciplines. Since that date, AAFS has almost continuously maintained membership in AAAS.

1962...
...Today’s program presenters would shudder at the manuscript requirements in effect in 1962. The immutable rule was that: “All persons presenting papers at the meeting MUST submit “error free” manuscripts typed double space on standard 8½ x 11 bond paper.” Those manuscripts were placed in the Meeting Press Room for perusal by visiting members of the press. In time, the manuscript requirement faded away, primarily because presenters were increasingly using slides – never reducing their presentation to manuscript form.

1972...
...The major issue at the Academy’s 1972 Annual Business Meeting in Atlanta was the question of the acceptance of the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) as the Academy’s research and educational arm. To resolve the issues raised by the membership during the Business Meeting, President Douglas Lucas appointed a “Foundation Committee” composed of Don Harper Mills (Chair), Jim Weston, and Andre Moensens. To aid them in their work, they hired the New York Law Firm of Milbank, Tweed, et al. to serve as consultants on FSF matters as they pertained to the retention of the Foundation’s IRS 501(c)(3) classification.

Academy News
As the temperature is getting cooler and the days are getting shorter, it is hard to believe another summer has come and gone! With that, the AAFS August 1 abstract submission deadline has passed. Furthermore, another important deadline is quickly approaching—the October 1 AAFS membership application and promotion deadline. For individuals who are not current AAFS members but are interested in holding a position within the YF SF, the October 1 application deadline is very important. In order to hold a committee position with the YF SF, you must be a current member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Membership status can be affiliate or member levels, although committee members must have less than five-year’s professional experience. Completed applications submitted before the October 1st deadline will be reviewed and voted upon at the AAFS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. Once membership is approved, the YF SF can offer committee positions. We are always looking for new members to join and to bring new ideas to the group! The YF SF is a great way to get involved and to interact with fellow forensic peers. If you are interested in becoming a committee member or would like more information on YF SF, please feel free to contact me!

Lindsey Crass, BS
YF SF President
lindsey.crass@mail.wvu.edu

As YF SF President Lindsey Crass mentioned, the AAFS membership and promotion deadline is October 1. AAFS membership will open doors to many new and exciting opportunities, one being the opportunity to become more involved with the YF SF! The YF SF provides an excellent platform for you to present your research, to network with your peers, and to gain exposure to multiple forensic disciplines. Moreover, if you missed the August 1 AAFS abstract submission deadline, the YF SF Bring Your Own Slides or Poster Sessions are for you! If you are interested in presenting your research, please do not hesitate to contact any one of the YF SF Chairs or Co-Chairs.

Lauren Pharr, MA
YF SF Secretary Chair
lpharr1@tigers.lsu.edu

Lauren Bryan, PhD
YF SF Secretary Co-Chair
lbryan@nlcl.org

Financial Liaison

Each year the YF SF holds a special session for students and young professionals of forensic science. This special session includes a day-long scientific session, a working Breakfast Session, a Bring Your Own Slides presentation, and Bring Your Own Poster presentation. The importance of this special session is to help young forensic science professionals establish a foundation in the forensic science community by providing them with resources and networking opportunities both within and outside their own fields. Without the support and contributions of the forensic science community the YF SF Special Session would not be successful.

Academy News
In the past, the YFSF has received both monetary and educational contributions and support from the AAFS sections, universities with FEPAC accredited programs, and various forensic science vendors. Organizations and individuals can contribute to the YFSF in a variety of ways, which include donation of materials, financial contributions, or financial support of the YFSF luncheon or breaks.

If you or your group is interested in supporting the 2013 YFSF Special Session, please contact Lara Frame (lafra86@gmail.com) or Katie Knurek (k-knurek@onu.edu).

Lara Frame, MA  
YFSF Financial Liaison

Katie Knurek  
YFSF Financial Co-Liaison

YFSF Breakfast Session

The YFSF Breakfast Session typically focuses on professional development, which is very important for our members, students, and young forensic scientist professionals. It is important for young members to learn the tools necessary to succeed within the forensic science community. This year, our breakfast session will focus on the requirements of expert testimony as a forensic scientist and what it means to be an expert. Specifically, we plan on having three-twenty minute talks focusing on: 1) the importance of knowing what cited sources you used, speaker Sandra Koch from the FBI; 2) how to prepare for cross-examination by a defense attorney, speaker Roderick Kennedy from New Mexico Court of Appeals; and, 3) the role of a forensic scientist as an expert witness, speaker Anjali Swienton from SciLawForensics.

As in previous years, the YFSF Breakfast Session will be organized to include a resume review session with a distinguished forensic scientist panel following the initial presentations. We currently have AAFS Past President and Gradwohl Laureate Barry Fisher, Past President Joseph Bono, Vincent Desiderio, Robert Gaffney, Eugene Peters, Gregory G. Davis, and Lucy Davis signed on to be part of the resume review panel. This discussion time will help to specifically address such questions as: “What should be included on your resume and is it structured properly?” If this sounds helpful to you, well then, this is the session for you! If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Malone (jennifer.malone@wyo.gov) or Ashley Moulton (amoulton2010@yahoo.com).

Jennifer Malone, PhD  
YFSF Breakfast Session Chair

Ashley Moulton, BS  
YFSF Breakfast Session Co-Chair

YFSF Special Session

Forensic science is a diverse field, and each section is interesting in its own unique way. Ongoing education and research in every section advances the field as a whole, and with that, the potential directions to take your career in forensics expands as well. This year’s Young Forensic Scientists Forum Special Session, Applications of Education and Research to the Diverse Field of Forensic Science, will highlight the various applications of education and research, along with the vast career paths within the field of forensic science. This special session will provide the audience with the countless paths they may take in their future careers. If you think forensic science is interesting now, just wait until you attend the YFSF Special Session!

The day of speakers will consist of professionals discussing their unique casework experiences and career choices. We have speakers from a variety of disciplines, including Criminalistics, Toxicology, Questioned Documents, Physical Anthropology, Jurisprudence, and much more. We are very excited for all the speakers who will be presenting. More detailed speaker information will be available in the Young Forensic Scientists Forum November newsletter.

If you have any questions regarding this year’s special session, please contact yfsfs@gmail.com.

Taryn Mead, BS  
YFSF Special Session Chair

Jennifer Newton, BS  
YFSF Special Session Co-Chair

YFSF Bring Your Own Slides (BYOS)

The upcoming 2013 American AAFS Anniversary Meeting in Washington, DC, will be the perfect opportunity for you to gain presentation experience and to meet with your peers within the forensics community.

Whether a novice or a pro, if you are interested in presenting your research at the 2013 YFSF BYOS Session, please email a one page abstract and your resume or CV to Ali Mostrom at alison.p.mostrom@usdoj.gov and/or to Lindsay Slayors at bselayors@luc.edu. Documentation must be received by December 15. All research disciplines are welcomed and encouraged.

Ali Mostrom, MSFS  
YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Chair

Lindsay Slayors, BS  
YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Co-Chair

YFSF Poster Session

Hello young forensic scientists! The February meeting is just around the corner, which means you should now be thinking about submitting an abstract for the YFSF Bring Your Own Poster (BYOP) Session. If you missed the August 1 abstract submission deadline for the Academy’s poster session abstract submissions, you can still present your research or interesting cases by participating in the YFSF BYOP Session.

The YFSF BYOP Session is looking for presenters that can share the following information: 1) research that contributes to the field of forensic science; or, 2) a case or an important topic from which young and emerging forensic scientists would benefit.

continued on page 36
Young Forensic Scientist Forum cont.

Do not miss this fantastic opportunity to contribute to your field and gain experience in presenting. If you are interested in presenting, please send an abstract and your CV to yfsf.postersession@gmail.com. Abstracts and CVs should be submitted by December 1.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Amber Neitzel, BS  Jackie Jenkins, PhD
YFSF Poster Session Chair  YFSF Poster Session
Co-Chair

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 AAFS Web account (if you are unsure as to your login information, please email the Membership Department at membership@aafs.org). Currently, all of the required documentation (e.g., references, CVs, case reports, etc.) will need to be emailed (membership@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, an AAFS Web 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 membership@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 membership@aafs.org.

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

Please send your questions to Cheryl Hunter, Membership Coordinator, at chunter@aafs.org.
For a complete list of national and international meetings of interest to forensic scientists, go to the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) and click on the “Meetings” link.

Meetings & Conferences

SEPTEMBER 2012

10-12
Sex-Related Homicide and Death Investigation—To be held in Fayetteville, NC.
CONTACT: Fayetteville Police Department
(910) 433-1847
Fax: (910) 433-1909
www.fayettevillepolicefoundation.org

10-13
TECNICRIM 2012 VIII Symposium on Criminal Techniques—To be held in Havana, Cuba.
CONTACT: rmi@dric.rem.cu or colaboracion@dric.rem.cu

19-21
15th Symposium of Questioned Document Examination—To be held in Wroclaw, Poland.
CONTACT: Rafał Ciesła, PhD
Phone: +48 71 37-52102
rciesla@pawo.uni.wroc.pl or katkrym@pawo.uni.wroc.pl
www.kryminalistyka.uni.wroc.pl

24-28
Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists 41st Annual Meeting—To be held at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center in Milwaukee, WI.
CONTACT: www.mads.net

24-28
Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists Meeting 40th Anniversary—To be held at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Missoula, MT.
CONTACT: www.holidayinnmissoula.com
www.nwafs.org

OCTOBER 2012

1-5
Basic Facial Reconstruction Sculpture Workshop—To be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK.
CONTACT: Betty Pat. Gatilff
SKULLpture Lab
(405) 321-8706
www.sculpture.outreach.ou.edu/

1-5
The Robert F. Borkenstein Course on DUID: The Effects of Drugs on Performance and Behavior—To be held at The Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia, PA.
CONTACT: http://borkensteincourse.org/

8-12
Advance Facial Reconstruction Sculpture Workshop—To be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK.
CONTACT: Betty Pat. Gatilff
SKULLpture Lab
(405) 321-8706
www.sculpture.outreach.ou.edu/

15-18
23rd International Symposium on Human Identification—To be held in Nashville, TN.
CONTACT: www.ishinews.com

continued on page 38
Meeting & Conferences cont.

17-19
Blast Scene Recovery: A Full-Scale Post Blast Investigation Field Exercise—To be held at the Montgomery County Fire Academy in Conshohocken, PA.
CONTACT: (215) 366-1391
Fax: (215) 366-1325
info@forensicscienceeducation.org
http://forensicscienceeducation.org/

22-26
Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (SWAFS)—To be held at the Chaparral Suites, Scottsdale AZ.
CONTACT: Steven Valdez
(480) 312-5281
swvaldez@scottsdaleaz.gov
www.swafs.us

NOVEMBER 2012

5-9
Bloodstain Pattern Analysis II—Presented by Bevel, Gardner & Associates Inc.—To be held at NESPIN in Franklin, MA.
CONTACT: Craig Gravel
(405) 706-8189
rgravel@aol.com
www.bevelgardner.com

8-9
Wecht Institute 12th Annual Conference:
Post-Combat Problems in the 21st Century:
Medical, Legal, and Societal Considerations
CONTACT: wechtinstitute@duq.edu
www.duq.edu/forensics

15-18
H2O Criminalistics & Pathology Symposium—To be held at MAgna Graecia University in Catanzaro, Italy.
CONTACT: underwaterresi@unicz.it
+39 347-14-16-900
www.underwaterresi.unicz.it

28-30
Forensics@NIST 2012—To be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, MD.
CONTACT: www.nist.gov

DECEMBER 2012

3-7
Advanced Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Course—To be held at the Johnson County Sheriff’s Office Criminalistics Laboratory in Olathe, KS.
CONTACT: Paul Kish
(607) 962-8092
paul@paulkish.com

JANUARY 2013

7-8
Intensive Forensic Anthropology Methods (2-Day)—To be held at the Forensic Anthropology Center at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX.
CONTACT: Sophia Mavroudas
(512) 243-1900
FACTS@txstate.edu
www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops

7-11
Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course—To be held at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, MO.
CONTACT: Julie Howe
(314) 977-3970
howej@slu.edu
http://medschool.slu.edu/mldi

FEBRUARY 2013

4-8
Forensic Facial Reconstruction Sculpture—To be held at the Forensic Anthropology Center at Texas State (FACTS) in San Marcos, TX.
CONTACT: Sophia Mavroudas
(512) 243-1900
FACTS@txstate.edu
www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops

MARCH 2013

4-8
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, F-ABC
(305) 471-3041
Fax: (305) 471-2052
twolson@mdpd.com

11-13
Crime Scene Photography- Phase 1—This course will be held at Sirchie’s facility in Youngsville, NC.
CONTACT: (800)356-7311
www.sirchie.com

11-15
Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course—To be held at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, MO.
CONTACT: Julie Howe
(314) 977-3970
howej@slu.edu
http://medschool.slu.edu/mldi

MAY 2013

13-15
Crime Scene Photography- Phase 2—This course will be held at Sirchie’s facility in Youngsville, NC.
CONTACT: (800)356-7311
www.sirchie.com

JUNE 2013

3-7
Outdoor Human Remains Recovery—To be held at the Forensic Anthropology Center at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX.
CONTACT: Sophia Mavroudas
(512) 243-1900
FACTS@txstate.edu
www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops

10-12
Forensic Taphonomy of Texas—To be held at the Forensic Anthropology Center at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX.
CONTACT: Sophia Mavroudas
(512) 243-1900
FACTS@txstate.edu
www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops

Academy News
AUGUST 2013

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CONTACT: Sophia Mavroudas
(512) 245-1900
FACTS@txstate.edu
www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops

JULY 2013

Masters 15 Conference for Advanced Death Investigation—To be held at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, MO.
CONTACT: Julie Howe
(314) 977-3970
howej@slu.edu
http://medschool.shu.edu/masters

OCTOBER 2013

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CONTACT: Toby L. Wilson, MS, F-ABC
(305) 471-3041
Fax: (305) 471-2032
twolson@mpdfl.com
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 2013 Annual Meeting registration packet. Please detach form and return to AAFS. Thank you.

Your name: ___________________________________________________________________