# NEAFS Newsletter

Volume 41, Issue 3

Fall 2016



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### Presidents Message

It is with a heavy heart that I begin this President's message with the sad news of George W. Chin's passing on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. He was a very dear friend to all, colleague to many, and a devoted NEAFS member. This is a surely a true loss to the Organization. I cannot put in to words what George has done for this Organization and the scientists and students who came to know him. I only knew George for a short period of time during my involvement with NEAFS compared to many of our members who have known him since the inception of the Organization. Despite these facts, what I do know and can say is that he dedicated himself to almost every NEAFS position, and served as President of the Organization in 1997. He was voted in as NEAFS member #472 in 1981 and would later be voted as a Life member. George took pride in the fact that he never missed a NEAFS meeting. Many say that with his passing, this was his way not to miss this year's meeting. We will remember his enthusiasm for the NEAFS Golf Outings, encouragement during the Student Forum, and stature at the doorway when accepting meal tickets at the Annual Meeting Luncheon. I will never forget the times I have shared with George. Keep your memories of him close to your hearts. With sympathy and love...

To view George's obituary visit <a href="http://obits.nj.com/obituaries/trenton/obituary.aspx?pid=181645967">http://obits.nj.com/obituaries/trenton/obituary.aspx?pid=181645967</a>.

Visitation will be held at the Wah-Wing Sang Funeral Corp., 26 Mulberry St., New York, NY 10013 on Sunday, October 2, from 3 p.m. -7 p.m. A ceremony will be held at the funeral home on Monday, October 3, at 9 a.m., with burial to follow at the Cypress Hill Cemetery in Brooklyn NY.





Myself and George in Hyannis at last year's NEAFS Meeting

On a lighter note, the NEAFS sponsored Forensic Relationship Statistic Training was a success! Thank you to those who passed on positive feedback, both on the instructor and the content. I'd also like to thank Kerry Beatty from Marshall University and the Vermont Forensic lab for suggesting and hosting the workshop. I often hear that there are many opportunities for DNA trainings, but with the NEAFS Visiting Scientist Program, each and every member is provided with the opportunity to suggest a training to be hosted right at your own Laboratory. So... if you have ideas for training or there is a workshop that you are unable to attend during the Annual Meeting, I encourage you to reach out to your Laboratory Directors and submit a request. You and your colleagues can only benefit from this opportunity. More details can be found on the NEAFS website at <a href="http://www.neafs.org/index.php/2016-03-16-14-48-47/training">http://www.neafs.org/index.php/2016-03-16-14-48-47/training</a>.

Our collaboration with the Green Mountain DNA Conference was also an accomplishment. The plan for next year is to expand registration from 80 to 120 attendees. The vision is to allow more access to the conference while still providing an intimate atmosphere for the exchange of ideas. I want to thank our Board Members and Staff who volunteered their time to not only take care of NEAFS business, but also assist with the behind the scenes tasks in making this meeting a success: Melissa Balogh —Treasurer, Stephanie Minero —Exhibits Chair, and Janine Kishbaugh —Site Chair.

We have a few individuals registered to sit for the ABC exam during the Annual Meeting. For those who pass the exam, remember, reimbursement is available through NEAFS! The Organization has also been looking in to giving a bit more back to their members. So we are crunching the numbers to see if it is feasible to offer additional reimbursement for re-certification fees for ABC, IAI and other Professional Organizations. If you have additional suggestions on ways NEAFS can give back to YOU, please pass them along.

Our next Board of Directors Meeting kicks off the 2016 Meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup> in Atlantic City. The NEAFS Board continues to make some finishing touches on the Bylaws revisions and I hope to have those out in an email blast prior to the meeting. These changes will be voted on by the membership during the Annual Business Meeting on October 14th, 2016. However, if you have suggestions for any additional changes or comments, please contact me at <a href="mailto:president@neafs.org">president@neafs.org</a>.

With NEAFS celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I look back on the very first President's Message as others have in celebration of these milestones. The following is an excerpt from the First (March 1976) Newsletter:

#### <u>Message from the President</u>

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists is finally a reality. After countless discussions over coffee whenever we would get together at a scientific meeting, after months of arduous work by the Ad Hoc Committee, after days of hectic preparation prior to the October meeting, NEAFS became a real, vibrant organization. Scientists from all over the Northeast came together in New York City to say: "Yes! We need this and we want this."

Like any other piece of reality, NEAFS can become dull and lifeless without a dynamic infusion of new ideas and new activities. You, the members, have charged the Executive Board with the responsibility of administering the Association in this our first year. Each Board Member feels his own personal commitment to carrying out that charge to the best of his ability. We each understand that our successes in this and the next few years will determine in part whether NEAFS will be a strong active organization responsive to the needs of its members.

That such an organization is needed requires no justification. That such an organization is wanted requires nothing more than noting the overwhelming attendance at the October Meeting. It is left for all of us, officers and members, to insure that the organization lives on. We solicit your assistance; we solicit your support.

### Angelo Fatta

It is important to reflect on Past President Fatta's message. I can speak from experience and knowledge that our Board of Directors and Staff work tirelessly to ensure the Organization is run smoothly, gives back to its members, and that each Annual Meeting tops the one that came before it. But without the efforts of our members, support of our Laboratory Directors, and enthusiasm of young forensic scientists, NEAFS could become uninteresting and unexciting. I encourage you to attend this year's meeting, join the NEAFS Board or Staff, submit an abstract for next year's annual meeting in Pennsylvania, or just volunteer. I am confident you will not be disappointed.

Erica Nadeau

**NEAFS 2016 President** 





# **2016 Annual Meeting Update**



40 Years of

**NEAFS** 

1976-2016

Hello again fellow NEAFS members!!

I am so excited for the upcoming meeting and I hope you are all too!! The program staff and I have been working very hard at providing you with an excellent meeting. We hope you will enjoy what is in store for you and learn something new.

2016 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NEAFS organization! This is the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting because there was an organizational meeting in 1975. I am very proud to be a part of this historic anniversary!

Please sign up for a workshop if you haven't done so already. Take advantage of the low prices to fulfill your training requirement for the year - there are still spaces available. The Interviewing Workshop is not only for students but also for anyone looking to apply for a promotion. The educator's forum is open to everyone – not just educators and there are always excellent discussions that anyone can learn from. You would need to register as a Wednesday only attendee to attend this forum.

The scientific sessions and the general and plenary sessions will be sure to provide you new information, questions to ponder and discussions to be had. I know that you won't be disappointed.

Please be sure to attend the business luncheon on Thursday. We need all of you there in order to make quorum to hold our meeting and if you come, you will get lunch!! It is a great way to learn about the organization and get involved.

An alumni reception for UNH graduates is also scheduled for Thursday from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm. I hope all the UNH alumni will stop by to catch up and to meet new friends.

I hope you all will stick around for the President's reception on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>! The night will begin at 5:30 pm with Trivia Night provided by Joe's Trivia starting at 6:00 pm. Joe's Trivia is based out of northern NJ and Joe himself will be making our evening awesome! Joe is a forensic science fan so he is very excited to be working our event. I even got quizzed when I was scheduling the event - good thing I answered the questions correctly! After Trivia night is over, we will dance the night away to Joe's music – something he doesn't typically do but said

he would help me out and would cover both events for me! This event is totally free for all attendees! You don't want to miss it!

The annual student forum will be held on Saturday. Gather some of your friends and enter to win the Kirk Cup! It is not too late to register! Contact Chris Chany at <a href="mailto:christopher.chany@dps.texas.gov">christopher.chany@dps.texas.gov</a> or Elisse Coronado at elisse.coronado@pol.state.ma.us to register your school.

The Saturday scientific session had to be cancelled, unfortunately, since we did not have any overflow from Thursday. Sorry for any inconvenience in this scheduling change.

If you have reserved your room at the Harrah's resort, you are entitled to complimentary valet parking or self-parking for one car per room. You will receive your voucher upon check-in.

You will find it very easy to maneuver in Harrah's brand new conference center for our meeting. Once you exit the elevators of the Waterfront tower (where our room block is), take a right and you will see the entrance to the conference center. Our rooms are directly in front of the entrance of the conference center  $-1^{\rm st}$  floor Wildwood. The registration desk will be to the right upon entering the conference center. There is a digital touch display board that can help direct you to where you want to go directly in front of the entrance. Your program booklet will also contain all of the necessary information. The hotel does not allow signage on each conference room door so please check these two places to help guide you. Each room does have a sign above the door such as "Wildwood 19" to indicate the room number. The registration staff can help you as well.

Thank you to everyone who has submitted an abstract for a poster or presentation! If you have submitted an abstract and have NOT been contacted, please email me at <a href="mailto:presidentelect@neafs.org">presidentelect@neafs.org</a>.

The preliminary schedule of events has some minor changes – including the times – make sure to review this and keep in mind it is still subject to change.

Once again, I would like to thank my program staff for all of their hard work! This meeting would not be possible without all of you!! It has been a pleasure working with all of you and I can't wait to experience the fruits of our labors in just a few weeks time!!

If you see me at that meeting and have feedback to share, please pull me aside (see pic below!) and let me know! Your comments will only make things better at my meeting and for future meetings!!

Beth Saucier Goodspeed

2016 Program Chair





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# Mark your calendars!!!

# 2016 NEAFS ANNUAL MEETING

# Harrah's Resort and Casino

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

OCTOBER 12-15, 2016

Brand new conference center!



\$89/NIGHT + TAX

Please contact Beth Saucier Goodspeed, 2016 Program Chair,

at <a href="mailto:Acexkp@aol.com">Acexkp@aol.com</a> if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions!

https://www.caesars.com/harrahs-ac/hotel



### NORTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS

**ANNUAL MEETING - October 12-15, 2016** 

See additional page for informational details. To qualify for <u>Early Registration</u>, a completed registration form and full payment must be postmarked no later than <u>September 12, 2016</u>. Regular Registration will be accepted from September 13, 2016 through October 2, 2016. After this date, ALL registrations will be processed On-Site.

|  |   |                               | *                       |                     |  |
|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1976 8181  | I. REGISTRATION INFOR                     | MATION (Please print o        | r type all information) |                     |  |
|  | First Name:                               | WIATTON (Tiease print o       | type an information)    |                     |  |
| Mail your completed form   | Last Name:                                |                               |                         |                     |  |
| and registration fee to:   | Member Number:                            |                               | ABC S                   | Status              |  |
| NEAES Docistuation   | Organization/Agency:                      |                               |                         | olomate             |  |
| NEAFS Registration<br>PO Box 4011  | Street:                                   |                               | ☐ Fel                   |                     |  |
|  | City:                                     |                               |                         | chnical Specialist  |  |
| Meriden, CT 06450  | State:                                    | Zip Code:                     |                         | iliate              |  |
| registration@neafs.org   | Phone:                                    | Fax:                          |                         | am Committee        |  |
| <u> </u>   | Email:                                    | T wit.                        |                         | ard Member          |  |
| W CONTINUE C | ONG DECIGED ATION FEE                     | 1.0.1.1.12.17.0016.77         |                         |                     |  |
|  | ONS - REGISTRATION FEES                   |                               | -                       |                     |  |
| -  | d registration, a copy of your FALL.      |                               |                         | •                   |  |
| _  | e. If a scientific talk/poster is present |                               | -                       | owing the meeting.  |  |
| The Wednesday only option  | is for the Educator's Forum. Worksh       | ops are under a separate se   | ection.                 |                     |  |
|  | Early Regist                              | ration                        | Regular Registration    | •                   |  |
| Full Meeting Registration  | Postmarked by                             |                               | arked between 09/13/    |                     |  |
| Member / Active Applicant  | \$130.00 -                                |                               | \$180.00 -              |                     |  |
| Non-Member   | \$225.00 -                                | <u> </u>                      | \$275.00 -              |                     |  |
| Student Affiliate (Non-Memb  | ·   | <u> </u>                      |                         | \$160.00 -          |  |
| Spouse of Member / Non-Me  |   | \$110.00 - \[ \]              |                         |                     |  |
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| spouse name.   |   |                               |                         |                     |  |
| Daily Registration   | Wed. only (Educator's Forur               | n) Thursday Only              | Friday Only             | Saturday Only       |  |
| Member / Active Applicant  | \$45.00 -                                 | \$75.00 -                     | \$75.00 -               | \$45.00 -           |  |
| Non-Member   | \$75.00 -                                 | \$125.00 -                    | \$125.00 -              | \$75.00 -           |  |
| Student Affiliate (Non-Memb  | per) \$50.00 -                            | \$80.00 -                     | \$80.00 -               | \$50.00 -           |  |
| Spouse of Member / Non-Me  | ember \$40.00 -                           | \$70.00 -                     | \$70.00 -               | \$40.00 -           |  |
| Spouse name:   |   |                               |                         |                     |  |
| Please Note: On-Site Regist  | ration Surcharge \$20.00                  | <b>-</b> □                    |                         |                     |  |
| ricuse rivier on site regist   | <u> </u>                                  | ш                             | SECTION II T            | OTAL: \$            |  |
|  |   |                               |                         |                     |  |
| III. MEALS: Continental b  | reakfasts are included with each day      | of registration. Luncheon     | tickets are included w  | ith full meeting    |  |
|  | ction is required below if you plan to    | ~                             |                         |                     |  |
|  | dietary restriction, please indicate      |                               |                         |                     |  |
|  |   |                               |                         |                     |  |
| Yes, I will be attending th  | e luncheon on Thursday. (Held duri        | ng the Annual Business M      | eeting).                |                     |  |
| # Daily Registration Only Tickets: X \$20.00 =   |   |                               |                         |                     |  |
|  | # Dany Registration Omy 1                 | 1CKC15. A \$20.00             | _                       |                     |  |
| ☐ Yes, I will be attending the luncheon on Friday. Lunch selection: Beef ☐ Chicken ☐ Seafood ☐ Vegetarian ☐  |   |                               |                         |                     |  |
| ,  | •   |                               |                         |                     |  |
|  | # Daily Registration Only T               | ickets: X \$55.00             | _                       |                     |  |
| Ves I will be attending th   | e Friday evening Trivia night.            | Ves I will be attending the   | President's Recention   | on Friday evening   |  |
| 1 cs, 1 will be attending th   | ic i nday evening i nvia ingiti.          | 1 cs, 1 will be attending the | resident s reception    | on i ilday evening. |  |

#### IV. WORKSHOP SESSION FEES

Workshops are filled on a first-come-first-served basis. Continental breakfast will be provided for the workshops. Workshops are subject to cancellation. Check www.neafs.org for updates on dates and times.

| Full Day Workshops-Wednesday, October 12 <sup>th</sup> Trace Evidence Awareness Microscopic Hair Screening Shimadzu: Analytical Instrumentation - Forensic Science User Experiences* Life Technologies: 2016 Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology* Agilent: Forensic Workflow Solutions in Chromatography and Mass Spectrom* Lunch Included |  |  | gy*  | Member<br>\$20 ☐<br>\$20 ☐<br>\$0 ☐<br>\$0 ☐<br>\$0 ☐                   | Non-Member<br>\$40 ☐<br>\$40 ☐<br>\$0 ☐<br>\$0 ☐<br>\$0 ☐   |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| Half Day Workshops<br>Ethics and the Profes<br>ABC Certification G  |  | \$30<br>\$30   | \$60□<br>\$60□   |   |   |
| Half Day Workshops-Wednesday Afternoon, October 12 <sup>th</sup> The Ultimate Interviewing Workshop ABC Certification Biology Exam Preparation with Mock Exam   |  |  |  | \$30<br>\$30  | \$60□<br>\$60□  |
| Half Day Workshops<br>"Hot" Topics in Fire  | <b>-Saturday Morning, Oc</b><br>Debris Analysis                                  | tober 15 <sup>th</sup>   |  | <u>Member</u><br>\$30□  | <u>Non-Member</u><br>\$60□  |
|   |  |  |  | SECTIO  | N IV TOTAL: \$  |
|   |  |  | PAYPAL (   | October 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dead  | dline) - 🗌  |
| <b>PAYMENT:</b>   | Check -  | Money Order -  | (  |   |   |
| PAYMENT:  | Check #  | ·  | MOUNT ENCLO  | OSED: (Sum of   | II, III and IV) \$  |
| PLEASE check boxes  ABC Exam (Sature Welcome Reception University of New Crim/Crime Scene Continental Breakt  | Check #  of events you are considered ay, October 15) on/Poster Session (Thursde | TOTAL A dering. This is for estimated asy, October 13) In (Thursday, October 13) In (Thursday, October 13) In (Thursday, October 13) | MOUNT ENCLO  tion purposes only  Student Foru  Educator's F  Continental I  Crim/Crime  DNA Sessio  Drug Sessio  Toxicology S  Trace/Arson | y and in no way<br>ım (Saturday, Oc<br>orum (Wednesd<br>Breakfast (Wedn | binding.  ctober 15) ay, October 12) esday, October 12) Saturday, October 15) tober 13) eober 13) ay, October 13) |

The exhibitors and sponsors you meet at the NEAFS Annual Meeting play a vital role in keeping meeting costs reasonable while still enabling us to improve session and workshop quality. Simply put, without Corporate Sponsors the NEAFS Annual Meeting would be too cost prohibitive to convene. Every year we field requests for an Attendee List to allow exhibiting companies to forward marketing and new product information. NEAFS is one of the only organizations that does not automatically provide this information. We would like to offer this information to our valued (and valuable) sponsors this year. Please sign/print your name if you *refuse* to release this information.

#### HELPFUL REGISTRATION TIPS WWW.NEAFS.ORG

NEAFS REGISTRATION MAILING ADDRESS: NEAFS Registration, PO Box 4011 Meriden, CT 06450

WE MAY NEED TO CONTACT YOU, THEREFORE, PRINT LEGIBLY AND INCLUDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER.

#### ANNUAL MEETING / WORKSHOP REGISTRATION:

Early Registration: completed registration form and full payment postmarked no later than September 12, 2016. After this date, ALL registrations will be regular or on-site registrations. Registration is not accepted via email or fax, *unless* PayPal is utilized as form of payment. You will not receive confirmation of your registration status.

**PAYPAL Payments:** <u>PAYMENT and COMPLETED registration form</u> MUST BE SENT to: <u>registration@neafs.org.</u> A Paypal account is not necessary to use this feature. You can make a one-time credit card payment. The Paypal receipt is the only confirmation of payment that you will receive if paying electronically, and handwritten receipts will be generated for those paying by check or PO only.

**WORKSHOPS:** Workshop attendance requires an additional fee. Workshop(s) are <u>not</u> included with Annual Meeting Registration. Workshops are filled on a first-come-first-served basis. The Program Chair reserves the right to cancel any workshop if timely registrations are not received for the minimum number of participants. If a workshop is cancelled, notification and full refunds will be made. You may not register for more than one workshop if the workshops are held during the same time frame.

#### NEAFS MEMBERS PAYMENT INFORMATION (in U.S. dollars): NEAFS Tax ID # 51-0213291

Purchase Orders or Vouchers are <u>NOT</u> accepted unless accompanied by full payment. Accepted forms of payment, during Early Registration only, are via PayPal, check, or money order. Payment via Paypal may be made on the NEAFS website up until October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. (http://www.neafs.org/index.php/annual-meeting)

CANCELLATION / REFUNDS: If you cancel your Workshop or Meeting Registration, your written, signed, and dated request must be mailed to the NEAFS Registration Chairperson at the mailing address provided above. If you cancel, your registration fees will be refunded, as follows: postmarked no later than September 12th, 2016, full refund, less \$20 processing fee; postmarked between September 13th - October 2nd, 2016, 50% refund; No refund requests will be honored if postmarked after October 2nd, 2016.

**SPOUSE:** Reduced rate registration is available to a spouse (lay person) only with a fully paid registered attendee. The reduced rate (spousal) registration permits attendance during scientific sessions, all breaks, and receptions.

**CERTIFICATES:** Certificates are generated by the workshop instructors for workshop completion only, not for attendance of the general sessions.



**LUNCHEON:** Tickets for attendance at the luncheons are included with FULL MEETING REGISTRATION ONLY. Please indicate on your registration form if you will or will not be attending so we may provide an accurate headcount to the hotel. If attending the luncheons, your registration packet will include luncheon tickets that must be presented to the Officials at the door for entry to the luncheon. If you have a food allergy, please inform the hotel staff directly. If needed, additional luncheon tickets may be purchased separately.

**OTHER INFORMATION:** All fees are the responsibility of the registrant. Registrations are non-transferable.

If you have any questions or concerns please email the NEAFS Registration Chairperson at: <a href="mailto:registration@neafs.org">registration@neafs.org</a>

# THINGS TO DO AT HARRAH'S



## **RESTAURANTS**

Martorano's
Dos Caminos Mexican
Oshi Sushi & Sake
The Steakhouse
Waterfront Buffet
Sammy D's Restaurant & Bar
Bill's Bar & Burger
Food Court
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood
Café Tazza

## **THINGS TO DO**

The Pool After Dark nightclub
Viking Cooking School
Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa
Eden Lounge – live entertainment
Several bars to enjoy cocktails!!
Fitness Center
Pool
Arcade games
Tons of stores for shopping
Casino
#BARWITHNONAME

- first craft cocktail bar in the region

# THINGS TO DO IN AC



http://www.unitedstatestournamentofdance.com/things-to-do-in-ac/

Atlantic City Boardwalk
Atlantic City Cruises
Balic and Bellview Wineries
Central Pier Arcade and Speedway
Renault Winery Resort & Golf
Storybook Land

Atlantic City Aquarium Atlantic City Trolley Tours Cape May Whale Watcher Tour Jersey Shore Children's Museum Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum

and many, many more options!!



# 2016 NEAFS Annual Meeting Preliminary Program Atlantic City, NJ

(subject to change)

Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 p.m. – 8:30p.m. Board of Directors Dinner

Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Educator's Forum

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Workshops

#### **Full Day Workshops**

Trace Evidence Awareness Microscopic Hair Screening

Shimadzu: Analytical Instrumentation - Forensic Science User Experiences\*

Life Technologies: 2016 Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology\*

Agilent: Forensic Workflow Solutions in Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry\*

\*Lunch Included

#### Half Day Workshops- Morning

Ethics and the Profession of Forensic Science ABC Certification General Exam Preparation

10:30a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Morning Break

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Workshops



# Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists

#### **Half Day Workshops- Afternoon**

The Ultimate Interviewing Workshop

ABC Certification Biology Exam Preparation with Mock Exam

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Educator's Forum

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Afternoon Break

8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Exhibitor Setup

7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Registration

# Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Exhibits

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Scientific Sessions

Criminalistics/Crime Scene

**Drug Chemistry** 

DNA

Trace/Arson and Explosives

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Morning Break

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Lunch & Business Meeting

1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Scientific Sessions

Criminalistics/Crime Scene

Toxicology

DNA

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Afternoon Break

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. UNH Alumni Reception

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception & Poster Session

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Evening Session - M. William Phelps – "The Eastbound Strangler"



# Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists

# Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

| 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Regis | tration |
|-----------------------------|---------|
|-----------------------------|---------|

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Exhibits

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Plenary Session – "The Sexual Assault Kit Backlog – Real Life Examples"

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Morning Break

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Annual Luncheon – Keynote Speaker – Dr. Chris Rodriguez,

Director of the NJ Office of Homeland Security and

Preparedness

2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. General Session - Raymond Davis – "PTSD in Forensic Science"

3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Afternoon Break

5:30 p.m. – 11:45 p.m. President's Reception

6:00 p.m. Trivia Night Starts with Joe Trivia

# Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. ABC Examination Registration

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ABC Examination

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Student Forum

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual NEAFS "Kirk Cup" College Bowl

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Half Day Workshop - "Hot" Topics in Fire Debris Analysis

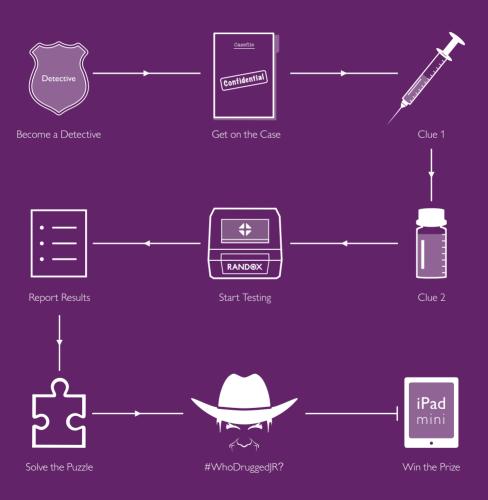
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Morning Break



# #WhoDruggedJR?

Visit Randox Toxicology at SOFT 2016 booth 419.

Solve the mystery of who & what drugged JR using our new Evidence MultiSTAT for your chance to win an iPad mini.





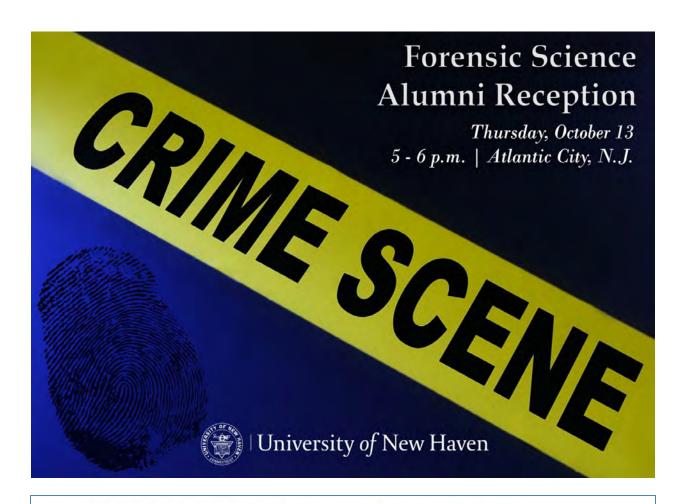
# Trivia Night hosted by Joe Triv?a Music and Dancing to follow!

President's Reception starts at 5:30 p.m.

Trivia starts at 6:00 p.m.

FREE to all attendees

Hope to see you there!!



# University of New Haven Forensic Science Alumni Reception

Thursday, October 13 | 5 - 6 p.m.

Join us to discuss your careers, network and socialize with fellow University of New Haven forensic science graduates.

# Harrah's Resort Atlantic City

777 Harrah's Boulevard Atlantic City, N.J. 08401

(Location of the Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting)

#### Please register by October 10.

To learn more, visit www.newhaven.edu/alumni/upcoming/.





300 Boston Post Road West Haven, CT 06516

# "Kirk Cup" NEAFS College Bowl

# 2016 NEAFS Annual Meeting

Teams of four students will compete in a quiz type game. If there are only two college teams they will compete against each other in a GE College Bowl format. Both graduate and undergraduate teams are welcome and will compete for separate trophies. So get your team together, go to the bookstore and get a school pennant and enter. **Entry deadline October 5th.** Please email Chris or Elisse to enter.



Christopher P Chany Texas Dept. of Public Safety 512-424-2105 Christopher.chany@dps.texas.gov Elisse Coronado Mass. State Police Crime Lab 978-451-3524 Elisse.Coronado@pol.state.ma.us



Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists

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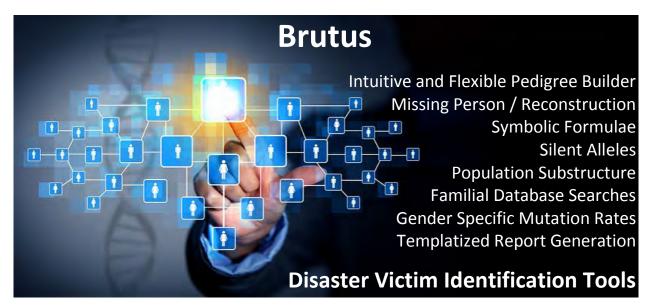
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# **Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists**

# **Membership Committee**

Sheauling Kastor, Chair Alanna Laureano, Dues Contact Sherri Anderson

To: NEAFS Board of Directors

From: Sheauling Kastor, Membership Committee Chair

**Date:** July 22, 2016

Re: NEAFS membership update

### **NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS**

| NUMBER | STATUS    | FULL NAME             | AFFILIATION   |
|--------|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| 1916   | Associate | Kaitlyn E. Hess       | Cedar Crest College   |
| 1917   | Associate | Erica N. Johnson      | Arcadia Univeristy  |
| 1918   | Regular   | Shelley M. Palmer     | New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services                            |
| 1919   | Regular   | Monique A. Oles       | MA State Police Crime Laboratory-Post morten Tox                                |
| 1920   | Regular   | Lindsay A. Catlin     | New York City OCME  |
| 1921   | Associate | Jeffery S. Dukette    | Vermont Forensic Laboratory   |
| 1922   | Regular   | David J. Patlak       | Vermont Forensic Laboratory Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic |
| 1923   | Associate | Sarah R. Isasi        | Sciences  |
| 1924   | Associate | Deadra A. Caleb       | NYC Health and Hospitals  |
| 1925   | Regular   | Christina R. Sorensen | NYC OCME  |
| 1926   | Regular   | Brandy A. Mora        | NYPD Police Laboratory  |
| 1927   | Associate | Claire K. Muro        | SUNY Research Foundation  |
| 1928   | Regular   | Laurie L. Murphy      | Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory                                     |

### **REINSTATEMENTS AND UPGRADES**

| NUMBER | STATUS                     | FULL NAME                 | AFFILIATION                             |
|--------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 1663   | Reinstatement to Regular   | Janine R. Johnson         |   |
| 966    | Reinstatement to Regular   | Lori A. Bunnell-Purdy     | Suffolk Univeristy                      |
| 886    | Reinstatement to Regular   | Joelyn M. Cornwell        | NYSP, Mid-Hudson Satellite Crime Lab    |
| 1156   | Reinstatement to Regular   | Stewart M. Hung           | PA State University                     |
| 888    | Reinstatement to Associate | Candace L. Salvatto-Gomez | NYPD Police Lab                         |
| 367    | Upgrade to Emeritus        | Lawrence A. Fuller        |   |
| 587    | Upgrade to Emeritus        | Paul A. Servizio          |   |
| 1736   | Upgrade to Regular         | Tamara L. Wong            | RI Dept. of Health-Forensic Science Lab |
| 1800   | Upgrade to Regular         | Adrian Garcia Sega        | Bay Path University                     |
| 1797   | Upgrade to Regular         | Nicole K. Cronan          | Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab    |
| 1720   | Upgrade to Regular         | Alanna L. Frederick       | Massachusetts State Police Crime La     |

| 1690 | Upgrade to Regular | Elisse R. Coronado | Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab    |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1825 | Upgrade to Regular | Jolene J. Bierly   | New York State Police                   |
| 1830 | Upgrade to Regular | Amanda M. Cadau    | New York State Police                   |
| 1878 | Upgrade to Regular | Robert M. Almeida  | RI Dept. of Health-Forensic Science Lab |
| 1572 | Upgrade to Regular | Helen Wong         | Suffolk County Crime Laboratory         |

### **RESIGNATIONS**

| NUMBER | STATUS    | FULL NAME         | AFFILIATION                   |
|--------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1044   | Regular   | Alan T. Robillard | Forensic Science Applications |
| 1490   | Associate | Andrew Reitnauer  | NYPD Crime Laboratory         |

# MEMBERS TO BE DROPPED (if payment is not received by Annual Meeting)

| NUMBER       | OTATUO               | ELUL NIANAE                                | AFFILIATION  |
|--------------|----------------------|--|--|
| NUMBER       | STATUS               | FULL NAME                                  | AFFILIATION  |
| 343          | Regular              | R. Michael Portzer                         | NY State Police Forensic Investigation Center                            |
| 389          | Regular              | William V. Graziano                        | Westchester County Forensic Lab  |
| 494          | Associate            | Eric J. Young                              | ISP Forensic Lab   |
| 563<br>850   | Regular<br>Regular   | Joseph M. Galdi<br>Christopher P. Montagna | Suffolk County Crime Laboratory Maine Health & Environmental Testing Lab |
| 912          | Regular              | Guy M. Vallaro                             | University of Mass Memorial Health Center                                |
| 1097         | Regular              | Edward G. Bernstine                        | Offiverally of Mass Memorial Frealth Genter                              |
| 1240         | Regular              | Mark A. Henderson                          | Niagra County Sheriff's Office Forensic Lab                              |
| 1291         | Regular              | John R. Leaver                             | New Jersey State Police  |
| 1327         | Associate            | Davis J. Saunders                          | John Jay College of Criminal Justice                                     |
| 1342         | Regular              | Matthew Benintendo                         | NYC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner                                 |
| 1356         | Associate            | Kelly Walsh                                | John Jay College of Criminal Justice                                     |
| 1403         | Regular              | Francis T. Harten                          | Long Island University   |
| 1409         | Regular              | Noelle J. Umback                           | NYC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner                                 |
| 1467         | Regular              | Samantha Chernoguz                         | Westchester County Forensic Lab  |
| 1529<br>1532 | Associate            | David Leon                                 | Jersey City Police Department  |
| 1561         | Regular<br>Associate | Jay Caponera<br>Allison Sage               | NYSP Forensic Investigation Center NYSP Forensic Investigation Center    |
| 1581         | Regular              | Alicia Duszak                              | NYSP Forensic Investigation Center                                       |
| 1621         | Associate            | Lesley Ann Huggins                         | John Jay College   |
| 1624         | Associate            | Alla Tashmukhamedova                       | John Jay College   |
| 1644         | Associate            | Kim A. Bonner                              | MSP Forensic and Technology Center                                       |
|              |                      |  | 9,   |
| 1651         | Regular              | Ada Kong                                   | US Dept. of Justice/DEA  |
| 1664         | Associate            | Elizabeth Wille Phelps                     | Boston Police Department Crime Laboratory                                |
| 1666         | Regular              | Bridget D. Verdino                         | Office of Forensic Sciences NJSP   |
| 1673         | Regular              | Stacy Czarnowski                           | Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab                                     |
| 1676         | Regular              | Kristen L. Smith                           | NYC OCME   |
| 1678         | Regular              | Lindsay E. Reinhold                        | NMS Labs   |
| 1687         | Regular              | Cheryl Strevell                            | NY State Police Forensic Investigation Center                            |
| 1717         | Associate            | Dayna Currie                               | Boston University School of Medicine                                     |
| 1719         | Regular              | Kara Tremblay                              | Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab                                     |
| 1722         | Associate            | Emily Kinnaman                             | Boston University School of Medicine                                     |
| 1723         | Regular              | Leslie Watkins                             | BODE Technology  |
| 1749         | Regular              | Nicole Flaitz                              | Monroe County Crime Lab  |
| 1765         | Regular              | Amber Losavio                              | NYSP Crime Lab   |
| 1781         | Regular              | Frank Evans                                | Travelers Insurance  |
| 1794         | Associate            | Anthula Vandoros                           | University of New Haven  |
| 1814         | Regular              | Linda Manigault                            | Nassau County OCME   |

| 1821 | Associate | Alex Thompson                 | Vermont Forensic Laboratory                     |
|------|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1826 | Regular   | Eric Sorrentino               | Suffolk County Crime Lab                        |
| 1836 | Associate | Lori-Ann Walters              | Suffolk County Crime Lab                        |
| 1841 | Regular   | Reena Patel                   | DOJ DEA   |
| 1844 | Associate | Emily Myers                   | Cedar Crest College                             |
| 1845 | Associate | Heidi Campbell                | Cedar Crest College                             |
| 1848 | Associate | Ashley Dart                   | Union County Prosecutor's Office – Forensic Lab |
| 1850 | Associate | Lori Ana Bromberg             | New York State Police                           |
| 1853 | Associate | Ashley Chapman                | NYPD Lab - Controlled Substances Unit           |
| 1854 | Associate | Kara M. Galinsky              | NYPD Lab - Controlled Substances Unit           |
| 1856 | Associate | Jennifer R. Robisheaux        | State of CT, Division of Scientific Services    |
| 1860 | Regular   | Kimberly A. Michalik          | New Jersey State Police OFS                     |
| 1863 | Regular   | Daniel J. Harrington          | Suffolk County Crime Laboratory                 |
| 1880 | Associate | Aisha G. Eckroth              | Cedar Crest College                             |
| 1889 | Regular   | Elana J. Quinones-Conant      | Cedar Crest College                             |
| 1903 | Associate | Xochitl A. Esquivel-Gomez     | Bay Path University                             |
| 1905 | Associate | Maria M. Hill                 | Bay Path University                             |
| 1910 | Associate | Alexaundrea J. Serwecki       | Bay Path University                             |
| 1911 | Associate | Patricia DeOliveira-Squitiero | Bay Path University                             |

## **TOTALS:**

Members in 2015-2016

 Regular:
 360

 Associate:
 156

 Emeritus:
 36

 Life:
 9

 Total
 561

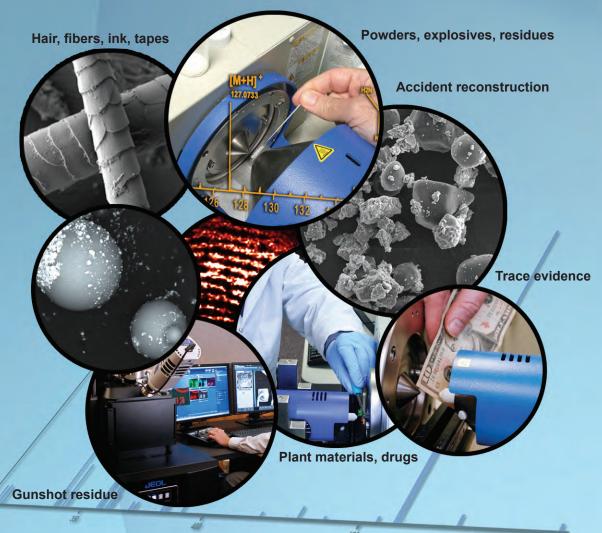
New Members: 13 Upgrades: 11 Reinstatements: 5

Resignations: 2
Deceased: 1
To be Dropped: 57\*

The above report is respectfully submitted.

\*To be Dropped updated 09/26/16

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#### Why do we need an SDO if we have the OSAC?

Brad Wing Secretariat, Academy Standards Board

SDO is a term meaning *Standards Developing Organization*. OSAC stands for the Organization of Scientific Area Committees. The AAFS has established an SDO (called the AAFS Standards Board, abbreviated ASB) that works closely with OSAC to develop <u>voluntary consensus standards</u>, technical reports and best practice recommendations.

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

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

- i "Openness
- ii Balance of interest
- iii Due process
- iv An appeals process
- v Consensus, which is defined as general agreement, but not necessarily unanimity and includes a process for attempting to resolve objections by interested parties..."

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

The ASB accomplishes this by forming consensus bodies (CBs). Currently there are 13 such CBs (Anthropology, Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, Disaster Victim Identification, DNA, Dogs and Sensors,

Firearms and Toolmarks, Footwear and Tiretracks, Forensic Document Examination, Friction Ridge, Medicolegal Death Investigation, Patterned Injury, Toxicology, and Wildlife Forensics). With the exception of Patterned Injury, these exactly correspond to OSAC subcommittees. The CBs are made up of individuals from different backgrounds, which are characterized by 'interest categories,' of which we have eight: academia, consumer groups, general interest (typically lawyers and judges), laboratories and testing facilities, producers, subject matter experts, user/government and user/industry. This helps to ensure balance of interest – one of the key requirements for an SDO.

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

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

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

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

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

Once a standard or best practice recommendation is finalized by the ASB, the corresponding OSAC subcommittee may refer it for inclusion in the appropriate Registry – thus completing the loop of interrelationship of OSAC subcommittees and ASB CBs.

The ASB Consensus Bodies are open to anyone with an interest in forensic science. Updates as well as applications for a Consensus Body membership can be found at <a href="http://asb.aafs.org/">http://asb.aafs.org/</a>.



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#### **Progress Report: Carol DeForest Research Grant Award**

# Identification and Classification of Forensic Botanical Evidence using Direct Analysis in Real Time Mass Spectrometry (DART-MS): Development of Chemotaxonomic Profiling by Mass Spectral Analysis

#### Ashton D. Lesiak

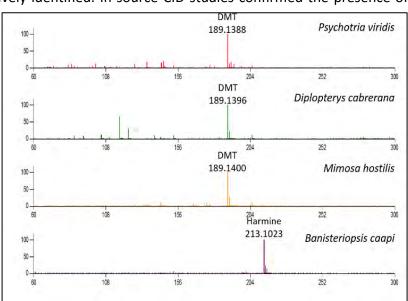
Plant-based drugs of abuse account for nearly 10% of the new psychoactive substances on the global market. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has identified a list of 20 plants in particular that are of concern to law enforcement and health officials. Efforts to regulate the use of these substances has been hampered by the challenge of identifying them, as it can be difficult to distinguish them from innocuous food, nutraceutical or horticultural products. The application of conventional methods of analysis for their detection and identification presents unique challenges to crime labs. This is because the complexity of the plant matrix requires time-consuming and resource intensive sample preparation steps that are impractical for crime labs to conduct routinely. Here, direct analysis in real time-high resolution mass spectrometry (DART-HRMS) is shown as a highly efficient approach that can be adopted by crime labs for the rapid characterization of plants of abuse. Various unscheduled mind-altering plant products were tested directly by DART-HRMS without the need for lengthy sample preparation steps. The psychoactive substances contained within them were easily identified from high resolution data that was generated under soft ionization conditions, and tentative structural assignments were confirmed through the use of in-source collision-induced dissociation (CID) and comparison of the results with those of CID experiments conducted using authentic standards. Moreover, the complete mass spectral profile, which includes any constituent psychoactive components, provides a diagnostic chemical signature of the plant, which enables species identification and differentiation through the application of statistical analysis methods.

In ongoing work towards the characterization of plant-based drugs of abuse, a variety of currently unscheduled plant materials were purchased, including plants reported to contain the Schedule I substance dimethyltryptamine (i.e. *Psychotria viridis, Diplopterys cabrerana* and *Mimosa hostilis*), San Pedro cactus (reported to contain the scheduled substance mescaline), and yohimbe and black cohosh, which are used for their reported medicinal properties, among others. A DART-HRMS analysis method suitable for the analysis of a broad range of substances was developed. Mass spectra of plant materials were acquired using a DART-SVP ion source (IonSense, Saugus, MA) coupled to a JEOL AccuTOF time-of-flight mass spectrometer in positive-ion mode. PEG 600 was used for accurate mass calibration. Spectra were obtained over the mass range of m/z 60-800 under soft ionization conditions (orifice 1 voltage, 20 V; orifice 2 voltage, 5 V; and RF ion guide voltage 600 V). For confirmation of psychoactive biomarkers, in-source CID was performed on plant material and standards by the application of "function switching", which enabled the simultaneous acquisition of both low orifice voltage and high orifice voltage mass spectra. Thus, in these experiments, the orifice 1 voltage was varied from 20 V, 30 V, 60 V and 90V, with the extent of fragmentation increasing with increasing voltage.

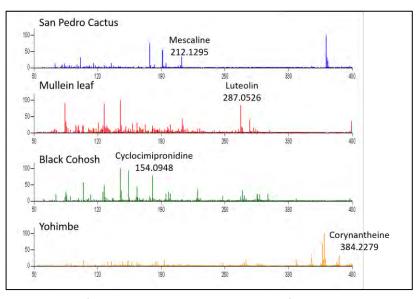
Soft ionization spectra of various plant materials are shown in Figures 1 and 2. In Figure 1, spectra of four plants commonly abused in Ayahuasca, a well-known psychoactive beverage, are shown. DMT is readily detectable at nominal m/z 189 in P. viridis, D. cabrerana, and M. hostilis, and

harmine at nominal m/z 213 is detected in the *B. caapi* shredded vine. Figure 2 shows soft ionization DART-HRMS spectra of San Pedro cactus, black cohosh, yohimbe bark and mullein leaves. Mescaline was identified in the cactus (nominal m/z 212), while natural products known to be present in the other plant materials were tentatively identified. In-source CID studies confirmed the presence of

DMT, harmine, and mescaline, in addition to other relevant and psychoactive compounds. Statistical analysis processing is being explored as a means to characterize the botanical signatures and enable rapid species-level identification. Ayahuasca brews made of various combinations of DMTand harmala alkaloid-containing plants have also been analyzed to determine if the application of statistical analysis methods would enable the determination of the individual psychoactive plants in the mixture, a capability that is not currently possible using conventional methods. Some of the progress that has been made to date was included in my Ph.D. thesis (Development of DART-HRMS and Statistical **Analysis** Tools for the Identification and Classification of Psychoactive Plant Drugs) as well as in the journal article "Application of ambient ionization high resolution mass spectrometry to determination of the botanical provenance of the constituents of psychoactive drug mixtures" (Lesiak, A.D. and Musah, R.M., Forensic Science International, 266 (2016), 271-280).



**Figure 1**: Soft ionization DART-HRMS spectra of *Psychotria viridis, Diplopterys cabrerana, Mimosa hostilis* and *Banisteriopsis caapi.* 



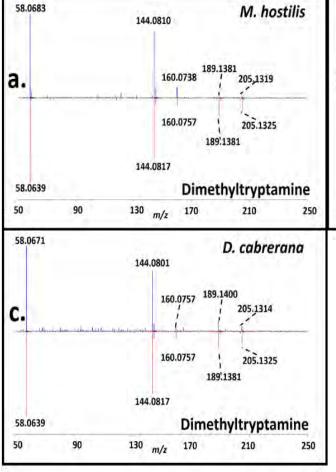
**Figure 2**: Soft ionization DART-HRMS spectra of San Pedro cactus, mullein leaf, black cohosh and yohimbe.

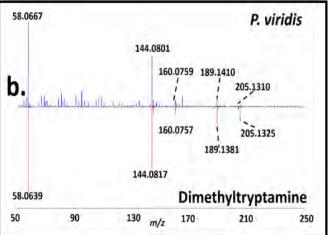
I look forward to presenting the most recent results and conclusions at the 2016 NEAFS Annual Meeting in Atlantic City.

#### NEAFS Carol DeForest Research Grant Award Final Report

#### Ashton D. Lesiak

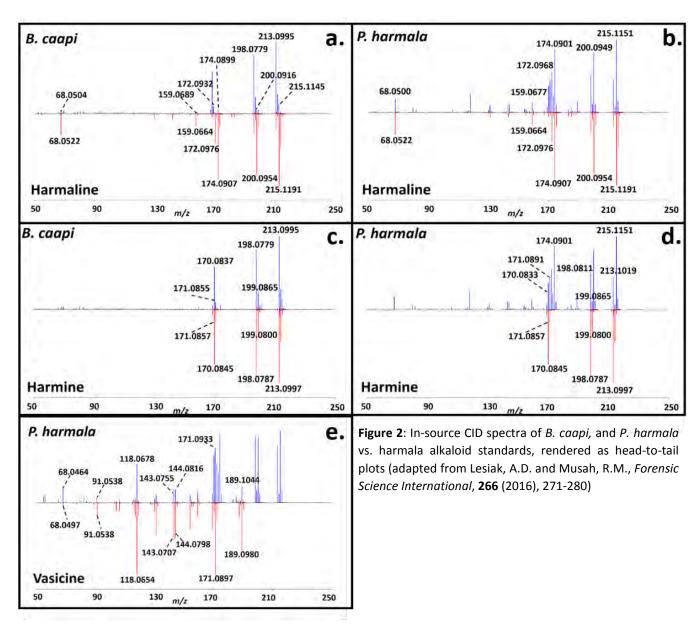
Ayahuasca is a hallucinogenic beverage originating in South America. Its psychoactive effects are derived from dimethyltryptamine (DMT)-containing botanical material. However, when consumed orally, DMT is not psychoactive because it is broken down in the body to non-psychoactive components by monamine oxidase enzymes. Therefore, in order to exert its psychoactive effects, it must be combined with a monamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI). For this reason, Ayahuasca beverages also include a harmala alkaloid-containing plant, with the harmala alkaloids serving as MAOIs. The brewing process selectively extracts the DMT and harmala alkaloids from the plant material and as such, it is often difficult to determine what plants were used to make the Ayahuasca. Furthermore, the aqueous nature of the brew makes it necessary to perform complex extraction steps prior to analysis by traditional methods such as GC-MS. Here, direct analysis in real time-high resolution mass spectrometry (DART-HRMS) was used to investigate the presence of psychoactive compounds in various plant materials as well as Ayahuasca concoctions. We also investigated whether the application of statistical analysis methods to the mass spectral data could facilitate the determination of the originating botanical species used in the brews. Towards that end, five different plant materials, namely Psychotria viridis (Chacruna), Mimosa hostilis (Jurema), Diplopterys cabrerana (Chaliponga), Banisteriopsis caapi (Caapi), and Peganum harmala (Syrian rue) were analyzed. DMT was confirmed to be present in D. cabrerana, P. viridis, and M. hostilis through the use of in-source collision-induced dissociation (CID) experiments. This was done by varying the orifice 1 voltage from 20 V, 30 V, 60 V and 90V, with the extent of fragmentation increasing with increasing voltage. The results are shown in Figure 1. Harmine and harmaline were determined to be present in B. caapi and P. harmala and vasicine was identified in the P. harmala seeds (Figure 2).

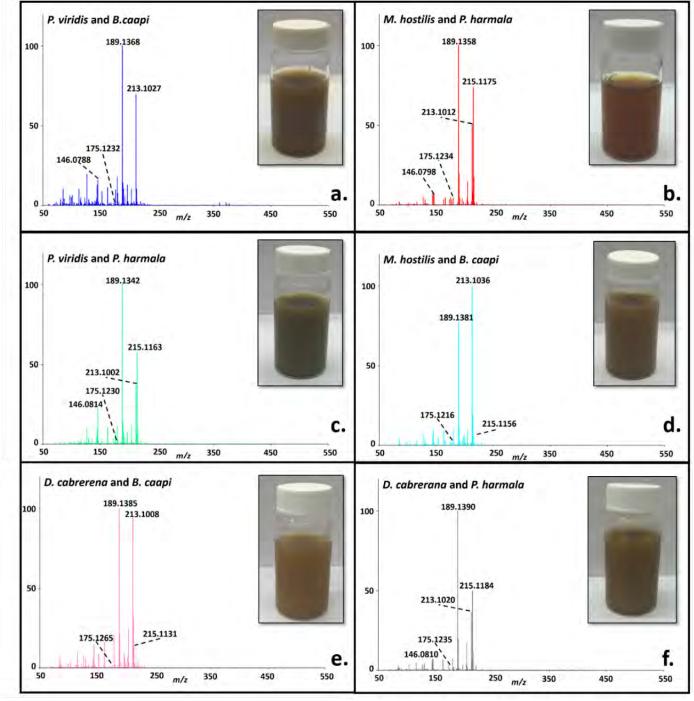




**Figure 1**: In-source CID spectra of *M. hostilis, P. viridis* and *D. cabrerana* vs. a dimethyltryptamine (DMT) standard, rendered as head-to-tail plots (adapted from Lesiak, A.D. and Musah, R.M., *Forensic Science International*, **266** (2016), 271-280).

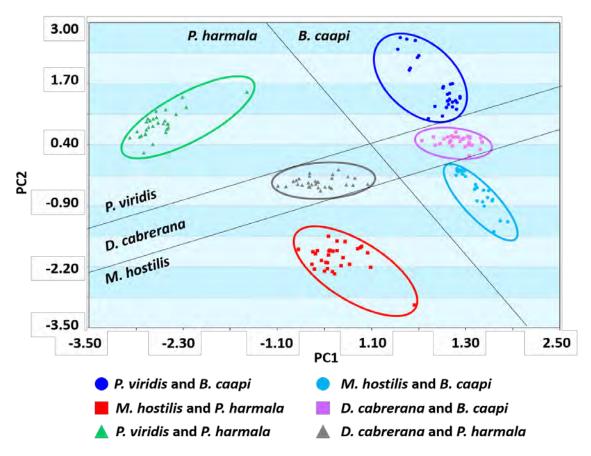
These psychoactive plant materials were used to create six different Ayahuasca brews, following published protocols. Figure 3 shows the soft-ionization spectra of each of the six concoctions with images of the brews shown as inset panels. In each brew, DMT as well as harmaline and harmine were identified at unit masses m/z 189, 213 and 215 respectively. Due to the extractive nature of the brewing process, we investigated whether the botanical constituents used in each of the brews could be differentiated from one another using statistical analysis tools. Principal component analysis (PCA) was applied to the DART-HRMS-derived data and the resulting scores plot is shown in Figure 4. The PCA plot indicates that each of the brew types clusters independently from the others. What is of high interest is that brews containing B. caapi are clearly delineated along principal component 1 from those containing P. harmala as the harmala contributing plant. Similarly, the DMT-containing plant used in the brew can be identified by the variance along principal component 2. Brews containing M. hostilis have low PC2 values while those made with P. viridis have high PC2 values. Brews with median PC2 values were made with D. cabrerana. The leave-one-out cross validation for this classification system was 98.88%, indicating correct classification of all brews.





**Figure 3**: DART-HRMS soft ionization spectra of Ayahuasca brews. The inset in each Panel is an image of the brew (adapted from Lesiak, A.D. and Musah, R.M., *Forensic Science International*, **266** (2016), 271-280).

The results were recently published in the journal article "<u>Application of ambient ionization high resolution mass spectrometry to determination of the botanical provenance of the constituents of psychoactive drug mixtures</u>" (Lesiak, A.D. and Musah, R.M., Forensic Science International, **266** (2016), 271-280) as well as in my doctoral dissertation "Development of Direct Analysis in Real Time-High Resolution Mass Spectrometry (DART-HRMS) and Statistical Analysis Tools for the Identification and Classification of Psychoactive Plant Drugs."



**Figure 4.** Principal component analysis (PCA) plot of six Ayahuasca brews constructed using DART-HRMS derived data (Lesiak, A.D. and Musah, R.M., *Forensic Science International*, **266** (2016), 271-280).

## **NEAFS** needs your HELP to fill in the blanks!

Are you an award winner or know someone who was? If so, please contact Elizabeth Duval at <a href="mailto:awards@neafs.org">awards@neafs.org</a> with any additional information.

## **NEAFS Awards Winners**

#### 2015

George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Graduate - Kaitlyn Hess George W. Neighbor Jr. Memorial Scholarship Graduate - Erica Johnson Carol De Forest Research Grant - Ashton Lesiak Meritorious Service Award - David San Pietro

#### 2014

George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Undergraduate - Angelica Graver George W. Neighbor Jr. Memorial Scholarship Graduate - Heidi Campbell Carol De Forest Research Grant - Emily Meyers Meritorious Service Award – Pete Diaczuk

#### 2013

George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Undergraduate - Emily Fuller George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Graduate - Ashton Lesiak Carol De Forest Research Grant - Rachel Bower Meritorious Service Award – Vincent Desiderio

#### 2012

George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Undergraduate – Kaitlin Hafer George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Graduate - Daniel Hall 1st Carol De Forest Research Grant – Joseph Iacona 1st Meritorious Service Award – Ted Schwartz

### 2011

George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Undergraduate – Elizabeth Sunderhaus George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Graduate - Kristen Johnson

### 2010

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#### 2009

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#### 2008

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#### 1999

George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship – Kimerbely A. Parker George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship – Vincent J. Desiderio

### 1998

George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship – Lisa Malachowski George W. Neighbor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship – Brandy Blackbum

## 1997- Awards changed to be called George W. Neighbor, Jr. Scholarship

No awards were given out as all applications received were incomplete.

1989 and 1990 No award given out.



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## TRICKS OF THE TRADE

## A Convenient Container for Sorting Debris

**Daniel Rothenberg** 

Westchester County Forensic Laboratory<sup>1</sup>

Often a microscopist has the task of examining debris. The goal may be to find a particular target item, or it may be an evaluation of the types of materials present. Whatever the task, patience and a meticulous approach are required. Hours and even days can pass as the examination progresses. Interruptions that may occur could cause the analyst to lose the distinction between examined and unexamined debris.

This article describes a convenient container for the examination of debris. This container will help with the removal of unwanted debris, maintain the distinction between examined and unexamined debris, and provide a secure means for storing the sample when there is a break in analysis.

The vessel is made from two glass petri dish bottoms. Other required supplies include a glass cutter or a tungsten carbide (or diamond) scribe, tape and a petri dish top (Figure 1). The basic premise of the design involves cutting a hole in the bottom of a petri dish and placing it on top of a second petri dish bottom. Unwanted debris from the upper dish can then be dropped through the hole into the lower dish.

Decide where and how large to make the hole. Use the glass cutter or tungsten carbide/diamond scribe to cut the desired hole in one of the petri dish bottoms. In my example, the hole is approximately 1.25 inches long and 0.5 inch wide. It is a good-sized opening for the typical materials handled in my laboratory. I prefer the hole to be near the perimeter of the petri dish to maximize the remaining space for the debris (Figure 2). When cutting glass, use personal protective equipment such as safety glasses

and cut-resistant gloves.

Prior to assembly, clean the petri dishes with bleach or alcohol. Place the petri dish with the hole on top of the second petri dish bottom and use tape to secure them. If your hole is close to the perimeter, a slight offset in the stacking of the two petri dishes may ensure debris falls into the bottom dish and not out the side (Figure 3).

Place the debris in the top petri dish, away from the hole. While performing the examination, unwanted debris can be pushed to the hole and deposited into the bottom dish (Figure 4). Materials of interest can easily be removed from the top dish and secured in or on an appropriate secondary container. Should a break from the examination be needed, use the petri dish top to cover the entire vessel. The covered container is secure, easy to transport and prevents commingling of unwanted debris (Figure 5).

The glass components are reusable and can easily be cleaned and sanitized with bleach or alcohol. Please be aware of potentially sharp edges if the perimeter of the hole is not smooth.

Plastic petri dishes can be considered but they are subject to static and are not necessarily reusable because they are more difficult to clean.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Thank you to Keith Mancini for taking the photographs used in Figures 1–5.■

See Figures 1-5 on the following page.



**Figure 1.** Common laboratory supplies, including two petri dishes used to create a container for sorting debris more easily.



**Figure 2.** The petri dish bottom with its resulting hole. The size of the hole can be varied to accommodate different types of debris.



**Figure 3.** An assembled sorting container consisting of two petri dish bottoms taped together.



**Figure 4.** Separation of debris occurs as unwanted materials are deposited into the bottom petri dish by pushing them through the fashioned hole in the top dish.



**Figure 5.** A petri dish top is used as the cover that keeps the debris in the container secure if a break from sorting is needed.

THE MICROSCOPE 63 (2015)



## **NEAFS Visiting Scientist Program**

Any private or public forensic science laboratory in the NEAFS geographical area needing technical, scientific, or training assistance may apply to the NEAFS Visiting Scientist Program.

Upon request, NEAFS will make a good faith effort to find a qualified individual(s) to come to the laboratory and provide the assistance. The person(s) selected will be agreed upon between NEAFS and the laboratory. NEAFS will subsidize the visit which can be up to 5 working days in duration. Travel logistics will be arranged by the laboratory in conjunction with both the visiting scientist and NEAFS.

Interested laboratories can simply complete the attached application and email it to the NEAFS Education Chairperson at <a href="education@neafs.org">education@neafs.org</a>. The Education Chair will contact the person designated on the form within 10 business days of receiving the application.

The number of quality hours for those claiming continuing education credit as a result of the training will be determined by the instructor(s).

## **NEAFS Visiting Scientist Request Form**

| Laboratory:   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Laboratory Director/Manager:                                  |                     |
| Address:  |                     |
|   |                     |
| Contact:  |                     |
| Phone:  |                     |
| Email:  |                     |
| Request (Be Specific):  |                     |
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|   |                     |
| Do you have a particular individual(s) who you wish to be the | visiting scientist? |
| Approximate desired date(s) of visit:                         |                     |
| Number of individuals attending the training:                 |                     |



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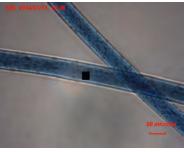
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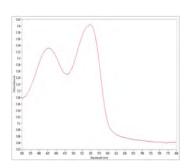




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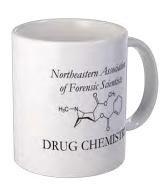
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OPEN APPLICATION PERIOD: JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2016 – DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2016

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS) is proud to offer its members a Training Scholarship Fund (TSF). Regular Members, in good standing, are eligible to receive up to \$200 towards training, workshop or non-NEAFS meeting registration and travel expenses. Individuals will only be allowed reimbursement once per application period. Any NEAFS Annual Meeting expenses are ineligible to receive funding. Reimbursement will occur upon receipt of a certificate showing successful attendance and completion of the course along with an article summarizing the course for the NEAFS newsletter.

## **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Applicants must submit a *Pre-Approval Application* prior to attending the training for which they wish to obtain funding. All applications must be complete with a brief course description, statement as to how the applicant will benefit from attending the training and justification for receiving funding (i.e. insufficient employer funding or continuing education requirements).

Notification will be given to each applicant upon receipt of the *Pre-Approval Application*. This notification lets the applicant know that their submission has been received by NEAFS and is being reviewed by the Board. In no way shall this notification serve as approval to receive reimbursement or that the applicant will receive any Training Scholarship Funds. Please allow several weeks for the Board to thoroughly review each application. Applicants can expect to be informed of the acceptance or rejection of their application within 60 days of receiving this *Pre-Approval Application* notification.

Upon successful attendance and completion of the training, all pre-approved applicants must submit a *Reimbursement Application* along with supporting documentation. Whenever possible, a certificate should be provided as proof of attendance and completion. If a certificate is not issued or is unavailable, a letter from the organizer/instructor verifying the applicant's successful attendance and completion shall suffice. Each Training Scholarship Fund recipient is required to contribute to NEAFS and its members by publishing a written article in the Newsletter. *Reimbursement Applications* will only be considered complete when accompanied by a 1000-word (minimum) course summary.

Please submit all inquiries, applications and supporting documentation to: <a href="mailto:awards@neafs.org">awards@neafs.org</a>.

## 2016 Training Scholarship Fund

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS) is proud to offer its members a 2016 Training Scholarship Fund. Regular members, in good standing, are eligible to receive up to \$200 towards training, workshop or non-NEAFS meeting registration expenses. Detailed instructions and application forms are available on the NEAFS website. Simply click the "Training" link at the top of the screen and scroll down to the "NEAFS Training Scholarship Forms". The current application period is January 1st, 2016 to December 31st, 2016. Reimbursements will be issued on a first come, first serve basis and funding is limited. If you plan to attend a non-NEAFS meeting workshop, training or course during this application period and will not be funded by your agency or any other non-NEAFS related entity, we highly encourage your swift application for the 2016 Training Scholarship Fund. Please visit the NEAFS training website to take advantage of this great NEAFS opportunity and to view upcoming training opportunities!

## **Upcoming Training**

## October 2016

Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists' Annual Meeting October 3-7, 2016 Branson, Missouri

Hosted by The Missouri State Highway Patrol at the Hilton Branson Convention Center (conventioncenter.hiltonsofbranson.com Group Code: MAFSMO). Contact: Abigail Lehman 573-526-6134 x2529 abigail.lehman@mshp.dps.mo.gov. Visit http://www.mafs.net/news-feeds-1/mafs-2016-meeting for more information.

Bevel, Gardner and Associates, Franklin, MA A Forensic Education & Consulting Company Bloodstain Pattern Analysis 1 October 10-14, 2016

Visit http://www.bevelgardner.com/training/#bpapd for more information. Course is \$655.00 and includes a textbook and lab manual. For more information or to register contact: Craig Gravel, Bevel, Gardner & Associates, Inc.: Office 405-706-8489; Fax 405-359-7794; rcgravel@bevelgardner.com. Local BGA contact for assistance: Ken Martin: Phone 508-277-5037; kmartin@bevelgardner.com.

## October 2016

Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas Crime Scene Investigation October 10-14, 2016

Contact: Jordan Benton, Telephone: 713-929-6769 or Email:registration@houstonforensicscience.org

Website: http://houstonforensicscience.org/training.php

Bevel, Gardner and Associates, Franklin, MA A Forensic Education & Consulting Company Practical Crime Scene Processing and Investigation October 31-November 4, 2016

Visit http://www.bevelgardner.com/training/#pcspi for more information. Course is \$655.00 and includes a textbook and lab manual. For more information or to register contact: Craig Gravel, Bevel, Gardner & Associates, Inc.: Office 405-706-8489; Fax 405-359-7794; rcgravel@bevelgardner.com. Local BGA contact for assistance: Ken Martin: Phone 508-277-5037; kmartin@bevelgardner.com.

## November 2016

Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas Palm Print Comparison November 2-4, 2016

Contact: Jordan Benton, Telephone: 713-929-6769 or Email:registration@houstonforensicscience.org

Website: http://houstonforensicscience.org/training.php

Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas Forensic Photography November 14-18, 2016

Contact: Jordan Benton, Telephone: 713-929-6769 or Email:registration@houstonforensicscience.org

Website: http://houstonforensicscience.org/training.php

## December 2016

Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas
IAI Crime Scene Certification Exam Preparation: CSCSA Level
December 12-16, 2016

Contact: Jordan Benton, Telephone: 713-929-6769 or Email:registration@houstonforensicscience.org

Website: http://houstonforensicscience.org/training.php

## January 2017

Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas Forensic Photography January 9-13, 2017

Contact: Jordan Benton, Telephone: 713-929-6769 or Email:registration@houstonforensicscience.org

Website: http://houstonforensicscience.org/training.php

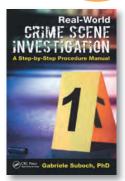
Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas Introduction to Fingerprint Comparison January 23-27, 2017

Contact: Jordan Benton, Telephone: 713-929-6769 or Email:registration@houstonforensicscience.org

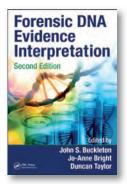
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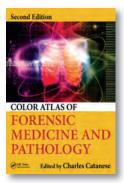
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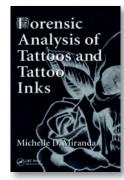
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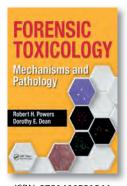
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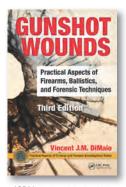
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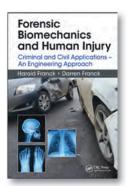
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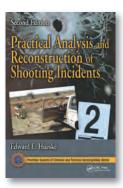
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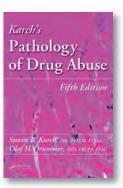
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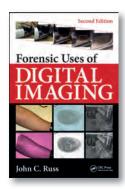
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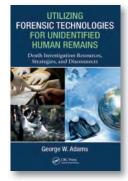
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## **Certification Reimbursement**

The NEAFS Board of Directors has voted to reimburse the American Board of Criminalistics and International Association for Identification exam sitting fees for five NEAFS members (regular or associate) in good standing who pass the ABC or IAI exam. This offer is for any exam completed in 2016. There will be an ABC exam offered at the NEAFS Annual meeting at Harrah's. After passing the examination, please fill out the Certification Reimbursement Form (<a href="www.neafs.org">www.neafs.org</a>) and email the completed form with proof of passing the exam to the NEAFS Certification Chair Peter Diaczuk at <a href="mailto:certification@neafs.org">certification@neafs.org</a>. The reimbursement is based on a first come first served basis. Remember you must pass the ABC or IAI exam to be considered for reimbursement.

## **Important Notice**

The AAFS Board of Directors decided to discontinue the Journal of Forensic Sciences subscriptions for the affiliate groups at the end of 2016. Should members wish to continue subscribing, they may do so directly through the publisher.

## **Missing Something**

Be sure to check the NEAFS website for the latest Job Opportunities.

**B.O.D. Meeting Minutes and Financial Statements** will now be placed in the Member Area of the NEAFS website. If you have trouble logging in please contact the web master, <a href="webmaster@neafs.org">webmaster@neafs.org</a>.