## NEAFS Newsletter Volume 39, Issue 3 Fall 2014

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#### President's Message

It's hard to believe that another year has passed and we are coming up on the 2014 Annual Meeting. This time last year, I was recuperating from being the Program Chair of the 2013 annual meeting. After going through all the planning for an annual meeting, I have a good idea of what this year's Program Chair, Larry Quarino, is going through. All his hard work and planning is for the benefit of the membership, so please give him a big thank you if you are able to corner him at the meeting.

As you all know, this year's annual meeting will be taking us out to the western reaches of our region to the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. With the meeting being held so close to Hershey Park and other attractions, be sure to head out the weekend before. The weekend just prior to the meeting will be the last weekend that the park is open for the year, which gives us (and family members) the opportunity to visit Hershey Park and other attractions before the meeting begins.

The meeting kicks off Monday, November 3rd with three full-day workshops: Life Technologies - HID University Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology Seminar, Chemometrics Without Equations for Forensic Scientists, and Trace Evidence on Bullets and four half-day workshops: Ethics in Forensic Science, Alternative Matrices in Forensic Toxicology, Use of Pattern Matching Technology to Aid in the Identification of Questioned Shoe Print Impressions and A Survey of Structure Elucidation from GCMS and LCMS Data.

After a full day of attending workshops, what a better way to relax than attending the Wine and Chocolate or the Beer and Chocolate tasting provided by the Hershey Beverage Educational Services. Sit back and enjoy five different wines or brews (including local microbrews) paired with different HERSHEY'S® Candies. Contact Janine Kishbaugh at sitechair@neafs.org to register for one of these classes.

Tuesday, November 4th features scientific sessions in drug chemistry, forensic biology, toxicology, trace evidence and pattern evidence. In addition to a half-day of talks, both toxicology and drug chemistry will offer a short session on the comparison of legal statutes that affect these disciplines between states in the NEAFS geographical region. Tuesday evening will conclude with Brian Gestring presenting at the evening session on the history of forensic science.

On Wednesday morning, the Plenary Session - Forging the Path Forward: Policy, Research, and Education in the Evolving World of Forensic Science will feature speakers Dr. John Butler - National Institute of Standards and Technology, Patricia Manzolillo - United States Postal Inspection Service, Victor Weedn - George Washington University and Gerard LaPorte - National Institute of Justice. The afternoon General Session will deal with handling stress in a forensic science environment. Dr. Robin Grant-Hall who works with the Connecticut State Police and Dr. Scott Shappell who has provided training to ASCLD will be the featured speakers.

The meeting will wrap up Thursday morning with the Educator's and Student Forums. The first annual NEAFS Forensic Science College Bowl will be part of the Student Forum. Students from various academic programs will compete in a game show format that will test their forensic science knowledge. Also for the first time, NEAFS will provide an outreach event to the local community. NEAFS members will be providing hands-on instruction in forensic science to Hershey School students. If you would like to volunteer to assist with the outreach program, please contact Larry Quarino at presidentelect@neafs.org.

There are plenty of other events being planned by the program chair, so please check the website for tours, outings and updates for the meeting.

As always, please email me with any questions or concerns at president@neafs.org.

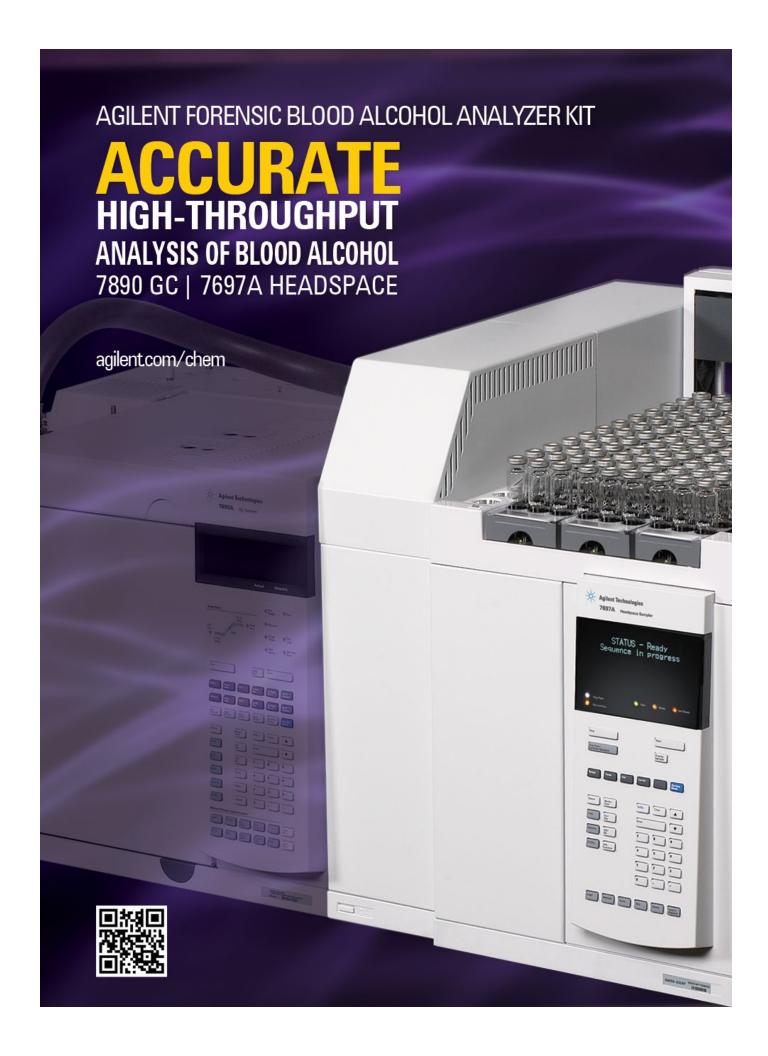
Sincerely, Kevin MacLaren 2014 NEAFS President The following changes to the NEAFS Bylaws have been submitted by the Resolutions Committee. The changes have been approved by the NEAFS Board of Directors and will be voted on by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting on November 4, 2014. Changes to the bylaws are highlighted in yellow. To view the full NEAFS Bylaws document, please visit www.neafs.org.

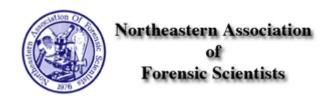
Section 3. Executive Staff Members: Description, Duties, Terms of Office and Method of Selection.

- A. Awards Committee Chairperson: Review scholarship/award applications and present award recommendations to the Board of Directors. Elected by the Board of Directors with the President having two (2) votes. Term: One year.
- B. Certification Chairperson: Liaison between the Board of Directors and the American Board of Criminalistics and/or other certifying organizations. Elected by the Board of Directors with the President having two (2) votes. Term: Three years.
- C. Corporate Liaison: Serves as the liaison between the corporate sponsors and the Corporation. Provides reports to the Board of Directors and Treasurer as needed. Term: Three Years
- D. Education Committee Chairperson: Investigates, organizes and oversees educational opportunities for the membership. Elected by the Board of Directors with the President having two (2) votes. Term: One vear.
- E. Ethics Committee Chairperson: Oversees and organizes the investigation of any ethical violations or concerns within the organization and its membership. The most senior Past President currently serving on the committee. Term: One year.

#### Section 6.

The Board of Directors and executive staff members of this Corporation shall serve without compensation, except their actual expenses, unless additional compensation has been budgeted and approved by the membership. The Board of Directors may authorize the Treasurer, by a 2/3 vote, to pay up to a \$5000-250 non-budgeted expense if it can be considered a regular expense of doing business. The Treasurer shall make such payments thus authorized by the Board of Directors, and those payments approved by the membership within the budget, or by a special vote of 2/3 of the membership. Payment by check shall be over the signatures of two officers of the Corporation, effective January 1, 1977. The Board of Directors shall provide a suitable seal for the Corporation. The fiscal year for the Corporation shall be January 1 through December 31.





### **2014 NEAFS ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**



NOVEMBER  $3^{RD}$ , 2014 - NOVEMBER  $6^{TH}$ , 2014

LOCATION:



325 UNIVERSITY DRIVE HERSHEY, PA 17033

RESERVE YOUR ROOM BY CALLING (717) 533-3311 OR 1-800-533-3131 AND MENTIONING YOU ARE WITH THE NORTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS CONFERENCE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CONTACT

LARRY QUARINO AT PRESIDENTELECT@NEAFS.ORG



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## 2014 Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting November 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014





Hershey, PA

## Workshop Offerings November 3, 2014

#### **Full-Day Workshops**

Chemometrics Without Equations for Forensic Scientists

Trace Evidence on Bullets

Applied Biosystems HID University: 2014 Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology Seminar Series

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

Ethics in Forensic Science

Use of Pattern Matching Technology to Aid in the Identification of Questioned Shoe Print Impressions

A Survey of Structure Elucidation from GCMS and LCMS Data

Alternative Matrices in Forensic Toxicology

If you have any questions, please contact President-Elect Larry Quarino at: <a href="mailto:presidentelect@neafs.org">presidentelect@neafs.org</a>.



#### NORTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS

**ANNUAL MEETING - November 3-6, 2014** 

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 15, 2014</u>. After this date, ALL registrations will be considered Regular Registrations.

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1976 81817	I. REGISTRAT	ION INFORMATIO	N (Please print or type all	information)	
Mail your completed form and registration fee to:	First Name: Last Name: Member Nur			ABC Status:	
NEAFS Registration P.O. Box 36	Organization City: Street:	/Agency:		☐ Diplomate ☐ Fellow ☐ Technical Spec	oiolist
Fairfield, CT 06824	State:	Zip Code:		Affiliate	Janst
Email Questions:	Phone:	Zip Couc.	Fax:	Exam Committ	ee
registration@neafs.org	Email:		T un.	☐Board Member	
II. SCIENTIFIC SESSICE Please note that there will be				sday - Thursday Sessions	
		Early Registrat		gular Registration	
Full Meeting Registration		Postmarked by 09/1	5/2014 Postmar	ked on/after <u>09</u> /16/14	
Member / Active Applicant		\$130.00 - 🔲		\$180.00 - 🔲	
MAAFS Member		\$130.00 - 🔲		\$180.00 - 🔲	
Non-Member		\$180.00 - 🔲		\$230.00 - 🔲	
Student Member*		\$ 85.00 -		\$ 110.00 - <del></del>	
Student Non-Member*		\$135.00 - 🔲		\$160.00 -	
Spouse of Member / Non-Mer	mber	\$120.00 -		\$125.00 -	
Spouse name:					
<b>Daily Registration</b>		Tuesday On	ly Wednesday Only	Thursday Only	
Member / Active Applicant		\$ 75.00 -	\$ 75.00 - <b></b>	\$ 35.00 -	
MAAFS Member		\$ 75.00 -	\$ 75.00 - <b></b>	\$ 35.00 -	
Non-Member		\$125.00 -	\$125.00 - 🔲	\$ 75.00 - <b></b>	
Student Member		\$ 48.00 -	\$ 48.00 -	\$ 25.00 -	
Student Non-Member		\$ 73.00 -	_	\$ 50.00 -	
Spouse of Member / Non-Mer	mber	\$ 73.00 -	\$ 73.00 - <b></b>	\$ 50.00 -   □	
Spouse name:					
*For student reduced rate i	registration, a cop	by of your FALL 201	4 course schedule mus	<b>SECTION II TOTAL: \$</b> <i>t be submitted.</i>	
III. LUNCHEONS: Luncheo day. Additional luncheon tick reduced student rates DO NO directly. Please choose a lunc	kets can be purchas T include luncheon	ed below. Continentatickets for the meeting	l breakfasts are included g. <b>NOTE: If you have a</b>	for each day of registration. T	he
Tuesday lunch selection: Wednesday lunch selection:	Ham 🔲 Tur Vegetarian 🕻	_ ' '	ian 🗖		
ADDITIONAL PURCHASE		ket 7		SECTION III TOTAL • \$	

#### 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. Workshops will be on **Monday, November 3^{rd}**. Check www.neafs.org for updates on dates and times. Any NEAFS Member that completes a workshop will be reimbursed the workshop fee.

Full Day Workshops Trace Evidence on Bullets Chemometrics without Equations Life Technologies – Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology	Mem \$40 \$40 \$40 \$9 \$9	ber	Non-Member         \$80       □         \$80       □         \$0       □	
<u>Half Day Workshops</u> – Morning Alternative Matrices in Toxicological Analysis (morning) Ethics and the Practice of Forensic Science	\$20 \$20		\$40	
Half Day Workshops – Afternoon  Agilent - Survey of Structure Elucidation from GCMS and LCI  Foster and Freeman – Use of Pattern Matching to Aid  in the Identification of Unknown Shoe Prints	MS Data \$20 \$20		\$40	
PAYMENT: Check -  Check #	Order - 🔲 TOTAL AMOUNT EN	PAYPAL -		
PLEASE check boxes of events you are considering. This is for estimation purposes only and in no way binding.  ABC Exam (Monday, November 3)  Student Forum (Thursday, November 6)  Forensic Science Educator's Forum (Thursday, November 6)  Luncheon/Business Meeting (Tuesday, November 4)  Luncheon (Wednesday, November 5)				
☐ Continental Breakfast (Monday, November 3) ☐ Continental Breakfast (Tuesday, November 4) ☐ Continental Breakfast (Wednesday, November 5) ☐ Continental Breakfast (Thursday, November 6)	☐ Forensic B☐ Drug Sessi☐ Toxicolog☐ Trace and	ion		
Please indicate the T-shirt size you prefer: Please choose a size category: Men Women	Please choose a size:  X-Small Small Medium	☐ Large ☐ X-Larg ☐ XX-La		
The exhibitors and sponsors you meet at the NEAFS Annual enabling us to improve session and workshop quality. Simply too cost prohibitive to convene. Every year we field requests and new product information. NEAFS is one of the only o would like to offer this information to our valued (and value release this information.	put, without Corporate for an Attendee List to al rganizations that does n	Sponsors the Mallow exhibiting of automatica	NEAFS Annual Meeting would be g companies to forward marketing lly provide this information. We	
Please check boxes for any of the following that you would  Golf Outing  Hershey Trolley Tour	be interested in partici	_	day (11/2) or Monday (11/3).	



#### INFORMATION ABOUT HERSHEY, PA

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists room block at Hershey Lodge is from 11/2-11/6 for \$149/night.

Staying at the Lodge entitles you to a ticket to the Hershey Gardens and the Hershey Story Museum (and a Hershey Chocolate Bar!)

Anyone that books a room 3 days before or 3 days after will be granted our room rate based on availability.

There are many additional attractions in and around Hershey including:

Hersheypark - open on Saturday and Sunday (11/1-11/2) - http://www.hersheypark.com/

Hershey Car Museum - http://www.aacamuseum.org/

Hershey Chocolate Spa - http://www.chocolatespa.com/index.php

Giant Center - Hershey Bears games/shows/concerts - http://www.giantcenter.com/

**Chocolate world** – http://www.hersheys.com/chocolateworld/

Chocolate world ride, store/food court, Build Your Own Candy Bar, 4D movie, Chocolate Tasting Adventure

**Troegs Brewery** – Brewery tours available - http://www.troegs.com/

Golf (multiple courses in the area) - http://www.hersheycountryclub.com/index.php

**Tanger Outlets -** http://www.tangeroutlet.com/hershey/

**Zoo America** - http://www.zooamerica.com/

**Dutch Wonderland** (happy hauntings days) - https://www.dutchwonderland.com/

Harrisburg, Lancaster and Gettysburg - all within driving distance (1 hr or less)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT HERSHEY, PA GO TO: HTTP://WWW.HERSHEYPA.COM/THINGS\_TO\_DO/INDEX.PHP

If you have any questions or concerns please email the NEAFS Site Chair at sitechair@neafs.org.

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

NEAFS REGISTRATION MAILING ADDRESS: NEAFS Registration, P.O. Box 36 Fairfield, CT 06824

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 15, 2014. After this date, ALL registrations will be regular 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. (<a href="http://www.neafs.org/index.php/annual-meeting">http://www.neafs.org/index.php/annual-meeting</a>)

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 15th, 2014, full refund, less \$20 processing fee; postmarked between September 16th - September 30th, 2014, 75% refund; postmarked between October 1th - October 15th, 2014, 50% refund. No refund requests will be honored if postmarked after October 15th, 2014.

**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 AND DAILY REGISTRATION ONLY. Please indicate on your registration form if you will or will not be attending. 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>





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of

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at

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The new NEAFS Merchandise Shop at cafepress.com makes it easier than ever before to show your pride as a NEAFS member! We have great new merchandise emblazoned with the NEAFS logo ~ t~shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, tote bags, and so much more. We also have new section specific logos, to give a shout out to Biology/DNA, Drug Chemistry, Toxicology, and Trace Evidence.

You can feel good about your purchase, knowing that all income generated by the sale of these products funds the Carol De Forest Forensic Science Research Grant.

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Visit the NEAFS Merchandise Shop at <a href="www.NEAFS.org">www.NEAFS.org</a> and click on the NEAFS Merchandise tab or by going directly to <a href="www.cafepress.com/neafs">www.cafepress.com/neafs</a>

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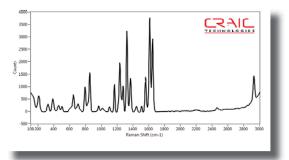
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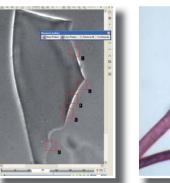


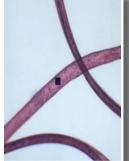


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## **2013-2014** Training Scholarship Fund-Course Summary by Tiffany Roy

On June 6, 2014, the American Bar Association (ABA) presented the 4th Annual Prescription for Criminal Justice Forensics at the McNally Amphitheatre, Fordham University School of Law. Cosponsors included the American Academy of Forensic Scientists (AAFS), American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD), Innocence Project, Inc., John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and The Federal Defenders, Inc. This event brought together a mix of forensic science stakeholders who all have a vested interest sharing information about the current and future state of forensic science and the law dealing with forensic science. In all, there were more than 140 lawyers, scientists, academics, students and administrators present for the meeting.

Because there have been significant events in the field in the last several months, the meeting began with an overview of some of those happenings. An explanation of the National Commission on Forensic Science and the formation of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees kicked of the discussion, and a rundown of current pending legislation aimed at addressing additional concerns of the 2009 NAS Report were discussed. Several topics tasked to the Commission were outlined and it was noted that the Commission has already met twice with a third meeting scheduled for late summer. There have been thousands of applicants to the OSAC that are currently being reviewed.

Attorney M. Chris Fabricant, the director of strategic litigation for the Innocence Project, addressed the legal hurdles of revisiting cases where scientific evidence was offered which exceeded the scope of scientific validity. An example he gave of cases where this might be important relates to an audit performed by the FBI to review testimony offered in hair cases from the 80's to the present, and found a number of "matches" had been reported by analysts. Today, it is understood that hair evidence is class evidence, the source of which can never be determined without DNA testing. The FBI has issued letters to the prosecutors in the cases identified, and the Innocence Project offered resources for defense attorneys in the way of case law and brief preparation. He stressed that attorneys should appeal on three main bases; newly discovered evidence, due process theories (fundamental fairness, false or misleading evidence and Brady v. Maryland violations) and ineffective assistance of counsel grounds. He covered the pros and cons of each legal argument, legal thresholds that must be met for success the importance of raising the constitutional issues as well as all other arguments to ensure they have been properly preserved. This was the only talk which allowed Q/A following, and a woman from Texas spoke about the current state of the laws there allowing access to forensic evidence for post conviction testing. At one point Attorney Fabricant mentioned an audit performed by Texas to identify cases where arson testimony exceeded the scope of the science and called is a major problem. The audience member said that the audit did not reveal a major problem with arson cases, that it did reveal approximately 6 cases with questionable testimony and that Texas DPS had a very positive experience in their audit.

Gerry Laporte, the acting director of the National Institute of Justice spoke next about the steps that have been taken at the NIJ to address concerns of the 2009 NAS Report in the last 5 years. He specifically addressed recommendations #3-Research for accuracy and reliability and #5-human observer bias and the steps the NIJ has taken to address those. He noted that the NIJ has paid particular attention to pattern evidence such as friction ridge analysis, firearms and toolmarks analysis, bloodstain pattern analysis and shoe and tire tread pattern analysis. Mr. Laporte noted that the NIJ was first to respond to the NAS Report with a solicitation in March of 2009. The NIJ established the Office of Investigative and Forensic Science shortly after the NAS Report. He noted that millions of dollars in proposals have been funded since the NAS Report for research regarding the accuracy and reliability of scientific evidence, with special attention to pattern evidence. Mr. Laporte also defended the science, saying that calls for statistical applications to those disciplines addressed

in the NAS Report might not make them more accurate or reliable. He talked about ABO Blood typing as an example, and that much was known about the frequencies of blood traits and their occurrence in the population, but there are still wrongful convictions based on that evidence. He also noted that there has not been a single wrongful conviction that has been attributed to pattern evidence.

Next, our own Dr. Pete Diaczuk presented some information to the group on how firearms are manufactured. He showed slides on the machining processes currently used and how the metal used to machine barrels is constantly changing. He covered a series of different methods and marks that can be examined in a firearms examination. Pete's presentation led into a talk by Dr. Nick Petraco on studies being performed in his lab regarding bullet surface mapping, data examination and statistical analysis of the features present. He is using computers to perform a waveline analysis which pulls out the patterns of the lands and grooves on the bullet, measures the attributes and, by use of an algorithm, recognizes the features. Though the research is currently underway, Dr. Petraco estimated that it would probably not be court ready for another 5 years. In this time, he and other scientists are building large databases and performing studies comparing the accuracy of the computerized learning method and error rate against human performance in the same analysis.

MacDonnell Ulsch, head of cybersecurity and financial fraud analysis for Pricewaterhouse Coopers Boston Office spoke twice about cybersecurity, fourth amendment issues and breach response. He told one story about a prominent executive who had his private AND company information compromised when he failed to follow cybersecurity protocol. One thing that the executive did, which may resonate with those less-computer saavy consumers, was having too many virus and malware detection and protection programs. The executive had ten different anti-virus programs, thinking he was 10x protected. The programs only cancelled one another out, leaving the executives home computer vulnerable. Ulsch talked about how all the executive wanted was to shrink back into obscurity after his information was stolen, but the current state of the internet makes it very hard to do that once that information gets out there. The complexities of international investigation and threat containment were discussed. He addressed fourth amendment concerns, the protections against unlawful search and seizure and how he feels the American public is freely giving that protection away by posting YouTube videos, tweets and Facebook statuses on the internet that never really go away. The right person can find SnapChats, Googlechats and the like, and that information is never truly destroyed. It can always be accessed. With so much of the population volunteering so much about their private and professional lives, there is little protection for that information once it hits the internet. The Googles and Yahoos of the world are selling search history for targeting advertizing, and a great deal of personal information is up for grabs for whoever wants access to it. Ulsch feels the American public is giving up rights that they will never be able to get back by volunteering so much on the internet. A memorable quote from was that people treat technology like oxygen in the air, they breathe it in and can't get enough. He said they should be treating it more like fire, with caution and deference until the full scope of its impact can be seen.

Dr. Mike Coble from NIST spoke next about the MIX 13 study performed by NIST to poll public labs for consistency in mixture interpretation. While the results of this study are not yet complete and the data is still being analyzed, the available results were certainly eye opening. For the study, data sets were sent to Federal, state and local labs across the country. NIST received responses from over 100 labs in 46 states, so participation was good. In the datasets, there were 5 different mixtures accompanied by a short case explanation. The results showed a great deal of inconsistency in interpretation across labs nationwide. One lab used the study as an indicator within their own lab of 8 analysts to test the consistency in mixture interpretation and found a significant amount of inconsistency within their own lab. Major points of discrepancy involved instances when a deduction would be performed in the sexual assault, improper use of CPI statistics on mixtures with related individuals, estimation of contributors in mixtures of more than 3 people and deconvolution of those mixtures and focus on inclusion based on alleles present instead of possible genotypes present.

Dr. Bruce Budowle spoke about the future of genetic sequencing in forensic science. What is widely referred to as Next Generation Sequencing was described by Budowle as Massively Parallel Sequencing. He talked about the positive aspects of this testing, it's high throughput capabilities, faster processing times, depth of information obtained and lower cost. The field is currently researching applications of MPS for cause and manner of death applications, typing multiple markers, SNPs and microbial identification for disease research and weapons of mass destruction. He identified the major players in the market as PGM Ion Torrent and Illumina, but also said it would be difficult to bring this technology to market with traditional methods. It would take a lifetime to validate all the different tests that could be performed with this technology under current methods of validation and the legal constraints would be significant without some change.

There was an ethical issues panel, which consisted of several legal experts from varying backgrounds, several scientists and active investigators, who discussed the wording of certain legal professional rules of conduct as they relate to scientific evidence, and problems of mandatory accreditation and certification for forensic scientists. The first topic was about ethical rules establishing what the duty of a prosecutor is when presented with evidence of wrongful conviction.

The first member of the panel was Kandy Wilcox, who is a Department of Justice Attorney and Senior Legal Advisor of the Professional Responsibility Advisory Office in the DOJ. The DOJ has not yet adopted the rules in question--3.8 (g) and (h)--due to problems concerning the wording of the rule. One example that she gave was that the rule only imposed a duty on prosecuting attorneys and not defense attorneys or other types of attorneys presented with evidence of wrongful conviction.

Bruce Green, a Fordham Law School Professor and drafter of the rule, says the rule contains many good faith provisions and its adoption can only have positive impacts on the legal community. He notes that lawyers should be doing these things anyway, but this rule was an attempt to codify responsibilities of lawyers regarding exculpatory evidence regardless of any ambiguous wording.

Next, Attorney Marvin Schecter spoke about forensic oversight and how he feels it should be handled. He talked about the current ethical codes that forensic scientists and their lack of value without a code for enforcement. He called for standardization of report wording in forensic reports and a centralized forensic oversight system maintained by the federal government.

John Neuner, the Executive Director of ASCLD-LAB, addressed points made by Attorney Schecter and clarified what accreditation means and the benefits of being accredited. Leslie Hammer, the president of the IAI, an FSAB accredited certifying agency, covered the ethical code of the IAI and echoed the sentiments of Mr. Neuner that a national code of ethics would likely contain many of the same elements as the IAI code, rules that address professionalism, competency, clear communication would be expected to be included in a national code if one were ever developed. Hammer also mentioned that she thought the central oversight for forensic scientists should be handled by the judiciary.

Ken Melson, the chair of the American Academy of Forensic Science ethics committee, had a different outlook on having a central body of oversight and national code of ethics and discusses some of the challenges AAFS has had with regard to insurance and lawsuits in the enforcement of ethical codes against those they deemed to be in violation. Melson made reference to the Bonco case, where the Board determined there were ethical violations and voted to revoke membership of a member, and that member in turn sued AAFS and the lawsuit was settled out of court. AAFS found that they were often at odds with the best advice of their lawyers, because doing the right thing was not the best thing for the organization. Because of the suit, AAFS had their insurance revoked and had to obtain new, more expensive insurance for attempting to enforce the codes.

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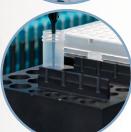
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#### Demystifying the ABFDE Certification Process Anna Guzowski

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists held their Annual Conference during May 19-23, 2014 at State College, PA. During this conference, a full day workshop was offered for Forensic Document Examiners (FDE's) entitled "Demystifying the ABFDE Certification Process". This provided FDE's informational tools on how to become a certified examiner in the future.

To become ABFDE (American Board of Forensic Document Examiners) certified involves a lengthy process; however, it is a much needed certification because of the recent criticism of all forensic fields.

The workshop actually began before the actual date of May 20, 2014; two practicals needed to be completed before attendance. The location workshop began with introductions of the attendees and our mentors. We discussed our affiliations, years of service, and background which allowed a nice interaction of members within the field.

The first half of the workshop began with a power point presentation, lecture, and questions. A sample quiz consisting of twenty questions was given to each member of the workshop. Each candidate took the sample quiz and afterwards the written test was reviewed as a group, answers were given, and choices discussed. The lecture session discussed and clarified how various regional organizations such as MAAFS, SAFDE, etc., working groups such as SWGDOC, ASTM and the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners and the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners have been working together to strengthen the profession of Questioned Document Examination. The ABFDE application process and the three phases of the certification process were explained. The application must be submitted and reviewed before any further process could begin.

Phase I is the written examination consisting of one hundred multiple choice test questions. Two hours will be given to complete the proctored exam. The exam site is usually held at conferences but special test sites can be considered. The exams in the near future may contain one hundred twenty questions. Phase II is the practical assignment of five QD problems to be completed in forty-five days. In the future it will be three problems that are multi-faceted document examinations. Phase III is presenting three out of the five practicals in front of certified board members.

The application and completion of all testing phases cannot exceed two and half years. If an applicant fails any step of the phases, the candidate may request to retest. The grading is a pass/fail system. Upon successful completion of all testing phases, the candidate will be certified by the board and become a Diplomate. These credentials are valid for five years, but a Diplomate must continue to earn forty points for renewal status through conference attendance, research, teaching, lecturing, and/or journal publications.

The hands-on session was the second half of the workshop. The attendees separated into small groups of either two or three candidates per Diplomate. Prior to the workshop, each attendee received two multi-faceted QD practicals. These are typical cases that an FDE would receive in laboratory setting. The case notes and case reports were sent to the conference presenter prior to the start of the workshop. This allowed each mentor to review the candidates' casework, discuss the process of casework evaluation and the guidelines used during this process. Each attendee gave an oral presentation of the practicals. This involved explaining the scientific basis and reasoning for the examinations used. Also noted was how the opinions would be supported by the evidence revealed.

This workshop provided knowledge, tools, and information of the certification process. Any FDE should attend future workshops for ABFDE certification.

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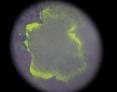


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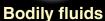
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#### 2014 Training Scholarship Fund

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS) is proud to offer its members a 2014 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. 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 2014 Training Scholarship Fund.

Please visit the NEAFS <u>training</u> website to take advantage of this great NEAFS opportunity and to view upcoming training opportunities!

#### **Upcoming Training**

The Northwestern University Center for Public Safety in Evanston, Illinois will be offering a course titled "The Scientific Basis for Fracture Match Identification" during October 6-8, 2014. For more information contact Ruthy at NWU at (847) 467-7546.

The Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists and the American Society of Trace Evidence Examiners will be hosting a joint meeting in St. Paul, MN during October 6-10, 2014. Workshops will be given in the areas of DNA (Kinship Stats, Mixture Interpretation), Crime Scene (Shooting Reconstruction, Blood Spatter, Tire track & Footwear Exam), Instrumentation (GC, HPLC, MSP), Drugs, Statistics, Latent Prints, QD, GSR, PDQ, Fire Debris, and more! See www.mafs.net/meeting for more information and registration.

The 13th Annual Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM) training conference will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia during October 14th-17th, 2014. More information is available at the AFQAM website (www. afqam.org).

George Mason University's Office of Continuing Professional Education in Virginia is hosting a 2-day seminar on "Sexually Violent Crime: The Body as Evidence" taught by Dr. Henry Lee and Dr. Leah Bush during November 3-4, 2014. Sexually violent crime continues to challenge investigators and concern the general public. It has been estimated that every two minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. In many cases, sexual assault results in homicide. Dr. Henry Lee and Dr. Leah Bush, two of the country's top forensic scientists, will share their individual and collective expertise to help the participants understand the importance of the body as evidence as it relates to sexually violent crimes. Please visit http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold\_case.php for more information on this exciting opportunity to learn from two of the top forensic scientists in the country!

The Baltimore Police Department in Baltimore, MD will be hosting a 40 hour Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis workshop during November 17-21, 2014. For more information contact Steven O'Dell at 443-721-6387, steven.o'dell@baltimorepolice.org or Richard Remy at 410-396-2294, richard.remy@baltimorepolice.org.

#### Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists 2015 Annual Meeting



#### October 13th-17th, 2015

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#### **Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists**

#### **Membership Committee**

Holly O'Connor, Chair

Jaime Hoey Sheauling Kastor, *Dues Contact*Susan Flaherty Sherri Anderson

To: NEAFS Board of Directors

From: Holly O'Connor, Membership Committee Chair

Date: September 16, 2014

Re: NEAFS membership update

#### **NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS**

NUMBER	STATUS	FULL NAME	AFFILIATION
1811	Associate	Danielle Brandoff	Pace University
1812	Regular	Sarah Stein	Western New England University
1813	Regular	Vivian X. Chen	Bruker Daltonics
1814	Regular	Linda Manigault	Nassau County OCME
1815	Regular	Michelle Hunsinger	Monroe County Crime Lab
1816	Associate	Adam Hartley	University of New Haven
1817	Associate	Zachary Frieden	Byram Hills High School
1818	Associate	Veronica Cano	John Jay College
1819	Regular	Keith Meyers	Niagra County Sheriff's Office Forensic Lab
1820	Regular	Carmen Masters	U.S. Customs and Border Protection
1821	Associate	Alex Thompson	Vermont Forensic Laboratory
1822	Associate	Christopher Shaw	Westchester County Forensic Laboratory
1823	Regular	Christine Tyson	MSP Forensic Services Group
1824	Associate	Nathaniel Huddleston	Rochester Institute of Technology
1825	Associate	Jolene Bierly	NYSP Forensic Investigation Center
1826	Regular	Eric Sorrentino	Suffolk County Crime Lab
1827	Regular	Christine Ordyna	MSP Forensic and Technology Center DNA Unit
1828	Regular	Karen Scott	Arcadia University
1829	Associate	Jennifer Green	Division of Forensic Services, CT Forensic Lab
1830	Associate	Amanda Cadau	NYSP Forensic Investigation Center
1831	Associate	Katie Wilson	MSP Forensic and Technology Center DNA Unit
1832	Associate	Megan Fimbel	NLT Management Services
1833	Associate	Joseph Jacaruso	Yonkers Police Department
1834	Associate	Kyleigh Higgins	Bay Path University
1835	Regular	Anuja Bharadwaj	CT Dept of Emergency Services, Toxicology Lab
1836	Associate	Lori-Ann Walters	Suffolk County Crime Lab
1837	Regular	Eugene Y. Lien	NYC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
1838	Associate	Tracy Breton	Bay Path University
1839	Regular	Na Liu	Division of Forensic Services, CT Forensic Lab
1840	Associate	Kimberly Deo	NJSP Office of Forensic Science
			- **
1835 1836 1837 1838 1839	Regular Associate Regular Associate Regular	Anuja Bharadwaj Lori-Ann Walters Eugene Y. Lien Tracy Breton Na Liu	CT Dept of Emergency Services, Toxicology Lab Suffolk County Crime Lab NYC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Bay Path University Division of Forensic Services, CT Forensic Lab

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

NUMBER	STATUS	FULL NAME	AFFILIATION
44	Regular	John A. Reffner	Trace Consulting
133	Associate	John R. Mario	Suffolk County Crime Laboratory
183	Regular	Warren R. Darby	Onondaga County Sheriff's Office
480	Regular	Lawrence Kobilinsky	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
546	Regular	Scott Kovar	Nassau County Police Department - EMU
563	Regular	Joseph M. Galdi	Suffolk County Crime Laboratory
582	Associate	Alice A. Sayler	Bloomfield College
725	Regular	Robert K. O'Brien	CT Division of Scientific Services
814	Regular	William J. Ries	Forensic Consultants
903	Associate	Regina A. Healy	Nassau County Medical Examiner
908	Regular	Maureen M. Craig	DEA Northeast Laboratory
951	Associate	Linda C. Parise	Suffolk County Crime Laboratory
980	Regular	Robert A. Hathaway	Connecticut State Forensic Science Lab
1097	Regular	Edward G. Bernstine	Jahra Jay Callaga of Criminal Justice
1140	Associate	Margaret M. Wallace	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
1144	Associate	Susan Coyne-Flaherty	Westchester County Forensic Lab
1156 1248	Regular Associate	Stewart M. Hung Laura A. Grestini	New Jersey State Police CT Dept. of Public Safety
1246	Regular	Susan C. Chew	New Jersey State Police
1274	Regular	Donna R. Nemeth	Monroe County Medical Examiner's Toxicology Lab
1284	Regular	Patricia M. Schantz	Monroe County Medical Examiner's Toxicology Lab
1286	Associate	Karen L. Mahoney	Monroe County Medical Examiner's Toxicology Lab
1293	Regular	Marcia J. LaFountain	Vermont Department of Public Safety
1356	Associate	Kelly Walsh	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
1391	Regular	Cortney Boccardi	GE Healthcare. Life Science
1397	Associate	Jeffrey M. Buszka	NYC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
1426	Regular	Ramona Scioli	Suffolk County Crime Laboratory
1427	Regular	Hilary Griffiths	Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory
1441	Associate	Amber Sage	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept
1496	Regular	Deborah Jasinski	Vermont Forensic Lab Dept. of Public Safety
1507	Regular	Gerard Petillo	Advanced Forensics and Investigation inc.
1524	Regular	Cheryl Moorhead	NY State Police Forensic Investigation Center
1525	Regular	Christine Schlenker	New Jersey State Police
1543	Associate	Tory Brown	NY State Police Forensic Investigation Center
1558	Regular	Laurie Pasqualino	NY State Police Forensic Investigation Center
1570	Associate	Stephanie Brumley	Westchester County Forensic Lab
1581	Associate	Alicia Duszak	NY State Police Forensic Investigation Center
1587	Regular	Marjorie Davidovic	Suffolk County Crime Lab
1595	Regular	Lillian Guia	New Jersey State Police
1627	Associate	Rebecca Smith	
1634	Associate	Henry Maynard	Booz Allen Hamilton
1656	Regular	Marianne E. Staretz	Cedar Crest Collage
1673	Regular	Stacy Czarnowski	Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory
1686	Associate	Shane Wilcox	University of New Haven
1702	Regular	Theresa White	NYSP Forensic Investigation Center
1702	Associate	Cassie Erpenbeck	American Systems
1713	Regular	Amy Joy	Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab
1721	Associate	Amanda Shom	Western New England University
1721	Regular	Leslie Watkins	BODE Technology
1723	Regular	Deborah Cole	NJSP Office of Forensic Science
1734	Regular	Dan Sykes	Forensic Science Program
	•	I =	1
1742	Associate	Samantha Lynes	University of New Haven
1746	Regular	Gonul Kamfoi	NJSP North Regional Lab

1757	Associate	Gregory McLaughlin	SUNY Albany Dept. of Chemistry
1758	Associate	Justin Bueno	SUNY Albany Dept. of Chemistry
1759	Associate	Igor Lednev	SUNY Albany Dept. of Chemistry
1761	Associate	Daniel Hall	Pennsylvania State University
1785	Regular	Irving Kornfield	University of Maine
1790	Associate	Arielle Burdulis	Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab
1793	Associate	Yvette Rada	NYC OCME
1795	Regular	Wayne Everett	US Treasury, Bureau of Fiscal Service
1801	Regular	Bruce Jackson	MassBay Community College
1802	Associate	Kolby Spiker	Boston University School of Medicine
1809	Associate	Gianna Mancuso	Commonwealth Labs & Willow Labs
1810	Regular	Robyn Fishkin	Nassau County OME

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#### **ABC Reimbursement**

The NEAFS Board of Directors has voted to reimburse the American Board of Criminalistics exam sitting fees for five NEAFS members (regular or associate) in good standing who pass the ABC exam. This offer is for any ABC exam taken in 2014. There will be an exam offered at the NEAFS Annual meeting in Hershey. After passing the examination, please fill out the ABC Examination 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 Mike Portzer 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 exam to be considered for reimbursement.

#### 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, <u>webmaster@neafs.org</u>.

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