Echnical Advice Capability Development Inform Strategic Policy Support Research Introduced and Facilitate Excellence in Forensic Science ANZFEC Australia New Zeal CWALN Biology Chemical Criminalistics Crime Scene Ballistics Document Examination Electronic Issue 3 Fingerprints Illicit Drugs Medical Sciences Toxicology Standards Coordination Innovation Quality Inform Management Education Training After the Fact Certification Peak Body DNA Analysis Facial Identification Spr September 2020 tion Fire Debris and Explosives Geological Materials Friction Ridge Firearms Toolmarks Tyre & Shoemark B'

Shining a spotlight on the work of the Australia New Zealand forensic science community

Your NIFS Team Member Update



Hannah Jarman Senior Forensic Project Officer, ANZPAA NIFS

Welcome to the third edition of *The Forensic Exhibit* for 2020. What a year it has been so far! It is my pleasure to provide this edition's update on the work of the Australia New Zealand forensic science community.

In a year of restrictions and lockdowns for many of us, forensic science is still making strong leaps and bounds. A National DNA Program for Unidentified and Missing Persons was announced in August by the Minister for Home Affairs, the Hon Peter Dutton, to coincide with National Missing Persons Week. The program headed by Associate Professor Jodie Ward and the Australian Federal Police (AFP) National Missing Persons Coordination Centre (NMPCC) aims to resolve long term missing persons cases within Australia and to "develop, implement and promote best practices for a nationally coordinated, consistent and collaborative investigative approach for the forensic human identification of unidentified and missing persons."

ANZPAA NIFS have been hard at work progressing projects and other works. Beta testing for the After the Fact 2020 scenarios has concluded and the scenarios are due to go live. Assessments will run Monday 14 September to Sunday 8 November.

This year NIFS has facilitated the highest number of AFSAB assessments within a 12-month period. This is no mean feat considering adaption to a virtual framework has also occurred during this time. The next stage of the fundamentals project is in full swing with a new group of experts for both the audio video and drug analysis disciplines coming on board to this valuable initiative. The toxicology group has returned with a few new faces to help complete the fundamentals analysis of this complex discipline. Further details on all active NIFS projects can be found within this edition of the Forensic Exhibit.

The recent passing of both Dr Tony Raymond AM and Dr Michael Taylor was a great loss to the Australian and New Zealand forensic community. Both men made significant contributions to the world of forensics throughout their extensive careers. Our thoughts are with the families of Dr Raymond and Dr Taylor.

(Not Quite) Business As Usual

Last month ANZPAA NIFS advised that face to face workshops and meetings will be on hold for the remainder of the year for all ANZPAA NIFS Groups. While the absence of physical meetings does create obstacles, it is fantastic to see that the groups have still progressed a large amount of work priorities and action items using virtual meetings and digital collaboration.

Workshops

Unfortunately, many of the approved 2020 workshops could not go ahead as planned due to the travel restrictions associated with COVID-19. ANZPAA NIFS is eager to continue to support practitioner professional development through the COVID environment. While workshops cannot be run face to face, we encourage submissions for 2020/21 virtual workshops from the ANZPAA NIFS groups via the Specialist Advisory Group (SAG) chairs. All submissions must be received by 30 September 2020.

Congratulations

ANZPAA NIFS team member Robert Morgan was successful in his application to become the new Assistant Director for Biometrics at the Victoria Police Forensic Services Department, overseeing major forensic services including forensic biology (incl. DNA analysis) and fingerprints. The NIFS team wish to congratulate Rob on this appointment and wish his all the best in his new role. He will be missed.

Rob and wife Sophie also recently welcomed baby Ashton Oliver to the world. Congratulations to Rob and Sophie on the arrival of their bundle of joy!

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News from the forensic community



Vale
Dr Tony
Raymond AM

It is with great regret that we acknowledge the passing of Dr Tony Raymond AM. Tony played a significant role in the advancement of forensic science both nationally and internationally and we gratefully recognise his significant contributions since he commenced in forensic science in 1978.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) from the University of Natal, South Africa, has a Graduate Certificate of Education from the University of Rhodesia, Zimbabwe, a Master of Science in forensic science from the University of Strathclyde, Scotland and a Doctorate in bloodstain pattern analysis from La Trobe University, Melbourne. His doctorate is titled "Trajectory Reconstruction from Bloodstains at a Crime Scene."

Tony began his career in Zimbabwe and was the Director of the Zimbabwe Republic Police Forensic Laboratory. He became Assistant Director at the Victoria Police Forensic Science Centre, where he was the principal scientist in the landmark Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Chamberlain Convictions and the McLeod-Lindsay Inquiry. His also became Director, Forensic Service Group and later Chief Scientist of the New South Wales Police Force (NSWPF) and was also the Director of the National Institute of Forensic Science.

His contributions include past President of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society, past Chairman of the Senior Managers of Australia and New Zealand Forensic Laboratories (SMANZFL) network and SMANZFL International Liaison Officer, member of the Australian Academy of Forensic Sciences and member of the National Council as Treasurer. Tony was also a Fellow of the Australasian College of Biomedical Scientists, Adjunct Professor at the University of Western Sydney and an Honorary Fellow of the Australasian College of Legal and Forensic Medicine.

Tony has several presentations, journal publications and book chapters to his credit.

Dr Raymond was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2010 for "service to forensic science in the field of law enforcement" and he was recognised by his peers for his work as a recipient of the International Association of Forensic Sciences Adelaide medal and the John Harbor Phillips Award for excellence in forensic science in 2014. In 2017, Tony was awarded the Commissioner's Commendation for DNA related service.



FarewellDr Michael Taylor

He rei ngā niho, he parāoa ngā kaua - To have a whale's tooth, you must have a whale's jaw.

The meaning of this whakatauki refers to a person's ambition to carry out a great undertaking. It speaks to the man we know as Dr Michael Taylor - a great ESR scientist, friend and colleague who passed away on 1 September 2020.

Michael devoted 41 years of service to ESR and provided an outstanding contribution to forensic science, both within New Zealand and around the world. His expertise included crime scene examination, shoeprint comparisons, screening of clothing for body fluids and the assessment of clothing damage. His work in the area of bloodstain pattern analysis (BPA) earned him an international reputation as a leader in this field.

Michael started with DSIR Chemistry in 1979 and was a member of the ESR Christchurch Forensic Service Centre for a number of years before moving into the ESR research team full-time as the acting Forensic Research Programme Manager.

Michael brought his knowledge and expertise to numerous NZ Police investigations. Notably, in 2002 Michael travelled with a New Zealand Police team to the Solomon Islands to investigate the death of a New Zealand citizen. Initially treated as a homicide, Michael and the Police team worked with local law enforcement to show the death was in fact accidental, as a result of a trip and falling on her string bag which contained kitchen items including a knife. Identifying the location of a cut in the bag by Michael was a critical factor in resolving the case. Michael received a Commissioner's award in recognition of his contribution to so many NZ Police investigations.

Criticism of forensic science, including BPA, led Michael to set about strengthening the scientific foundations of the discipline through research and teaching. He was part of an international team that developed a high-speed video library that captured the dynamic mechanisms that form the various types of static bloodstain patterns.

Michael delivered basic and advanced bloodstain pattern analysis training courses for forensic investigators in New Zealand, Singapore, Canada, USA, Europe and Australia. In 2010 he developed the pioneering "Fluid Dynamics of Bloodstain Pattern Formation" advanced BPA course, which has now been delivered 20 times to bloodstain pattern analysts around the world.

In 2015 in recognition of his significant contribution to the discipline, he became the 14th person, and the first New Zealander, to be named as a Distinguished Member of the International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts (IABPA).

Over the latter half of his career Michael mentored dozens of students. His kindness and generosity have inspired a whole new generation of scientists, and his legacy will continue in the way they conduct their research and now teach their own students. Michael, you are the wind in their sails as they continue to plot your journey.

For many of us, this is not only the loss of a respected colleague, but the loss of a good friend. Our thoughts are with our Christchurch forensic colleagues who will be feeling this acutely.

News from the forensic community

The Big Move – 311 Spencer Street, Melbourne

ANZPAA NIFS is working towards a current move date of 2 October 2020. We are looking forward to calling our new Spencer Street address home. As mentioned in the previous edition of the Forensic Exhibit, ANZPAA NIFS now has a new mailing address:

ANZPAA NIFS Unit 73H 63-85 Turner Street PORT MELBOURNE VIC 3207

COVID's Community Influence – Some of the good

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has undoubtedly disrupted our everyday lives and altered our social and professional environments. With hand sanitizer, social-distancing and working from home the new normal, our workplaces need not have a viral outbreak to feel the dramatic effects of a global pandemic.

Things have changed and 2020 hasn't been what we expected but the pandemic surprisingly produced some benefits to the forensic community during such a turbid time. Historically pandemics aren't renowned for being times of high productivity and yet the forensic community seems to be busy, *really* busy. Projects are still being delivered, new ideas are still being advanced, experts are still becoming accredited and case work continues, albeit just in a different way.

The community has also adapted to operational challenges that COVID brings with many laboratories creating smaller self-contained "team bubbles", allowing for physical distancing and limiting interactions with other teams.

The donning and doffing of PPE isn't new to practitioners, particularly those who work with bodily fluids but the virus has also

introduced modified infection control for procedures. Biosafety recommendations have been disseminated to help laboratories identify and minimise the risks associated with the examination of potentially infectious human remains and biological specimens. Some publications and discussions specific to forensic scientists that may be of interest include:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Postmortem Guidance," (2020) https://www.cdc.gov/ coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidancepostmortem-specimens.html
- De Ungria, Maria and A. Corazon, "Forensic DNA testing during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic," Forensic Science International: Genetics 48 (2020): 102346.
- Finegan, Oran, et al., "International committee of the red cross (ICRC): general guidance for the management of the dead related to COVID-19," Forensic Science International: Synergy 2 (2020): 129-137.
- Mao, Danmi, et al., "Guide to forensic pathology practice for death cases related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)(Trial draft)," Forensic Sciences Research 5, no. 1 (2020): 1-7.
- Nuzzolese, Emilio, Hemlata Pandey, and Francesco Lupariello, "Dental autopsy recommendations in SARS-CoV-2 infected cases," Forensic Science International: Synergy 2 (2020): 154-156.
- Yang, Xingyi, et al., "Collection and disinfection of forensic biological specimens in five cases concerning COVID-19 in Guangzhou, China." Forensic Science International: Synergy 2 (2020): 210-214.

Information sharing and collaboration is also becoming well-practised in a virtual world which is particularly advantageous for newbies like myself who have recently entered the forensic landscape during a time where learning is predominantly self-directed. While face-to-face meetings, hands-on workshops and our much-loved symposiums may be on hold, the humble-internet has provided a cost-effective opportunity for members to engage in international conferences and a substitute platform to present their own work to wider audiences than was previously

possible. Long-gone are the days of missing conferences due to physical distance and financial constraints with most seminars now being open access. Free online workshops are also popular, and a fantastic resource to enhance knowledge and increase capabilities. Below is a list of some of the resources freely available online:

Workshops and Webinars*

Webinars by discipline Forensic Technology Center of Excellence

https://forensiccoe.org/all-webinars/

Challenging Forensic Science: How Science Should Speak to Court

University of Lausanne
https://www.coursera.org/learn/
challenging-forensic-science?action=en
roll&ranEAID=SAyYsTvLiGQ&ranMID=4
0328&ranSiteID=SAyYsTvLiGQ-8aY9IL
bienwFAunGpmJ86A&siteID=SAyYsTvL
iGQ-8aY9ILbienwFAunGpmJ86A&utm_
campaign=SAyYsTvLiGQ&utm_
content=10&utm_medium=partners&utm_
source=linkshare

Current Trends in Trace Analysis Current Trends in Forensic Toxicology

Center for Forensic Science Research and Education

https://www.forensicscienceeducation.org/ forensic-education/courses-archive/

Y-Talks, alternative approaches to reporting Y-profiles in court

Mikkel M. Andersen, Aalborg University, Denmark

David Balding, University of Melbourne, Australia

https://mikl.dk/ytalks/

Podcasts*

Just Science

Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE)

https://forensiccoe.org/just-science-podcast/

News from the forensic community

The Toxpod

Tim Scott
Peter Stockham
Forensic Science South Australia
http://thetoxpod.buzzsprout.com/

Finally, it's important to acknowledge that this year has been significantly difficult for many people. "R U Okay? Day" was on 10th September and is an annual reminder to check-in with those around us and openup a social discourse on mental health. Practising good mental hygiene through mindfulness activities and self-care has been encouraged during COVID-19 and we seem to be becoming more comfortable talking about how we are feeling. Hopefully these healthy discussions continue in post-COVID-19 work cultures and we can continue to support each other.

In the meantime, here are some favourited self-care resources:

R U OK?*

https://www.ruok.org.au/

Smiling Mind App and Podcast*

https://www.smilingmind.com.au/

HeadsUp.org.au*

https://www.headsup.org.au/

Stress, Vicarious Trauma, and Resiliency for Forensic Science Professionals webinar*

Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE)

https://forensiccoe.org/webinar/stress-vicarious-trauma-and-resiliency/

(*this does not constitute an endorsement of any resources by ANZPAA NIFS and is provided for information purposes only.)

Research and Innovation Advisory Committee

The plain text draft of the ANZPAA NIFS Research and Innovation Roadmap 2020-25 developed together with the Research and Innovation Advisory Committee (RIAC) was approved by the Australia New Zealand Forensic Executive Committee (ANZFEC) in August 2020.

The purpose of the Roadmap is to promote the investment of funding and resources in research that is operationally relevant and of vital importance to forensic science service provision in Australia and New Zealand. The Roadmap is the result of extensive engagement with the forensic community and represents an agreed position on the priority areas for research that best promote and facilitate excellence in forensic science. The Roadmap defines research areas important to strengthening current forensic science processes and building future capability.

The Roadmap is currently in the design phase with an expected released date in late October 2020. The Roadmap covers broad areas of research relevant to the forensic sciences including forensic fundamentals, human factors, forensic data sets, new tools and forensic intelligence. The Roadmap drew from a draft Research and Innovation Position Statement approved by the International Forensic Strategic Alliance (IFSA), which is a multilateral partnership between regional networks of operational forensic laboratories across the globe. The Position Statement is also currently in design phase. ANZPAA NIFS groups are currently being consulted on research projects aligning to the roadmap.

ANZPAA NIFS Project Support

Under the Roadmap 2017-20, ANZPAA NIFS provided funding support for 11 research projects. In each edition of The Forensic Exhibit we provide the forensic science community with an update on a select project. We thank the lead researchers for sharing their project update in the following ANZPAA NIFS Project Support section.

Comparison of methods for 3D evidence reconstruction

Dr Richard Matthews and Dr Matthew

The University of Adelaide
Acknowledgements to Jimmy Tang and Glen
Walsh

The University of Adelaide ran a final year electrical engineering honours project thanks to financial support from ANZPAA NIFS. Our students explored the contrast between methods of 3D evidence capture such as laser scanning and photogrammetry. We expected, that although photogrammetry encounters limitations that 3D laser scanning doesn't, it still has its place as a lower cost method of visualising and measuring physical evidence. We found that the lower cost digital photogrammetry systems introduced in devices such as Apple's iPhone XR were comparable and in some use cases exceeded the result obtained on higher cost laser scanning equipment for evidence capture in the hands of a novice.

Our work principally centred on the review of shoe impressions and blood splatter evidence. A shoe impression was created in kinetic sand, which allowed for a near perfect impression to be staged. Mock up

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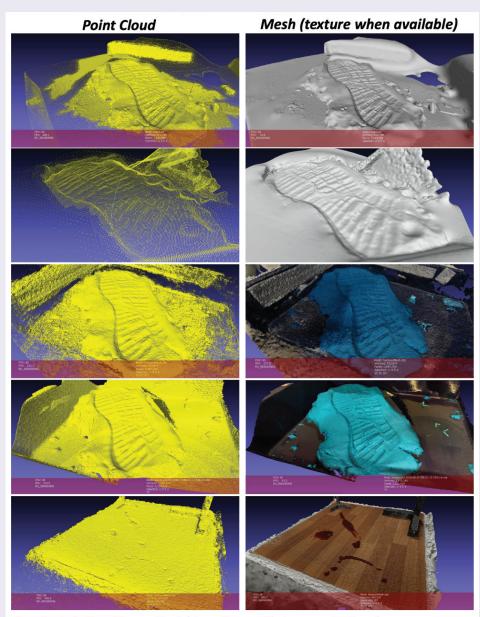
News from the forensic community

blood splatter evidence was created using a realistic blood substitute formula noted for its ability to mimic blood for forensic purposes. This formula was then dropped on numerous surfaces include tiles, carpet and paper.

To contrast the methods of laser scanning with photogrammetry, equipment sourced included a high-end handheld laser scanner, the EinScan Pro+, a survey quality 3D laser scanner from Maptek, and an iPhone X for its front facing camera and dot projection equipment. To use the iPhone the application Scandy Pro was downloaded, which enabled photogrammetry scans. A comparison of images produced by these devices is presented in the Figure to the right.

Key findings from our preliminary experiments found that laser scanners did not have the required precision capable of measuring the difference in thickness to see blood splatter evidence. In this use case, no further forensic trace could be obtained that was not simply seen by a photo. Critically, it was found that photogrammetry was capable of similar, if not better resolution with shoe impressions than laser scanners.

From our results we firmly believe that all in one device such as the Apple iPhone should be considered as a low-cost alternative worth investigating further. Photogrammetry should not be discounted as a method for obtained 3D models just yet.



From top to bottom: Einscan, Maptek Laser Scanner, Photogrammetry, Scandy, Photogrammetry with blood

THE FORENSIC EXHIBIT.

News from the forensic community

IAFS 2020 Becomes IAFS 2023

Distinguished Professor Claude Roux

President, International Association of Forensic Sciences, University of Technology Sydney



As you will be aware, due to the circumstances surrounding coronavirus COVID-19, the 22nd Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Science in conjunction with the 25th Symposium of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society originally due to be held in September 2020 was postponed to May 2021.

The COVID-19 situation continues to change rapidly, and most Australian public institutions and venues have significant restrictions in place (pertaining to social distancing and capacities). It is currently not possible to travel to, from, or within Australia for the purposes of an event like IAFS 2020 and the Australian Government has not indicated a time frame for relief of restrictions.

The IAFS 2020 Organising Committee has reluctantly determined that, owing to further uncertainties about when social and economic life will return to normal in Australia and worldwide, we are regrettably not able to host IAFS in Sydney in May 2021.

We are delighted however, to announce the 23rd Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences in conjunction with the 26th Symposium of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society will be held at the International Convention Centre, Sydney, Australia from 20 – 24 November 2023.

We are confident in this decision to further postpone the Meeting to protect the health and safety of our speakers, delegates, sponsors and exhibitors and look forward to an even bigger and better IAFS 2023 in beautiful Sydney, Australia. We will use the next three years to plan an innovative,



engaging and memorable event, that is sure to leave a lasting legacy for many years to come.

What if I already registered to attend IAFS 2020?

All registered delegates will be contacted directly about the option to receive a refund or transfer their registration, accommodation and social event bookings to IAFS 2023. Registered delegates are required to respond to the offer by 30 September 2020. After this date, the standard cancellation terms come into effect.

What will happen to my presentation scheduled in the Meeting program?

The Scientific Program Committee will meet in September to consider options for the management of the accepted abstracts, including a possible online publication or to rollover selected program content to IAFS 2023. We recognise all the hard work that so many of you have put into preparing your presentations and hope that you will join us in November 2023. We will issue an

email to all authors and speakers to keep them informed.

For any queries please contact the IAFS 2023 Meeting Managers via iafs2023@ arinex.com.au. A new website will be launched shortly – www.iafs2023.com. au. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook @ iafs2023.

We thank all our sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, delegates, suppliers and the Australian Government for their unwavering support.

We would like to ask each of you to look after yourself and those around you so we can enjoy your company in Sydney for an even more memorable IAFS Meeting in November 2023.

Stay up-to-date with all the latest information by joining the IAFS mailing

Join the conversations:





News from the forensic community

ANZFSS Update



Professor Adrian Linacre OAM *ANZFSS President*

Alas the effects of COVID-19 dominate so much of our lives – restrictions or relaxations change rapidly and vary so much across our region. The effect for the ANZFSS is that so many meetings have been virtual without the usual open public meetings that is so much the lifeblood of our society.

The ANZFSS purchased a licence for 1,000 guests to allow talks from what would otherwise be local branches to be viewed and later accessed by the widest possible audience. This may still be an avenue of disseminating talks to the whole society into the future – but I do not think is a replacement for local public meetings.

I write from Adelaide, and here we have had a glimmer of hope as the Branch AGM and public talk was to an audience of ~100. All observed social distancing with seats separating everyone so still not as normal but moving closer to pre-pandemic times.

The ANZFSS has part of its mission statement to hold a biennial symposium. The ANZFSS Council have supported the proposal to also hold a symposium in 2022. Brisbane will be the venue and Donna MacGregor from Griffith University has taken on the mantle of leading the organisation of this conference. Donna and her team will be provided with the full support of the ANZFSS and I call upon the wider forensic community to also support fully this symposium. Much more information on the Queensland ANZFSS symposium in 2022 will be disseminated in the usual ways.

The year 2020 is not one we will look back on fondly, but I end then with a positive message. The next 3 years offers so much to the forensic community: a chance to showcase the amazing work we do in this part of the world at our symposium in 2022 and then as part of a truly international event in Sydney 2023.

Update on Activities of NATA's Forensic Science Accreditation Advisory Committee

Chris Pearman Chair, FSAAC

The following is a brief synopsis of some the FSAAC's activities this year.

Committee membership

Mr Ben Painter of Forensic Science SA replaced Dr Michael Collins as the Illicit Drug representative on the Committee. Michael's depth of knowledge and considered opinion was greatly appreciated by NATA.

My term as ANZFEC representative expires in May 2021 and I will not seek another appointment. This means that a new Chair will also need to be elected.

FSAAC Meeting 2020

It is proposed to run an on-line interactive forum for forensic science laboratories to increase engagement, exchange information and raise issues. They have been trialed successfully with human pathology.

Under the new format of assessment findings, laboratories must identify the root cause of any nonconformity. NATA has advised that a number of laboratories are not completing this adequately and will be providing cause analysis information forums to assist.

A COVID related issue is the inability to have instrument maintenance undertaken because of the travel restrictions on some instrument technicians. It is advised that laboratories should undertake a risk assessment on the impact of continuing to use the instrument. Uncertainty still remains regarding sampling measurement uncertainty and NATA is participating in ISO discussions.

Accreditation issues

AS/NZS4760:2019 "Procedures for specimen collection and detection and quantification of drugs in oral fluid" has been revised; however, currently it is understood that there is no oral fluid collection device available that meets the criteria required in the Standard. Consequently, accreditation to this standard cannot be finalised until such a device becomes available.

Technical Assessor Issues

Laboratories providing chemical criminalistics services generally provide a comprehensive range of analyses across numerous types of trace evidence. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find technical assessors with the appropriate experience and broad expertise who can assess all or most methods at one inspection. It was agreed to raise this with the ANZPAA NIFS Australian New Zealand Forensic Executive Committee.

Evaluative Reporting (ER) and a subset of this, Activity Level Reporting (ALR), is attracting the interest of many disciplines in Australia with one laboratory accredited in 2019 for ALR in DNA work. Through NIFS a number of biology scientists are participating in a University of Lausanne course on ALR. There is a very limited pool of assessors currently in Australasia but this expected that this will improve over time.

John Harber Phillips Award



The JHP Award Committee has determined that the 2020 JHP Award will not be conferred this year. A review of the JHP Award processes will be undertaken and an announcement of the new processes disseminated in 2021.

Forensic project update

In brief:

AFSAB Overview





AFSAB Enhancement Project

The Australasian Forensic Science Assessment Body (AFSAB) Enhancement project was established at the time of closing of the AFSAB Review Implementation project (July 2019) and is the next phase of improvements to the AFSAB framework.

We have been focusing on the development of new AFSAB assessments over the last three months and are pleased to announce that the validation of a new fingerprint practical assessment will be progressed throughout October 2020. This will require a large community effort and we will shortly be seeking volunteers, who are AFSAB certified in the discipline of fingerprint examination, through ANZFEC members to participate in this change initiative.

AFSAB Policy and Form Updates

The AFSAB Policy and Processes for Certification (June 2020) and associated forms have been updated and are now available to download from the ANZPAA NIFS website https://www.anzpaa.org.au/forensic-science/resources/afsab.

Changes to note are:

- the introduction of a requirement for a deed of confidentiality to be signed by those involved in the AFSAB assessment process
- the introduction of options for jurisdictions who do not have two AFSAB Board Approved Internal Assessors available to assess an AFSAB candidate
- minor modifications to the policy for

observers at oral assessments

- a change to the minimum education requirement for AFSAB Board Approved Assessors from the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment to the Assessor Skill Set
- clarification of proficiency test recertification requirements for each discipline.

AFSAB Recertifications

Due to work from home arrangements implemented in response to COVID-19, there has been a delay in the processing of AFSAB annual and five-yearly recertifications. We will be in touch with practitioners directly if we require additional information regarding your recertification and you will receive a confirmation email once your recertification has been approved.

Please be advised that applications are overdue, and any outstanding application should be forwarded to secretariat.nifs@ anzpaa.org.au immediately. Relevant ANZFEC members will be notified of noncompliance.

Forensic Fundamentals -Phase 2



Overview

The aim of the Forensic Fundamentals project is to identify the underpinning science and validation requirements for each forensic science discipline. Through the project, a gap analysis is conducted for each discipline. These gap analyses will inform ongoing updates to the Research and Innovation Roadmap Annual Projects document.

Claim Assessment & Gap Analysis

Working groups map the claims made within their discipline, including claims surrounding underpinning principles and expert knowledge and interpretative ability. Literature is then assessed for each claim

to determine the level of empirical support that exists (assessed in accordance with the Empirical Study Guideline available on the NIFS website http://www.anzpaa.org.au/forensic-science/our-work/products/publications). The assessment of bloodstain pattern analysis, gunshot residue analysis and toxicology (analytical and alcohol interpretation claims) has now been finalised. Working groups are meeting (virtually) this month to begin identifying the claims for the toxicology (drug interpretation claims), audio video and drug analysis disciplines.

Forensic Standards Development



The following ISO TC272 standards are currently in development:

- ISO/CD 21043:3 Forensic Sciences – Analysis
- ISO/CD 21043:4 Forensic Sciences Interpretation
- ISO/CD 21043:5 Forensic Sciences Reporting

Due to COVID-19, face-to-face meetings are currently not possible. Therefore, meetings have now been moved to the virtual environment. TC272 are now meeting once per week, for three hours each meeting (at 9:30pm for Australia and 11:30pm for New Zealand!) The first round of 5 weeks of meetings has been held focussing on new definitions and the Analysis standard. The second round of 4 weeks is currently underway resolving country comments on the Interpretation standard. The third round of 4 weeks looking at the Reporting standard will commence in October.

Following the meetings, the standards will again be sent out for country member commenting. This will unfortunately extend the duration of the project; however, the project will continue to progress with the ultimate aim of publishing the standards.

The Forensic Exhibit. Meetings and workshops

Workshop:

Ian Riebeling New Practitioner Workshop

The Ian Riebeling New Practitioner Workshop is facilitated by the National Institute of Forensic Science (NIFS) and aims to provide an overview of forensic science in Australia and New Zealand to forensic science students and new practitioners. It is routinely run in conjunction with the Australian New Zealand Forensic Science Society (ANZFSS) conference. As noted in the ANZFSS and IAFS updates earlier in this newsletter, uncertainties as a result of COVID-19 have resulted in changes to the upcoming symposium dates.

The next ANZFSS conference will be in held in Queensland in 2022 and we are delighted to continue of our support of this conference with the running of the lan Riebeling New Practitioner Workshop.

We look forward to updating you on the details of the workshop as the conference draws closer.



Events Calendar

2020

OCTOBER

42nd Annual Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists Conference (SWAFS)

5 - 8 October 2020

Virtual Event

https://swafs.us/

The New Mexico Decedent Image Database (NMDID) Webinar Series

7 - 28 October 2020

Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE)

https://forensiccoe.org/webinar/nmdid-webinarseries/

6th International CSI Korea Conference

22 - 24 October 2020

Virtual event

https://kcsi.go.kr/kcsi/main/conference/mainConferencePageEng.do

2020 Online Forensic Symposium: Current Trends in Seized Drug Analysis

26 - 30 October 2020

Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE)

https://www.forensicscienceeducation. org/forensic-education/courses-andworkshops/2020-online-forensic-symposiumcurrent-trends-in-forensic-drug-analysis-online/

NOVEMBER

2020 Forensic Pharmacology

16 - 18 November 2020

Online workshop

Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE)

https://www.forensicscienceeducation. org/forensic-education/courses-andworkshops/2020-forensic-pharmacology-withlionel-raymon-online/

2021

AUGUST

9th European Academy of Forensic Science Conference (EAFS)

20 August – 3 September 2021

Stockholm, Sweden

29th Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics (ISFG)

23 - 28 August 2021

Washington DC

http://www.isfg2021.org

SEPTEMBER

32nd International Symposium on Human Identification (ISHI)

14 - 17 September 2021

Orlando, Florida

http://www.ishi.com

OCTOBER

58th Annual The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT) Meeting

24 - 28 October 2021

Cape Town, South Africa

http://www.tiaft.org/tiaft-agenda.html

2022

25th Symposium of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society

Dates TBC

Brisbane, Australia

https://anzfss.org/

2023

NOVEMBER

23nd Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) in conjunction with the 26th Symposium of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society

20 - 24 November 2023

Sydney, Australia

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Next edition focus

In the next issue:

- The year in review
- Update from ANZFEC 17 and the annual ANZPAA NIFS Specialist Advisory Group chairs meeting
- ANZPAA NIFS Best Paper Award Winners Announcement
- ANZPAA NIFS Projects Update

More information:

Newsletter contributions

If you would like any further information on ANZPAA NIFS or would like to contribute to the next edition of *The Forensic Exhibit* please contact Hannah Jarman: hannah.jarman@anzpaa.org.au

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