

The logo for the International Symposium on Human Identification (ISHI) features the acronym 'ISHI' in large, bold, white letters on a dark brown background. To the right of the acronym, the full name of the symposium is written in smaller white text: 'INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON HUMAN IDENTIFICATION'. Below this, the location and dates are listed: 'PHOENIX, AZ • SEP 29 - OCT 2, 2014'.

ISHI

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON HUMAN IDENTIFICATION
PHOENIX, AZ • SEP 29 - OCT 2, 2014

25th International Symposium on Human Identification
Phoenix, AZ
October 1, 2014

The logo for NIST Forensic Sciences consists of the NIST logo on the left, which is a stylized 'NIST' in white on a black background. To its right, the words 'FORENSIC SCIENCES' are written in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters 'E' and 'I' in 'FORENSIC' and 'I' and 'E' in 'SCIENCES' are highlighted in red.

NIST FORENSIC
SCIENCES

**National Commission on
Forensic Science (NCFS)**
and
**Organization of Scientific
Area Committees (OSAC)**

John M. Butler, Ph.D.

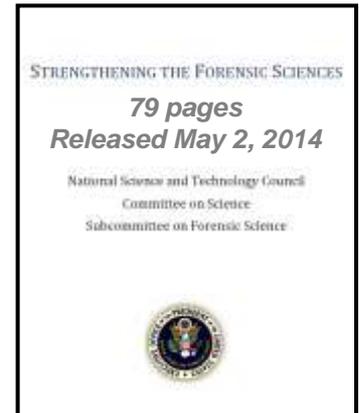
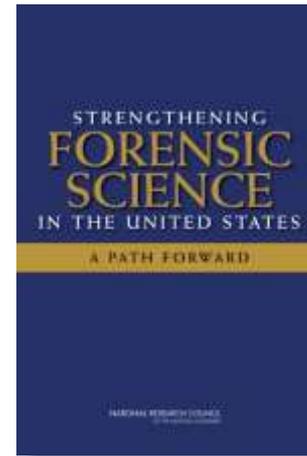
National Institute of Standards and Technology
NIST Fellow & Special Assistant to the Director for Forensic Science
Vice-Chair, National Commission on Forensic Science

The NIST logo is located in the bottom right corner of the slide. It features the letters 'NIST' in a bold, sans-serif font, with a color gradient from blue to yellow.

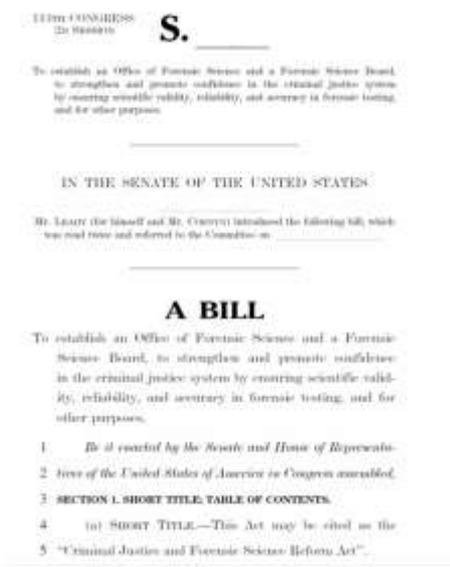
NIST

Forensic Science Realignment

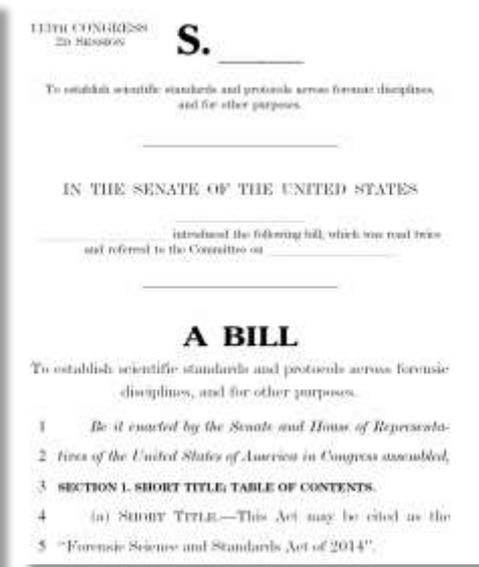
- NAS report – Feb 2009
- White House Subcommittee on Forensic Science (SoFS) – July 2009 to Dec 2012
- **DOJ/NIST Partnership**
 - **NCFS** (National Commission on Forensic Science)
 - **OSAC** (Organization of Scientific Area Committees)
- Pending Legislation (Senate)
 - Leahy Bill (Justice)
 - Rockefeller Bill (Commerce)
- FY14 New NIST Role
 - administer “guidance groups”
→ OSAC



http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/NSTC/strengthening_the_forensic_sciences_may_-_2014.pdf

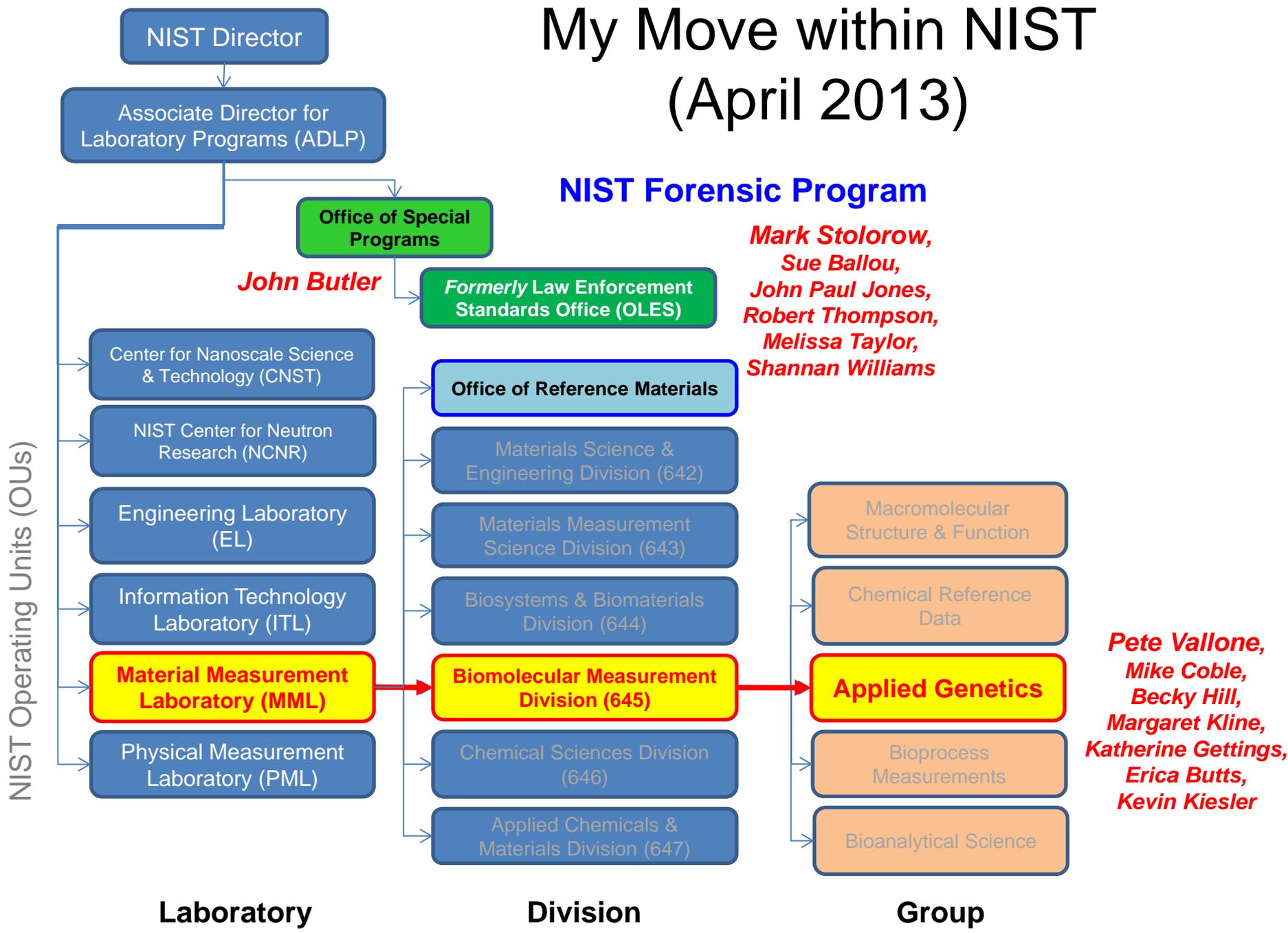


Criminal Justice and Forensic Science Reform Act (Leahy Bill)



Forensic Science and Standards Act (Rockefeller Bill)

My Move within NIST (April 2013)



February 3-4, 2014 was the first meeting of the **National Commission on Forensic Science**



As a Federal Advisory Committee, the Commission is required to hold open public meetings for transparency

37 Commissioners + DOJ/NIST Leadership Team
(with ~100 public attendees)

Webcast of Second NCFS Meeting

<http://www.nist.gov/forensics/national-commission-on-forensic-science-webcast.cfm>



NCFS Membership

- **31 commissioners and 8 ex-officio members**
 - Selected from >300 applicants
 - Represent diverse backgrounds, extensive experience, and come from 21 states
- Professors of biochemistry, chemistry, pathology, physics, sociology, statistics, and law (including a Nobel laureate and National Medal of Science recipient)
- Crime laboratory directors (including ATF, DEA, & FBI rep)
- Judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys
- Sheriff, detective, coroner, medical examiner, victims' advocate, defendants' rights advocate, standards expert

National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS)



THE COMMON LAW IS THE WILL OF *Mankind* ISSUING FROM THE *Life* OF THE *People*

www.justice.gov/ncfs

THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FORENSIC SCIENCE



NIST
National Institute of Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

In 2013, the Department of Justice (DOJ) established the National Commission on Forensic Science, in partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to enhance the practice and improve the reliability of forensic science. This unique partnership draws upon each agency's core strengths to promote scientific validity, reduce fragmentation, and improve federal coordination of forensic science.

The Commission is co-chaired by Deputy Attorney General James M. Cole and NIST Acting Director and Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology, Willie May. Nelson Santos, Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Forensic Sciences at the Drug Enforcement Administration, and John M. Butler, Special Assistant to the NIST Director for forensic science, serve as vice-chairs. Brette Steele, Senior Advisor on Forensic Science and Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General serves as the Designated Federal Officer and Robin Jones, Consultant within the Department of Justice, serves as Program Manager.

The Commission includes federal, state and local forensic science service providers; research scientists and academics; law enforcement officials; prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges; and other stakeholders from across the country.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

Charter

Bylaws

GENERAL INFORMATION
NATIONAL COMMISSION
ON FORENSIC SCIENCE

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By Phone:
(202) 305-0180

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James M. Cole
Deputy Attorney General
DOJ Co-Chair



Willie E. May
Acting Director of NIST
New NIST Co-Chair



Patrick D. Gallagher
NIST Director (2009-2014)
Initial NIST Co-Chair
Left NIST → Chancellor of Pitt
<http://www.news.pitt.edu/chancellorelect>

NCFS Members

Commissioner Biographies available at <http://www.justice.gov/ncfs/members.html>

Co-Chairs:

James M. Cole

Willie E. May, Ph.D.
(Acting Director of NIST)

Vice-Chairs:

Nelson Santos

John Butler, Ph.D.

Commission Staff:

Brette Steele

Robin Jones

Commission Members:

Suzanne Bell, Ph.D.

Frederick Bieber, Ph.D.

Thomas Cech, Ph.D.

Cecelia Crouse, Ph.D.

Gregory Czarnopys

M. Bonner Denton, Ph.D.

Vincent Di Maio, M.D.

Troy Duster, Ph.D.

Jules Epstein

Stephen Fienberg, Ph.D.

Andrea Ferreira-Gonzalez, Ph.D.

John Fudenberg

S. James Gates, Jr., Ph.D.

Dean Gialamas

Paul Giannelli

Hon. Barbara Hervey

Susan Howley

Ted Hunt

Linda Jackson

John Kacavas

Pamela King

Marc LeBeau, Ph.D.

Julia Leighton

Hon. Bridget Mary McCormack

Peter Neufeld

Phil Pulaski

Matthew Redle

Michael "Jeff" Salyards, Ph.D.

Ryant Washington

Ex-Officio Members:

Hon. Jed Rakoff

David Honey, Ph.D.

Marilyn Huestis, Ph.D.

Gerald LaPorte

Patricia Manzolillo

Frances Schrotter

Kathryn Turman

Mark Weiss, Ph.D.

NCFS Leadership and Staff Support



Nelson A. Santos
Vice-Chair (DOJ)



John M. Butler
Vice-Chair (NIST)



Brette L. Steele
Designated Federal Official



Robin W. Jones
Program Manager

NCFS Co-Chairs and OSTP Director address the first Commission meeting

NIST Director
Pat Gallagher

Deputy Attorney General
James Cole

OSTP Director
John Holdren





Informational Briefings

- **Judge Harry Edwards** spoke on findings from the 2009 NAS report
- Bureau of Justice Statistics researcher **Matt DuRose** reviewed the 2009 census of U.S. forensic laboratories



White House **Subcommittee on Forensic Science** committee chairs discuss outcome of work conducted from 2009 to 2012

Patricia Manzolillo

U.S. Postal Service
Forensic Laboratory



**Accreditation
& Certification**

Dean Gialamas

LA County Sheriff's
Office Crime Lab



**Proficiency
Testing**

Jeff Salyards

Defense Forensic
Science Center



**Research &
Development**

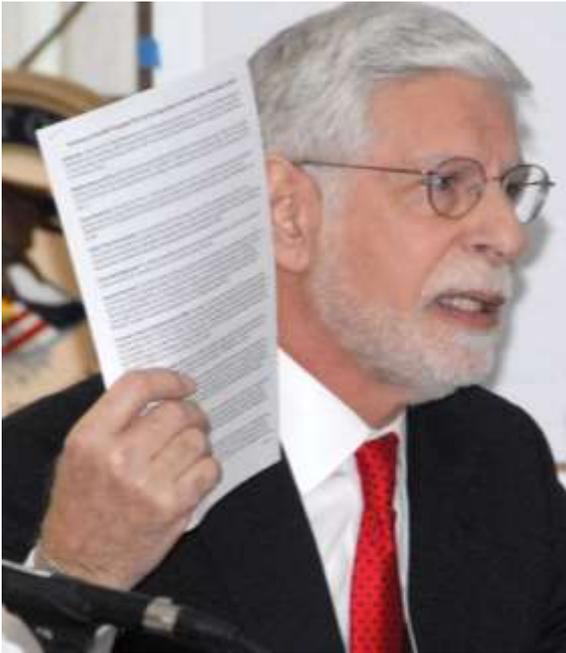
Gerry LaPorte

National Institute
of Justice



**Documentary
Standards**

Mark Stolorow (NIST) introduces the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) plan



For more information, see <http://www.nist.gov/forensics/osac.cfm>

Commission discussions were led by Vice-Chairs John Butler (NIST) and Nelson Santos (DOJ)



Discussed issues and developed subcommittee topics

6 Initial NCFS Subcommittees Formed

1. Accreditation and Proficiency Testing
2. Interim Solutions
3. Medico-legal Death Investigation
4. Reporting and Testimony
- 5. Scientific Inquiry and Research**
6. Training on Science and Law

Issues being examined:
(a) Foundational literature
(b) Educational programs
(c) Transition of research
(d) Measuring impact

A human factors subcommittee was recommended at the second meeting and was initiated during the third meeting

NCFS Meeting 2 Topics

May 12-13, 2014

- Panel on **Cognitive Bias and Human Factors**
 - Speakers: Deborah Boehm-Davis, John Collins, Michael Risinger, David H. Kaye
- Panel on **Ethics in Forensic Science**
 - Speakers: Jamie Upshaw Downs, Rob Lesnevich
- **Subcommittee Reports**
- **OSAC Update**
 - Speakers: Mark Stolorow, Willie May

NCFS Meeting Materials Available

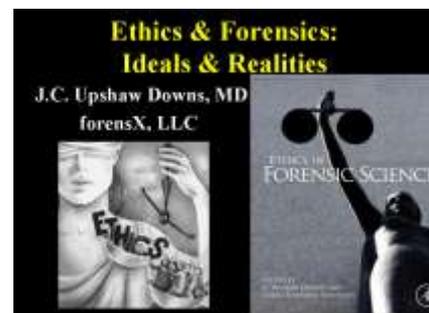
<http://www.justice.gov/ncfs/meeting-materials.html>

Meeting Summary

23 page pdf document



Speaker Slides (pdf files)



MEETING TWO

References **Listing of 22 references provided to Commissioners**

Human Factors and Cognitive Bias in Forensic Science
Deborah Boehm-Davis, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences and University Professor, Department of Psychology, George Mason University

John Collins, President, Forensic Foundations Group

The Need for Sequential Unmasking
Michael Risinger, John J. Gibbons Professor of Law, Seton Hall University School of Law

David H. Kaye
Distinguished Professor of Law and Weiss Family Faculty Scholar, Penn State University, Dickinson School of Law

Ethics and Forensic Science
J.C. Upshaw Downs, M.D., Coastal Regional Medical Examiner, Georgia Bureau of Investigation

Rob Lesnevich, Director, Forensic Science Laboratory, US Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

Update on the Organization of Scientific Area Committees
Mark Stolorow, Director of OSAC Affairs, Office of Special Programs, National Institute of Standards and Technology

NCFS Meeting 3 Topics

August 26-27, 2014

- Amended Bylaws Reviewed
 - **Vote passed on a directive to survey police forensic units**
- Panel on **Cognitive Bias and Human Factors**
 - Speakers: Itiel Dror and Bill Thompson
 - **Human Factors Subcommittee formed**
- Panel on **Latent Print Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Interoperability**
 - Speakers: Melissa Gische, Austin Hicklin, Lauren Reed, and David Russell
- **UK Regulator Andrew Rennison** to share lessons learned from the United Kingdom
- Panel on **Role of Accreditation in Forensic Science**
 - Speakers: Beth Mishalanie, Ross Randlett, Roger Klein
- **Subcommittee Reports**



UK Forensic Science Regulator Andrew Rennison

- Shared lessons learned from the United Kingdom from his experience covering Feb 2008 to Aug 2014
- Next Forensic Science Regulator will be Dr. Gillian Tully (former head of research at the Forensic Science Service)

Future NCFS Meeting Dates

<http://www.justice.gov/ncfs>

Meeting 4: October 28-29, 2014
Meeting 5: January 29-30, 2015
Meeting 6: April 30-May 1, 2015

Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC)

Forensic discipline-specific guidance groups administered by NIST



OSAC Launch

- February 4, 2014 announcement to NCFS
- The OSAC will be a **collaborative body of more than 600 forensic science practitioners and other experts** who represent all levels of the government, academia and industry.
- Establishing OSAC to strengthen the nation's use of forensic science by:
 - supporting the development and promulgation of forensic science **consensus documentary standards** and guidelines
 - determining each forensic discipline's **research and measurement standards needs**
 - ensuring that a **sufficient scientific basis** exists for each discipline

Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC)

Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)

June 26

Legal Resource Committee (LRC)

July 16

Quality Infrastructure Committee (QIC)

Human Factors Committee (HFC)

Sept 3

SAC
Biology/DNA

SAC
Chemistry/
Instrumental Analysis

SAC
Crime Scene/
Death Investigation

SAC
IT/Multimedia

SAC
Physics/Pattern

Bottom portion (subcommittee membership) to be announced by end of October

DNA Analysis Sub1

Controlled Substances Sub

Anthropology Sub

Facial Identification Sub

Blood Stain Pattern
Analysis Sub

DNA Analysis Sub2

Fire Debris and Explosives
Sub (lab)

Disaster Victim
Identification Sub

Imaging Technologies Sub

Friction Ridge Sub

Wildlife Forensics Sub

Geological Materials Sub

Dogs and Sensors Sub

Speaker Recognition Sub

Firearms & Toolmarks
Sub

Gunshot Residue Sub

Fire Scene and
Explosives Sub

Digital Evidence Sub

Footwear
& Tire Tread Sub

Materials (Trace) Sub

Medical/Legal Death
Investigation Sub

Questioned Documents
Sub

Toxicology Sub

Odontology Sub

SAC = Scientific Area Committee
Sub = Subcommittee

OSAC Events and Information



NIST Home > Forensics > Organization of Scientific Area Committees

www.nist.gov/forensics/osac.cfm



Organization for Scientific Area Committees (OSAC)

NIST is working with the forensic science community to establish the new Organization for Scientific Area Committees (OSAC). OSAC will coordinate development of standards and guidelines for the forensic science community to improve quality and consistency of work in the forensic science community. View the current **organization chart**. Click on the links below to learn about OSAC developments. See our **FAQs for OSAC**.

July 7, 2014 – Presentation slides for first FSSB virtual meeting (opens PDF)

June 26, 2014 – NIST Names Members to First Forensic Science Standards Board (news release)

May 14, 2014 – Forensic Committee Application Closes for 2014; Candidates May Apply for 2015

May 14, 2014 – OSAC Update Presented to National Commission on Forensic Science, presentation slides (opens PDF)

April 22, 2014 – NIST Seeks Applicants to Join Forensic Science Committees (news release)

April 11, 2014 – Calling Forensic Scientists: Apply Now to Join the NIST Organization of Scientific Area Committees (news update)

April 11, 2014 – The OSAC Roles and Responsibilities document is now available.

April 11, 2014 – Application form for NIST Organization of Scientific Area Committees is online. Apply now.

March 18, 2014 – Application Form for NIST Organization of Scientific Area Committees Coming Soon (news update)

March 18, 2014 – Updated summary of the NIST Plan for the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (pdf)

Feb. 18, 2014 – NIST Forensic Science team gave a panel presentation at the American Academy of

**1313 applicants from
April 11 to May 11
(>150 for DNA)**

FSSB announced June 26

Feb. 18, 2014 – NIST Forensic Science team gave a panel presentation at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Meeting.

- View the recorded Webcast on New Forensic Scientific Area Committees
- Presentation slides (PDF)

Feb. 14, 2014 – NIST announces Feb. 18 Webcast on New Forensic Scientific Area Committees

Feb. 7, 2014 – NIST Presents an Infrastructure Plan to Strengthen Forensic Science Committees

Feb. 7, 2014 – Revised slide presentation on OSAC (pdf)

Feb. 7, 2014 – 3-page summary of the NIST Proposed Plan for the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (pdf)

Feb. 4, 2014 – Slide presentation on OSAC to the National Commission on Forensic Science (pdf)

Feb. 4, 2014 – Public Comments on NIST Notice of Inquiry: Possible Models for the Administration and Support for Forensic Guidance Groups (opens pdf 8MB)

Sept. 27, 2013 – NIST Invites Comments on Structure of Forensic Science Guidance Groups (news release)

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Office of Special Programs

100 Bureau Drive, Stop 4701
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8102
301-975-2756 or
301-975-2757

	Scientific Working Group (SWG)	Topic (Forensic Discipline)	Start	Sponsor	Website
1	SWG DAM	DNA	1988	FBI	swgdam.org
2	SWG MAT	Materials (Trace)	1992	FBI	swgmat.org
3	SWG FAST	Friction Ridge (Fingerprints)	1995	FBI	swgfast.org
4	SWG DRUG	Controlled Substances	1997	DEA	swgdrug.org
5	SWG IT	Imaging Technologies	1997	FBI OTD	swgit.org
6	SWG DOC	Document Examination	1997	FBI	swgdoc.org
7	SWG DE	Digital Evidence	1998	FBI OTD	swgde.org
8	SWG GUN	Firearms & Toolmarks			
9	SWG FEX	Fire Debris & Explosives			
10	SWG STAIN	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis			
11	SWG TREAD	Shoeprint & Tire Tread			
12	SWG DOG	Dog & Orthogonal Detector	2004	FBI	swgaog.iu.edu
13	SWG GSR	Gun Shot Residue	2007		
14	SWG ANTH	Anthropology	2008		
15	SWG TOX	Toxicology	2009		
16	FISWG	Facial Identification	2009		
17	SWG DVI	Disaster Victim Identification	2010		
18	SWG MDI	Medicolegal Death Investigation	2010		
19	SWG GEO	Geological Materials	2011		
20	SWG WILD	Wildlife Forensics	2011	USFWS	wildlifeforensicscience.org/ swgwild
21	SWG SPEAKER	Voice Analysis	2012	FBI	swg-speaker.org

NIJ funding of SWGs has stopped; **SWG DAM** and **SWG DE** will continue with FBI funding

Collectively these 21 SWGs have had >750 participants and have produced >250 documents

FSSB appointed June 26, 2014

QIC, LRC, HFC – July 16

SAC – Sept 3

Subcommittees – October

**George Herrin (GBI)
SAC Biology Chair**

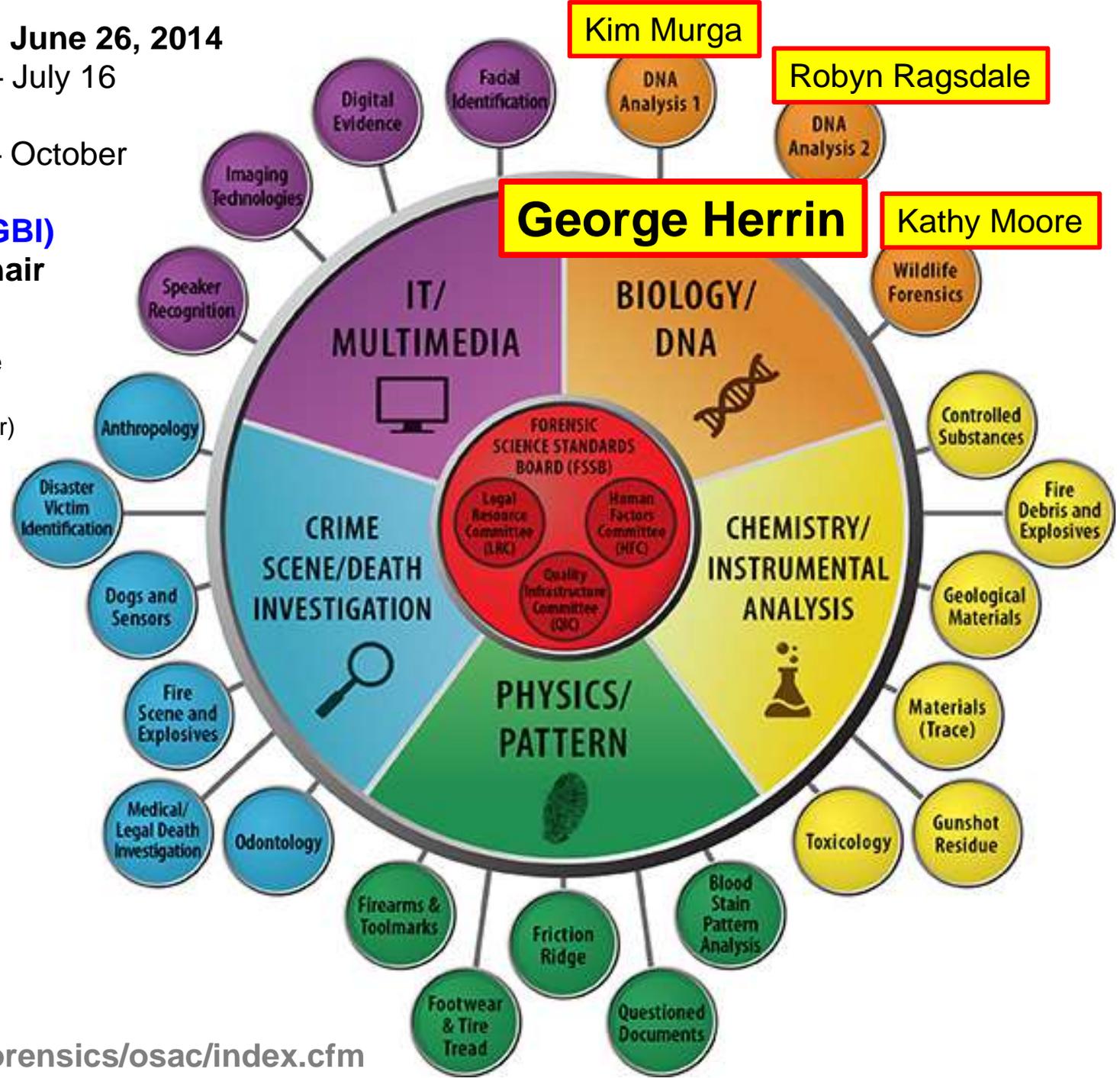
Subcommittee membership to be announced soon (before end of October)

Kim Murga

Robyn Ragsdale

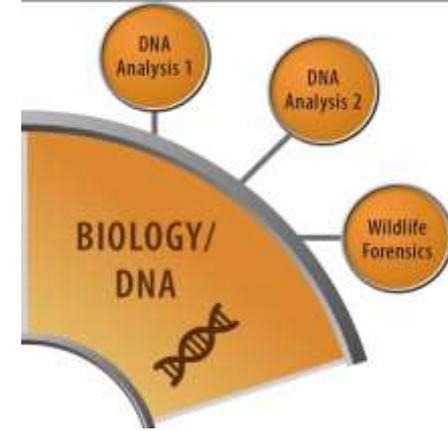
George Herrin

Kathy Moore



Scientific Area Committee (SAC) Biology Members

appointed September 3, 2014



George Herrin, Jr., Ph.D., **SAC Chair**,

Georgia Bureau of Investigation-Division of Forensic Sciences

Kimberly Murga, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, **Chair of the OSAC DNA Analysis 1 Subcommittee**

Robyn Ragsdale, Ph.D., Florida Department of Law Enforcement, **Chair of the OSAC DNA Analysis 2 Subcommittee**

M. Katherine Moore, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, **Chair of the OSAC Wildlife Subcommittee**

John Butler, Ph.D., National Institute of Standards and Technology

Thomas Callaghan, Ph.D., Federal Bureau of Investigation

Robin Cotton, Ph.D., Boston University

Phillip Danielson, Ph.D., University of Denver

Angelo Della Manna, Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences

Deedra Hawk, Wyoming Game and Fish Department Wildlife Forensic and Fish Health Laboratory

Antonio Possolo, Ph.D., National Institute of Standards and Technology

Bruce Weir, Ph.D., University of Washington

SWGDM and OSAC DNA Efforts will Co-Exist and Some Individuals Will be Members of Both

“...NIST and the FBI have agreed that SWGDAM will remain operationally with the FBI at this time...”

<http://swgdam.org/faq.html>



Frequently Asked Questions

On occasion, SWGDAM will use this page to post responses to frequently asked questions from the forensic DNA community or other interested parties for the purposes of general information. The intent of this page is not for it to be a comprehensive list of answers to all of the inquires SWGDAM receives, but rather a collection of those inquires that SWGDAM recognizes to be of interest to a broad spectrum of forensic DNA science practitioners and/or consumers. SWGDAM recognizes that not all inquires will be amenable to the short answer format of this page and will continue to use its members, meetings, SWGDAM.org, and conference updates to collect and disseminate information.

Please note that some questions have been edited for brevity, clarity, and/or to remove specific identifying information. Text contains within [] indicates information added by SWGDAM.

National Commission on Forensic Science

Q: What plans exist to transition SWGDAM from its current home in the FBI to the new Organization of Scientific Are Committees (OSAC)?

SWGDM Response: Due to the unique statutory relationship between SWGDAM and the FBI with regard to the FBI Director's Quality Assurance Standards (QAS) for DNA Laboratories, NIST and the FBI have agreed that SWGDAM will remain operationally with the FBI at this time. The FBI also feels strongly that the business activities of the SWGDAM Committees are critical for the

Department of Justice

Policy focused

Limited Term (FACA)

Attorney General

Recommendations



National Commission
on Forensic Science
(**NCFS**)

NIST

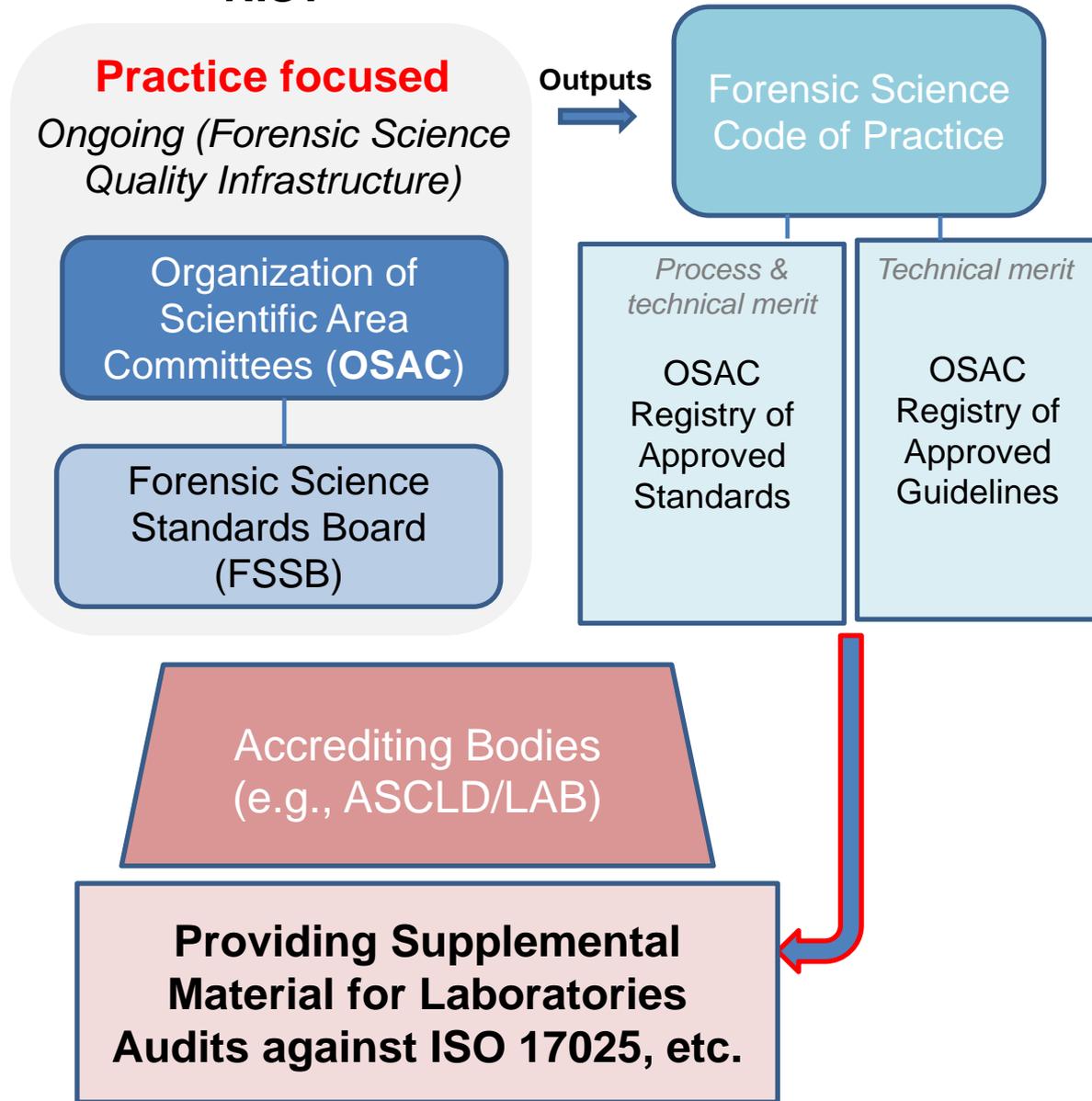
Practice focused

*Ongoing (Forensic Science
Quality Infrastructure)*

Organization of
Scientific Area
Committees (**OSAC**)

Forensic Science
Standards Board
(**FSSB**)

NIST

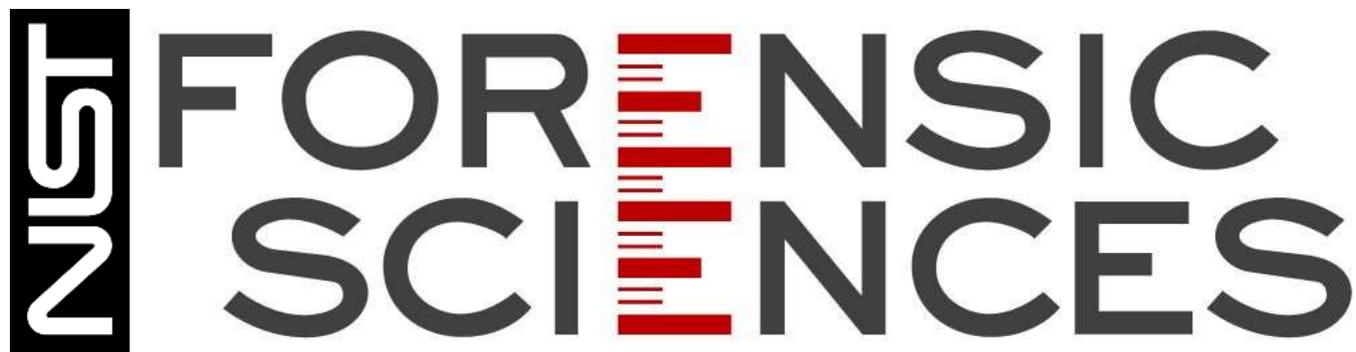


Save the Date for Future Meetings

- **Forensics@NIST** (Gaithersburg, MD):
December 3-4, 2014
Will showcase NIST research in DNA, digital evidence, ballistics, and statistics
Will be webcast
- **International Symposium** on Forensic Measurement Issues and Error (Washington, DC):
July 20-24, 2015 *is being planned*

National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS):
www.justice.gov/ncfs

Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC):
www.nist.gov/forensics/osac/index.cfm



www.nist.gov/forensics

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