National Commission on Forensic Science
Washington, DC
May 13, 2014

OSAC Update

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Current and Proposed NIST Forensic Science Research Areas

- Fingerprint
- DNA
- Microbial Forensics
- IT Forensics
- Toxicology
- Controlled Substances
- New Starts
- Statistical Methods
- Toolmarks
- Human Factors
- Trace Evidence
- Fire/Arson investigation
- Nuclear Forensics
OSAC Update

- **Outreach** - Conducted open OSAC forums and provided presentations with a dozen stakeholder organizations since last NCFS meeting

- **Infrastructure** - Modified OSAC infrastructure based on stakeholder feedback – (next slide)

- **Membership** - Opened online membership application process, April 11 – May 11, 2014

- **Response** - Received more than 1,300 membership applications
Understanding the OSAC Levels

**Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)**
- Set policy, rules, priorities for OSAC
- Manage OSAC Registry of Standards

**Legal Resource, Quality Infrastructure, Human Factors Committees**
- Provide advice across all forensic science and discipline committees

**Scientific Area Committees**
- Manage work within a scientific area (harmonize/leverage across related disciplines)
- Develop scientific area standards, (e.g., terminology, reporting requirements, conclusion statements)

**Discipline specific Subcommittees (Working Groups)**
- Identify and develop standards & best practices for discipline
Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC)

Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)

Legal Resource Committee (LRC)

Quality Infrastructure Committee (QIC)

Human Factors Committee (HFC)

SAC Biology/DNA
- DNA Analysis Sub1
- DNA Analysis Sub2
- Wildlife Forensics Sub

SAC Chemistry/Instrumental Analysis
- Controlled Substances Sub
- Fire Debris and Explosives Sub (lab)
- Geological Materials Sub
- Gunshot Residue Sub
- Materials (Trace) Sub
- Toxicology Sub

SAC Crime Scene/Death Investigation
- Anthropology Sub
- Disaster Victim Identification Sub
- Dogs and Sensors Sub
- Fire Scene and Explosives Sub
- Medical/Legal Death Investigation Sub
- Odontology Sub

SAC IT/Multimedia
- Facial Identification Sub
- Imaging Technologies Sub
- Speaker Recognition Sub

SAC Physics/Pattern
- Blood Stain Pattern Analysis Sub
- Friction Ridge Sub
- Firearms & Toolmarks Sub
- Footwear & Tire Tread Sub
- Questioned Documents Sub

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SAC = Scientific Area Committee
Sub = Subcommittee

March 18, 2014
OSAC Applicants
as of 12 May 2014

All 50 states represented

357 state govt
331 local govt
234 federal govt
223 private
154 academic
14 FFRDC
56 non-U.S.

Other countries (21 total; 56 individuals)
- Australia (10) Italy (1)
- Bangladesh (1) Korea (1)
- Belarus (1) Malaysia (1)
- Bosnia (1) Nepal (1)
- Brazil (1) The Netherlands (1)
- Canada (17) New Zealand (1)
- China (1) Peru (1)
- France (1) Singapore (2)
- Germany (2) Switzerland (1)
- Israel (2) Taiwan (1)
- UK (8)
Background of OSAC Applicants
(as of 12 May 2014)

1313 total

- 27% State govt
- 17% Private sector
- 12% Academic
- 18% Federal govt
- 25% Local govt

FFRDC = Federally-funded research and development center

Employer Classification:
- Academic
- Federal Government
- FFRDC
- Local Government
- Private Sector
- State Government
Background of OSAC Applicants
(as of 12 May 2014)

1313 total

65% “practitioner”

8% “researcher”

2% Educator/Trainer

8% Attorney

4% Judge

8% Other

Researher

Quality Assurance Manager

R&D Technology Partner

Job Classification

# statisticians (ASA) = 25
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Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)

Legal Resource Committee (LRC)
- DNA Analysis Sub 73
- Controlled Substances Sub 78

Quality Infrastructure Committee (QIC)
- Anthropology Sub 22
- Disaster Victim Identification Sub 19
- Dogs and Sensors Sub 21

Human Factors Committee (HFC)
- Facial Identification Sub 32
- Imaging Technologies Sub 22

- Blood Stain Pattern Analysis Sub 22
- Friction Ridge Sub 71
- Firearms & Toolmarks Sub 58
- Footwear & Tire Tread Sub 24
- Questioned Documents Sub 50

SAC = Scientific Area Committee
Sub = Subcommittee

1,313 Applicants and their primary selections as of May 12, 2014
Next Steps - Timeline for 2014

• Appoint FSSB in May
• Appoint LRC, QIC, HFC membership and SAC leadership in June
• First SAC meetings to select Subcommittee leadership in August
• Conduct OSAC training virtually via webinar in Sept/Oct
• Hold in-person meeting between mid-November and January