June 4, 2013

8:30 – 9:00 AM  Arrive at NIST Green Auditorium and Visit Registration

9:00 – 9:30 AM  Welcoming Remarks

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) – John Paul Jones II, Program Manager, NIST

National Institute of Justice (NIJ) – Heather Waltke, Associate Director, Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences, National Institute of Justice

Scientific Working Group on Forensic Document Examinations (SWGDOC) – Ted Burkes, SWGDOC Chair, FBI


9:30 – 10:15 AM  Current State of Handwriting Examinations

Forensic Handwriting Examinations: The Progression to our Current State – John Paul Osborn, Forensic Document Examiner, Osborn & Son; Peter Tytell, Forensic Document Examiner, and Rigo Vargas, Questioned Documents Section Chief, Mississippi Crime Laboratory

10:15 – 10:30 AM  Break

10:30 – 12:00 PM  Foundational Science Behind Handwriting

Handwriting Stroke Kinematics – Linton Mohammed, PhD, D-ABFDE, Forensic Document Examiner, Forensic Science Consultants, Inc.

Neuroscience behind the Motor Control and Motor Equivalence of the Handwriting Function – Dr. Michael Caligiuri, Professor, University of California – San Diego

Cognitive Theoretical Perspectives in Studies of Forensic Document Examination including “What Examiners Look At” (i.e. Eye-tracking) – Dr. Mara Merlino, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Kentucky State University

12:00 – 1:00 PM  Lunch (on your own)
1:00 – 2:30 PM  Reproducibility & Reliability Studies

Performance of Forensic Document Examiners including Reliability & Repeatability – Moshe Kam, Professor, Drexel University

Testing Examiners Performance (Homogeneous Writing Research) - Marie Durina, Senior Forensic Document Examiner, San Diego Sheriff’s Crime Laboratory

The Lineup: 1,000 Handwriting Samples – David Parrett, Forensic Document Examiner

2:30 – 2:45 PM  Break

2:45 – 5:00 PM  Advances in Measurement Science in Handwriting Examinations

Introduction to Quantitative Systems for Forensic Handwriting Comparisons – JoAnn Buscaglia, Research Chemist, FBI (moderator)

The Forensic Language-Independent Analysis System for Handwriting Identification (FLASH ID) – Mark Walch, President CEO, Gannon Technologies Group and Dr. Don Gantz, Statistician, George Mason University

Forensic Information System for Handwriting (FISH) – Kathleen Storer, Forensic Document Examiner, United States Secret Service

WANDA - a Measurement tool for Forensic Document Examiners – Dr. Katrin Franke, Professor of Computer Science and Director of the Digital Forensics and Cybercrime Investigation Laboratory at Gjøvik University College

Scale Invariant Feature Transform (SIFT) – Dr. Jeff Woodard, Researcher, Mitre (INVITED)

D-Scribe – Michael Carpenter, Siemens (Speaker TBD)

CEDAR FOX and iFOX– Sargur Srihari, Professor, SUNY – Buffalo

June 5, 2013

8:30 – 9:00 AM  Arrive at NIST Green Auditorium and Visit Registration

9:00 – 10:30 AM  Advances in Statistics for Handwriting Examinations #1

Trends in Frequency Occurrence of Handwriting and Hand Printing Characteristics – Thomas Vastrick

Bayesian Methods in Handwriting Analysis - Brent Ostrum, Senior Document Forensic Examiner, Canadian Boarder Services Agency
Understanding Individuality of Handwriting Using Score-Based Likelihood Ratios - Dr. Christopher Saunders, Mathematical Statistician, South Dakota State University

Development of Individual handwriting Characteristics in 1800 Students: Statistical Analysis and Likelihood Rations that Emerge over an Extended Period of Time – Lisa Hanson, Forensic Document Examiner, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Laboratory

10:30 – 10:45 AM  Break

10:45 – 11:30 AM  Advances in Statistics for Handwriting Examinations #2

Handwriting Evidence Evaluation Based on the Shape of Characters: Application of Multivariate Likelihood Ratios - Ray Marquis, Institute of Forensic Science, University of Lausanne (UNIL)

Statistical Basis to Determine Probabilities of Occurrence of Handwriting Characteristics - Kirsten Singer, D-ABFDE, Department of Veteran Affairs, OIG and Sargur Srihari, Professor, SUNY – Buffalo

11:30 – 12:45 PM  Legal Implications of Quantitative Testimony

Update from Working Group on Presenting Forensic Science Evidence Using Quantitative and Qualitative Terms (QQWG) – Melissa Taylor, Management Analyst, NIST


How the Human Mind Interprets Quantitative Information – Dr. Shari Diamond, Howard J. Trienens Professor of Law, Professor of Psychology, Research Professor, Northwestern University School of Law (INVITED)

12:45 – 2:00 PM  Lunch (on your own)

2:00 – 3:15 PM  Other Examination Tools to Support Metrics

Using the Statistical Functions of Write-On Software to Assess Natural Variation in Handwriting – Brian Lindblom, Forensic Document Examiner, Document Examination Consultants, Inc., Ottawa Canada

Electronic Signatures Research – William Flynn, Private FDE, AFL, Inc. (INVITED)

Analyzing Scanned Documents and What Banks are Doing – Janet Fenner Masson, Forensic Document Examiner & Jane Lewis, AAFS-QD Section Director, Private Examiner

3:15 – 3:30  Break
3:30 – 5:00 PM  Facilitated Discussion

Issues to Discuss:
- What does the future state of handwriting examinations look like?
- What are the barriers to implementing the future state?
- Design a Roadmap to achieve the future state
- Topics: NAS Statement, Technology, Risk, Research, Validation, Policy, Standards, Legal Admissibility, Cost, DOJ National Commission on Forensic Science

Facilitator: John Paul Jones II, Program Manager, NIST and/or Forensic Document Examiner
Knowledge Capture: SAIC Representative

5:00 PM  Meeting Summary & Next Steps