

The FQS Update



“Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better.” *Pat Riley*



We would like to take a minute and thank all of our customers for a busy and successful 2009. We welcomed several new labs this year and have seen a consistent pursuit of excellence from our existing labs. The hard work and dedication we see in inspiring. Your contributions to the community are appreciated. It is a pleasure working with all of you and we look forward to a busy and successful 2010. If you have any comments or suggestions please contact us. We are here to serve you. Thank you from the FQS staff!

Inside this issue:

Recent Workshops	2
Update	2
Assessors WANTED!	2
Interesting Links	3
Calendar of Events	3
Contacts	4

Forensic Relationship Testing Workshop

Greggory LaBerge from the Denver Police Department Crime Laboratory will be teaching this statistics workshop on March 18, 2010 in Clearwater, FL. The workshop will cover the basics of statistics, probability as they relate to relationship/paternity testing, random match probability calculations, mixture interpretations, unusual case studies, Hardy Weinberg and Linkage Equilibrium as well as provide the students with case examples of how to conduct calculations and provide court testimony in an appropriate and balanced way.

Greggory S. LaBerge is the Scientific Director and Bureau Commander of the Denver Police Department Crime Laboratory and has worked at the Denver Police Department for over 11 years. During his career, Gregg has been responsible for the operation of the Forensic Biology/DNA Section of the laboratory, and in cooperation with Lt. Jon Priest of Denver’s Major Crimes Unit, he started Denver’s cold case project in 1999 and worked with NIJ over the last 10 years to build one of the most successful DNA cold case programs in the United States. This project evolved out of Denver’s successful DNA program that started in 1994 and matured to handle some of the most difficult cases in Colorado. Gregg has provided support to the forensic community through teaching at the National Forensic Science Technology Center and around the world, as well as providing extensive legal support through the www.DenverDA.org Legal DNA website. He is also involved in extensive research studies with human autoimmune disease at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and continues to explore new research ideas to aid forensic sciences. Greg holds an Honors Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular Biology and Genetics from the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, a Master of Science degree in Biostatistics from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center at the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado.

We are excited about this new workshop created from requests from our readers. Please visit our website for registration information.



Recent Workshop

ISO 17025 and Audit Preparation Workshop

On November 2-4, 2009 FQS Manager of Accreditations Terry Mills presented FQS's "ISO Without Tears" training module in Clearwater, Florida. The workshop provided information on the role of ISO 17025 in the world of accreditation and other ISO standards that provided particularly valuable to the class as they prepare to transition to an ISO/IEC 17025 based accreditation program. A segment of the workshop also included basic auditor training as it pertains to an ISO 17025 assessment. Please check FQS's web site or this issues calendar of event for more information.



The workshop was well received by the attendees. Here are a just a few of their comments:

- ◆ Very informative.
- ◆ Great Class, well instructed.
- ◆ Comprehensive coverage of the standards

Assessors Wanted!!

We are in need of technical assessors for DNA. If you are interested please contact our Office Manager Judy VanGundy at 727-538-4134 or jav@forquality.org for an assessor application package. Questions regarding technical assessor requirements should be directed to our Manager of Accreditations Terry Mills at (727) 519-3566 or tm@forquality.org.



So that we can provide a better service to our assessors, accredited, and applicant laboratories, we are converting www.thefqsi.org into a protected site requiring a user name and password to access. With immediate effect, the public site for all FQS business will be www.forquality.org. Information held there includes the register of accredited laboratories and other public information about our accreditation program. A beta version of the protected site has been successfully tested. We will let you know as soon as the final version is ready, by emailing you the user name and password. Information available will include extensive FQS-I documentation and a blog/forum where you can exchange ideas and discuss issues.

FQS is now accepting credit card payments. We use Pay Pal to process our request. If you are interested in paying invoices with a credit card please contact Judy VanGundy at jav@forquality.org and she will send you a Pay Pal invoice. Your credit card information is confidential and only Pay Pal will have your credit card number.

Requests to be added to the newsletter e-mail distribution should be sent to: jav@forquality.org

Interesting Links in the Community

Mobile Biometric Fingerprinting Scanners Police Use New Fingerprint Technology for Forensic Identification
http://forensicscience.suite101.com/article.cfm/mobile_biometric_fingerprinting_scanners#ixzz0X8O4EkUO

Office of Science & Technology Policy Blog

<http://blog.ostp.gov/2009/08/24/working-at-ostp-forensic-science/>

We're on the web!
www.forquality.org

Can Digital Tech and Insects Replace Cadaver-Sniffing Dogs?

http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/worst_case_scenarios/4338265.html?nav=RSS20&src=syn&dom=yah_buzz&mag=pop

Woman Who Made False Rape Charge Is Guilty of Perjury

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/08/nyregion/08freed.html>

Crime Scene Measurements Can Be Taken from a Single Image

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/12/091201102338.htm>

Stakes are high as doubt is cast on forensic lab techniques

<http://www.star-telegram.com/local/story/1797030.html>

A demo video for forensic labs to get a taste of what Qualtrax software can do for you!

<http://qualtrax.com/Industries/ForensicLabs/Downloads.aspx>

Obtain a copy of the ISO /IEC17025 :2005 standards at: www.ISO.org

Obtain a copy of the FBI DNA Quality Assurance Audit Document at:: www.fbi.gov

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

February 22-27, 2010 “American Academy of Forensic Sciences 62nd Annual Scientific Meeting” Washington State Convention & Trade Center Seattle, Washington.

***March 15-17 and September 27-29, 2010 “ISO 17025 and Audit Preparation Workshop”** FOS Workshop, Clearwater, FL. The workshop will include an overview of ISO 17025 standards, review of general and technical requirements, and a discussion of agency preparations.

***March 18, 2010 “Forensic Relationship Testing Workshop”** This statistics workshop will be presented by *Gregory LaBerge from the Denver Police Department* and cover relationship/paternity testing, calculations, mixture interpretation, unusual case studies, Hardy Weinberg, Linkage equilibrium and MORE!

***June 7-9 and Nov 1-3, 2010 “FOS ISO 17025 Auditor Assessor Training Workshop”** FOS will also be providing a 2 1/2 day ISO 17025 Auditor Assessor Workshop for all disciplines. Strongly advised for all FOS Assessors.

July 11-17, 2010, “International Association of Identification” Spokane, Washington.

*** For registration forms for the FOS workshops please visit our website at www.forquality.org**

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Forensic Quality Services-Consulting (FQS-C) provides a range of organizational assistance and training/education services to support Forensic Science delivery.

Forensic Quality Services-International (FQS-I) is the country's longest established provider of ISO 17025 accreditation to forensic testing agencies in the U.S. It is one of the accrediting bodies recognized by the NDIS Procedures Board.

SUBMIT AN ADVERTISEMENT OR ARTICLE TO "THE FQS UPDATE"

"The FQS Update" will be published bimonthly starting in January through November by Forensic Quality Services.

FQS welcomes submissions to this newsletter and will evaluate all such submissions with regard to their general interest to the readership. FQS reserves the right to edit submissions for length and editorial correctness. Please contact Pat for deadlines or submission requests at pab@forquality.org.

Rates for ad space are as follows:

One-eighth page: \$75/issue, \$300/yr (6 issues)

One-quarter page: \$100/issue, \$450/yr (6 issues)

One-half page: \$125/issue, \$600/yr (6 issues)

Ads should be in an electronic format such as jpeg. Color or black-and-white are acceptable.