

August, 2008 - Monthly Update

FYI, this update is sent each month to all IAI board members, officers, committee chairs, regional representatives, division secretaries, certification board chairs and secretaries, division editors and IAI staff. This update contains information that is of particular interest to these groups. It is sent by e-mail to all those for whom I have an e-mail address and by regular mail to the rest. **If you receive this by regular mail but have an e-mail account**, please let me know and I will add your e-mail address to the distribution list. It is much more efficient and cost effective to send it that way.

Hello again from the IAI office.

With the Louisville Conference just around the corner, this months *Update* will be quite brief as we prepare for that event.

Louisville Conference

Airport Shuttle Information:

Attendees can secure discounted airport shuttle transportation in advance by logging on to:
<http://sandollarlimo.com/>

Click on “Reserve Airport Shuttle Now” and complete the reservation form. In the “Additional Comments” section please put “IAI Conference – 2008” in order to get the discounted \$10 rate (one way).

Secretaries Breakfast:

Just a reminder that anyone who plans to attend the division secretary’s, regional representatives and president’s breakfast on Wednesday morning should sign up in the registration area. That will allow us to get a count for menu purposes.

Crime Lab Census – 2005

For several years, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) has been working to complete the latest census of crime laboratories. That includes staffing, budget, caseload information and the specific types of cases backlogged. The project is called the 2005 census because that’s when the project began although the results were just recently released.

The entire report can be found at the following website:

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/cpffcl05.htm>

The report makes very interesting reading and points out the widespread problem of backlogs in crime laboratories. Keep in mind that this report only concerns crime laboratories, not identification units and other forensic units commonly found in law enforcement agencies. The West Virginia University (WVU) census that was conducted a while ago addresses that segment of the forensics community. I’m told that a draft report of the WVU census is complete but not yet available for distribution. When that is complete, I’ll forward that information to you.

Biometric Website

IAI member Peter Higgins, a former member of the AFIS Committee and now the principal of an AFIS consulting company sent the following information regarding a biometric website. Although it appears to primarily contain news of interest to the commercial biometrics sector, there are articles of interest to the public sector as well. Biometrics of all types, including fingerprints, is growing rapidly in the private sector. The IAI has a study committee to explore the creation of a Biometrics Sub-committee under the Science and Practice Committee of the association. The board will receive an update on that subject during the upcoming meeting in Louisville. The link to the biometric website is:

<http://www.identityloop.com/>

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) Meeting & Symposium

ASCLD will host its 36th Annual Workshop and Symposium in Salt Lake City, UT from September 14-18, 2008. Please visit the ASCLD website at www.asclld.org for more information about that meeting.

Identification News Newsletter

Just a reminder that Jon Stimac, Editor of Identification News, welcomes articles that might be of interest to IAI members. That includes division news, committee news or reports, certification board information etc. Please contact Jon at jon.stimac@theiai.org if you would like more information or if you have information for the Newsletter.

Hope to see many of you in Louisville later this month.

Joe Paliski