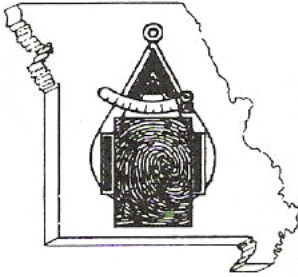


The Missing Link: Official Newsletter of the Missouri IAI



Volume 28, Issue 3

Letter From The President

Special Points of Interest:

- 2004—2005 Officers
- Letter from the President
- Editor's Letter
- Officer Down Fund

Guilty! The verdict is in and the members of the Missouri Division of the International Association for Identification have been awarded another historic moment in time! The official beginning of the Missouri Division I.A.I. website!

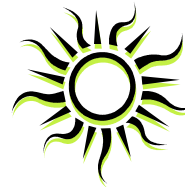
Your Officers and Board Members have been working extremely hard finishing the final intricate details for the website. I would personally like to thank all the Officers and Board Members for their hard work and dedication for the technological advancement for our Division. Especially James Blaska, Beth Cowgill and Mike Himmel. Without you this website wouldn't have happened.

Our personal goal this year is to improve attendance at the Annual Training Conference in October. We have diligently been working on a phenomenal schedule of speakers, including a breakout session. I hope to have the final program finished by the end of February. Remember this is **YOUR** Division and the only way to keep up to date is to participate. If you have any questions please contact me at any time. With your input we can make this Division shine.

On a personal note I would like to thank Doug Eatherton for his dedication and hard work over the last few years. Doug resigned before the October Conference due to personal reasons. We wish you the best of luck and hope to see you at future conferences. And finally, thank you Mike Gray for taking over as the new Secretary-Treasurer. I know Mike will do a fine job for the Division.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hentges
President MOIAI



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Announcing the NEW Missouri IAI Website

As Kathy stated in her letter, the website would not be possible without the help of Mike Himmel, James Blaska and Tawnya Means. Tawnya is the developer of the site and without her ideas and extreme amount of patience, this website

would not be possible without her.

This is a continuously growing project so all compliments and criticisms are appreciated. We want all members to be proud of this new site.

Here's to new beginnings and Happy New Year!



Missouri IAI 2004—2005 Officers and Board Members



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*"The best evidence in
the world will not stand
up in court if the jurors
have doubt about its
integrity."
—Los Angeles Time*

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Letter from the Editor

First I would like to intro-
duce myself to the members
who have absolutely no idea
who I am. My name is Beth
Cowgill. I'm currently a Fo-
rensic Science major at Co-
lumbia College with hopes to
graduate.....before the dec-
ade is over. I currently am an
Optics and Reloading Equip-
ment buyer for a company
called MidwayUSA, located
in Columbia, MO.

I was introduced to the Mis-
souri IAI by Mike Himmel in
Blood Spatter Evidence class
I think. He got me interested
in this organization, intro-
duced me to some great
members and opened my
eyes to the wonderful world
of law enforcement, foren-
sics and the future it holds.
This is the first time I have
been an editor to a newslet-
ter so all compliments and

criticisms are greatly appreci-
ated.

I look forward to a wonder-
ful year as your editor and
hope to meet more mem-
bers in the future.

Beth Cowgill

“DNA extractable from fingerprints” by Charles Choi (UPI Science News)

NEW YORK, July 31 (UPI) — Even if the only evidence forensic analysts can pull from a crime scene is a fingerprint smudged beyond recognition, a new technique developed by Canadian scientists soon could harvest enough DNA from the print to product a genetic identity.

The novel system can extract DNA in only 15 minutes, even if a print has been stored for a year. Scientists expect the invention to help crime-fighters solve mysteries and already are in talks with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. In addition, researchers predict the technology could be at least twice as cheap as existing DNA collection methods. “If you wanted to use blood as a source of DNA, you have fear of contamination, people who don’t want to give it, storage issues, and you have to sign a lot of paperwork to get it,” research scientist Maria Viaznikova of the Ottawa University Heart Institute in Canada told United Press International. “We can now have DNA reliably and simply with our method.”

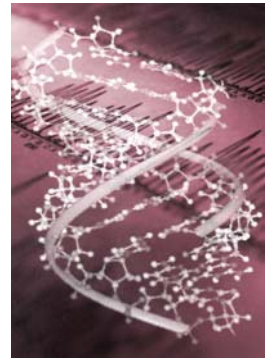
She said forensic scientists have known for about five years that fingerprints contain DNA. However, commonly used extraction techniques need several hours or even days of lab work. “We can do it in 15 minutes,” she added. The new extraction technique is under patent. When compared with existing methods, “it is at least twice as less expensive, maybe more,” Viaznikova said.

The most immediate application such a technique could find is with forensics, said molecular biologist Margaret Wallace of John Jay College in New York and one-time DNA analyst for the city’s chief medical examiner’s office. “It could save a lot of time, particularly given we have this huge backlog on DNA that needs to be analyzed,” Wallace told UPI. “There are hundreds of thousands of samples that need to be looked at now.” Wallace still wants to know how well the process works on fingerprints gleaned from a variety of surfaces and kept in a variety of temperature and humidity conditions. “It’s also possible that some people leave more DNA in their prints than others,” she said.

Because the method is so simple and cheap, with far less overhead required than needle-based DNA sampling, experts say this could help make DNA gathering a commonplace activity — thereby also raising privacy issues. “DNA is unique, extremely revealing about you and your family members,” privacy specialist Jay Stanley of the American Civil Liberties Union in Washington, D.C. told UPI. “This advance really highlights the need for laws to protect the privacy in the face of these kinds of technologies.” Stanley said because genetic experts have told him it inevitably will become easier to test DNA, “we need legal frameworks to figure out how to protect privacy in the face of this.” For example, silicone chips from biophysicist Stephen Quake’s lab at the California Institute of Technology, in Pasadena, could in the next 10 years sequence an entire person’s genetic code cheaply and in a few days, he noted.

“I don’t think anybody objects to samples from crime scenes. I think using DNA to catch murderers is a fine thing,” Stanley said. “But we need to be cognizant of greater implications. We’re going to be facing issues about how to keep DNA private from lawyers, governments, insurance companies, even nosy neighbors. It raises issues of employment discrimination, because employers have a natural incentive to hire healthy workers, and always have an incentive to discriminate against you by DNA, as long as health

(continued on the next page)



*“We think we can
use our technique
for DNA profiling.
It’s not proved yet,
but we’re going to
try and do it.”*

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(continued from previous page)

Insurance is provided by the workplace." He added: "Or think about schoolchildren checking out each other's genetic profiles, or having profiles posted on the Internet. The fact is, there are heavy incentives to collect this information."

Electronic Frontier Foundation staff technologist Dan Moniz said he thinks the technique could be helpful to nab crooks, but he wonders about further implications in law. "People already have fingerprints taken of them. Will it just become part of the standard booking procedure? Will you be notified that they're taking DNA? Can you refuse to give fingerprints if you don't want DNA taken?" he asked.

Moniz told UPI there are four directions he would like to see the question of DNA collection from prints go. "First, I want to know who's using this technology. I want to be notified right up front, at the police department, hospital, HMO, anything. No surreptitious extraction," he said.

"I should have a right of refusal and I should receive no special treatment if I do refuse it," he continued. "Finally, I should have a clear statement of who has full control of it, to make sure it does not get (contracted) out."

Moniz said the problems of outsourcing the collection of genetic information is a violation of privacy that goes beyond the potential for discrimination. "Will you get marketed on a genetic level? To be somewhat facetious, is this a new piece of the puzzle of the already omni-present span about penile enhancement?"

Although the method "can be used for DNA identification for sure," Viaznikova said — people have stretches of inactive "junk DNA" whose patterns are as unique to them as their fingerprints — she added that her group also has a more ambitious goal for their method: extracting enough undamaged DNA from fingerprints to study the active DNA that actually drive survival.

"Our interest is in the heart. If a patient goes to a doctor, in future perhaps the doctor can identify if a person has some kind of gene that can one day lead to heart failure," Viaznikova said. "We think we can use our technique for DNA profiling. It's not proved yet, but we're going to try and do it."

TOOT YOUR OWN HORN

This is your chance to let the rest of us know what you have been up to. Whether you have recently been promoted, completed your degree, been certified, won any prizes or any interesting court cases (anything related to law enforcement), tell us about your accomplishments. It's a way to motivate others. Please contact me and I will make sure it gets into the next newsletter. Email: leb1493@hotmail.com



Most police agencies around the state are now familiar with the names of Molly Bowden and Curtis Brown. We came to know them as the result of an unfortunate incident that occurred on the evening of January 10, 2005. In light of the recent shootings of the Columbia Officers, the radio stations from the Zimmer Radio Group have begun the Blue Ribbon Campaign as a way to show support for the Columbia Police Department, especially Molly Bowden, who suffered three gunshot wounds to the neck and shoulder. Columbia area Commerce Banks have been taking donations to help with the medical expenses for Molly. For more information about the Officer Down Fund, you may contact the Columbia Police Department. Their phone number is (573) 874-7404. The Blue Ribbon

Campaign is a way to show support not only for Officer Bowden, but also to support all the men and women of law enforcement who put their lives on the line every day for the people of their community.

If you don't have something like this set up at your department, I would encourage it, even if you have never had something like this happen to a member of your law enforcement family.

Molly continues to be strong each day. She has made amazing progress and within the past week, the doctors have changed her status from critical to serious. Everyone's thoughts and prayers are very much appreciated by her parents, Dave and Beverly Thomas and her husband Corey.

(Molly and Corey Bowden, pose for a wedding photo in July 2003—courtesy of the Tribune)



History of the IAI Emblem

At the IAI's first convention in 1915, Sgt. C.H. Stone, of the Nevada State police, moved that the official emblem of the IAI be composed of a pair of Bertillion head calipers, showing a fingerprint between the branches. Sgt. H. M. Smith, of the Bureau of Identification, Tacoma, then offered an amendment that the fingerprint be one of Sir Francis Galton's. This was seconded and carried unanimously. The print chosen is that of Galton's right fore finger as it appears in the front of his book, "Finger Prints", published in 1892. From 1915 to 1918 the emblem appeared as shown in the figure to the right. The IAI was known as the International Association for Criminal Deification, hence the IACI. In 1918, the by-laws were changed and the name became the IAI, reflecting the new emblem, seen below. In 1968-69, there was a committee established to look at changing the emblem altogether. After much discussion and to its credit, the committee



decided to keep the emblem as we see it today (shown in the figure on the top of the block). This emblem is recognized around the world. [Courtesy of www.theiai.org]

"Support A Hero" Magnets – these are available for sale from the Columbia Police Department. The cost is only \$5 and goes towards the Officer Down Fund. The fund is designed to supplement the cost of an injured officer's special needs that are not covered by workman's comp or insurance. So far, the fund has brought in \$49,000 for Officer Bowden.

To purchase one or many of the magnets you see here, please contact:

STERLING INFIELD
Columbia Police Department
600 E Walnut St.
Columbia, MO 65201
PHONE (573) 874-7652
FAX (573) 874-3142



Lance Armstrong-type "LIVESTRONG" bracelets will be available soon.