

July, 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.

Pattern Evidence Training Offered at the NFSTC – No Cost to Participants

Applications accepted through July 14, 2008

The announcement below is a terrific opportunity for new latent, tenprint and footwear/tiretrack examiners to be trained from the “ground up” in their respective discipline. Please note that this series of courses is not designed for experienced examiners but rather new or relatively new examiners. The course objective is to train the attendees to the point of meeting the knowledge requirements of the IAI’s certification programs for their disciplines. This training is offered at no cost to participants. The training includes transportation, lodging, per diem and all course materials. Ron Smith & Associates, under the auspices of the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC) and the National Institute of Justice, will teach the courses.

In partnership with the [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ), the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC) is pleased to announce that Pattern Evidence Training will be provided at no cost to eligible applicants under NIJ Cooperative Agreement Award (#2007-IJ-CX-K233).

Individual training programs will be offered in three disciplines: latent print examination, tenprint examination, and footwear/tire track examination. Each program focuses particular attention on the training and certification requirements for entry-level pattern evidence examiners.

For more information, click the links under the training program of interest.

- Latent Print Examiner Training Program
 - Program Information ([MS Word](#)) ([Adobe Acrobat](#))
 - Application ([MS Word](#)) ([Adobe Acrobat](#))
- Tenprint Examiner Training Program
 - Program Information ([MS Word](#)) ([Adobe Acrobat](#))
 - Application ([MS Word](#)) ([Adobe Acrobat](#))
- Footwear/Tire Track Examiner Training Program
 - Program Information ([MS Word](#)) ([Adobe Acrobat](#))
 - Application ([MS Word](#)) ([Adobe Acrobat](#))

An applicant may apply for more than one program. If qualified, the applicant will be selected for only one program in accordance with the selection criteria.

Applications must be received no later than July 14, 2008, 11:59 PM EST.

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 wants to attend the division secretary’s 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

Forensic Odontology

A few days ago I received the following e-mail from Dr. L. Tom Johnson, Chair of the IAI’s Forensic Odontology Sub-Committee.

A technical note on our research methodology will appear in the July / August issue of the *Journal of Forensic Identification*. A complete paper on the two years of research is just about ready to be submitted to the *Journal of Forensic Sciences*.

Our research attracted the attention of the Associated Press national desk and over 100 sites nationwide picked up the article. The *Discovery Channel* came and filmed for a day last week and *ScienCentral*, an ABC / NBC television science news source, will be filming on Monday July 7th.

The Midwest Forensic Resource Center research grant generated a data set and a template for image analysis, using an automated software application that was under development at the University. Marquette’s Corporation counsel is in the process of writing a licensing agreement, so that any governmental or non-profit agency can apply to use the application in evidence analysis. We feel it will have applications in other forms of pattern measurement and analysis.

Best regards, Tom

Forensic Science Communications – FBI Laboratory Publication

The July 2008 issue of *Forensic Science Communications* has been posted to the FBI’s Internet site at <http://www.fbi.gov/hq/lab/fsc/current/index.htm>. If you have trouble accessing the issue via the link, go to the FBI’s home page and access “Reports & Publications” on the left-hand side. *Forensic Science Communications* is listed under law enforcement services.

Thank you for your continued interest in *Forensic Science Communications*.

Kim Waggoner
Managing Editor
Forensic Science Communications
FBI Laboratory
Quantico, Virginia

NIJ Annual Conference

Each year the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) holds an annual conference in Washington, DC. This year that conference will be the last week of July. I received an e-mail from NIJ announcing the conference along with a note that the subject of confirmation bias will be on the agenda.

Below is a short synopsis of the confirmation bias presentation:

Whose print is it really? Does confirmation bias affect the answer?

Confirmation bias — the tendency to focus on data that confirms preconceived expectations — has been identified as an issue in the forensic setting. Exploring both the issues and solutions to this worldwide concern, panelists will explore the existing research on confirmation bias and new research to apply statistics in fingerprint examinations. They will also discuss articles that shed additional light on the implications of bias in fingerprint identification.

- Itiel Dror, Cognitive Neuroscientist, University of Southampton, U.K.
- Sargur “Hari” Srihari, Director, Center of Excellence for Document Analysis and Recognition (CEDAR), University at Buffalo, State University of New York, Buffalo, N.Y.
- Glenn Langenburg, Crime Scene Investigator, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, St. Paul, Minn.
- Moderator: John Paul Jones, Physical Scientist, Investigative and Forensic Sciences Division, Office of Science and Technology, National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

For more information, please visit the website listed below.

http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/events/nij_conference/2008/panels.htm#plenaries

Just FYI, we have invited Itiel Dror to speak at next year’s IAI Conference in Tampa, Florida. His schedule did not permit him to attend this year.

NIST MINEX Testing

Those of you who work with AFIS systems might be interested in the recent announcement from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The test deals with some of the issues involving interoperability of AFIS systems.

NIST announces a further round of fingerprint minutia match-on-card testing. This follows completion of the MINEX II report in February 2008. The work is intended to track developments of commercial MOC implementations. The announcement and further details are here:

<http://fingerprint.nist.gov/minexII>

Important dates:

2008-SEP-30: Deadline for submission of software and cards to NIST

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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.

Joe Paliski