

Young Forensic Scientists Forum Newsletter

A Letter from the YFSF President

The August 1 abstract deadline is right around the corner and the Young Forensic Scientists Forum (YFSF) committee is hard at work planning for the AAFS 66th Annual Scientific Meeting in Seattle, WA! Although the AAFS abstract submission deadline is August 1, the deadline for the Bring Your Own Poster Sessions (BYOP) and the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides (BYOS) is December 1 and 15, respectively.

Presenting at professional meetings is an excellent way to build resumes, get involved, and make connections throughout the professional community. The YFSF offers two options for presenting: oral and poster presentations. Both sessions are sure to have excellent presentations and are great ways to present research, new trends, or case studies.

If you have questions on how to become involved or need presentation advice, please do not hesitate to contact any of the YFSF committee members!

Lindsey E. Saunders, BS
YFSF President
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A Note from the YFSF Secretary

It is that time of year again, mid-summer, and that means the AAFS deadline for abstract submissions is fast approaching. The YFSF encourages you to use this opportunity to present your research, as the AAFS meeting hosts forensic science professionals from across the U.S. and around the globe. The YFSF highly recommends

that you start early if you are planning to submit an abstract to the Academy-wide program by the August 1 deadline. It is critical that you read the instructions for submitting an abstract carefully so that your proposal has every chance to succeed.

The YFSF also encourages you to consider submitting an abstract for the YFSF BYOS Session or the YFSF BYOP Session as an alternative to the overall AAFS meeting. Both are excellent platforms for presenting in a warm and welcoming environment. Please submit abstracts for the YFSF BYOP by December 1 and abstracts for the YFSF BYOS by December 15. Do not hesitate to contact either **Sarah Ellis** or **Alicja Lanfear** with any questions.

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YFSF Secretary Co-Chair
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Financial Liaison

The Young Forensic Scientists Forum organizes and hosts events every year that are held during the AAFS meeting to help forensic science students and young professionals receive important information and further their forensic education. The YFSF has a full-day special session, a breakfast session with a resume review panel, a Bring Your Own Poster session, and a Bring Your Own Slide session. These events are

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great resources for those wishing to further their forensic education and career. These sessions are possible because of the support and financial contributions from the forensic science community. Without this continuing support, the YFSF would not be able to provide these programs.

In past, the YFSF has received monetary and educational support from universities, forensic vendors, and various AAFS sections and members. Over the next few months, YFSF will continue to be in contact with these groups to ensure that those who are interested in contributing will get the needed information to do so.

If you or your group is interested in contributing to the 2014 YFSF Special Session, please contact **Katie Knurek**.

Katie Knurek
YFSF Financial Liaison
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YFSF Breakfast Session

Each year, the YFSF Breakfast Session focuses on professional development for those at the beginning of their forensic journeys. This year's session is titled: *Navigating Success: Career Skills for the Journey*. New forensic scientists spend much of our time focusing on developing necessary technical skills. Now—at the 2014 AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting, in Seattle, WA—the YFSF Breakfast Session will include presentations on career skills learned outside of a classroom or laboratory that will put new and future forensic scientists on the path to success right from the start. Presentation topics will include professional networking and forensic certification.

Additionally, the YFSF Breakfast Session will again include a résumé review component. If you are an experienced forensic scientist, please consider serving as a résumé reviewer for the next generation of forensic professionals. Contact yfsf.breakfast@gmail.com to volunteer or if you have any questions.

Ali Kidder-Mostrom, MSFS
YFSF Breakfast Session Chair

YFSF Special Session

The theme for the 2014 YFSF Special Session is: *The World of Forensic Science: the Future of Education and Research*. The speakers at this year's special session will focus on the future trends that are developing in forensic science, highlight ongoing research, and provide unique and interesting case studies within their fields of expertise. The YFSF Special Session will expose students and young professionals to the future of forensic science as well as showcasing the various fields of forensic science.

The YFSF Special Session is a great opportunity for professionals to engage and inspire the next generation of forensic scientists. Watch for the official schedule for the presentations in the fall. We look forward to seeing you in February and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact yfsfs@gmail.com.

Lara Newell, MA
YFSF Special Session Chair

Christina Hayes, BS
YFSF Special Session Co-Chair

YFSF Bring Your Own Slides

The YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Session offers the perfect opportunity for students and young professionals to present their research and casework studies at the 2014 AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting in Seattle, WA. This is a unique opportunity where one can present in a stress-free environment where you are not being graded for your content or performance! Many of the audience members will not have experience in your particular field; thus, you will be teaching them. This is also an opportunity to add to your resume!

You can present as much or as little as you would like in the given time slot. This is a very relaxed setting, and you are in control.

YFSF BYOS is currently accepting resume and CV submissions through December 15. If you're interested in presenting at the AAFS 66th Annual Scientific Meeting, please submit a one-page abstract and CV to yfsf.byos@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Lindsay Saylor**.

Lindsay Saylor
BYOS Chair
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YFSF Poster Session

Attention students and young forensic science professionals, the YFSF BYOP Session is the perfect opportunity to present research or interesting cases. If you are interested in presenting at the YFSF BYOP Session the deadline to submit an abstract is December 1. December is right around the corner, so it's not too early to inquire about presenting. Select individuals will be given the opportunity to gain experience in presenting at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Scientific Meeting in Seattle, WA.

If you are interested in more information or have any questions about presenting, please email yfsf.postersession@gmail.com.

Jennifer Curnow, BS
YFSF Poster Session Chair