

Young Forensic Scientists Forum Newsletter

Young Forensic Scientists Forum 2009 Edition

The 2009 YFSF Committee has already begun planning for the AAFS Annual Meeting to be held February 16 - 21 in Denver, CO. Some of our past topics have included *Ethics in Forensic Science* and *Forensic Science in the Public Eye*. For next year's meeting, we have discussed moving the focus more toward our membership and featuring events to discuss professional behaviors for forensic scientists. We are always looking for new forensic scientists who would like to be involved with planning and hosting our events. If you are interested please contact one of our officers, listed below:

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YFSF events center around a day-long Special Session featuring well-known forensic speakers from all areas of forensic science and a catered lunch. The Special Session seeks to offer students a well-rounded discussion of the forensic professions and consistently yields full attendance. We hope to find a larger session space for 2009, as our waiting lists are consistently high. The Special Session is followed in the evening by a Poster Session featuring student research and interesting casework from new forensic scientists in a relaxed, informative atmosphere. Generally the Bring Your Own Slides session is scheduled later in the week and is another excellent source of forensic research and casework. The YFSF events end with a Breakfast Session featuring a more intimate opportunity to hear renowned forensic speakers and even find some excellent career advice. Serving on the YFSF Committee is an excellent opportunity to meet forensic scientists at your career level and make connections within the forensic community. Please contact us if you are interested in this opportunity.

—Jennifer W. Mercer, BS
YFSF Secretary

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YFSF Special Session Update

We are very excited about planning the 2009 Young Forensic Science Forum Special Session. The focus will be on giving the attendees a broad overview of what forensics has to offer. We hope to have speakers from every section alongside international speakers. We want the participants to get excited about all forms of forensics, not just the ones that are popularized in the media.

We hope that by attending the YFSF Special Session new scientists will find new and interesting areas of forensic science that they would not have been exposed to otherwise. You never know who or what may inspire you. All fields of forensic science need fresh ideas and young scientists to further their fields.

We are in the beginning stages of planning but want to make the 2009 Special Session one of the best parts of the 2009 AAFS Annual Meeting. This session is not to be missed by young forensic scientists. Especially those unsure about their areas of interest. Stay tuned for more updates, and please contact us with any suggestions. You can contact Arliss Dudley-Cash at dudleycash@gmail.com and Erica Blais at erica.blais@pol.state.ma.us.



— Arliss I. Dudley-Cash, BA
YFSF Program Chair

FSF Deadlines Fast Approaching

YFSF members are encouraged to apply for the various Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF) Grants and Awards being offered.

The FSF is offering up to five (5) Travel Grants this year for students to assist with travel expenses in attending the AAFS Annual Meeting. A complimentary 2009 meeting registration is also included with this award.

The FSF Lucas Grants (\$501-\$5,000) are intended to help the investigator in original in-depth problem oriented research. These grants are open to members and affiliates (at any level) of the AAFS.

The FSF Acorn Grants (up to \$500) are intended to help the investigator initiate original problem oriented research. These grants are open to members and affiliates (at any level) of the AAFS.

The purpose of the Jan Grant Fund is to provide Graduate Students with financial assistance to complete their thesis or independent research project as required for a graduate degree in Criminalistics/Forensic Sciences. The thesis or research project must be in the field of Criminalistics/Forensic Sciences.

Finally, the purpose of the FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award is to nurture a productive dialogue between emerging judicial and forensic standards of reliability and validity. The award will be presented to the author of the best paper on any topic focusing on the reliability and validity of techniques, processes, or methods in a forensic area of the author's choice.

Please see pages 15-18 of this issue of the *Academy News* for complete guidelines and deadlines.

Word Scramble

Test your skills at unscrambling these famous *fictional* forensic scientists!
(All are 2 words unless otherwise stated.)

1. CEEHHKLLMOORSS

2. AAACEKPRSTTY

3. AADEMPSS

4. AEHIILLMPPORW

5. EEHIKLLMNOSY

6. CEEHILOOPRRTU

7. ACDENNRWY

8. BEEGNOORRT

9. ACCEEEFHIJLRST

10. AACCEGILLNRRST

11. GGIILMOSSR

12. ABCIKLLLMOT

13. ABCDDEEILNNOOPRWY

14. AEILMMPRSS

15. ABDEHHORSTYY (3 words)

16. CINUQY (1 word)

17. AABCEEEEMNNNNPRRT

18. AEEHILMNPPSTU

19. ADEGINPSTUUU

20. AAGHMMMNSTU

21. AADIKMNNOR

22. BCEEEIILNOS

See page 39 for answers.

YFSF Word Scramble Answers:

1. Sherlock Holmes
2. Kay Scarpetta
3. Sam Spade
4. Philip Marlowe
5. Kinsey Millhone
6. Hercule Poirot
7. Nancy Drew
8. Robert Goren
9. Jessica Fletcher
10. Clarice Starling
11. Gil Grissom
12. Bill Matlock
13. Encyclopedia Brown
14. Miss Marple
15. The Hardy Boys
16. Quincy
17. Temperance Brennan
18. Stephanie Plum
19. Auguste Dupin
20. Thomas Magnum
21. Adrian Monk
22. Lennie Briscoe