

American Chemical Society Science & the Congress Project



with The American Statistical Association

Forensics: Science Policies to Increase Confidence

September 26, 2012, Noon -1:30 p.m.
Capitol Visitor Center, Senate Side, SVC-200/201

The consistent accuracy of many forensic methods is lacking despite pop-culture-informed perceptions to the contrary. A 2009 National Academies report identified many methodologies that are insufficiently scientific including medical examiner or forensic anthropology approaches, fire investigation, and pattern recognitions such as fingerprint or toolmark analysis. Also, jurisdictions outside of major cities with significant research facilities are often under-equipped with the trained staff and/or infrastructure to render useful forensic evidence. This expert panel will discuss the following options: set research priorities for forensic standards, effectively train and certify corps of analysts, and best inform and educate justice system professionals on the proper use and presentation of forensic evidence to ensure consistency and fairness.

Moderator

Anne-Marie Mazza, National Academies

Panel

Constantine Gatsonis, Brown University

John Lentini, Scientific Fire Analysis, LLC

Amy Mundorff, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Randall Murch, Virginia Tech

Please RSVP to <http://tinyurl.com/ACSSciCongr-forensics>
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