



I-O-F-O-S

NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR FORENSIC ODONTO-STOMATOLOGY

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Index

Editor's Page _____	3
President's Page _____	4
The German Academy of Forensic Odontostomatology Awards _____	6
Forensic Odontology in Brazil _____	8
Forensic Odontology in Croatia _____	10
65 th Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences _____	12
Report on AGFAD Meeting _____	20
24th Meeting of the INTERPOL Standing Committee on DVI _____	22
1 st International Forum of Expertise in Bite Marks & 1 st Brazilian Congress of New Technologies Applied to Forensic Expertise _____	26
I.O.F.O.S. International Congress Firenze, 29-31 August, 2013 _____	28

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Editor's Page



Dear Readers,

We are glad that you are browsing through the latest issue of the IOFOS Newsletter where you can read some interesting articles from our colleagues from all around the world. We are grateful for all your comments and suggestions which contribute to the quality of our Newsletter.

In this issue we are publishing, as usually, the reports from the national associations as well as reports from several important events which occurred recently – 65th Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in Washington DC last March and 24th Meeting of the INTERPOL Standing Committee on Disaster Victim Identification, held in Lyon in the period between 28th - 30th May 2013.

Before this meeting 26 forensic dentists from all around the world have met and tried to create together a better quality of forensic odontology. You can read more about it in the report.

Looking forward to our big IOFOS meeting in Florence at the end of August and to our further cooperation. Greetings to all of you!

Yours,

Hrvoje Brkić

President's Page



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This time the publication of the spring issue of IOFOS Newsletter has been delayed so as to provide readers with the most updated information about International IOFOS Congress that will be held in Firenze, 29-31 August. Our Newsletter Editor brilliantly managed a “last minute” publication including the tentative program that you can find in the further pages.

As usual, I'd like to open the President's page by welcoming the new member IOFOS. In this case I'm pleased to announce that ADOK – Turkish Society of Forensic Osteology, Odontology and Identification and Ukraine Society of Forensic Odontology have recently joined IOFOS family.

For scientific activity of IOFOS I'm happy to announce that after the Journal of Forensic Odonto-Stomatology successfully completed the Link-out services from Pubmed, the statistics has shown an impressive increase in downloads during the past year. The almost completed linking of JFOS with EBSCO plus the regular and timely Pubmed and Scopus indexing will hopefully grant an exponential increase in the reading and citing of our journal.

The IOFOS Presidium and the Scientific Committee of the IOFOS International Congress Firenze 2013 are very pleased to announce that more than one hundred submissions for oral presentations and posters arrived from many countries all around the world. Papers came from practically all 29 member societies of IOFOS plus from other countries, that are establishing or renewing contacts with IOFOS. As expected the “traditional” topics of body identification, bitemark analysis and age estimation, have proved to be the most popular, but also Education in Forensic Odontology, malpractice and ethics have received very interesting contributions. Moreover some contributors to the Congress are also submitting the full-text for their papers for publication in the dedicated issue of JFOS. At the moment we are trying to manage sessions, granting discussion time, that will be lead by a discussant to give the opportunity to authors and participants to exchange experiences and different points of view. The social program is not completed yet, but we sincerely hope that

participants will kindly grant us the indulgence of the necessary little extra time to complete the program for accompanying persons.

I must thank the members of Scientific Committee for their support in reviewing submissions, the Editor of JFOS for extra work in assisting publication of special issue of our journal and the Secretary of IOFOS who is currently serving also as Secretary of the Congress for the very big task he has undertaken.

Looking forward to welcoming you in Firenze

Best regards

Vilma Pinchi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vilma Pinchi', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned below the printed name.

From the National Societies

The German Academy of Forensic Odontostomatology Awards

Goesta-Gustafson-Award

Two well-known personalities in the field of dental forensics were awarded the Goesta-Gustafson Award 2012 at the 36th annual conference of the German Academy of Forensic Odontostomatology (AKFOS) held on the 13th October 2012 at the University of Mainz Dental Institute.

Mrs Prof Dr odont Sigrid I Kvaal – Department of Oral Pathology University of Oslo – received the award in recognition of her long scientific contribution and extensive research results in the field of forensic age estimation. In addition S Kvaal has almost 3 decades of rendering outstanding services for dental identification of air, train, ship, traffic and fire victims. Her most extensive identification work occurred in the aftermath of the Asian Tsunami of 2005/2006 and the terrorist attacks on Utoya in 2011.

Mr Dr med dent Karl-Rudolf Stratmann from Cologne is also being awarded the Goesta-Gustafson Award 2012. The long-serving general secretary of the German Society of Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Sciences (DGZMK) and webmaster of the German Academy of Forensic Odontostomatology (AKFOS) receives the award in recognition of his long lasting contribution to forensic dentistry particularly in the field of dental-legal questioning. In his lecture he presented potential reasons for declining an expert witness on the basis of legal bias, as well as a fatality following a dental extraction. Both cases highlight situations that can occur to other colleagues whilst exercising their dental expert witness roles.

Claus Grundmann

Dr. med. Dr. med. dent.

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Figure
From the left to the right site LESSIG, STRATMANN, KVAAL, GRUNDMANN

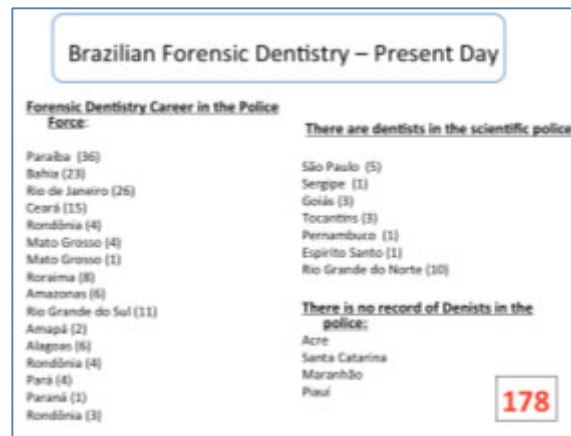


Figure 2. Distribution of Forensic Dentistry in states.

Some famous cases such as the analysis of the German doctor: Josef Mengele (1985), the “Maniac of the Park” (2000) and DVI cases with good forensic odontology results: Aircraft crashes: GOL 3097 (2006), TAM 3054 (2007) and Air France AF447 (2009), have brought the specialty in attention in our country. Human identification, bite mark cases, age estimation and forensic examination of injuries are the most common situations.

Meetings in Forensic Dentistry are common in Brasil. A big event occurs every second year, together with Legal Medicine: about 1,500 professionals gather (BRASIL FORENSE). Other minor events occur in the states and eventually we hope to host international meetings.

Although it is steadily increasing in recognition, there is a need to establish the Forensic Dentistry as a career in all states and create national protocols to standardize the procedures.



Prof. Dr. Jeidson Antonio Morais Marques, DDs, MSc, PhD, Post-Doc (in course)
 Associate Professor of Feira de Santana State University- UEFS
 Director and Ex Presidente of Brazilian Association of Forensic Odontology (ABOL)
 Coordinator of Forensic Dentistry After Graduation Course- BAHIANA
 Author of the book “Marcas de Mordidas” (Bite Marks)

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A COURSE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

“HOW TO AVOID COMPLAINTS AND LAWSUITS FROM PATIENTS?” HELD IN ZAGREB ON 23rd OF MARCH, 2013

Dental practice is very complex and requires various skills and competences. The ultimate goals to have completely satisfied patients and the dentists, cannot be achieved without a quality professional knowledge and manual skills as well as without good communication between the dentist and the patients and the communication within the dental team. Dentists are becoming more aware that patients, due to easy access to various information (which is not necessarily correct), demand and expect a high level of quality dental services and their possible dissatisfaction is being more often expressed by making complaints or seeking legal protection by lawsuits.

Raising the awareness about professional responsibility and obligations within optimal dental care as well as the approaching acceptance of Croatia into the European Union was the reason for organizing this course, within the framework of courses of continuing education which are annually organized by our School of Dental Medicine. The moderator of discussion was Professor Hrvoje Brkić, PhD, the dean of the School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb.

The content of the course was dedicated to different, but still complementary aspects related to the work of dentists, which was represented by experts from the School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb and Croatian Chamber of Dental Medicine.

The course included the following topics: *Negligence of dentists* (Professor Darko Macan, PhD, court expert, Department of Oral Surgery), *Mistakes made by dentists* (Professor Hrvoje Brkić, PhD, court expert, Department of Dental Anthropology), *Risk management* (Assistant Professor Marin Vodanović, PhD, Department of Dental Anthropology), *Professional dental ethics* (Professor Gordana Cerjan Letica, PhD, sociologist), *Court of honor and court expertise by the Croatian Chamber of Dental Medicine* (Jasminka Polić, Master of Law, secretary of the CCMD) and *Dental tourism and healthcare systems in EU countries* (Professor

Ivana Čuković-Bagić, PhD, court expert, Department of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry).

In the first two lectures, cases of negligence were thoroughly presented along with the most common mistakes in dental practice. It was concluded that there is no doubt that appropriate communication skills by which the patients' expectations are clearly defined as well as the dentists' options of meeting these expectations are truly a prerequisite for achieving mutual satisfaction.

The third topic, on risk management, offered some solutions which enable the dentist to solve difficult situations regarding patients with the risk of failure and problems related to it. Dental ethics lecture dealt with the sociological aspects of dental profession which opened new horizons regarding the sociological analysis of dental services problems and satisfied patients. The role of the Croatian Dental Chamber in the protection of dental profession was presented systematically through actions taken by the Court of Honor and other authorities related to court expertise. Finally, regarding Croatian joining the European Union, the participants had an opportunity to get information on healthcare (dental care) systems of different EU countries as well as on advantages and disadvantages of dental tourism as an aspect of dental care outside of their own country.

A fruitful discussion and the great interest of participants confirmed the need for organizing such a meeting and also stressed the need for further education of all experts who are ethically and legally obligated to provide a quality dental service. Apart from the obligations of dental practitioners, it was stressed that patients need to be educated about their duties regarding oral hygiene maintenance and regular visits. Only clearly defined rules on duties and rights, as well as a successful communication between the dentists and patients can prevent complaints and lawsuits and improve oral health of our patients.

Professor Ivana Čuković-Bagić, PhD

Vice Dean for Postgraduate Specialist Education

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65th Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences

Washington DC, March 16.-21. 2013

This conference includes all forensic disciplines. Forensic odontology has traditionally two days with lectures and may be a few posters a third day. The conference is attended by thousands of participants from the US. However, they are liberal in accepting a number of participants from other countries.

In connection with this meeting the American Society of Forensic Odontology (ASFO) arrange for an extra day with lectures related to a certain topic. This year the new issue of the Manual of Forensic Odontology, fifth edition, was the subject. Authors of the different chapters talked about their contribution, considerations and problems. They also explained how they had worked. The manual is according to my opinion more of a textbook than a manual. I have not found a common philosophy behind the different contributions and I am not sure it always represents the view of ASFO. However, the manual is a modern description of forensic odontology and contains suggestions for good practice. As many forensic odontologists around the world look up to the US, this may be the "bible" for them. The book is well worth reading and contains a lot of useful information and techniques. It is recommended.

In the AAFS meeting a total of 36 odontology presentations were given. I will give short review of some of the most interesting contribution. In addition, half a day was devoted to tooth marks investigation or bitemark investigation as it is more dramatically called in the US. The session was made in co-operation with the Jurisprudence section. It consisted of lectures, a round table conference and questions from the audience. The discussion was concentrated around the so called "Innocent Project". This is lawyers, physicians and dentists working hard to prove that people sentenced, are innocent in reality. The lawyers giving presentations all seemed to be representing this project. In this connection a lot of discussion was naturally concentrated on tooth mark cases where dentists have said that the suspect did the biting and later DNA tests have shown that they in reality did not. In some cases a death penalty has been given. As a consequence many lawyers and also odontologists believe that tooth mark evidence should not be allowed as evidence in court cases. The problems may partly be due to the adversary juridical system in the

US and other Anglo-Saxon countries. Even with idealistic intentions all know that the prosecution will not ask experts to appear in court that do not support their view and vice versa, the defense would never ask an expert to appear and oppose their view if the person has claimed to be innocent. One important aspect of not examining tooth marks is that the possibility of a person to prove he is innocent by showing that he was not the biter. Also it is at least clear to me that tooth marks may vary considerably in quality and also in characteristics. Treating all tooth marks as if they are of the same quality is in my opinion not scientific. In some cases there is considerable evidential value in the characteristics found in the marks and it is also wrong to keep this information from the court.

The history of tattoos and their use as a means of identification

James Schneider, Ohio.

The technique of making of tattoos has been known for several thousand years. There are indications that tattooing was used in Japan 10 000 years ago. The Iceman Ötzi from about 3300 years BC had tattoos. Tattoos seem to be part of culture. Tattoos can be thought to have magic powers and are in some places considered to be a form of art. Today tattoos are common. In the US 18% of men and 23% of women have tattoos. However orthodox Jews forbid tattoos as no marks shall be made to the skin. As so many people have tattoos and those are often individualistic it is considered most important for identifications.

A case of the missing molar

Roger Metcalf, Texas

This is an interesting case report. In 1995 a skeleton of a young woman was found near Houston in Texas. The teeth were described by an anthropologist and he compared his findings with the dental information from a young woman reported missing in the Houston area. One filling did not fit and in addition the dead had an impacted wisdom tooth while the missing person had no wisdom tooth at all. The anthropologist's conclusion was that the police should consult a forensic odontologist. This did not happen before 2012. The forensic odontologist found that the radiographs were of an old date. It was possible to discern the outline of a wisdom tooth. However it was no dentin or enamel formed. Radiographs of the dead

showed a wisdom tooth where the crown was not completely formed. This discrepancy could be explained. The problem with the filling was due to wrong recording. DNA analysis could confirm that the dead woman was the missing woman from the area.

Lip prints: The argument for research in cheiloscropy

Donna Fontana, New York

In some cases lip prints may be found especially from women using lip stick. The prints may be as characteristic as finger prints. The science of studying lip prints is called cheiloscropy. The method was first described by Fisher in 1902. A systematic description of lipprints used in cases was described by Tsuchihashi and Suzuki in 1970. Suzuki was an internationally recognized forensic odontologist who held a post as professor of forensic odontology in Tokyo. They described lip prints as belonging to one of four types, 1. Vertical stripes, 2. Strips with branching, 3. Reticular stripes, and 4. Undetermined pattern of stripes. An increased interest in lip prints is shown by 24 articles published from 2005 to 2011. The prints are usually invisible to the human eye. The print must be visualized and lifted from the object in the same way as fingerprints. It is unknown if it is possible to record lip prints from human skin. If it is, they should be found around tooth marks and could provide an extra factor for the comparison and evaluation of tooth marks. This is a call for research.

Dental death – Unfortunate fatal results from errors of omission and/or commission

Richard Souviron, Florida

Souviron is one of the most famous forensic odontologists in the US and is especially known for the Ted Bundy case. He had collected a total of 12 cases from 35 years of practice where a patient died after dental treatment. Infection was the most frequent cause, including sub-acute bacterial endocarditis, subdural empyema or pharyngeal spread of infection. *Streptococcus viridians* was the most frequent cause of the infection. Entry was through marginal or apical periodontium or after tooth extraction. Another cause of death was stroke after stopping use of anticoagulants.

He recommended that dentists strictly follow the recommendations of the American Dental Association and American Heart Association

What should counsel do in a bitemark case? Competency of counsel in the post-conviction context

Alissa Bjerkhoel, California

Bjerkhoel is a lawyer and works for the so called "Innocent Project". She tells of the existence of 941 known cases where a person sentenced, but later exonerated after new evidence was found. Most cases was due incorrect identification by witnesses. However 225 cases were due to wrong forensic science errors. Some of these were bitemark convictions disproved by after DNA analyses. She questioned whether bitemarks could be accepted as scientific evidence in court cases. She described a case where a man was sentenced for having killed his wife. The wife had a bitemark on her hand and forensic odontologist had said that only 2% of the population had such dental features. The defense succeeded in proving that the bitemark was not a match and that the statistics had no basis in reality. The man was freed. She suggested that defense lawyers had a duty to examine the evidence critically. They should collect all evidence and documentation and have it assessed for exclusion. They should make sure DNA investigations were done. They should also discuss the case with the experts of the prosecution.

Legal implications of bitemark evidence, Post-NAS report: Is there a problem?

Christopher Plourd, California

Plourd is also Lawyer and connected to the "Innocent Project". He went through all sentences with a bitemark as key evidence. He concentrated on the Brewer case from Mississippi. Brewer was sentenced to death in 1995 for murdering his girlfriend's 3 year old daughter. The evidence was a bitemark assessed by a board certified American forensic odontologist. He spent 12 year on the so called "Death row". In 2008 he was exonerated as another person confessed to the murder. Plourd called examination of bitemarks "Junk science". NSA (National Science Academy) has in its report severely criticized the use of bitemarks and asked for a considerable improvement of the technique. They have a number of suggestions how this may be achieved. According to his opinion it is today not possible to make a

positive match from a bitemark and such evidence should not be allowed in court until analysis techniques are improved. In his opinion judges should be instructed not to allow bite mark evidence to be used in court or at least not to place too much weight on this evidence. He does also suggest that the ABOF (American Board of Forensic Odontology) should examine past cases more closely to find what went wrong and why.

Bitemark analysis: Foundation, lessons from the past, and paradigm shift to the present and future.

Franklin D. Wright, Ohio

Wright is past president of ASFO and well recognized forensic odontologist in the US. In his opinion bitemarks satisfied all scientific requirements except one; it is impossible to conduct experiments on humans for ethical reasons. Furthermore, he claimed that bitemarks when they were of high quality could be good and safe evidence. This was especially so in a closed population. Bitemarks may be used both for inclusion and exclusion of suspects. They should be supplemented by DNA analyses. The cases of wrong results was due to poorly defined marks being used or some cases where the expert had not been able to exclude the suspect. He had no problem with these cases. In other cases the dentist had gone too far in his conclusion. ABFO has now set up new guidelines for bitemark examinations aimed at avoiding this. It is also recommended to increase the number of cases to have been examined and reported before board certification is issued. Certified experts should have to go through proficiency tests to maintain certification. Perhaps most important is that all cases should be subjected to a case review by another expert. This is a practice that has been standard in Norway for many years. The lecture gave a well balanced view on tooth mark examinations and indicates that this evidence may have a future also in the US.

Report on a recent Frye challenge bitemark evidence in New York

Chris Fabricant, New York

Fabricant is a lawyer and also working for the "Innocence Project". She referred to the famous Frye case from 1920 to 1923. Frye was sentenced for having shot person. He confessed at first, but later withdrew his confession. To prove that he

spoke the truth he took a lie detector test. He passed this test. Then he was interviewed by a physician while his blood pressure was recorded. The physician was convinced that Frye was telling the truth. Despite this evidence Frye was sentenced to life imprisonment but was released in 1939. It is said that his life was saved as the judges did not dare to give him death penalty. The judge said that he did not accept the evidence because it was not an established science or recognized among experts. The sentence is even today guiding American judges when new techniques are presented in court. Fabricant claimed that bitemark evidence is one such type of evidence that does not pass the Frye test. She said that it was not proved scientifically that dentists could identify a biter with certainty. In addition, it had no general acceptance among scientists such as Mary and Peter Bush. They have conducted a number of investigations showing that tooth marks in skin changes deform because of positioning of the body part and tension in the tissue. In a pre-trial hearing recently in a case in New York the forensic odontologist had concluded that the bitemark *could* have been made by the suspect. The results of the DNA analysis showed that it was not the suspect who had bitten. The case is considered to be a good learning for judges, prosecutors, defense lawyers and it throws doubt about the validity of bitemark evidence even by established experts. With the criticism of bitemarks as evidence as presented in the NAS report and assessed against the requirements in the Frye case, she was of the opinion that bite mark evidence is not good enough to be used in American courts. The "Innocent Project" has established a "Strategic unit" which will work against the use of bitemarks and other doubtful evidence in court.

Non-American presentations

There were also a number of presentations from non-American forensic odontologists

Study of palatal rugae patterns among Indians and Chinese in Manipal, India

Manjunth Sathyanarayanachar, Manipal, India

Palatal rugae have been shown to be individually characteristic and can often be found ante-mortem models of the maxilla. They are almost like fingerprints and maybe used to compare with a dead person for identification. The technique has been called palatoscopy or rugoscopy. The rugal pattern can be classified according

to Thomas and Kotze 1983. In the current study 63 Indian individuals were compared with 61 Chinese individuals. In both ethnic groups women had more rugae than men and they were more often straight or bowed while men had a more waved pattern. Ethnic differences were found as Indians had significantly more rugae on the right side than Chinese.

Analysis of degraded fragmented and commingled human remains

Diana Aparicio, Santiago, Chile

After the fall of the Pinochet regime a number of mass graves have been found in Chile relating to killings performed by police or military. Thousands of people were executed during Pinochet's regime. After 5 to 10 years, when a grave was discovered, the police or military tried to exhume the bodies and remove them, but not all the skeletal remains were removed. When the grave now was reopened 127 skeletal or tooth remains were found. 87 pieces were classified or clustered in 21 groups. Two complete maxillas and one complete mandible were found. As no dental records existed, the persons had to be identified by DNA. The analyses showed that the clusters made by the forensic odontologist were 100% correct. The remains were given to the relatives who could arrange a burial and later had a grave to visit.

Human third molars development: Comparison of 13 country specific populations

Patrick Thevissen, Leuven, Belgium

Missing people and nameless cadavers: Implication for human rights and forensic odontology

Emilio Nuzzolese, Bari, Italia

Discussion after the Jurisprudence section:

After the tooth mark presentations an interesting discussion followed. It however consisted of much emphasising of the points already presented. In addition to Wright, two other experts from ABFO took part in the discussion. One was David Senn, known from the Torgersen case in Norway. Peter Bushalso took part in the

discussion. The forensic odontologists were most careful and expressed themselves conservatively. They said however that bitemark examination was a recognized and proved science. It has general acceptance among forensic odontologists and must therefore be accepted evidence in court. With new guidelines from ABFO it was possible to reduce mistaken identifications. They also said that judges and lawyers had a responsibility to make sure only the best experts was used and to control that all recommendations were followed during the examination. However, it is impossible to guarantee that mistaken identification will not occur.

Some of the discussions appeared unnecessary. Some points lacked a scientific basis. Concern was expressed especially about bias. However, the real bias of American experts was not discussed. This bias is because experts are hired by the prosecution or the defense and paid by these. The parties will of course not pay an expert who do not support their view. American forensic odontologists win or lose their cases. In Europe, the experts are accountable to the Court only and must in a neutral way explain to the court the scientific value of findings after tooth mark comparison with a suspect. We do not win or lose cases, but expect the court to take expert findings and conclusions into consideration.

Tore Solheim

Report on AGFAD Meeting

Berlin, 15th March 2013

The 16th meeting of the Study Group on Forensic Age Diagnostics was held in Berlin on 15th March and more than fifty attendees from many different countries participated in the scientific sessions that were chaired by Prof. Geserick. The head organizer, Prof. Schmeling, was an amazing host who brilliantly supported presentations and participants and fostered discussion. The presentation of prof. Ersoy from Istanbul University followed prof. Schmeling's report about the 11th proficiency test. In Turkey the daily age estimation (AE) practice is mainly by assessing bone age on wrist-hand bone maturation. Geserick reported that Tanner-Whitehouse (TW) method is less used since the GOK atlas is the most widespread source of reference. Hand, wrist, femur and tibial bones are covered in this atlas. Prof. Rudolf and Remus respectively from Austria and from Germany reported the legal requirements of their countries and the legal questions concerning AE of refugee minors. Prof. Roberts from Guy's Institute of London offered an interesting discussion dealing with the different statistical approach, especially concerning the weighted and weighted average of age attainment of tooth development stages in young children. The speaker reported that unexpectedly the "mean" works better than weighted average. Professors Kramer from Munster, Hackman from Dundee, Sant-Martin from Toulouse, described advancements in bone age estimation based of magnetic resonance imaging of tibia and knee, while prof. Wittschieber reported the utility of measurement of iliac crest apophysis on pelvis radiography. Prof. Liversidge fostered discussion with a brilliant presentation about the London atlas for AE and focusing on relevant findings and controversies of age estimation as they emerged from approximately 20 000 OPGs sampled. First she highlighted the lack of evidence about ethnic influence on velocity pattern of mineralization of teeth up to second molar. Secondly Liversidge reported that a variability of mineralization velocity exists among subjects despite the increase in sample size and that this biological variability is supposed to be due to subjects whose "biological clock is ticking faster or slower". Dr. Gibelli reported of a metric approach to face images for age assessment in case

of juvenile pornography and dr. Aksu 's presentation concerned dentin caries as factor affecting the aspartic-acid racemization and the age estimation based upon such a method. An interesting discussion completed the scientific meeting with much exchange between participants, presenters and chairmen. The meeting was definitively a great opportunity to listen to the latest advancement on age estimations and to focus on controversies and to exchange practical experiences.

Vilma Pinchi

24th Meeting of the INTERPOL Standing Committee on DVI



Lyon, France, 28-30 May 2013

The annual meeting of the Interpol Standing Committee on Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) took place as usual at the Interpol Headquarters in Lyon, and was attended by 26 forensic odontologists from 15 different countries. Prior to the SC meeting, the Interpol DVI Odontology Working Group met for a full day on Monday 27th May. During this exclusively dental meeting a number of matters in relation to DVI and Interpol were presented by chair Alain Middleton (Aus) and discussed within the group. The position of the Forensic Odontologist within the Platform DVI (cooperation between ICMP and Interpol DVI) was defined. During the negotiations with ICMP, the scientific representatives in the Interpol DVI group made sure that all scientific methods were still being considered when the Platform would become operational. In a report from Adam Freeman (USA) about SWGDVI we learned that new guidelines for best practice for odontologists and other parties would soon be released. It was discussed whether this was really necessary as Interpol DVI SC has been working on this matter for the past several decades.

In new elections for the odontology group, Alain Middleton (Aus) was re-elected as chairman FO. He will act as the Vice Chair Scientific at the Interpol Steering Group for the next two years. Irena Dawidson (SWE) and Adam Freeman (USA) were elected as Vice Chairs FO. Congratulations !

The afternoon of the first day was dedicated to presentations in relation to DVI matters. Emilio Nuzzolese (ITA) presented the result of the international survey on the direct/indirect involvement of FO's in the national DVI teams. The conclusions were that not every country has a DVI team following Interpol guidelines and not all countries have put enough effort into maximizing the involvement of forensic odontologists within their DVI team. The survey can be looked at : <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NYPM895>

Michel Perrier (SWI) gave a very structured overview of the training program for dentists interested in working in mass fatality incidents in Switzerland. After an Introductory 2 day course the participants are given the opportunity to come back for a refresher course. In the introductory course the program covered all theoretical aspects of a major disaster, and the first day was concluded with a practical exercise. The second day covered a number of case reports and closed with another practical exercise on DVI matters. After an evaluation by the participants they were invited for a one day refresher course.

Tácio Pinheiro Bezerra and Ricardo Henrique Alves da Silva (BRA) showed in their joined presentations how Brazil is getting ready for the major events (FIFA Confederations Cup 2013, Soccer World Cup 2014 and Olympics 2016) that the country will host. Using the Interpol DVI philosophy and guide they developed a framework for training for FO's and a Brazilian Forensic Odontology DVI Guide. The 6 day training course they prepared for interested Brazilian dentists looked great and showed us they will be ready.

From John Robson and Phil Marsden (UK) we learned more about the BAFO Mass Fatality response team. Not only do they use specially trained forensic odontologists but also other personnel with dental experience. The full team is composed of 58 DVI team members throughout the UK , headed by 3 Dental Identification Managers and 8 odontology team leaders. All team members are available to deploy within 48 hrs and the managers within 24hrs or less. One contact phone number is used for local, regional, national and international incidents : YAC phone number:07003 900094

Patrick Thevissen (BEL) talked about a research project to test the feasibility and validation of virtual autopsy for dental identification using the Interpol dental codes. The aim was to find out whether virtopsy allows observation of dental identifiers and if

it is possible to register the dental identifiers according to the Dental Interpol DVI codes. The conclusion is that virtopsy might offer new opportunities but that the method still needs refinement before being applicable as a standard method replacing the conventional ones in mass disasters.

On the second day there was a break away session for the FO group which was used for further presentations and discussions about the newly adopted Interpol DVI forms. Dorthe Bindslev (DNK) and Alain Middleton (AUS) talked about tips and tricks (super glue spray, hair spray, ...) that work sometimes in cases of heavily carbonized bodies. Many of us recognized some of the techniques they use in their own daily forensic work and the discussion and exchange of experience was very useful for everyone present. The newly adopted Interpol DVI forms were presented to the group. The 'dental pages' will no longer be marked as F pages but will go under the 600's. Much of the information that was available on the old F pages will in the new forms have to be written on the free text pages 700's. All present agreed that we had too many dental Codes (133 in total) and we looked at ways to reduce these to a workable number, keeping in mind the philosophy of the Plass Data DVI System International program. René Pape (Plass Data) was our 'engineering' guide through this difficult exercise.

Eddy De Valck

Chief Forensic Odontologist DVI Belgium, your reporter in Lyon



All participants on 24th Meeting of the INTERPOL Standing Committee on Disaster Victim Identification

Meetings in 2013

1st International Forum of Expertise in Bite Marks & 1st Brazilian Congress of New Technologies Applied to Forensic Expertise

In the face of the technological advances experienced in recent years, particularly in the imaging and three-dimensional technology resources, it is necessary that medical examiners, odontologists, criminal experts and other professionals learn about the resources available and applicable to the forensic field.

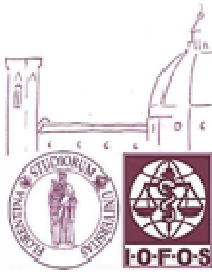
In several countries of the world, new technologies have been used in Medico-Legal Institutes (IMLs), allowing for greater efficiency and modernization of forensic techniques. In Brazil, several states have invested in the structuring of IMLs, the acquisition of equipment and advanced technologies. These circumstances makes it ideal for the holding of major international events in Brazil over the next few years.

In this perspective, the 1st INTERNATIONAL FORUM of EXPERTISE in BITE MARKS, the 1st BRAZILIAN CONGRESS of NEW TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED to FORENSIC EXPERTISE, the INTERNATIONAL FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY COURSE and DIGITAL VIRTOPSY PROJECT, will enable experts, directors of IMLs and professionals in the field to meet, learn about and assess the feasibility of inserting these technological resources into forensic practice.

During the event the protocols of the Brazilian Association of Ethics and Legal Dentistry (ABOL) and the South American Association of Forensic Dentistry (AOFS) for expertise in bite marks will be built, to include new technologies.

Participants

This event aims to bring together an audience of participants from various parts of the world, among them: federal, state and municipal authorities, dental entrepreneurs, experts, teachers, students, self-employed professionals, the press, radio and television and society as a whole.



Faculty of Medicine, Viale Morgagni, 40

Invitation

It is our privilege and great pleasure to invite you to the **International Congress of I.O.F.O.S.** on Forensic Odontology, which will be held in August 29-31, 2013 at the Faculty of Medicine of University of Firenze.

The Congress will be organized by IOFOS and Legal Medicine Section of University of Firenze.

The IOFOS international meeting will incorporate sessions on the latest advances in forensic odontology research and practice. Presentation of researchers and delegates of the national fellow societies of Forensic Odontology will foster the scientific program of the meeting.

More than 100 abstracts have been submitted so far for oral or poster presentations and participants and presenters will be coming from more than 35 countries all around the world.

The Social program for participants and accompanying people is near to be completed and updated information about Congress are available at <http://congress.iofos.eu>.

We look forward to welcoming you in Firenze

Prof. Vilma Pinchi

Prof. Gian-Aristide Norelli

Presidents of the Congress

Gian-Aristide Norelli – **President of Pro.O.F., Honorary President of the Congress**

Vilma Pinchi – **President of I.O.F.O.S. , President of the Congress**

IOFOS Presidium

Vilma Pinchi (Italy) , Herman Bernitz (South Africa) , Hrvoje Brkic (Croatia), Stefano Garatti (Italy), Francesco Pradella (Italy) , Patrick Thevissen (Belgium)

Scientific Committee

Hrvoje Brkic (Croatia), Nuno Duarte (Portugal), Santo Davide Ferrara (Italy), Vittorio Fineschi (Italy), Sang-Seob Lee (Korea), Vincenzo Pascali (Italy), Marco Scarpelli (Italy), Tore Solheim (Norway), Patrick Thevissen (Belgium)

Secretary of the Congress

Francesco Pradella (Italy)

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

	Thursday 29.08 Morning	Thursday 29.08 Afternoon	Friday 30.08 Morning	Friday 30.08 Afternoon	Saturday 31.08 Morning
	Coffee Break 10.45-11.10 Lunch 12.45- 13.45	Coffee Break 15.45 – 16.10	Coffee Break 10.30-11.00 Lunch 13.00- 14.00	Coffee Break 16.00 – 16.20	Coffee Break 10.30 – 11.00 Lunch 13.30
<i>Auditorium</i>	Opening 9.00-9.15	Body identification 14.15 – 15.45 15.20 Discussion	Age estimation 8.30 – 10.45 10.20 Discussion	Mass-disaster, DVI 14.30 – 16.00	Bitemark 9.00- 10.30 10.10 Discussion
	Education, Qualification 9.15 – 10.45 Education, Qualification 11.10-13.00 12.30 Discussion	Body identification 16.10 – 17.30 17.10 Discussion	Age estimation 11.15 – 13.00 12.40 Discussion	Mass- disaster, DVI 16.20 – 17.30 17.10 - Discussion	Bitemark 11.00 – 13.00 12.40 Discussion
<i>Room 1</i>	Ethics, Malpractice, Legal Dentistry 11.10-13.00 12.40 Discussion	Ethics, Malpractice, Legal Dentistry 16.10 – 17.30 17.10 Discussion	Body identification 11.15 – 13.00 12.40 Discussion	Age estimation 16.20-17.30 17.10 Discussion	Body identification 11.00 – 13.00 12.40 Discussion
<i>Rooms 2</i>		Age estimation 16.10 -17.30 17.10 Discussion	Pro.O.F Meeting (in Italian) 8.30 – 13.00		
<i>Poster Area</i>	Poster Discussion 13.45 – 14.30		Poster Discussion 14.00 – 14.45		

For any scientific information please write to iofos2013org@gmail.com

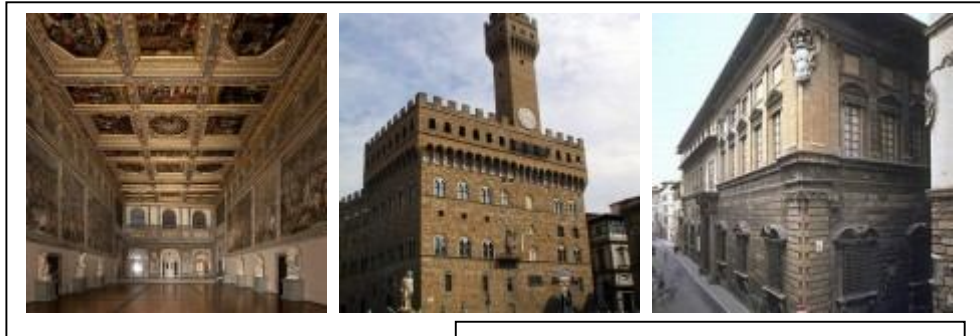
SOCIAL PROGRAM

Thursday 29.08.2013

18.30: Opening ceremony of the Congress.

The Ceremony will be held at Salone dei Cinquecento in Palazzo Vecchio and participants and accompanying persons are invited to participate.

19.30: Welcome cocktail at Palazzo Nonfinito. A cocktail and light dinner will be offered to all the participants and accompanying persons

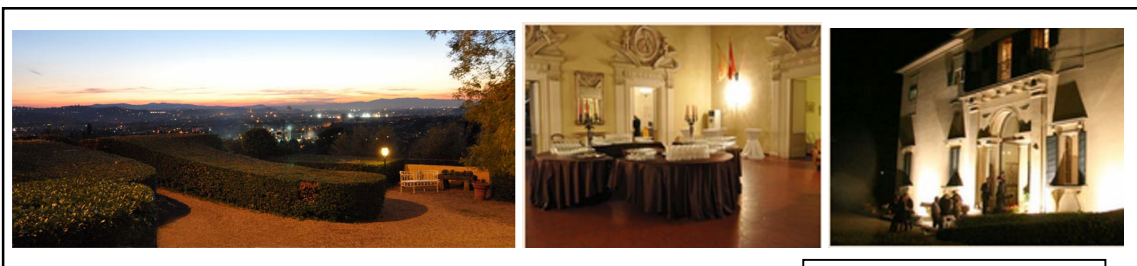


Palazzo Vecchio – Palazzo Nonfinito

Friday 30.08.2013

20.30: Gala dinner at Villa Viviani

For all the participants and accompanying persons registered for the gala dinner.



Villa Viviani

Saturday 31.08.2013

13.30: Lunch at Limonaia - Museo Stibbert.

A farewell lunch will be offered to participants and accompanying persons. A guided tour of the Museum is included.



SOCIAL PROGRAM FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Some special programs are provided for accompanying persons. The social program for people registered as “accompanying person” includes :

Thursday 29.08.2013

10.30 – 12.30: Visit to Galleria degli Uffizi Museum. Guided tour

18.30: Opening ceremony of the Congress.

19.30: Welcome cocktail at Palazzo Nonfinito.

Friday 30.08.2013

9.00-12.00: Guided tour in the historical heart of Firenze.

Saturday 31.08.2013

13.30: Lunch at Limonaia Museo Stibbert. Guided tour of Museo Stibbert

REGISTRATION

Complete information about registration are available at: <http://congress.iofos.eu>

Payments via Paypal (credi card) and bank transfer are available.

EARLY REGISTRATION UNTIL 15 JUNE, 2013				
	IOFOS/ PRO.O.F/ ANDI MEMBERS	OTHER	STUDENTS	ACCOMPANYING PERSONS
SYMPOSIUM	370 €	420 €	200 €	180 €
GALA DINNER	65 €	65 €	65 €	65 €
LATE REGISTRATION AFTER 15 JUNE, 2013				
SYMPOSIUM	470 €	520 €	280 €	200 €
GALA DINNER	70 €	70 €	70 €	70 €

Please note:

- On site registration will be charged with a further 15% of the fee,
- I.O.F.O.S. members: The Countries that have paid their duties (April 2013) are: Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherland, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, South-Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA, Australia, Belgium

ACCOMMODATION

Reporter Viaggi will be pleased to arrange:

- Hotel accommodation in Firenze, Tuscany or anywhere else in Italy
- Travel and touristic information
- Flight, train and city bus tickets
- Special tours in Tuscany (shopping area, cantina, spa)
- Rent a car, book a museum or special cultural events

Reporter viaggi

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