



NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR FORENSIC ODONTO-STOMATOLOGY

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Impressum

URL: <http://iofos.eu>

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Dear Readers,

The first month of 2017 we had to accept that the mass disasters and terrorist attacks will not end. Several natural catastrophes e.g. the forest fire in Portugal or other parts of the world and other accidents took place. If you have a look at the terrorist attacks of 2017 (see figure at the title page) it is shown, that every day we have mostly more than one attack with a different number of fatalities. This shows the need of preparedness to identify the victims, what is done in different ways depending from the circumstances.

Different important conferences will take place in the next month: the 21st Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences in Toronto (Canada) from the 21st to the 25th of August and the Triennial IOFOS Conference Forensic Odontology in Leuven (Belgium) at the 14th and 15th of September 2017. IOFOS will be present at the IAFS Meeting with a workshop and presentations. At the Conference in Leuven the elections of the next Board of IOFOS will take place. We hope for many attendants from the IOFOS Member Societies and many fruitful talks in Toronto and Leuven.

Yours,

Ruediger Lessig

President's Page



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This is my Last President's Page since my second term is coming to an end and I can't help saying what an incredible experience the IOFOS Presidency has been, especially in the past years, since the IOFOS electoral assembly in Madeira, when we were able to see our Organization successfully growing and thriving. I'm not talking about memories, but solid ground for the future.

Thirty four active member societies now belong to the IOFOS Family and odontologists from all over the world are being ever more involved in our community. A good example of this is the success that always crowns any IOFOS congress or meetings, and any highly qualifying courses in forensic odontology under the patronage of IOFOS.

Many prominent colleagues are currently working on the revision of the recommendations on quality assurance which will be presented at the triennial IOFOS International Meeting which will be held in Leuven (B), 13-16 September 2017. We have had to overcome difficulties and challenges in the relationships with other scientific entities about the JFOS and in the updating process of the IOFOS regulations: the successes made my experience anyway happy and highly rewarding. I definitely wish the same experience both to the new IOFOS President and the incoming Executive Board.

As you surely know, IOFOS has organized a workshop and a dedicated session during the 2017 IAFS meeting in Toronto 21-25 August. Besides that, save the date for the triennial International Congress in Leuven. The meeting is likely to be very successful considering that more than 100 abstracts have already been submitted to the scientific committee: a scientific program full of oral presentations and posters coming from all over the world is waiting for us.

The decision taken by the IOFOS Board to move the General Assembly from the IAFS meetings to the IOFOS triennial meetings was undoubtedly a wise one, according to the evidential facts that only the IOFOS congresses are so well attended by such a huge number of odontologists. This hopefully will enable strong participation of the delegates of the member societies to the IOFOS general assembly in the election of the incoming new IOFOS executive board. I must remind to all of you that the IOFOS General Assembly will take place during the Leuven Congress and the agenda will be rolled out as soon as possible. During the same assembly the election of the new executive will take place, towards which the election committee (John Rosie, Giulia Vitale and Sang Seob Lee) have been working for months. The member societies will be soon for nominations for the electoral procedures. Looking forward to meeting all of you in Leuven.

VilmaPinchi

From the National Societies

Australian Association of Forensic Odontology

Following our successful 2nd Symposium on Forensic Odontology in November 2015, our Society is beginning to plan for our next Symposium, this time in Sydney in 2019. Later this year we will announce a keynote speaker, dates and a venue. We are hoping for another successful meeting.

In late 2016, at our annual general meeting, Mark Leedham was elected President, with Jane Taylor as Vice President and Jenny Ball as Secretary. Our grateful thanks go to Alain Middleton for his work as President for the last two years.

Members in some States are now undergoing training with State police in the new web based DVI.sys program. The State police forces and the Australian Federal Police have established a National Missing Persons Database, but will also be able to use the system in the case of any DVI incidents.

Our own AuSFO DVI guidelines are planned to be reviewed following the 2017 meeting in Singapore and we plan to do this in the second half of this year. At this stage we also have nine forensic odontologists attending the Singapore meeting. Having the meeting in this part of the world for the first time certainly makes the travel time a little less!

Our website has recently been upgraded and we have been receiving a steady flow of queries. Over time we will be placing more and more information on the website both for members (in a restricted area) and for the general public who have an interest in forensic science.

Since 2010, Forensic Odontology has been a recognized dental specialty, and in April 2016, the first course received Dental Board of Australia approval for training of new Forensic Odontologists. There are about 25 recognized specialists in Australia, and accreditation and approval of this course has created a pathway for new specialists to join our ranks.

Our web address for further information is www.ausfo.com.au

Mark Leedham

President, Australian Society of Forensic Odontology

Nigerian Association of Forensic Odontology

Forensic Odontology has continued to wax stronger in Nigeria despite its being a relatively new specialty in this part of the globe. The awareness has increased due to a number of factors;

1. Increased level of violence in the North Eastern part of the country, generated by 'Boko Haram' a terrorist organization, which has resulted in multiple deaths and displacement of citizens.
2. The need for the government to identify human remains in the post insurgent era.

The organization has been able to help in some DVI exercises in the past three years. Last December the international committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in collaboration with the Nigerian government floated a conference on "Management of Human Remains in Nigeria". The conference held at the nation's capital Abuja. Professor Jonathan Lawoyin, the President of the Nigerian Association was invited as one of the resource persons. The goal was to develop a blue print for a national policy on the management of human remains.

As part of the push to advance forensic Odontology and train local manpower, a proposal for a postgraduate training was approved early in the year by the senate of University of Ibadan Nigeria. The PG diploma course is starting in February 2018. International collaborators have accepted to help in putting the program on sound footing as international adjunct staff. Among them are Professors Steve Knott of University of Western Australia, Professor Kalu Ogbureke of the University of Texas at Houston and Professor Herman Bernitz of the University of Pretoria South Africa. It is hoped that this program which will be first or among the first in West Africa will serve a larger part of the sub-region.

Jonathan Lawoyin DDS, M.MedSci

President Nigerian Association of Forensic Odontology

We are

Asia Pacific Forensic Odontologists



apfo



Colours:

Blue – trust , confidence, intelligence and loyalty

Red - strength, power and determination

Summary of the presentation by Jayanie Weeratna (Sri Lanka) & Stephen Knott (Australia) at the 2017 Interpol meeting in Singapore

Following the November 2016 INPALMS Congress (Indo Pacific Association of Law, Medicine and Science) held in Bali, Indonesia, we expressed disappointment at the limited number of regional countries represented in the field of Forensic Odontology (FO). We concluded regional communication within the field of FO needed to be advanced. To facilitate this aim it was decided to establish “The Asian-Pacific Forensic Odontology Group” to keep a data-base of contacts.

The geographical region the group includes is similar to the INPALMS organisation. It extends from the West Pacific island nations in the east to Pakistan in the west, South Korea in the north and New Zealand in the south.

Asia Pacific Forensic Odontology (APFO)



Who does APFO represent ?

- World population - 7.5 billion
- Asian – Pacific region - 4.1 billion

54% of the world population

The basic aims of the APFO Group are to -

- Establish a data-base of the FO representatives from each country within the region.
- Provide general FO information.
- Provide a regional contact list of FO's to assist in the event of a DVI incident.
- Provide an annual calendar of Forensic conferences and meetings related to FO.
- Distribute a newsletter, share significant research from the literature, outcomes from recent DVI incidents and welcome input from member countries.

- Establish links with other organisations such as Interpol, International Committee of the Red Cross. In countries with existing national odontology associations, APFO will act as a link with the association; it is not intended to replace them.

FO's add their names to the data-base voluntarily and the data-base will not be available to commercial interests.

Dr Jayanie Weeratna kindly collects and does all the administration associated with the APFO, data-base of contacts. It does not cost regional countries anything to be included in the data-base. Within some of the 39 countries, FO is not well recognised. Often it is only after a major DVI incident FO becomes significant. Currently there are 21 countries represented on the data-base. There is active investigation underway to include countries not yet represented and to confirm numbers.

Guide to FO numbers (includes general practitioners and specialists)

Australia	61	Bangladesh		Bhutan		Brunei		Cambodia	
China	2	Cook Islands	1	Fiji	4	French Polynesia		India	5
Indonesia	60	Japan	14	Kiribati	1	Laos		Malaysia	6
Maldives		Marshall Islands	1	Micronesia		Myanmar		Nauru	1
Nepal	2	New Zealand	33	New Caledonia		Pakistan	1	Palau	1
Papua New Guinea	1	Philippines		Samoa	1	Singapore	2	Solomon Islands	
South Korea	8	Sri Lanka	3	Thailand	1	Taiwan		Timor – Leste	

It is hoped the APFO Group will eventually include all countries within the region. Only time will tell!

We welcome your support and suggestions,

Jayanie and Stephen

jayanie.weeratna@gmail.com; stephenknot@bigpond.com

Report of the INTERPOL DVI Forensic Odontology Sub Working Group (FOSWG) Meeting

Singapore

Monday – Tuesday May 15/16, 2017

The Meeting of the FOSWG took place in the Interpol Global Complex for Innovation in Singapore first time this year. Especially many colleagues of Asia it was the opportunity to attend the meeting. A record number of registered dentists was the consequence: 63 colleagues came to the meeting. The first day started on the Monday with a breakout meeting at 2 pm. Following topics were presented at the first day.

Asian Pacific Forensic Odontology Group (APFO)

Presenters: Stephen Knott (Australia) and Jayanie Weeratna (Sri Lanka)

DVI 5 System International Latest Update, esp. 600s pages – Odontology

Presenter: Rene Papé (Plassdata)

Latest Update US/ISO

Presenter: Kenneth Aschheim (USA)

AM Collection of Dental Records

Presenter: Alain Middleton (Australia)

Forensic Medicine and Imaging

Presenter: Ruediger Lessig (Germany)

EU Recommendations on Human Identification: Update

Presenter: Emilio Nuzzolese (Italy)

DVI Team Survey

Presenter: Emilio Nuzzolese (Italy)

Scenario of Forensic Odontology & DVI INTERPOL Through Dental Evidence in India:

Overview and Challenges

Presenter: Parul Khare Sinha (India/China)

Recent Development of Forensic Odontology in Indonesia

Presenter: Novita Masniari (Indonesia)

Forensic Odontology: Pathway to Specialist Recognition in Australia

Presenter: Mark Leedham (Australia)

Tuesday began with day 1 of the 28th Interpol DVI Conference. After the reports of the Chair of the DVI Working Group – Howard Way - and of the DVI Unit Status Report – Mark Mülder – the French Police informed about the terrorist attacks in Nice last year. Peter Brendl from the Czech DVI Team informed about the Development of solution of mass Disaster Victim Identification on the territory of the Czech Republic. Jeremy Wilson (UK) reported about the Counter Terrorism and DVI.



Participants of the 28th Interpol DVI Conference

After the lunchbreak the FOSGW – Meeting was continued with the second day of the breakout meeting and divided in four submeetings with the topics:

AM data collection (Alain Middleton)

CT imaging (Rüdiger Lessig) and Forms (Rene Papé)

Proposal for ISO (Kenneth Aschheim)

Day 2 of the Conference presents many interesting reports from different Nations about different parts of DVI and case reports about DVI and Day 3 the obligatory reports from the different Subworking Groups. The 29th Interpol DVI Conference is planned for the May 2018 in Lyon. Further information about this conference will be published after the next Meeting of the DVI Working Group.

Irena Davidson
Chair

Ruediger Lessig
Subchair

Forensic Meetings



The graphic is a promotional poster for the IAFS 2017 conference. It features a purple and white color scheme with geometric shapes. At the top, a dark purple banner contains the text: 'Follow International Association of Forensic Sciences @IAFS2017 #IAFS2017' and 'IAFStoronto2017.com'. Below this, a white banner says 'Save the Date: August 21-25, 2017'. The main title 'IAFS 2017' is in large, bold letters, with a DNA helix and a silhouette of the Toronto skyline (including the CN Tower) integrated into the 'I'. Below the title, it reads '21ST TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENCES 2017'. A central banner states 'Inter-Professional Collaboration in Forensic Science AUGUST 21-25, 2017 > TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA'. Logos for Ontario, the University of Toronto (Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology), and Tourism Toronto are on the left. The background includes images of a hand using a tool, a scientist at a microscope, and a surgical team in an operating room, all set against a backdrop of the Toronto skyline.

The relationships between the IAFS and IOFOS have been very fruitful for many years and the participation of many IOFOS members to IAFS meetings is a consolidated tradition. Registration and Abstract Submission for IAFS 2017 are now open! For more conference information, including scientific content, areas of special interest, international faculty, awards, networking opportunities, travel assistance, hotel accommodations and tourism information, check out the IAFS 2017 website at www.iafstoronto2017.com and follow them on Facebook (International Association of Forensic Sciences) and Twitter (@IAFS2017).



INVITATION

Dear Colleagues,

as many of you surely remember, IOFOS has always held dedicated sessions during the IAFS triennial conference since its foundation.

IOFOS is still and always committed to continue the historical tradition of close and collaborative relationships with IAFS.

We are so pleased to invite everyone to the 2017 IAFS meeting in Toronto, Canada (August 21-25, 2017), where, as usually, a special session dedicated to IOFOS will take place.

We are inviting submissions for oral presentations to be presented at the upcoming important meeting.

All the renown subjects in the field of forensic odontology will be considered for acceptance.

SELECTED TOPICS IN COMMUNICATIONS SYMPOSIUM will be, as usual:

Human identification; Age estimation; Mass disaster management, procedures and DVI; Bite-mark analysis; Quality assurance; Research, scientific evidence and bias; Guidelines, recommendations and protocols; Qualification and accreditation; Ethics; Expert witnessing.

Registration and Abstract Submission for IAFS 2017 are now open! For more conference information, including scientific content, areas of special interest, international faculty, awards, networking opportunities, travel assistance, hotel accommodations and tourism information, check out the IAFS 2017 website at www.iafstoronto2017.com

and follow them on Facebook (International Association of Forensic Sciences) and Twitter (@IAFS2017).

The abstract submission system closes on March 10th, 2017.

<http://iafstoronto2017.com/scientific-program/call-for-abstracts/>

**All the best,
The IOFOS Board**



**Triennial IOFOS Conference
Forensic Odontology**
Leuven, Belgium
September 14th-15th, 2017
Workshops September 13th and 16th 2017

Local organizer:
**Oral Health Sciences, unit Forensic Dentistry,
KU Leuven, Belgium**

Patronage:
Vlaamse Vereniging Tandheelkundige Experten

Local Conference Secretariat:
**eline.michiels@uzleuven.be
www.leuvenmeeting.be**

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