Communicating Forensic Findings Workshop: Current Practices and Future Directions

(June 25-26, 2024; Rockville, Maryland)

Planning Team: Sandy Koch (SPO), Sanne Aalbers (MML), Will Guthrie (ITL), Hari Iyer (ITL), Steve Lund (ITL), John Butler (SPO) Website: https://www.nist.gov/news-events/events/communicating-forensic-findings-current-practices-and-future-directions

Planned Agenda

June 25th AM – Communicating Forensic Findings

- Registration 8-8:30am (coffee/tea)
- Session 1: Framing the Issues 8:30-9:45am
 - Sandy Koch NIST (SPO)
 - **John Butler** NIST (SPO)
 - Judge J. Michael Ryan DC Superior Court
 - Hal Stern UC Irvine/CSAFE
 - Steve Lund/Hari Iyer NIST (SED)
- Break 9:45-10am
- Session 2: Communicating Results in Forensic Reports and Testimony 10am-12pm
 - Julie Burrill Alan Alda Center for Science Communication
 - Heidi Eldridge George Washington University
 - Kristy Martire University of New South Wales (Australia)
 - Clinton Hughes Brooklyn Defender Services
- Lunch break 12-1pm

June 25th PM - Current Practices and Future Needs in Understanding Forensic Results

- Session 3: Practitioner Perspectives (LR and OSAC Interpretation Scales) 1-3pm
 - Jarrah Kennedy: Kansas City PD Crime Lab, DNA
 - Tatiana Trejos: West Virginia University, Trace Evidence
 - David Kanaris: Alaska State Crime Lab, Footwear
 - Lora Sims: Ideal Innovations, Digital & Multimedia
 - Miriam Angel: Los Angeles PD, Documents
- Break 3-3:15pm
- Session 4: Discussion Session part 1: Terminology 3:15-4:45pm (Moderator: Melissa Taylor)
- Wrap up of Day 1 with invitation to continue collegial discussions into the evening 4:45-5pm

Evening informal mixer off-site (Yard House restaurant within walking distance of hotel) starting at 5:30pm

June 26th AM – Exploring Gaps and European Perspectives

- Session 5: Gaps and How to Fill Them 8:30-10:15am
 - **Bill Thompson** UC Irvine/CSAFE
 - Kate Philpott- Virginia Commonwealth University
 - Dan Rabinowitz Columbia University
 - JD Schmid 6th District Public Defender MN
- Break 10:15-10:30am
- Session 6: European Perspectives 10:30-12pm
 - Alex Biederman University of Lausanne (Switzerland)
 - Anders Nordgaard National Forensic Centre (Sweden)
 - Marjan Sjerps Netherlands Forensic Institute (Netherlands)
- Lunch 12-1pm

June 26th PM –Discussions on Specific Topics and Next Steps

- Session 7: Discussion part 2 (Breakout groups) 1-2:30pm (Moderators: Sheila Willis, Melissa Taylor, Sanne Aalbers)
- Session 8: Why this Matters?
 - Lynn Garcia Texas Forensic Science Commission 2:30-2:45
- Review Group Findings 2:45-3:30pm
- Wrap up: Where to Next? (plans for a NIST Scientific Foundation Review) 3:30-4pm

