

# INTERNATIONAL LIAISON REPORT

## March 2005

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Since the ASCLD meeting held in San Diego, California, November 7-12, 2005, there have been a number of international liaison activities:

- Information was provided for both the newsletter and the ASCLD web site [www.ASCLD.org](http://www.ASCLD.org) to include:
  - Report to ASCLD Board of Directors
  - 14th International Forensic Science Symposium, Lyon, France
  - The ASCLD-NIFS-SMANZFL Strategic Alliance
  - IFSA - An Opportunity for Business Improvements. (Note: IFSA or the International Forensic Strategic Alliance, is the name given to the liaison activities established by the ASCLD/SMANFL/NIFS letter of agreement.)
  - ASCLD Liaison Job Description
  
- Information about the ASCLD/SMANZFL/NIFS alliance was summarized and posted on the NIFS web site at [www.nifs.com.au](http://www.nifs.com.au).
  
- Contacts were established with Jose Antonio Lorente, the President of the Latin American Network of Forensic Sciences Institutes, AICEF (Academia Iberoamericana de Criminalística y Estudios Forenses). Iberoamerica consists of Latin America plus Iberian Countries (Spain and Portugal). AICEF has members from all Latin American countries plus Spain and Portugal. Dr. Lorente is receiving updates on IFSA activities.
  - As the International Liaison, I will be participating in the 2005 South American Tour April 2-11, 2005, to Bogotá, Colombia, Santiago, Chile, and Buenos Aires, Argentina.
  - The tour is being hosted by the AAFS President-Elect Edmund R. Donoghue.
  - ASCLD's participation is being sponsored by West Virginia University through its cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Justice as an outreach to the international forensic community. Additional information is found on the AAFS web site at: <http://aafs.org/pdf/SouthAmerTour.pdf>.
  - The goal of the tour is to meet with forensic scientists in the countries being visited, to observe how the transfer of forensic science information is developing at major crime laboratories, and to create communication channels for future development.
  - Participation will provide an opportunity for the ASCLD to establish professional contacts with other individuals participating in the tour, to include Daniel D. Garner, of the International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP).

- The ICITAP program is a Department of Justice program with the following goals:
  - Enhance investigative and forensic capabilities;
  - Assist in development of training curricula for personnel;
  - Improve administrative capabilities;
  - Improve the relationship between the police and community; and
  - Enhance their ability to respond to new crime and criminal justice issues.
- Additional information on the ICITAP program is found on their web site at: [www.usdoj.gov/criminal/icitap/index.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/icitap/index.html).
- Updates on IFSA activities at the ASCLD meeting were provided to the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI). ENFSI continues its reorganization activities. Information on ENFSI can be found at the ENFSI web site at [www.ENFSI.org](http://www.ENFSI.org). Updates on the ASCLD international liaison activities are posted on the ENFSI web site as is the ASCLD 180 Day Study (<http://asclcd.org/pdf/180dayasclcdstudy.pdf>).
- ASCLD has received an invitation from ENFSI to participate in the 17<sup>th</sup> ENFSI Annual Meeting in The Hague (The Netherlands) from 25-28 May 2005. Additional information can be found on the web site: [www.enfsi.org/am2005](http://www.enfsi.org/am2005).
- An invitation has been received for a representative of ASCLD to participate in the SMANZFL Conference, tentatively scheduled for Brisbane, Australia, August 6 through 9, 2005. The draft agenda for the meeting includes organizations such as NIFS and NATA providing direction to the technical working groups (SACs), identifying generic and specific issues for the working groups to review and address. The SAG chairs are also scheduled to deliver their reports to SMANZFL at their business meeting.
  - Participation in this meeting is an opportunity to observe/participate in the SMANZFL board meeting and accomplish the following:
    - Continue outreach to other forensic organizations
    - Obtain information about the organization and operation of the SAGs (the SMANZFL equivalent of SWGs)
  - Additionally, a working meeting for international liaison topics would be scheduled to include the following agenda items:
    - Continue development of a strategic plan for the International Forensic Strategic Alliance (IFSA);
    - Plan for the international summit to be held in Hong Kong (August 21-26, 2005);
    - Finalize an agenda for the IFSA meeting to be held in Hong Kong;

- The ASCLD and SMANZFL/NIFS International Liaisons (Susan Johns and Tony Raymond) have begun drafting a strategic plan for the International Forensic Strategic Alliance (IFSA). Once that draft is complete, it will be presented to both ASCLD and SMANZFL/NIFS for their ratification. The plan will include action items for IFSA to accomplish its vision and goals as outlined in the letter of agreement signed at the annual ASCLD business meeting (November 2004).
- The IFSA agreement calls for a teleconference meeting between ASCLD and SMANZFL/NIFS twice each year. Work has begun to draft an agenda for that meeting.