

TIFS

TIFS is being established to promote global collaboration among forensic science professional organizations and institutes. The website has been established to facilitate international collaboration and provide capabilities for organizations to communicate in a global network. This website is in its genesis and will only be as useful as the organizations and individuals make it. Currently, the language for the website is English. If you have an item or link that would be suitable for the TIFS website, please contact one of the following individuals located in your geographic area. Those who are not in one of the geographical areas list below may contact Susan Johns (international@asclid.org).

- North America : Susan Johns [international@asclid.org]
- Australia : Tony Raymond [raym1mic@police.nsw.gov.au]
- Asia: SC Leung [2008.scl@gmail.com]
- Europe: Wim Neuteboom [secretariat@enfsi.com]

A letter of invitation from the Chair of the TIFS Steering Committee, SC Leung is attached below:

The International Forensic Summit

Website: www.theforensicsummit.org

Dear Colleagues

I write to inform you The International Forensic Summit (TIFS) has established its website at (www.theforensicsummit.org). I invite all members of participating organizations to visit the website and register to participate.

In my mind, we forensic professionals must take the lead to resolve problems faced by our community by providing an open forum for discussing and disseminating ideas on various issues around the world, thus facilitating reciprocal understanding and promoting regional or transnational interaction and cooperation.

This idea was materialized with the inclusion in the 17th Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences held in Hong Kong (IAFS 2005) of a special program, The International Forensic Summit. Bringing together the forensic leaders from the major continental plates to discuss establishing a coordination mechanism and strategy to enhance cooperation and share information, TIFS turned out to be a great success. After the Hong Kong meeting, a Steering Committee was established to continue with the vision: to formulate strategies from a global perspective; to organize and develop a world forum for resolving current problems and challenges; and to build a hub for international collaboration.

TIFS aims to bring together a comprehensive range of forensic disciplines such as science, medicine, patterned evidence, and crimes scene, identifying forensic needs and assist with bringing resources together with those needs. TIFS goals also include supporting forensic science in emerging nations. Attempting to link organizations from different continental plates, the Summit has a true global perspective. Through its website and regular meetings, TIFS will provide leadership and a mechanism for organizations to share information on a worldwide basis.

The Steering Committee has identified five major constituencies:

- Forensic Operations
- Professional Organizations
- Service Partners/Enablers
- Forensic Science Education
- Legal Medicine

Representatives from the abovementioned constituencies, led by the Steering Committee, are responsible for high level strategy and coordination. TIFS members will, for the most part, be organizations representing identified constituencies. However, criteria for individual or institutional participation will be provided to obtain participation from under-represented geographical areas. These criteria will be used in TIFS to issue invitations to institutions or individuals to participate.

I had the honor of organizing in Hong Kong IAFS 2005 which hosted the first TIFS meeting. I am pleased to report that TIFS has received enthusiastic support from many renowned forensic institutions and is now maturing into a virtual organization committed to regular Summit meetings at IAFS World Meetings and other symposia. To consolidate the initial success, widespread participation from the entire forensic community will be needed and on behalf of the Steering Committee, I would like to seek your candid acceptance and hearty participation to further the Summit 's vision. Please visit the website and provide us your comments and suggestions for improvement and further growth.

Best regards!

Yours sincerely,
SC Leung
Chair, Steering Committee
The International Forensic Summit (TIFS)