As Seen on Forensic Update

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Saw something cool in the Forensic Update? You can get all the details from each edition via the links below. NFSTC’s online forensic news series is where we share some of the coolest technologies and industry news.

November 2019

- Thermo Fisher Rapid DNA Center of Excellence
- Where DNA falls short in cracking crimes, scientists can use this new tool
- A safer way for police to test drug evidence
- A breath test for opioids
- Opioids PPE
- A fourth amendment framework for voiceprint database searches

October 2019

- Department of Justice announces interim policy on emerging method to generate leads for unsolved violent crimes
- Pitt researchers create breathalyzer that can detect marijuana
- ANSI National Accreditation Board
- FIU Digital Forensics Professional Program
- NICE Conference
- 9th Annual Forensic Science Symposium

September 2019

- NFSTC@FIU named Rapid DNA Center of Excellence by Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Fentanyl analogue identification toolkit aids forensic toxicology
- ISHI student ambassadors
- GCC Forensics Conference and Symposium
- Forensic Science Week

August 2019

- NIST’s new PCR-based DNA profiling standards
- Research: Improving the chemiluminescence of luminol
- Was that song stolen? Forensic Musicology with Joe Bennett, PhD, of the Berklee College of Music. Listen to the full interview here.
July 2019

- How forensic face recognition works
- SOCOM seeks smartphone app for fingerprint data
- Deep fakes: Researchers develop forensic techniques to identify tampered videos
- Overdose deaths likely to fall for first time since 1990
- CDC Provisional Report

June 2019

- Researcher creates new lubricant database to help solve sexual assault cases
- Tackling the forensic unknowns of 3D-printed firearms
- To access the database, contact Beau Black directly
- Forensic examiners are in danger of missing evidence in low-light environments, according to new research
- ROTC

May 2019

- UK to open first body farm for forensic research
- OSAC Opens Comment Period on Interdisciplinary Training Standard for Forensic Science Practitioners
- FBI approves Verogen’s Next-Gen forensic DNA technology for National DNA index system
- SWGDAM publishes addendums to Interpretation Guidelines for Autosomal STR Typing by Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories and Mitochondrial Interpretation Guidelines for Mitochondrial DNA Analysis by Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories
- SOFIC 2019

April 2019

- Scottish researchers crowsource forensic shoe prints for database
- Extended wash removes drug contaminants from forensic hair samples
- Need for digital forensics in the automotive world
- DNA Mixtures: A forensic science explainer
- 8th Annual Forensic Science Symposium

March 2019

- Forensic scents could prove rape case
- A long handshake can spread your DNA to objects you didn’t touch
- How optical tweezers could address one of crime labs biggest challenges
- New app uses sonar to detect opioid overdoses
- Western New York police to treat overdoses as a crime scene
- CDC distributes Fentanyl Analog Screening (FAS) kits with Cayman Chemical
- 8th Annual Forensic Science Symposium

**February 2019**
- NIST evaluation shows advance in face recognition software’s capabilities
- NICE and CoPaCC study reveals the top digital evidence management challenges for UK police forces
- Magnet Forensics Magnet Axiom
- CSI Medieval: Researchers to uncover forensic secrets of Britain’s historic wax seals
- 8th Annual Forensic Science Symposium

**January 2019**
- Bed bugs preserve full human blood DNA profiles for three days
- Blow flies help us solve murders but climate change is forcing them out

**December 2018**
- NFSTC@FIU Year in Review

**November 2018**
- Test determines individuals likeliest to shed DNA at crime scenes
- Machine learning of DNA predicts height within an inch
- Contactless 3D fingerprint identification
- 8th Annual Forensic Science Symposium call for abstracts

**October 2018**
- DNA testing of illegal ivory seized by law enforcement links multiple ivory shipments to same dealers
- New protocol for measuring background levels of drugs in crime labs
- NIST details plans for reviewing the scientific foundations of forensic methods
- Summer Research Fellows
- IFRI Forensic Science Seminar Series

**September 2018**
- Laser scanner uncovers evidence of unmarked human graves
- ORNL researchers enable real-time forensic analysis with new cybersecurity tool
- SWGDE releases three new best practices, opens three more for comment
- Research on portable mass spectrometry systems
European research funders demand open access
National Forensic Science Week

August 2018
Rapid and reliable on-site drug detection using aptamer-based sensors
Erie County forensic lab chemist revived with Narcan after suffering overdose handling evidence
Opioid safety
New forensic analysis can pinpoint victim’s age from blood stains
NIST builds statistical foundation for next-generation forensic DNA profiling
National Forensic Science Week

July 2018
Site helps sex assault survivors track rape results
Stunning DNA breakthrough could help crack cold cases
Drone forensics gets a boost with new data on NIST website
Apple closing iPhone security gap used by law enforcement
ROTC Biometric and Forensic Internship

June 2018
Accelerating analysis for designer drugs
NamUs 2.0: Faster, More In-depth on its first day debut
Cops crack old double murder by collecting suspect’s cup
Fingerprint analysis could finally get scientific, thanks to a new tool
Chemistry professor gets $628,000 grant to develop new method of lifting fingerprints
CSI/Forensic Science Summer Camp at FIU

May 2018
Army develops face recondition technology that works in the dark
SOFIC 2018
The emoji factor: Humanizing the emerging law of digital speech
FIU FIRST Preeminent Program

April 2018
World’s first portable fingerprint drug test now available in Australia and New Zealand
An optimized procedure for obtaining DNA from fired and unfired ammunition
Surgeon General urges more Americans to carry opioid antidote
NIST and Florida International University Join Forces on Cybersecurity Education Outreach
March 2018
- Virtual Case Notes: Steganalysis Database will help find hidden files in innocent images
- Deputy AG Rosentein announces new federal forensic initiatives
- Free software can help spot new forms of fentanyl and other drugs
- Medical Examiner taps DNA science to find missing persons
- NamUs
- 7th Annual Forensic Science Symposium at FIU

February 2018
- More pressure, more touch DNA, study says
- Rhinoceros DNA database helps nail poachers and traffickers
- A framework for harmonizing forensic science practices and digital/multimedia evidence
- Sensitive detection of small-molecule targets using cooperative binding split aptamers and enzyme-assisted target recycling
- Florida Forensic Science Symposium

January 2018
- New NIST forensic tests help ensure high-quality copies of digital evidence
- New software can verify someone’s identity by their DNA in minutes
- Luminescent nanoparticles leave a glowing fingerprint

December 2017
- Powerful detection technology for powerful new street drug
- Opioid resources
- Large area imaging of forensic evidence with MA-XRF
- OSAC Annual Report
- American Academy of Forensic Sciences Journal of Forensic Science
- NFSTC joins forces with FIU

November 2017
- Solving Cold Case Homicides
- Advanced Training for Cold Case Sexual Assault
- Real or fake? Creating fingerprints to protect identities
- Innovative fingerprint analysis is trailed by West Yorkshire police
- A fashionable chemical and biological threat detector on a ring
- Tips for hiring a quality DNA audit team
October 2017

- Cyber Security Awareness Month
- University of Michigan researchers develop technique that could detect explosives, dangerous gases rapidly and remotely
- New fingerprint test can detect cocaine use in seconds
- Symposium on synthetic opioids and the overdose epidemic
- Opioid PPE video
- NFSTC retires DNA audit program
- NFSTC joins forces with FIU

September 2017

- NIST seeks input on OSAC 2.0
- Rapid DNA Act Signed into Law, Setting Target of 90 Minute CODIS Profiles
- Fentanyl/Opioid Resources
- Household cleaner found effective for fentanyl spills
- AirScience eBook: Fentanyl Safety Risks and Solutions for Forensic and Public Service Employees
- DEA Fentanyl Resource Center

August 2017

- New THC finding paves way toward an effective marijuana Breathalyzer
- FIU focus on innovation: better chemical testing
- Underlying factors contributing to the accumulation of unsubmitted SAKs
- SWGDE drafts open for comment
- The Windex Case: trace to latent then DNA
- Scene preservation kit helps track missing woman
- National Forensic Science Week

July 2017

- Fentanyl: A Briefing Guide for First Responders
- Synthetic Opioids and Officer Safety Webinar
- Coroner’s Office tells first responders to throw away latex gloves
- Ancient Egyptian blue powder makes fingerprints glow
- USF – Strategies for Investigating Violent Crime
- Scientists have a fascinating new way to determine the age of skeletal remains
As Seen on Forensic Update – NFSTC@FIU

- Support our ROTC Biometrics and Forensics Internship

June 2017

- Tennessee bill boosts NamUs use
- Do you have what it takes to be a forensic fingerprint examiner?
- AAFS Journal of Forensic Science
- El Guía de la Investigación de la Escena del Crímen
- Fauxrensics

May 2017

- DOJ notice of public comment on Advancing Forensic Science
- Fitbit helps solve a murder case
- Textalyzer aims to curb distracted driving
- Support our ROTC Biometrics and Forensics Internship

April 2017

- 25 years after sexual battery, Pinellas deputies make arrest
- Glowing, living gloves could aid crime scene investigations
- Can facial recognition systems help save lemurs
- ASCLD 2017
- ROTC Biometrics and Forensics Internship

March 2017

- INL Grant
- U.S. Marine Corps contract
- Synthetic Opioids and Officer Safety Webinar

February 2017

- National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) FY 2017 Competitive Grant Announcement
- Loyola professor developing spray to identify fly spit at crime scenes
- AFTE certification testing dates for 2017

January 2017

- DNA Analyst Training
- SWGDAM DNA Collection Recommendations
- Recommendations for the Efficient DNA Processing of Sexual Assault Evidence Kits
- Validation Guidelines for DNA Analysis Method
As Seen on Forensic Update – NFSTC@FIU

- ASCLD Symposium
- University of South Florida St. Petersburg Field Forensics Course

**December 2016**

- Opportunities for Improved Transparency in the Timber Trade through Scientific Verification
- Dutch police use augmented reality to investigate crime scenes
- In a national first, HFSC beings blind testing in DNA, Latent Prints
- ANAB – ASCLD/LAB Accreditation Requirements Public Comments
- Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC) Proposed Standards Updates

**November 2016**

- These bionic spinach plants can sniff out bombs
- New portable forensic technology captures shoe prints instantly in 3D
- Minimizing bias in forensic science
- Communicating forensic science in the courtroom
- NFSTC SeaPort-e
- Fauxrensics

**October 2016**

- PCAST
- Responses:
  - National District Attorneys Association
  - Department of Justice
  - International Association of Identification
  - Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners
- Cyber Security Awareness Month
- Rape Survivor Unexpectedly Meets the Woman who sent her Attacker to Jail
- National Chemistry Week
- St. Petersburg Science Festival

**September 2016**

- Police cloned a Michigan murder victim’s fingerprint that unlocked his phone
- Gathering information from smartphones in crime investigations
- Forensic Science Center receives National Institute of Justice research grant
- Crime Scene Investigation Guide
July/August 2016

- NFSTC Media Production Services
- Researchers study the use of e-cigarettes for illicit drugs
- National Forensic Science Week

June 2016

- Project VIC
- FARO
- Rapid DNA used to catch poachers.
- NFSTC ROTC Biometric and Forensic Internship
- Fauxrensics Friday

May 2016

- AAFS Career Page
- Alakai Defense Systems
- SOFIC 2016
- Touch DNA forensic technology used to nap gas station skimmer crook
- NFSTC ROTC Biometric and Forensic Internship
- Fauxrensics Friday

April 2016

- ASCLD Meeting
- New forensic method to lift and analyze lipstick traces developed
- Printing technique for mummified remains
- Bento Lab
- SOFIC 2016
- Fauxrensics Friday

March 2016

- Professor designs explosives detector to rival dog nose
- Footwear forensics device could catch criminals who put a foot wrong
- Fingerprint brushes could transfer touch DNA, study says
- Science gives clues to “The Bedroom” as van Gogh painted it
- Fauxrensics Friday

February 2016

- Vietnam War DNA sequencing project
- Familial DNA
- Drug testing gloves
- Forensic analysis of automotive paint

**January 2016**

- Schedule a DNA audit with our team
- Four new elements added to periodic table
- Ancient fingerprints
- Circadian rhythm and death

**December 2015**

- Doping in sport: new saliva tests will make it easier to catch cheats
- NYPD’s new phones will be on-the-go crime lab

**November 2015**

- Retrieving fingerprints from elephant tusks
- Steaming out some of luminol’s wrinkles
- NFSTC DNA bio-screening white paper
- NFSTC joins JANUS Research Group to support Army Expeditionary Forces

**October 2015**

- NFSTC seeks forensic science and intelligence experts
- NFSTC 20th anniversary video

**September 2015**

- New method could help estimate time of death for a ten day old corpse
- Determining the age of a fingerprint
- Foldable spectrometer
- Huntington Police Department and Marshall University team up to solve sexual assault crimes
- OSAC monthly newsletter

**August 2015**

- CBRNE TechIndex
- NFSTC position on untested sexual assault kits (August 2015)

**July 2015**

- Raman spectrometry for wound healing
Sarasota detectives pull fingerprint from photograph
Quick DNA Extraction

June 2015

- Adopt a HERORat from Apopo
- Dr. Merck’s website
- Full interview with Dr. Merck
- Criminals beware in forensics new fingerprint may be your microbiome
- Bacteria on shoes could help forensic teams catch suspects
- 2015 ROTC Biometric and Forensics Internship

May 2015

- BMC develops protocol for preserving forensic evidence after a terrorist attack
- Virginia’s DNA Data Bank tallies 10,000th hit
- US military to exhume Pearl Harbor attack remains to identify troops
- NFSTC 2015 SOFIC page

April 2015

- International gang members taken down with new imaging system technology
- Bomb sniffing elephants
- Make a donation to NFSTC’s STEM education efforts.

March 2015

- GE Labs developing explosive detecting sticker inspired by butterflies
- 3D-printed, handheld spectrometer being developed at UCF
- New technique to recover destroyed serial numbers from metal objects
- NFSTC raising funds for ROTC training

February 2015

- NFSTC selected as training provider for the US Navy
- Swager Labs at MIT advance chemical detection via color-changing thin film.
- USF develops DNA test called GrouperChek for fish identification
- Grad student launches comic book to explain her work with quasi-crystals