Incorporating Technology Scholarships Triennial Meeting of International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS) Offered to Selected Applicants

In partnership with the <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance</u> (BJA), the <u>National Forensic</u> <u>Science Technology Center</u> (NFSTC) is pleased to announce that scholarships will be provided to attend the triennial meeting of the <u>International Association of Forensic</u> <u>Sciences</u>, which will be held in New Orleans, LA (July 21-26, 2008).

About the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS)

The IAFS was established in 1957 and continues as the only worldwide Association to bring together academics and practicing professionals of various disciplines in forensic science. These practitioners include forensic scientists, law enforcement officers, and members of the judicial community. Numerous forensic, medical, and legal disciplines and practices are represented within this collection of vocations.

The aims and objectives of IAFS are to develop the forensic sciences; to assist forensic scientists and others to exchange scientific and technical information, and to organize triennial meetings. Click <u>here</u> for information from the 2005 IAFS Triennial Meeting, which was held in Hong Kong.

Unique Opportunity Offered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance

According to its Constitution, the International Association of Forensic Sciences organizes a World Meeting every three years. Since its inauguration 51 years ago, a total of 17 Triennial Meetings have been organized in major cities around the world. The meeting planned for 2008 is only the fourth meeting to be held in the United States, representing an extraordinary opportunity for members of the forensics community in the United States to explore and exchange scientific and technical information.

Scholarships Offered to Forensic Practitioners

The BJA scholarships to the 2008 IAFS meeting are being provided through the NFSTC with funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance.¹ Selected attendees will be given the opportunity to explore new technologies presented at oral presentations, poster presentations, or technology demonstrations in the exposition hall at the IAFS meeting. These attendees are obligated to attend each day during which scientific presentations are scheduled and to share new technology information with the broader community by writing a Technology Synopsis report of their observations. These reports will be compiled by the NFSTC and may be published at a later date. The NFSTC will provide a synopsis template for attendees to complete.

¹ (Reference Grant Number: 2007-DD-BX-K072)

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant must work for a U.S. publicly funded agency as a professional practitioner in law enforcement, forensic services, or legal services.
 - Applicant group will be selected based upon diversity in:
 - Profession
 - Unit of government (State, local, and tribal)
 - Geography

Selected attendees are required to:

- Obtain agency approval and fax approval document to the NFSTC (approval form will be provided).
- Submit a brief biographical summary (template will be provided by the NFSTC)
- Attend each day of the conference during which scientific presentations are made
- Select an IAFS conference topic beneficial to their respective profession and submit a Technology Synopsis of the attended IAFS meeting or workshop by the established deadline (synopsis template will be provided by the NFSTC). <u>Click</u> <u>here for draft template.</u>
- Provide their name, title, agency, topic and written synopsis with the understanding that these will be published as a means to share the topic information with the broader professional community.

Applications will be accepted until all scholarships are awarded.

Note: Scholarship resources are limited. We are expecting a large applicant response; as many applicants as possible will be accommodated. All applications will receive a response.

Scholarship Benefits

- Basic registration fee, which includes some meals (no workshops or tours)
- Travel and lodging expenses
 - NFSTC will book and fund travel and lodging for up to 5 nights at the Conference hotel

(For an extended stay, attendees must make arrangements with the hotel directly)

- Travel by personally owned vehicle (POV) is permitted if point of origin is within 200 miles of the meeting location and will be reimbursed at the GSA rate.
- Not included: Ground transportation, including taxi, shuttle, rental car, parking, mileage, etc. However, an incidental transportation flat payment of \$75 (to cover costs, such as taxi, parking or shuttles) will be paid upon submittal of the attendee's Technology Synopsis.

Link to Application Form