



INTERDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM

S1 To See or Not to See: Unbiased Answers to Forensic Questions

Tuesday

Open to all Meeting Registrants

February 16, 2021

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

3.75 CE Hours

Chair:

Agnes D. Winokur, MS
Drug Enforcement Administration
Southeast Laboratory
Miami, FL

Faculty:

Jose R. Almirall, PhD
Florida International University
Department of Chemistry
Miami, FL

Sherri L. Kacinko, PhD
NMS Labs
Horsham, PA

Roderick T. Kennedy, JD
Los Ranchos, NM

Co-Chair:

Chris Milroy, MD, LLB
Ottawa Hospital
Ottawa, ON CANADA

Mark W. Perlin, PhD, MD
Cybergenetics
Pittsburgh, PA

Victor W. Weedn, MD, JD
The George Washington University
Washington, DC

Learning Overview: After attending this presentation, attendees will have a greater understanding of the role of human bias in forensic sciences, the risks and benefits of information, targeted versus non-targeted methods, decoupling data analysis and comparison, the standardization of methods, and a greater appreciation for the complexity of balancing contextual information and decision points in forensic science disciplines and its impact in the justice court system.

Impact on the Forensic Science Community: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by offering various perspectives regarding the role of human bias in forensic sciences and the pursuit of truth and justice.

Program Description: This presentation seeks to present various perspectives as they relate to human bias in forensic sciences and their impact in the justice system. Discussion will be from the perspectives of forensic science practitioners, statisticians, judges, and forensic science research professionals.

The theme for the 2021 American Academy of Forensic Sciences Scientific Meeting is *One Academy Pursuing Justice Through Truth in Evidence*. To illustrate this, the 2021 Interdisciplinary Symposium focuses on the role of human bias in forensic sciences and the justice court system, targeted and non-targeted methods, standardized methods, and managing information in the forensic disciplines. The presentations will illustrate these points by utilizing case examples.



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Program:

1:00 p.m.	-	1:15 p.m.	Opening Remarks and Introduction <i>Agnes D. Winokur, MS</i>
1:15 p.m.	-	1:35 p.m.	The Path of Neutrality and Objectivity Is the Path of Truth and Justice <i>Victor W. Weedn, MD, JD</i>
1:35 p.m.	-	2:30 p.m.	Eliminating Bias in Forensic Algorithms and Statistics <i>Mark W. Perlin, PhD, MD</i>
2:30 p.m.	-	3:05 p.m.	Bias in Forensic Pathology <i>Chris Milroy, MD, LLB</i>
3:05 p.m.	-	3:20 p.m.	Break
3:20 p.m.	-	3:45 p.m.	A Matter of Bias: The Judicial Take <i>Roderick T. Kennedy, JD</i>
3:45 p.m.	-	4:15 p.m.	The Role of Standardization in Reducing Bias Within the Forensic Chemistry Disciplines <i>Jose R. Almirall, PhD</i>
4:15 p.m.	-	4:45 p.m.	Bias in Toxicology: What Is Bias and Is It Always Problematic? <i>Sherri L. Kacinko, PhD</i>
4:45 p.m.	-	5:00 p.m.	Questions and Answers
